

## **December 2006**

Newsletter #7

### **Back – By Popular Demand**

Maybe “popular demand” was an overstatement but a few residents have asked when the newsletters would come out of hiding. This has been a busy year for all of us at the police department and while prioritizing what to do and what to put on the back burner, the newsletter took a back seat. We’re caught up with most pending matters and couldn’t pass up the opportunity to issue our first December-release newsletter. We’ll do our best to continue printing a quarterly newsletter.

### **New Officers – New Talents**

You may have noticed a few new faces in uniform the past few months. The first-rate service you have received over the years continues to improve with new officers bringing new talents to your police department. Allow me to introduce three additions to the EPD staff. In alphabetical order:

On board since the last newsletter is: Officer Bord (full time), Officer Harnisch (part time), and Officer Lesniewski (part time). Collectively these three bring decades of law enforcement training and experience which will surely prove to benefit our

citizens and our community. The new officers filled vacancies left by Officer Schubel, now a full time officer with Mukwonago PD, Officer Fritz who accepted a full time position with Oconomowoc PD, Officer Panas who became a full time deputy with the Waukesha County Sheriff’s Department and Officer Fons, formerly a full time officer with Eagle and now employed by the Muskego PD. We miss them and wish them all well in their future endeavors.

### **The bad guys didn’t slide this time!**

They ran, but they couldn’t hide. Three young men were recently seen by a Village resident intentionally damaging property in the Village Park. One suspect was beating playground equipment with a metal pipe while the others egged him on. This resulted in nearly \$1000 damage to a large poly-plastic slide. One Eagle resident was not about to look the other way. She saw them from her house and set out to speak her mind (the editor won’t let me print the quote)! She approached the vandals, yelling at them to stop and told them she’d called the police. They quickly fled the scene. Our officer arrived and began a foot pursuit of the suspects. As the officer ran through yards and down streets more Eagle residents came out of their homes to tell the chasing officer where the suspects had last been seen. “They just jumped the fence” said one

homeowner. “They ran over that way” said another. With the assistance of nearly ten keen eyed citizens the officer was able to catch up with and arrest the three, all of whom were hiding under a swimming pool on the southwest side of the village. Their next stop was the Waukesha County Jail. Ultimately the court ordered the men to pay restitution for the damage they caused and told them they were not to return to the Village Park. These vandals could never have guessed that an entire Village would assist in their apprehension. Frankly it didn’t surprise me at all. The Eagle Police Department serves the greatest citizens in Wisconsin and if not for the courageous actions of the witness and the prompt assistance of several other citizens the bad guys may very well have gotten away. Next time you see Jill Steinhart, thank her for “policing” our park!

### **Buckle Up the Young’un’s**

As much as I hate to use a scare tactic I will in order to punctuate my request. About ten years ago I responded to a traffic accident. It was a rear-end crash and was by all accounts a relatively minor fender-bender less one detail. The front seat passenger had not been wearing her seatbelt. Subsequently the force of the 25 mile per hour impact caused her head to penetrate the windshield. She barely survived her ambulance ride to the hospital. You’ve heard it a thousand times but I’ll say it one more time for good measure. If this woman had been buckled up she would have literally walked away unharmed.

Now, as adults we understand consequences and some of us make the conscious decision not to wear safety

belts. Young children on the other hand rely on us to make so many decisions for them and buckling them up is literally a no-brainer. In even slow-speed crashes unrestrained children can become a missile. Eagle officers use great discretion when issuing citations and sometimes that means a motorist gets a “break” when they get pulled over. The breaks end though, when we stop someone transporting unrestrained children. Please use proper safety belts and car seats for your children. Kids are a precious gift, let’s treat them accordingly.

### **Strange Statues Revealed**

We like to share unusual, humorous and odd laws in every newsletter. It seems our State Legislators have given us an endless supply. Wisconsin State Statute 943.76 states in part: “Whoever intentionally introduces a contagious or infectious disease into livestock without the consent of the owner of the livestock is guilty of a Class F felony.”

Given that it’s the cold and flu season I strongly suggest next time you visit Uncle Hubert’s dairy farm, avoid sneezing in the barn. You’ll thank me later.

*As always we look forward to your comments and suggestions. We encourage you to contact any of us at the police department. You can reach us by mail, phone or email.*

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