

April 2023

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Worthington Police News



Chief

Troy Appel

Captain

Nathan Grimmus

Patrol Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Josh McCuen

Mark Riley

Detective Sergeant

Brandon Peil

Patrol Officers

Ryan Golombiecki

Chris Hillesheim

Siddney Kounlabout

Randy Liepold

Destini Miller

Tyler Olson

Jacob Refsland

Bryant Schroeder

Christina Shorter

Logan Waldner

Investigators

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

Kyle Schreier

Jake Walker

School Resource

Dan Brouillet

Gabe Vander Veen

Individual Highlights:

Nat'l Child Abuse	2
Officer Changes	2
Severe Weather	3
Handgun Permits	3
Humor in Law Enf	4
Mission Statement	4

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Retirement: Verle Prins

Please join us in wishing Verle Prins a happy retirement!

After 43 years of service to Nobles County, Verle has decided to finally retire at age 86!

Verle has been a familiar face around the Prairie Justice Center where he had the very busy job of keeping the building clean.

Congratulations Verle on your well-deserved retirement!



National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

The second week in April is observed as National Telecommunicators week.

It is an opportunity to honor and thank our invisible telecommunicators who have dedicated their lives to public safety!

Thank you Stephanie, Tonya, Camryn, Jodi, and Zach for helping to keep everyone safe!

THANK YOU DISPATCHERS!

THE UNSEEN HEROES OF PUBLIC SAFETY

THE GOLD LINE LIES BETWEEN THE BLUE AND RED.

They are always heard but rarely seen.

They are the heroes behind the scenes.

The calm voice in the dark.

National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

Animal Control
Zach Ramerth

Community Service
Kirk Honius

Reception
Barb Hussong

Records
Shari Droll
Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT
Gary Gerdes

Dispatch Supervisor
Stephanie Evers

Dispatch
Tonya Aanenson
Camryn Baumhoefner
Jodi Mulder
Zach Ramerth

K-9 Officers
Winston

National Child Abuse Month

On Friday, April 1st, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz declared April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Minnesota.

Every year thousands of children across Minnesota experience abuse, neglect, and maltreatment.

This year, the Southwest Crisis Center provided blue uniform pins to the police department to help bring attention to the issue of child abuse.

Child abuse in Minnesota generally falls into four categories including neglect, physical abuse, mental injury, and sexual abuse.

Neglect can include failure to provide basic needs such as food, clothing, medical or mental health care, education or appropriate supervision.

Physical abuse can include causing physical injuries, threats to commit harm or substantial injury. Physical abuse can range from minor bruising to death.

Mental injury includes harm to a child's psychological capacity or emotional stability.

Sexual abuse includes sexual acts or threatened sexual acts committed to a child



by a person responsible for the child's care, a person who has a significant relationship to the child, or by a person in a position of authority over the child.

If you believe a child is a victim of child abuse, you can report this to Nobles County Community Services Department or Worthington Police Department.

Officer Changes: Logan Waldner

Officer Waldner has swapped out the blue uniform of the Worthington Police Department for the brown uniform of the Nobles County Sheriff's Office.

Officer Waldner started his career with the sheriff's office and decided to continue his career there. Officer Waldner has already started his duties at the sheriff's office.



Severe Weather Awareness Week

April 17-21, 2023 is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Minnesota.

Every year Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management works with the National Weather Service to promote severe weather awareness.

Statewide Tornado Drills

In Minnesota, the 2023 statewide tornado drills are scheduled for Thursday, April 20th. The outdoor warning sirens will sound in a simulated tornado warning.

Now would be the perfect time to talk with your family about your severe weather plans and where to go in case of a tornado.

Going outside to look for the tornado is not the best option, but for most Minnesotans that is the first thing they do!

Why Severe Weather Awareness Week?

According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Minnesota experiences an average of 29 tornadoes per year!

In 2021, Minnesota recorded 64 tornadoes, with 22 tornadoes occurring on December 15th, which was the latest reported tornadoes on record.

In 2010, a record 113 tornadoes touched down across the state.

How to get Information on the Weather

For information on the weather, you can sign up for Nixle Alerts on the Worthington Police Department website at <http://www.ci.worthington.mn.us/nixle>.

Many weather apps for your phone also can alert you to severe weather based on your GPS location.

Credit: Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Minnesota Handgun Permit Law News

On March 31st, Federal District Court Judge Katherine Menendez struck down a provision in Minnesota law that prohibited 18–20-year-olds from obtaining a handgun carry permit.

In a court challenge lead by the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus, along with 3 individuals aged 18–20 years old, Judge Menendez ruled the law prohibiting 18–20-year-old adults from obtaining handgun permits was unconstitutional based on the Supreme Court case known as the Bruen decision.

In response, the Minnesota Attorney General's Office filed for an emergency motion to stay

the ruling while they challenged it.

Judge Menendez granted the stay, meaning that 18–20-year-olds are prohibited from applying for a concealed carry permit in Minnesota until the matter is resolved.

The Bruen decision is a United States Supreme Court ruling that held Americans have the right to carry firearms in public for self-defense.

The Bruen ruling changed the test that lower courts use for challenges to firearms restrictions. Justices should no longer consider if the law serves public interests

like protecting public safety, but instead must ask if the gun restriction is consistent with the United States "historical tradition of firearms regulation".

The Minnesota Attorney General's Office has stated that the court has conflicting rulings on the rights of 18–20-year-olds to carry firearms outside the home, so it is likely to be settled by the U.S. Supreme Court.

For now, Nobles County will not be accepting new carry permits for 18–20-year-olds while the court appeal is being considered.

Credit: kfgo.com

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Animal Control

(507) 329-0070

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ci.worthington.mn.us

**CRIME
STOPPERS**
of Minnesota

1-800-222-TIPS

www.crimestoppersmn.org

Crime Doesn't Pay... We Do!

Humor in Law Enforcement

English police officers recently received a call that human bones had been found at a house that was under renovation.

Long Eaton police reported a gardener had dialed for emergency services after he exhumed what he thought were human remains while digging at home.

Officers quickly responded to the scene only to find the “human remains” had a plastic hook hand and a parrot skeleton sitting on the skeleton’s shoulder.

Red-faced officers quickly realized it was a plastic Captain Hook skeleton. Officers left the home owner to dispose of the remains.



Mission Statement

**Serving Worthington with honor and integrity
by working WITH the community
to provide exceptional public safety.**

**WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
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SUITE 300
WORTHINGTON, MN 56187**