

**April 2007**

Newsletter #9

### **Eyes and Ears Wanted**

In early February of this year more than 20 residents of the Fields of Eagle subdivision and surrounding areas found their mailboxes had been vandalized overnight. We're fortunate that this type of crime is rare in Eagle but that doesn't take the pain out of having to purchase and install a new mailbox. We are desirous of bringing enforcement action against the person or persons responsible and, just as importantly, getting restitution for the victims. If you know the name of anyone involved in this act please give us a call. You will remain anonymous and if we are successful in prosecution of the case we'll request a reward on your behalf through the Crime Stoppers organization. One of the best sources of information on happenings in our Village comes from our younger residents. Often they see and hear things that moms, dads and cops don't. The eyes and ears of our Village residents have helped us solve many incidents throughout the years and we hope this will be another. If you have children take a few minutes to run this by them. You might be surprised to find they've seen or heard something that will help us wrap this one up.

### **Barking Dogs – Tired Neighbors**

Most of the material that sees print in this newsletter comes in the form of a suggestion or request. This topic has come to my attention several times. While it seems that most everyone likes dogs I have yet to meet anyone that enjoys the sound of incessant barking. Our officers receive numerous calls every year from exasperated citizens whose first words are usually something like "I like my neighbor but their dog is driving us crazy!" If you own a dog and believe he has a propensity to announce his presence over, and over and OVER, please consider the purchase of a bark collar. No Bark Collars are reasonably priced starting at about \$35.00 which is about half the cost of a municipal citation. Now I don't want to give the impression that our officers issue citations to every barking dog owner. Our first visit generally results in a friendly warning. If we are called to stop back a second or third time the chance of receiving a barking dog ticket increases to nearly 100%. No Bark Collars can be found at nearly any pet supply store or online. To compare a wide variety of brands type "bark collar" in your favorite internet search engine.

### **Motor Scooters – Fact vs. Fiction**

**True or False? Children's motor scooters can be operated on the street or sidewalk just like a bicycle. Motor**

scooters, whether they are gas or electric powered, are defined by the Department of Transportation as Motor Vehicles and therefore must be licensed before they can legally be operated on any street. Here's the catch. Motor scooters do not meet State or Federal requirements for licensing and thus, cannot be licensed. Because they are motor vehicles they also cannot be operated on a sidewalk. I feel for folks who spend their hard earned dollars on these not-so inexpensive toys after being told erroneous "they can be driving anywhere" only to find out after the purchase that their child has to stay in the yard. So regardless what the sales rep tells you it is not legal to drive them anywhere but on privately owned property.

### **EPD Bears its Bears**

Eddie the Eagle Police Bears went up for grabs more than five years ago. In 2002 former Police Chief Hans Lux began a fund raiser selling stuffed police bears. We sold them to anyone willing to part with ten dollars. The proceeds were earmarked for the purchase of an in-squad camera system. About 250 people bought bears bringing us to \$1100 short of our goal. Over the years the program went into hibernation (bear pun intended) until one sunny afternoon Village residents Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson inquired as to the status of the squad camera program. One day after the inquiry the Jamiesons gave the police department a donation to cover the shortage. The camera was installed this winter and has since recorded, among other events, more than one dozen drunken driving arrests. This tool is effective for a number of reasons not the

least of which is the fact that video recordings make great witnesses. We anticipate never having to go to trial with an intoxicated driving case thanks to the new "electronic spectator" sitting in the front seat of the squad. Our heartfelt thanks to the Jamiesons and to all those who purchased an Eddie bear.

### **Passport Requirement**

Village resident Carl Pettis brings along this bit of very good advice. Living so close to Canada most of us have learned to take for granted a trip north of the border. Canada is a beautiful country that is soon to be off limits to Americans without a passport. In January of this year passports became a requirement for air travel from US to Canada. In as early as January 2008 passports may be required for travel into Canada by land or sea, including ferries. There is pending legislation to prolong the 2008 deadline but as Carl suggested there is no better time than the present to start working on getting your passport. For more information on how you can get this valuable document contact the Waukesha County Clerk's Office at 262-548-7010 or visit [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) online.

*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.*

Eagle Police Department  
Chief Russell Ehlers  
820 E. Main Street  
Eagle, WI 53119  
262-594-2400  
[eaglepolice@cji.net](mailto:eaglepolice@cji.net)