



BEHIND THE BADGE

March 2010

www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Police/

Up-coming event:

The Law Enforcement Memorial service will be held May 11

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Unit-Based Training Day called a success

By Lt. Doug Nolte, Patrol North Bureau

Members of the Patrol North 3rd watch tried something different early in March. On March 2nd the entire shift was present for a Unit Based Training Day at the Range.

During the day, Assistant Range Master Steve Griner spent several hours working with the members on their shooting skills. The officers were able to shoot a tactical range course, had the opportunity to fire a M4 Patrol Rifle and spend time in the Range 2000 shooting simulator to hone their skills.

The team also covered some classroom topics by the shift supervisors. Lt. Doug Nolte gave an ethics refresher course and spoke about developing street informants.

Sgt. Colin Gallagher covered the mechanics of an arrest affidavit, and Sgt. Ed Brower provided an overview of GeoCrime and the capabilities it has.

All in all, the officers and supervisors felt it was a very good training day.



Lt. Doug Nolte firing a M4 patrol rifle



Patrol North 3rd watch team

Interns important part of Wichita Police Department future

By Lt. Dennis Wilson, Training Bureau

Many times officers in our department have met or had a college intern ride along with them. The internship program exposes students to the field of criminal justice and the methods used by the Wichita Police Department.

An internship is a way for students to gain field experience while earning academic credit as they work towards their Bachelor or Masters Degree in Criminal Justice.

An internship is useful for all students of criminology and criminal justice. It provides knowledge and skills not covered in the classroom. In addition, it can improve employment potential after graduation, provide valuable references from professionals in the field, allow students to make contacts at an agency at which the student would like to work, and provide a chance to learn of job openings in a particular field. It is especially helpful to students who are unsure about which specific area of criminal justice in which he/she would like to work or to the student who is going into the professional field immediately following graduation.

Lindsay Weller, a recent graduate of the intern program at Wichita State University, describes her experience.

"The internship with the Wichita Police Department was an invaluable experience," said Weller. "I had the advantage of seeing law enforcement from many different points of view, including records, detectives, crime scene investigations, community policing, and patrol.

"I was very fortunate to have this unique perspective, especially when combined with the education I have received through obtaining my masters degree. The experience I gained from my internship has better prepared me, and I am now confident in my pursuit of a career in the law enforcement field."

The internship is a valuable recruiting tool. Many recent interns make our organization what it is today and will continue to do so in the future. Some of those interns include Mallory Rosales, Newman University; Donnie Moore, Fort Hays State University; Kasey Weidner, Wichita State University; Brock Kampling, Kansas State University; Rebekah Johnson, Wichita State University; Ryan Tyrrell, Wichita State University; Dana Heyen, Wichita State University; Dan Oblinger, Wichita State University; Elizabeth Martin, Friends University; and Heather Clark, Wichita State University.



Lindsay Weller, recent graduate of the intern program at Wichita State University

Getting to know ... the Alarm Unit

False alarms for fire and police calls in Wichita happen every day. What's troubling is that when officers or firefighters respond to a false alarm, it takes them off the streets, making them unavailable to take other calls.

In 1985 the City of Wichita recognized the cost of false alarms to the citizens of Wichita and adopted a city ordinance that required alarm owners to pay a fine for false alarms. However, it wasn't until the late '90s when the City began to aggressively collect those fines. In 2000, responsibility for the administration of false alarms was transferred to WPD where it remains today.

The Alarm Unit, part of the Fiscal Affairs Section in the Support Services Division, is staffed by Administrator Claudia Reyes-Zamorano who has been in the job since November 2004.

"The Department currently outsources the collection of false alarm fees to a private company which then bills the alarm owner for the false alarm," said Reyes-Zamorano. "The challenging part of the job comes in dealing with citizens who feel they've been wrongly charged a false alarm fee. Many who appeal the fee they're charged don't want to accept responsibility for that false call."

Reyes-Zamorano says every alarm owner is allowed one free false alarm each calendar year. Subsequent false alarms, though, cost those owners money. For false audible and fire alarms the fee is \$40. False panic alarms will cost the owner \$50, and false hold-up alarms cost the alarm owner \$70.

Currently, the Wichita City Council is in the process of reviewing those fees, says Reyes-Zamorano. "Research shows higher fees usually reduce the number of false alarms."

Under the current ordinance, an alarm company has four minutes from the time the alarm call is dispatched to either fire or police to report it as a false alarm. If the alarm company reports the false alarm within those four minutes, the alarm is disregarded and no false alarm fee is charged. For security purposes only an alarm company is authorized to cancel a dispatch with 911.



Claudia Reyes-Zamorano

Reyes-Zamorano says there are typically an average of 45 false police and fire alarms in Wichita each day.

"The most common causes of false alarms are carelessness, user error and alarm malfunction," said Reyes-Zamorano. "Many alarm companies offer information to their customers on how to reduce false alarms. That information is a valuable resource since it can save the alarm owner money."

Although the Alarm Unit does not have a high-profile, it serves a valuable purpose in helping hold down costs to taxpayers associated with false alarms. In the current time when government budgets are tight and resources must be allocated more carefully, entities like the False Alarm Unit serve a valuable purpose.

Emergency Services Day at
SHOCKER BASEBALL

Wichita State Baseball would like to thank all Emergency Service personnel in working hard to keep us safe. That's why we would like to offer 2 FREE tickets to the game to all Emergency Service employees.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11 @ 1 P.M.
WICHITA STATE VS. S. ILLINOIS
 ECK STADIUM

To receive your FREE tickets, show your badge or ID at the Eck Stadium Ticket Office (day of game) or at the Charles Koch Arena Ticket Office (M-F 8:30 am to 5:00 pm).

Valid ID must be shown to receive FREE tickets.

For more information, call the Shocker Ticket Office at **978-FANS**

Officers Evans & Bautista demonstrate bravery in apprehending suspect

Wichita Police officers lay their lives on the line every day. But, occasionally, the bravery they demonstrate underscores the dedication and commitment to the community in a very conspicuous way.

In mid-December 2009 Patrol West Officers David Evans, Walter Bautista and Kevin Kochenderfer were dispatched to a robbery call at an apartment in the 3600 block of West Kellogg. The woman who called told 9-1-1 dispatchers a man with a gun and a knife had entered her apartment.

The woman explained she had been awakened about 4:00 a.m. when her ex-boyfriend straddled her, punched her in the face, both eyes and chin. She said he then grabbed a large hunting knife and held it to her throat causing lacerations. Next, she said, he produced a handgun, held it to her forehead and said he was going to kill her. When the woman tried to lock herself in a bathroom, the suspect punched a hole through the door then broke the door down.

Officers Evans and Bautista were the first officers to arrive on the scene and knew there was an armed suspect inside the residence and a victim in fear for her life. They first took a brief moment to listen for signs of activity inside the home. After quickly planning their entry, Bautista kicked in the front door and Evans immediately entered the home followed by Bautista.

At that point, the suspect, who was in the living room and bleeding heavily, ran toward the kitchen where a gun was located on the kitchen counter. Both officers quickly intercepted the suspect and after several drive stuns with a Taser were able to apprehend and handcuff him.

Obviously, Officers Evans and Bautista risked death or great bodily harm to protect the victim from further violence. Their actions are in the very finest tradition of the Wichita Police Department.

West Bureau officers save life of suicidal man

Recently five WPD officers were dispatched to a call of a suicidal man in the 11300 block of West Carr. Before arriving on the scene, Officers Brian Bachman, Josh Duggan, Kevin Kochenderfer, Jeff Taylor and Sergeant Bill Stevens were told by dispatchers the man had access to a knife and gun and had told his wife that he was going to kill himself. Based on what the officers were told they believed the threat to be credible and that the man's life was indeed in danger.

After arriving on the scene Sgt. Stevens made contact with family members in the front of the residence, all of whom were upset and asking for immediate assistance.

When officers tried and failed to make contact with the suicidal man Sergeants Stevens and Steve Yarberry decided it was important to enter the home immediately. Using the bunker that was in the supervisor's vehicle, Officers Kochenderfer, Bachman, Duggan, Taylor and Sgt. Stevens were instructed to enter the home.

After clearing the first floor the officers moved into the basement where they found the victim had plunged a butcher knife deep into his chest below his heart. As they called for firefighters and paramedics Officers Bachman and Kochenderfer were able to stabilize the victim and keep him talking.

The firefighters and paramedics were of the opinion that had the officers not entered as quickly as they did the man would not have survived. In fact, it was later determined at the hospital that the man had severed his aorta and that time was of the essence. After the man was immediately rushed into surgery it was determined he will make a full recovery from his wound.

This is yet another example of how training and quick thinking on the part of WPD officers can save a person's life. Congratulations to all of the officers involved in their life-saving actions.

FOP to benefit from chorus concert

The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 5 in Wichita has been named by the Heart of America Men's Chorus as the beneficiary of the organization's spring concert.

The 'Let Freedom Sing' event is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 24th and 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 25th at the historic Orpheum Theatre.

"We are proud to be chosen by the Heart of America Men's Chorus to be the organization's beneficiary," said FOP President Hans Asmussen. "It's especially gratifying to know that the FOP will benefit from a concert with a patriotic theme."

"The 'Let Freedom Sing' theme is a patriotic blend of music that interprets the concept of freedom", said Howard Webb, conductor and artistic director of the chorus.

"It's a distinct honor to show our support and gratitude of the men and women who put their lives on the line for us every day. The words 'honor,' 'freedom' and 'country' are words that we should keep in mind always— not just on Independence Day and other national holidays."

Tickets for the concert are \$18 and are available at 316-708-4837. Tickets can also be purchased at the chorus' website, www.hoamc.org or by emailing boxoffice@hoamc.org.

celebrating freedom in song
HOAMC | Voices from the Heart
Howard Webb Artistic Director & Conductor | Mark Walker Assistant Artistic Director

LET FREEDOM SING

SAT APR 24 7 PM SUN APR 25 4 PM

316-708-4837
HOAMC.ORG

\$18 /seat
WICHITA'S HISTORIC
ORPHEUM
THEATER

Supporting the Wichita Fraternal Order of Police
Heart of America Men's Chorus

WICHITA This program is made possible in part by the City of Wichita.

Heads-up policing nabs burglary suspects

A couple of would-be burglars recently found out sometimes things just don't go the way you planned.

Recently, Patrol East Officer Kyle Kelley saw a car backed up in front of Crestview Marine in the 11000 block of east Central. When he noticed the vehicle wasn't occupied he went to investigate.

What Officer Kelley found were two sets of footprints leading past a locked fence and into the business's parking lot. One set of footprints led to a broken window.

It appeared to Kelley that someone might have entered the business through the broken window and opened a side door to allow another person inside.

After calling for backup, Kelley and other officers entered the business and found numerous items belonging to the business stacked next to the door. It wasn't long until the officers located a 30-year-old man and a 30-year-old woman hiding inside the business, both of whom were taken into custody.

A search of the man's car parked in front of the business also turned up burglary tools. Both of the suspects have been charged in the case.

Shoplifting leads to federal charges

A Wichita man has been charged in U.S. District Court as a result of a recent shoplifting that went bad.

Not long ago a 26-year-old man went into the Money Town pawn shop in the 2400 block of South Oliver to buy a new handgun. The manager of the business reports that while employees were performing the background check on the man, the suspect concealed an assault rifle under his sweat shirt. It was some time after the man left the store that the business realized the rifle was missing.

Once Money Town discovered the missing weapon, the manager viewed surveillance video that showed the suspect stealing the rifle. It turned out one of the store's employees went to school with the suspect and was able to identify him.

That employee then assisted officers by locating the man's home page on Facebook. Patrol East Bureau Sergeant Bruce Watts then sent the man a message on Facebook telling him he had been observed stealing the rifle. In addition, Watts called the man's cell phone and left him the same message.

As Watts continued to follow up on the case, he also discovered the man had provided a false address on the federal form when he purchased the handgun. Using Facebook Sergeant Watts was able to identify and locate the man's girlfriend as well as an address for the suspect in west Wichita.

After receiving Watts' messages the suspect said he wanted to bring the gun back as soon as he could find a ride. However, before the man could return the rifle to the pawn shop Patrol West officers took him into custody in possession of the stolen gun.

It wasn't long before an agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives was dispatched to take the suspect into federal custody. As a result of the man's shoplifting the rifle and providing false information on the firearms form the suspect is now facing federal charges.

Great job by Sgt. Watts in helping close this "federal" shoplifting case.

Patrol North holds baseball camps for kids

Spring Break brought a special treat to more than 20 kids in the Patrol North Bureau. Officers Dallas Boone, Eddie Padron and Renay Bryand worked with the Wichita Fire Department's Brent Holman and Give Me A Chance To Play, Inc. to hold baseball camps at Evergreen and McAdams recreation centers. And, by all accounts, it was a fun time for the kids.

But, just in case there were some kids who didn't get a chance to make these camps, or who want to have more fun later on, WPD officers will hold more baseball camps during the summer months.

Or, to paraphrase Arnold Schwarzenegger in the 1984 hit movie *The Terminator*, "We'll be back..."



Field Services Bureaus conduct J.U.D.G.E. Operations

WPD officers conducted their first Juvenile Underage Drinking Group Education/Enforcement (JUDGE) undercover operation of 2010 in March.

As a result of the operations around Wichita, officers arrested seven minors for alcohol and drug violations, four adults for providing alcohol to minors, broke up two underage drinking parties and made five parental contacts.



In addition, officers checked 29 liquor stores, 16 stores that sell cereal malt beverages and two bars. Of the establishments checked three businesses and one bar were cited for unlawful sale of alcohol and one for an unlawful tobacco sale. A total of 167 container of alcohol and one marijuana pipe were seized.

Those businesses cited included ones in the 2100 and 4700 blocks of S. Broadway, the 1300 and 1600 blocks of W. MacArthur, the 1100 block of W. 31st St. South, the 6300 block of E. 21st St. North, the 3000 block of E. Penstemon, the 3500 block of N. Woodlawn, the 3000 block of N. Rock Rd. and the 3100 block of S. Meridian.

Additional enforcement projects will be held soon.

Good job by all involved in helping enforce underage drinking laws.



Officers Wash and Machain to be honored by USD 259

Police/School Liaison Officers Shay Wash and Ramon Machain have been named as recipients of the Wichita Public School District's semi-annual 2009-2010 Good Apple Award. The award ceremony, which will be held at Stuckey Middle School on April 19th, will recognize Wash and Machain as community partners who have demonstrated dedication to the school district. Both officers were nominated by Police/School Liaison Supervisor Michele Zahner.

According to the district's nomination, "Police/School Liaison Officers carry on a 30-year tradition of partnership between Wichita Public Schools and the Wichita Police Dept. Dedicated to making a difference in the lives of all children through law-related education, these officers teach 1,500 classes each year to nearly 37,000 students."

Congratulations to these two fine officers for their work in making a difference in the lives of thousands of young people each year.



New tool being used to address metal theft problem

The Larceny Section has a new tool to fight a specific type of metal thefts. And, that tool is pretty low-tech: Paper.

Thanks to a new city ordinance the Larceny Section has been working hard to let scrap metal dealers in the community know that if someone brings them an air conditioning cooling coil that doesn't have

the proper documentation that the coil has been legally salvaged, the person selling the metal is out of luck.

That piece of paper is in the form of a tag or sticker attached to the coil that indicates it has been salvaged legally and that the refrigerant inside the coil has been properly removed.

"The problem we've seen is that metal thieves will destroy an air conditioning compressor unit worth thousand or tens of thousands of dollars in order to steal copper that is worth only a few dollars," said Larceny Section Lieutenant Mike Hennessy. "With the new ordinance and other provisions in place, we're confident scrap metal dealers now have an effective tool to help us prevent such thefts."

Hennessy said that, while the ordinance probably won't prevent such metal thefts completely, it's a good start.

"When metal thieves begin to realize we're making it harder for them to steal air conditioning compressors, it probably won't take them long to realize that destroying private property without making any money is a losing game."



Det. Aaron Harrison with a tagged air conditioning cooling coil

Patrol North officers honored by WFD

Two Patrol North officers were honored in March by the Wichita Fire Department for their actions following an incident in October, 2009.

On October 24, 2009 Officers Tricia Tiede and Justin Cole were dispatched to the scene of a submersion in the 1600 block of N. Arkansas. When they arrived at the chaotic scene they discovered a two-year-old child had been pulled from a pond and was not breathing.

Without hesitation, Officers Tiede and Cole began performing compressions and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on the child until firefighters arrived and took over. For their actions, the two officers were awarded the Wichita Fire Department's Certificate of Merit.

Congratulations to these two fine officers for their devotion to duty.



Fire Chief Ron Blackwell and City Manager Robert Layton honor Officers Tricia Tiede and Justin Cole

Congratulations!

During the month of March several promotions occurred within the Wichita Police Department.

Sergeant Jeff Gilmore was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Gilmore, a 13 year veteran, is assigned to the East Patrol Bureau.

Detectives Pat Leon, Dale Mattern, Travis Rakestraw and Jason Stephens were promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Leon, who joined the department in 1994, is assigned to Patrol North. Mattern, who joined WPD in 1996, is assigned to Patrol West. Rakestraw, who joined the WPD in 1996, is assigned to Patrol East. And Stephens, who joined the department in 1998, is assigned to Patrol North.

Officers Dwain Diehl, Travis Easter, Daniel Oblinger and Patrick Phipps were promoted to the rank of detective. They will be serving in the Investigations Division.



Congratulations to the following officers for achieving a 30-year anniversary with the Wichita Police Department: Off. Robert Bachman, Sgt. Jeff Davis, Lt. Mitch Dunbar, Lt. Jeff Pike and Lt. Guy Schroeder.

Historically speaking: The story of the Wichita Police Department

By Officer Aaron J. Mattson

By 1900, Wichita's population had grown to 24,701 with a police force of nineteen-men. In the following ten years, the population would increase to 52,450. With that growth also came the growth of the Wichita Police Department as it expanded to 59 officers. Wichita police officials, recognizing that progress in many areas was necessary, took steps to improve the efficiency of the force.

In 1900, the officers were issued a Moroccan-bound, pocket-size edition of city ordinances. The officers were instructed to carry the book and familiarize themselves with its contents. When confronted with a legal problem, officers could refer to the publication to determine the course of action that should be taken during an investigation. It also enabled officers to be able to answer questions posed to them.

In 1900, officers on the street used telephones in businesses around town to communicate with police headquarters. However, this posed a problem at night when the stores were closed.

To solve this problem, in 1900 the department installed a private telephone system that included a switchboard and call boxes located around the city. Each call box included a telephone encased in a metal box to protect it from inclement weather and vandalism. In 1911, a fire alarm and police telegraph system was established in Wichita.

The Wichita Police Department's first police vehicle, purchased in 1908, was a paddy wagon drawn by two horses. Also in 1908, the department was beginning to enter the motorized era when it purchased the most popular vehicle of the time, the Mitchell Touring Car. A motorcycle and bicycle also were added to the department's fleet to shorten the time it took officers to respond to calls for service. By 1915, the horse drawn paddy wagon was replaced by a motorized prisoner transport vehicle.

Police officer Sam Jones, a former captain in the Spanish-American War, was hired as the first African-American officer in 1895. Later elected Town Constable, Jones became the first African-American elected to public office in Sedgwick County. In 1901 Ella Glenn Shields was hired as Wichita's first police matron.

With the increase in the city's population came an escalation of household pets. These animals posed a dilemma for police as citizens were complaining bitterly of the city being overrun by dogs. As a result of the complaints, in 1910, a new dog pound was built on West 13th Street. Two policemen were appointed as dog catchers to address the city's pet population problem.

On February 23, 1915, Detective William Humphries became the first Wichita police officer to lose his life in the line of duty. Humphries had cornered a gunman he wanted to question in a downtown pool hall. The trapped man panicked and drew a revolver. Humphries tried to close the distance between them in a valiant attempt to get the weapon, but the man shot him at close range. Humphries collapsed and died from his wound.

There are many more stories about the Wichita Police Department to come. We want to recognize the following source which helped make this series possible: History of Wichita Police Department 1878-1979. Those who helped compile that publication were Duffy D. Doyle, Hayden L. Henderson, Randall R. Wells, George O. Anderson, Ruth V. Merchant, Allen Koen, Doyle King, Patricia Johns Jordan, William C. Ellington Jr., The Wichita Vidette Newspaper, The Wichita Eagle, The Wichita Beacon, Ernests Warden, Dick Long, Nyle A. Miller, Joseph W. Snell, Captain Jordan D. Jones and Jostens Publishing. First Printing 1979. Second printing 1997.

To be continued....



Officer Sam Jones
1896

49 Beat team gets down to business

By Sgt. Jose Salcido, Patrol North Bureau

On March 1st what started out as a Crime Stoppers tip being worked by Officer Chad Burnett and the 349 Beat team culminated in a very successful search warrant in the 2700 block of North Garland.

From the beginning Officers Burnett, Enrique Aguiniga and Tim Reynolds jointly mapped out a strategy. Officer Burnett assigned tasks to his team and each contributed to building probable cause for the warrant.

First, second, and third shifts monitored the traffic, wrote down tags and conducted car stops. Officers from fourth shift also assisted Officer Burnett in conducting two successful trash runs.

Despite this being Officer Burnett's first warrant, Sgt. Salcido noted that it was one of the best ones he had ever reviewed. The District Attorney also was very impressed and commented that it was very detailed and did not make any changes.

Most of the beat team participated in the execution of the search warrant in addition to SCAT and members of the CPU team.

As a result of the search warrant, officers seized powder cocaine, crack cocaine, digital scales, video surveillance equipment, a hand gun, ammunition and several thousand dollars in cash.

An Informative Meetings Providing Answers to Citizens Today (IMPACT) meeting was held on March 4th and attended by more than forty neighbors. Some of the neighbors also brought up a number of traffic concerns and seemed very interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch.

We want you to submit articles and photos for the WPD newsletter.

Articles, ideas and tips should be emailed to either Gordon Bassham at gbassham@wichita.gov or Jan Messerschmidt at jmesserschmidt@wichita.gov.



Please submit your photos in either a .JPG or .TIF format.

The Monthly Newsletter of the Wichita Police Department

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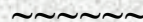
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Our Mission

The Wichita Police Department's mission is to provide professional and ethical public safety services in partnership with citizens to identify, prevent and solve problems of crime, fear of crime, social disorder and neighborhood decay, thereby improving the quality of life in our community.



We Value

Ethical Behavior

Protecting the Community

Diversity

Problem Solving