

## November 2005

### **WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN?**

Well, it wasn't *really* the Lone Ranger and he wasn't *really* wearing a mask but he certainly is a champion in my book.

The police department has been on a campaign to keep commercial truck traffic moving slowly throughout the village. One of several initiatives has been communicating in writing to the trucking companies that frequent our village highways. That's where Paul Kajtan came into the picture. Paul works for a large trucking firm based out of Oconomowoc. He saw a letter from our police department posted at his workplace. The letter reminded drivers that the Eagle Police was strictly enforcing traffic laws with an emphasis on commercial truck traffic. Paul phoned our department to express his concern for the safety of our residents and offered a number of creative methods for gaining traffic law compliance, not the least of which was direct communication with commercial drivers. I informed Paul that I liked the idea but had not budgeted for the purchase of a citizens band (CB) radio. The following day Paul and his wife arrived at the PD with a new CB radio. Paul, an advocate of truck safety, gave

the radio to our community as a donation and expressed his hope that we would be able to put it to good use. I assured him we would and in fact the radio is soon to be installed in the unmarked squad which is often used for traffic enforcement. Officers will use this radio to communicate directly with drivers as they approach and pass through the village. I believe, as does Paul, direct officer – to – driver communication will increase awareness of our strategy to slow commercial traffic. To this day Paul and I keep in communication via email on a variety of topics. I'd like to express our thanks to Paul for his extraordinary kindness and sincere effort to assist us in doing our job.

### **WALK SAFE**

The police department received an interesting letter recently and I'd like to share some highlights with you.

Eagle sees a fair amount of pedestrian foot traffic and possibly a bit more than other communities our size and for good reason. The Village of Eagle is a beautiful and safe place for a stroll any time day or night. With that we should keep a few safety tips in mind.

Always wear bright colored or reflective clothing particularly after dusk. If your feet take you to the shoulder of a roadway, walk against traffic so you can see what's coming your way. In Wisconsin it's illegal to walk with the direction of traffic unless you are using a sidewalk. When crossing the street at an intersection, make eye contact with any motorist "appearing" to yield to you. Drivers often don't see pedestrians until they begin their turn. Don't cross until **you know they know** you're there! Avoid wearing headphones with loud music that drowns out traffic noise. My last bit of advice...when you get home from work tomorrow, grab the kids and the dog and head out for a colorful and relaxing fall amble through the village.

### **"ICE"**

You may already be familiar with the concept of entering a number in your cellular telephone that first responders may use to reach your emergency contact person in the event you are disabled. Taking a few minutes to enter your **"IN CASE of EMERGENCY"** (ICE) number/s may be a life saver if an emergency strikes and certainly will expedite notification of your emergency contact. If a child is permitted to carry a cellular telephone the ICE numbers may be the difference between speedy vs. delayed parental notification if a problem involves the child. More and more throughout the nation emergency personnel are looking to a victim's cell phone for clues to that person's identity. You can make that job easier by adopting ICE. Eagle officers have been instructed to check for ICE numbers on cellular telephones when appropriate.

### **STATUTES REVEALED!**

I hope you enjoy reading the unusual statutes as much as we enjoy finding them. This one is just a hoot!

Wisconsin Statute 134.52(3) Shipment of Chickens states..."Whenever any humane officer or any peace officer in this state ascertains or observes any shipment of chickens in a crowded or congested condition, such officer may take or cause to be taken such steps as to give immediate relief."

This does beg the question, how would an officer give *immediate* relief to a semi truck load full of crated chickens? I graduated the police academy a long time ago but I KNOW they didn't cover this one. I'm open for suggestions.

Have a safe autumn. Our next news letter will be out in February of 2006.