July 2015

Volume 4, Issue 7

Worthington Police News



<u>Chief</u> Troy Appel

<u>Captain</u> Kevin Flynn

Sergeants

Tim Gaul Nathan Grimmius Josh McCuen Brett Wiltrout

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: Barb Hussong

Our employee profile for July is a familiar face to anyone who has ever been out to the Law Enforcement Center, Barb Hussong.

Growing up, Barb attended and graduated from Heron Lake – Okabena High School. After graduation, Barb attended Worthington Community College, now known as Minnesota West Technical and Community College where she received an AA Degree in Business Administration.

After completing college, Barb worked at Sathers as an office staff member. Barb then accepted a position with the Jackson County Extension Office where she was employed for 16 years.

In 2002, Barb was hired as an



Administrative Assistant by the Worthington Police Department, just before the Prairie Justice Center was opened.

In addition to being the Administrative Assistant for both the Worthington Police Department and Nobles County Sheriff's Office, she is the receptionist for the Law Enforcement Center. Other job duties include computer systems management and Records Department Assistant.

When Barb is not working, she is busy with family activities and volunteer organizations. She enjoys spending time with her husband, three children, six grandchildren and friends. Barb also enjoys camping, reading, and running.

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



How Did 911 Become the Emergency Number?

Before the 1960's, the United States didn't have one universal phone number for Americans to call if they needed help from the police or fire department. Callers simply had to know the telephone number for the department they were trying to call. If you lived in a large city, there could be multiple telephone numbers depending on where you lived.

To solve this problem, the National Fire Chief's Association suggested a national phone number in 1957. In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson helped get the ball rolling. A report to the Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice suggested a single number should be designated for callers to use in emergencies

nationwide. The report also recommended that police departments have two phone lines: one for emergencies and another one for regular business calls. That way callers looking to report an emergency wouldn't be stuck on hold while the clerk helped someone simply looking for information.

To make the emergency number a reality, the Federal Communications Commission partnered with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company to figure out what the number should be. After mulling it over for a while, the numbers 9-1-1 was selected to make up the new universal emergency number.

Congress supported the proposal for 9-1-1 as the national emergency number and passed legislation to that affect. Ten years after congress



established the 911 system, only 26% of the United States could call 911 and be connected to the local emergency services. Today, that number is approximately 99%.

America's first emergency system that used the 911 system was in Haleyville, Alabama and the country's first 911 call was made there on February 16, 1968. The first person to place a 911 call was Senator Rankin Fite and the person who answered the call was U.S. Representative Tom Beville, who was waiting at the Haleyville Police Department for the call. Nome, Alaska established the country's second 911 emergency system, starting only a couple weeks after Haleyville.

Law Review: Use of BB Guns in City Limits

The use of BB guns in Worthington is covered under city ordinance 130.09 and is titled Discharge of Firearms and Explosives.

This city ordinance states that a BB gun may be discharged upon private property with permission of the property owner. BB guns may not be used in a reckless manner and minors must be supervised by a parent.

Reckless manner includes using a BB gun in a careless manner as such to cause or possibly cause injury to a person or persons or damage to property.

Scam Alert:



The latest scam to hit Worthington is the postcard scam.

The scam starts with the victim receiving a postcard that states they have won a \$100 gift card to Walmart or Target and gives a telephone number for the victim to call.

When you call the telephone number, the "customer support" staff states there is a \$3.95 shipping and handling fee.

Those who have paid the fee have found unauthorized charges made to their account.

To avoid falling a victim to this scam, simply throw the postcard away.

If you have given your information to the scammer, contact your

credit card company or bank immediately and report what happened

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: What Goes Into the Newspaper

When I look at some newspapers, I see a lot more information about what the police department does. I have seen names of people listed, along with what they did, and how much of a fine they have to pay. Who decides what goes into the newspaper and why doesn't the Worthington Police Department list all of the violations in the newspaper like these other departments do?

What the Worthington Police Department can release to the public is covered by Minnesota State Statute under chapter 13, Government Data Practices.

Certain data collected by governmental agencies can be classified by statute, federal law or temporary classification as confidential, private, nonpublic, or protected nonpublic and thereby can only be released in very limited circumstances. Other data is listed as public and can be released.

As for the question about why the Worthington Police Department does not list all of the violations in the newspaper...

The Worthington Police Department does not choose what goes into the newspaper. Those choices are made by the editing staff of the newspapers.

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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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

Humor in Law Enforcement

Our criminal story for July started out one afternoon with a call that was not funny; a car accident.

The responding officer arrived on scene and started to speak with the people there.

One male identified himself as the driver of the second car and gave his information to the officer.

As the officer was talking to this individual, he observed signs of impairment. The male failed the standardized field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for suspicion of driving while impaired.

The officer told the other person involved in the accident about the arrest and was told the male arrested was not the male driving during the crash.

As it turns out, the driver and passenger switched seats after the crash, with the passenger driving the car into a nearby parking lot.

After further investigation, the driver of the car during the crash was also arrested



for driving while impaired.

Both the driver and the passenger pled guilty for driving while impaired and were sentenced for their crime.

Mission Statement

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

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