September 2014 Volume 3, Issue 9

Worthington Police News

Interim Chief

Kevin Flynn

Captain

Sergeants

Kevin Flynn Tim Gaul **Nathan Grimmius Brett Wiltrout**

Patrol Officers

Dan Brouillet Chris Hillesheim Kirk Honius Joe Joswiak Randy Liepold **Tyler Olson** Josh McCuen **Colby Palmersheim Brandon Peil Mark Riley Alex Tokar**

Investigators

Troy Appel Shawn Elsing Dave Hoffman

School Resource

Jacki Bomgaars

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Officer Profile: Alex Tokar

The newest officer to join the ranks of the **Worthington Police** Department is Alex Tokar.

Officer Tokar grew up in Elk River, Minnesota and attended Becker High School.

After completing high school, Officer Tokar attended Alexandria Technical College from 2008 to 2010 and received an associate's degree in Law Enforcement.

In 2006, Officer Tokar joined the United States



Army as a military police officer. Officer Tokar was deployed in 2012 for a year and spent nine months serving our country in Afghanistan.

In his free time, Officer Tokar enjoys watching sports, as well as hunting and fishing.

Officer Tokar is currently engaged to his Fiancé Brittney, with plans to be married at the end of this month.

King Turkey Day Schedule of Events

Friday, September 12

4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m. (Doors open at 8) Saturday, September 13 9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30) 10:00

YMCA Fun Run Free Pancake Breakfast **Grand Parade** Hairball

Drake White Concert

Beer Garden

Midway

Judd Hoos

Safe Cab Begins

Nobles Co Fairgrounds Nobles Co Fairgrounds Arena - Fairgrounds Long Branch Saloon

Downtown Worthington Fire Hall Tenth Street Arena – Fairgrounds

For More Info: http://www.kingturkeyday.net/schedule-of-events.html

Animal Control Virgil Veen

Community Service

Andrea Barrios Myra Onnen

Reception

Barb Hussong

Records

Shari Droll Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT

Gary Gerdes

Dispatch

Tonya Aanenson Stephanie Culham Hannah Huls Jodi Mulder Larry Rogers Nancy Veen

K-9 Officers

Mack Thor

Thin Blue Line Award

For avid readers of this newsletter, you may remember the *Notable Call: Domestic with a Gun* from last month's newsletter in which Officer Palmersheim and K-9 Thor located a domestic assault suspect and later located a gun allegedly hidden by that suspect.

As a result of their actions during this call, Sergeant Brett Wiltrout nominated Officer Palmersheim for the Thin Blue Line Award for performing an act of intelligent and valuable police service.

demonstrating a special faithfulness and perseverance to his duty.

Officer Palmersheim was awarded the Thin Blue Line Award at the Worthington City Council meeting. The award was presented to him by his mother. K-9 Officer Thor received a new chew toy from Mayor Alan Oberloh for his participation in this incident.

Congratulations to Officer Palmersheim and K-9 Thor for earning the Thin Blue Line Award!





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: 24 Hour Parking

Recently, the police department has been noticing an increase in violations of the 24-hour parking ordinance.

Worthington City Ordinance 72.06 *Parking Prohibited over Certain Length of Time* simply states the following: No vehicle shall be stopped, parked, or left standing upon any street for a continuous period in excess of 24 hours.

Simply stated, vehicles must be moved every 24 hours and if they don't, they risk being ticketed and towed for violation of this ordinance.



Scam Alert: IRS Back Tax Scam and Airline Ticket Scam

Last month, multiple Worthington residents received calls from scammers claiming to be from the IRS.

These callers were telling their potential victims that they owed back taxes and they were in criminal violation of the tax law.

They were pressuring the potential victims into giving up their credit card numbers or to have them purchase Green Dot cards to pay their alleged back taxes. Fortunately, none of the residents that received calls fell for the scams.

A second scam showed up in a Worthington resident's email.

In this scam, the potential victim received an email that appeared to be from Delta Airlines with the subject "Your Order is Ready".

The body of the email had information provided that made the email look like the recipient had purchased airline tickets.

The email had a zip file attached to the email and this is where the danger lies. Zip files are commonly used to hide computer viruses.

Once the file is opened, it can run any number of malicious programs that can be used to steal financial and personal information.

Fortunately for our callers, they recognized this email as a scam since they have never flown and have never purchased airline tickets.



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: Cellular Telephone Tracking

Does a police officer need a search warrant to track a cellular telephone?

In most cases yes, however Minnesota Statute 626B.42, subd. 2(b) allows a law enforcement agency in certain circumstances to track the phone without a warrant. These exceptions are:

1. When the device is reported lost or stolen by the owner.

- 2. In order to respond to the user's call for emergency service.
- 3. With the informed, affirmative, documented consent of the owner or user.
- 4. With the informed, affirmative, documented consent of the guardian or next of kin if the owner or user is believed to be deceased or reported missing and unable to be contacted.



5. In an emergency situation that involves the risk of death or serious bodily harm to a person possessing the device by using the current process in Minnesota Statute 237.83.

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

1530 Airport Road Suite 300 Worthington, MN 56187

PHONE: (507) 295-5400

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

The Criminal of the Month for September is an older case that involves a man who came to Worthington to pick up a snow blower with his tractor.

For the officers at the Worthington Police Department, the incident began late one evening with a call from a local fast food restaurant for an intoxicated male who was going to drive away.

Upon arrival to the restaurant, the officers found a John Deere tractor parked in the lot of the restaurant.

Restaurant employees told officers the man appeared to be intoxicated and came into the store without a shirt on and became argumentative when he was told to leave. The male eventually left the store and got into his tractor.

After talking with the store employee, the officers went over to the tractor and found the male sitting in the driver's seat.

In talking with the male, it was discovered he drove the tractor from Lake Wilson to Worthington to pick up a snow blower.

After a series of field sobriety tests, the man was arrested for DWI.

A search of the tractor turned up a bottle of hard liquor, which led officers to believe that he was



drinking while he was driving to Worthington.

Lesson learned, when the sign says "no shoes, no shirt, no service", they mean it!

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