

April 2015

Volume 4, Issue 4

Worthington Police News

Chief

Troy Appel

Captain

Kevin Flynn

Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Nathan Grimmuis

Josh McCuen

Brett Wilttrout

Patrol Officers

Andrew Bromberg

Dan Brouillet

Phil Butenhoff

Austin Christensen

Chris Hillesheim

Kirk Honius

Randy Liepold

Colby Palmersheim

Brandon Peil

Mark Riley

Alex Tokar

Jake Walker

Investigators

Shawn Elsing

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

Tyler Olson

School Resource

Jacki Bomgaars

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Employee Profile: Dispatch Supervisor Nancy Veen

The employee profile for April is Dispatch Supervisor Nancy Veen.

Nancy grew up on a farm in Jackson County about 10 miles east of Worthington and attended Okabena High School.

After high school, Nancy attended Pipestone Vocational School where she studied to be a financial secretary.

Upon completion of college, Nancy went to work for Dwires Excavating and later Worthington Vet Clinic. Nancy soon became officer manager at the vet clinic.

In October 1996, Nancy was hired by the Worthington Police Department as a dispatcher. On April 6, 2014, Nancy was selected to become the first Dispatch Supervisor for the department and she



currently holds this position today.

Nancy and her husband Virgil will celebrate their 39th wedding anniversary in June. Nancy and Virgil have two children and six grandchildren.

In her spare time, Nancy enjoys gardening, reading, scrapbooking and 4-wheeling on her ATV.

Animal Control
Virgil Veen

Community Service
Myra Onnen

Reception
Barb Hussong

Records
Shari Droll
Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT
Gary Gerdes

Dispatch Supervisor
Nancy Veen

Dispatch
Tonya Aanenson
Stephanie Culham
Hannah Huls
Jodi Mulder
Larry Rogers

K-9 Officers
Mack
Thor

National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week

Every year, the second full week in April is recognized as National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week. It began in 1981 by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office in California in order to recognize the service of their dispatch staff. It is a time to celebrate and thank those who dedicate their lives to serving the public. It is a week that should be set aside so everyone can be made aware of their hard work and dedication.

So many people don't know what Dispatchers do. They are rarely seen, but their voices can be heard. They have the ability to save lives without ever

seeing the people they serve. A work day can have periods of boredom and then turn into chaos at a moment's notice. Dispatchers are the first contact with the public, obtaining critical information from callers who may be hysterical, angry, intoxicated, or unable to express what they need. It is up to the dispatcher to determine what the caller needs and provide the correct information to the units in the field, to insure the safety of those responders as well as the general public.

Being a 9-1-1 dispatcher can be demanding,



rewarding, stressful, challenging and often fast-paced. For those who "answer the call", it's more than just a job; it's a means of helping their communities in substantial and important ways.

During this week, take the time to say thank you to all dispatchers, for all the sacrifices they make to create a better and safer world for the public.

We appreciate the job you do!

DON'T JUST STAND BY AND WATCH

Text confidential tips to the

Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force

100% Anonymous



BRDTF Tips available on Apple and Android devices

Law Review: Emergency Telephone Calls

Minnesota State Statute 609.78 sub 2 makes it a gross misdemeanor offense for anyone to intentionally interrupt, disrupt, impede, or interfere with an emergency call or to prevent or hinder another from placing an emergency call.

The statute further states that whoever places an emergency call and reports a fictitious emergency with the intent of prompting an emergency response by law enforcement, fire, or emergency medical services is also guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Violation of this statute becomes a felony if, as a result of the response, someone suffers great bodily harm or death.

Scam Alert: Obama Care Scam

A brand new scam has started to appear throughout the country that focuses around the penalties of not having health care insurance.

While the majority of tax preparers are honest and provide a high quality service, a few dishonest preparers are taking advantage of the confusion that surrounds the tax penalties for not having health care insurance.

The Internal Revenue Service has issued a consumer alert about the new Obama Care Scam after receiving several reports of tax preparers instructing their clients to pay the penalty directly to them, instead of the U.S. Treasury Department.

In some of these cases, the taxpayers were covered by Medicaid or other health coverage and did not need to pay the penalty at all.

In other instances, the scammers targeted Spanish speakers because of their immigration status, while others told payers that a direct payment could reduce the amount of the penalty.

In order to avoid falling victim to this scam, taxpayers should only make payments with their tax returns or in response to a letter from the IRS.



Do you have a question about a scam or have been a victim of a scam that you would like warn others about? If so, please email chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us. You may remain

Minnesota Severe Weather Awareness Week

Minnesota Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 13-17, 2015. This week is designed to refresh, remind, and educate everyone about the seasonal threats from severe weather.

We will participate in the statewide tornado drill when the siren will be activated. These drills are scheduled for Thursday, April 16th at 1:45 p.m. and again at 6:55 p.m.

The first drill is intended for institutions and businesses and the evening drill is intended for second shift workers and families.

According to the National

Weather Service, Minnesota experiences an average of 40 tornadoes per year. A record was set in 2010 with 104 tornadoes across the state.

Understanding this threat and knowing what to do when a tornado is approaching can save lives. This is a great opportunity to review emergency plans and procedures, and to conduct emergency drills at work and at home.

Are you ready for severe weather?



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Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.ci.worthington.mn.us

Humor in Law Enforcement

The Humor in Law Enforcement article for April comes from Mankato when a simple “butt dial” led to the arrest of three people on March 19, 2015.

The incident started off at 3:45 a.m. that morning when the Blue Earth County Sheriff’s Department received a call and could hear two men talking, but could not make contact with them. As the dispatcher listened in on the conversation, the dispatcher realized the men were involved with a burglary.

The caller’s location was traced to an area just north of the Mankato city limits and officers responded to the area.

A search of the area led to the discovery of two men hiding in the Blue Earth County Sheriff’s Office gun range. A female accomplice was found hiding in a vehicle in a nearby cemetery.

Items found in the suspect’s possession lead the officers to North Mankato Supply, where they found forced entry into the building and that the building had been ransacked.

The three suspects were held on suspicion of burglary, with two of the suspects being tied into a second burglary.

Thanks to KMSP for the information for this article.



Mission Statement

Serving Worthington with honor and integrity by providing community oriented law enforcement and emergency services to all people.

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