August 2013 Volume 2, Issue 8

Worthington Police News

Chief

Michael Cumiskey

Captain

Chris Dybevick

Sergeants

Bill Bolt Kevin Flynn Tim Gaul Brett Wiltrout

Patrol Officers

Chris Hillesheim
Kirk Honius
Joe Joswiak
Randy Liepold
Tyler Olson
Josh McCuen
Colby Palmersheim
Mark Riley
Kirk Schelhaas
Dan Walton

Investigators

Troy Appel Shawn Elsing Nate Grimmius Dave Hoffman

School Resource

Jacki Bomgaars

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Dispatcher Profile: Regan Roloff

The Dispatcher of the Month for August is Dispatcher Regan Roloff.

Regan joined the Worthington Police Department as a Dispatcher in February 2008 and has just retired after five years of service to the community.

Regan's favorite part of the job was that every day was different, unique and that you did not know what to expect when you came to work.

When Regan was not working, she enjoyed spending time with her family, including her ten month old son, Lucas.



Regan founded the charity organization *Cancer Doesn't Discriminate* after being diagnosed with cancer herself.

Anyone looking for more information on this worthwhile cause can go

to the Facebook page Cancer Doesn't Discriminate or to www.cancerdoesntdiscrimina te.org.

All of us at the Prairie Justice Center will miss hearing Regan on the radio and wish her the best in her retirement.

Animal Adoptions

Looking for a new furry friend? If so, Worthington Animal Control has an ever changing selection of cats and dogs looking for a new home.

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 507-372-8430 or check out our web site at http://www.ci.worthington.mn.us/animal-control



Animal Control Virgil Veen

Virgii VCCII

Community Service

Andrea Barrios Myra Onnen

Chaplain

Pastor James Sickmeyer

Reception

Barb Hussong

Records

Shari Droll Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT

Gary Gerdes

Dispatch

Tonya Aanenson Stephanie Culham Hannah Huls Larry Rogers Nancy Veen

Law Review: Safety of School Children; Duties of Other Drivers

With the start of the new school year right around the corner, it is only fitting that the law review for August should cover school bus stop arm violations.

Each year the Worthington Police Department receives dozens of complaints about drivers who go around a school bus when the stop arm is extended and the red lights are flashing.

The law regarding stopped school busses is relatively simple, if the bus is displaying an extended stop signal arm and flashing red lights, the driver of other vehicles must stop their vehicles at least 20 feet from the school bus and may not move until the school bus has retracted the stop arm and turned off the red lights.

In addition, it is illegal to pass a school bus on the right hand side of the school bus when the pre-warning flashing amber signals are flashing.

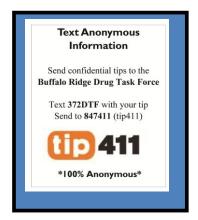
Violations of this statute can result in arrest. If you fail to stop your vehicle and remain stopped, you can face a misdemeanor criminal charge and a fine of not less than \$300 per state statute.

If you pass the school bus on the right or fail to stop or remain stopped when there are children present on the street or highway or on the adjacent sidewalk, you can face a gross misdemeanor criminal charge.



A gross misdemeanor charge could have up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$3,000.

Please give the school buses the attention they deserve. After all, the safety of our children is in your hands.





Scam Alert: The Spam Distraction Attack

The Spam Distraction Attack is the newest scam that has started to make the rounds in the United States.

The scam starts when the criminal obtains information about your online financial accounts.

They will then send out a blast of emails that range upward of 60,000 emails over a period of 12 to 24 hours. Most of these emails consist of texts from literary classics, which tend to slip past most spam filters.

While you are sifting through the emails, the scammer is accessing your online accounts and transferring money out of them. They send the emails to help hide the transactions information and confirmation emails.

The way to help protect yourself from this scam is to immediately call all of the businesses that you have online accounts when this happens.

By taking a few minutes now to make a list of your online accounts and contact information can save you a lot of stress and headaches later on.

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 anonymous.



Ask an Officer: Alcohol Consumption in Parks

I have noticed there have been a lot of people drinking at Centennial Beach recently. Why are the police allowing people to drink in the parks?

The police are allowing people to drink in the parks because the consumption of certain alcohol is allowed by Worthington City Ordinance 93.13.

The ordinance allows the consumption of beer and wine coolers, however their consumption is restricted to picnic shelters and open picnic areas.

If you see someone drinking other types of alcohol that are not allowed by ordinance or someone who is acting in an inappropriate manner due to their alcohol consumption, please contact the Worthington Police Department.



Do you have a question for a police officer, but never had the chance to ask?

Here is your chance! Each month, one question will be selected and answered in this newsletter

Send your comments and questions to:

chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us

Worthington Police

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FAX: (507) 372-5977

E-MAIL:

bhussong@co.nobles.mn.us

Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

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

Criminal of the Month

Our criminal story for August started out with an officer patrolling near the lake late one night.

The officer heard a person from a pontoon on the lake yell out and express his profane dislike of the police.

As the officer's attention was drawn to the pontoon, it turned off its lights and moved to the middle of the lake.

While yelling at the officer was not in and of itself illegal, it caught the attention of the officer. However, turning off the lights while operating the

pontoon after dusk is illegal.

The officer later located the pontoon near the shore and directed the occupants to come to shore.

In talking with the pontoon's occupants, our officer found the operator to be intoxicated and he was arrested for DWI.

To no one's surprise, the passenger that yelled at the police was also intoxicated. He was turned over to a third party on the boat, who was sober.



Mission Statement

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

WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 1530 AIRPORT ROAD SUITE 300 WORTHINGTON, MN 56187