



Mount
Vernon
IOWA

Michael Beimer, City Administrator
Mark Winder, Chief of Police
Dan Boggs, P.E., City Engineer

Jim Moore, Mayor

Council:

Jamie Hampton
Marianne Taylor
Francesca Thompson
Bill Niemi
Eric Roudabush

March Police Report

February Crashes

In February there were 12 crash reports made for the month. The crashes were located in the following locations: 1-5th Ave SW & College Blvd, 2- 1st Street W & Cornell Sports lot drive, 3- Palisades Rd & Hwy 1, 1st Street W & 7th Ave NW, 5- 1 & 30 roundabout, 6- 3rd St SW & 12th Ave, 7- MV High School parking lot, 8 - Colonial Estates, 9 - 1 & 30 roundabout, 10- D Street & 7th Ave SW, 11- Hwy 1 S and Gary's Foods, 12- 1 & 30 roundabout.

DARE

Officer Gehrke is teaching D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) currently he has 98 5th grade students and 101 7th grade students involved in the program. This is a great opportunity for our department to interact with students attending the Middle School. The theme for the 5th grade student's is safe and responsible choices provides a framework for teaching about decision making, risk, stress, communication, and peer pressure while providing the youth with the information about drugs they need to make informed choices. The 7th graders have increased opportunities to practice the D.A.R.E. decision making model and apply it to real life situations.

This is Officer Gehrke's 6th year with the program. Graduation for the 5th graders is scheduled for April 4th, 2014 at 1 PM.

Heritage Days Planning Committee

Planning continues for Heritage days that is scheduled for July 10, 11th and 12th, 2014. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with any one of the many aspects of this event is welcome to attend the monthly meetings. Meetings are the 1st Wednesday of the month and usually held at Chameleon's Pub & Grub. Contact is Wade Squires by e-mail wsquires@fusion-architects.com

Child Safety Seat Event

Officer Gehrke participated in a child safety seat event in Cedar Rapids with the Linn County Safe Kids Coalition. The event was held at McGrath, Buick, GMC, and Cadillac in Hiawatha on February 13th. Officer Gehrke is our department certified safety seat technician and is required to participate in various checks and inspect a number of seats annually to maintain his certification. We offer this service to anyone who has a child safety seat and has any concerns with the proper installation of their child's safety seat.

Department Training

Officers attended training in the following areas during February. CPR, AED, Mental Health, Excited Delirium and Use and operation of our new radios. (Both in-car and portable)

s.T.E.P. GTSB Traffic Enforcement

Officers conducted 17 hours of additional traffic enforcement in March during the enforcement wave that was held March 14th - 17th. Officers had 1 OWI contact during the enforcement period, 8



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speed contacts and 6 warnings for various violations. Officers also conducted one drug interdiction during a traffic stop.

Police Car Update

The 2014 Police Interceptor was ordered along with the equipment needed to up-fit the vehicle for service. The 2009 will be removed from service prior to 94,000 miles, equipment removed and prepared for the trade on the new vehicle. The high bid for the 2009 was \$3,500 from Chicago Motors. They will be sending the check to Lynch Ford who in turn will credit us the \$3,500 on the cost of our new vehicle. Chicago Motors will pick the vehicle up late April or early May.

2013 Annual Police Report

The 2013 Annual Police report has been completed and is available.

Found/Abandoned Bicycles

We recently picked up about 25 bikes that were left or abandoned at Cornell College. We would like to return these bikes to the rightful owners. We encourage calling the police department with a description of your lost/stolen bike. We will check that against those turned in to our department and if it is located return to the owner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark A. Winder
Chief of Police



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April Police Report

March Crashes

In March there were 8 crash reports made for the month. The crashes were located in the following locations: 1-Hwy 1 at 4th Street SW, 2- Hwy 1 at 1st Street, 3-100 block of Hwy 1 N, 4-Hwy 30 east of Hillview Drive, 5- 1 & 30 roundabout (no damage), 6-City Hall parking lot, 7-100 block of 1st Street W and 8 - 1 & 30 roundabout.

DARE

Graduation was held on April 4th at 1 pm. Key note speaker was Cornell College Head wrestling Coach Mike Duroe. Coach Duroe has established himself at the collegiate, national and world levels having been an assistant coach on the U.S. Men's Freestyle staff in four Olympic Games (1996, 2000, 2004 and 2008) He also served as the head coach of Guam's freestyle team at the 2008 Games in Beijing. Having him in our community to address the D.A.R.E. graduates was truly an honor.

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Department Training

Sgt. Shannon and I have been attending training that relates to the EDMS project in Linn County. (Electronic Data Management System) This new system will allow all of our citations and complaints to be filed with the Clerk of Court and the County Attorney electronically. There is a learning curve for each of us to get use to writing electronic citations and complaints but will save us from having to drive to the court house at least every other week to file tickets and complaints.

Police Car Update

The 2009 Ford Crown Victoria has been taken out of service and the equipment is being removed to ready the vehicle for sale/trade.

Abandoned Bicycles Sale

This year the annual bike sale will be held on Saturday May 3rd between 10 am and 11 am at our storage shed located behind the Lisbon/Mount Vernon Ambulance building. More than 20 bicycles will be on display and are available to the highest bidders. Cash sales and all sales are final.

MV High School Pre Prom Alcohol Awareness Assembly Education

On April 16th the Mount Vernon Police Department and the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau will team up with Mount Vernon High School staff to host an alcohol awareness assembly and have a driving simulator available for students to have a chance to see how the effects of alcohol effect a person's ability to operate a vehicle while impaired.



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Attempted Child Enticement

April 2nd we received a report of an attempted enticement of 7 & 8 year old girls that occurred on Saturday March 29th. The report came after an Olin youth reported a similar incident in Olin on Monday March 31st. In the Mount Vernon incident, the vehicle was a white sedan possibly a Toyota with two white males. The passenger was offering a candy cane and had a colorful tattoo on his right forearm. We request early reporting of these types of suspicious activities. We would much rather have a report and determine that it was not a threat than not have it reported and a serious issue evolve as a result.

We encourage parents to have serious discussions with their children about such issues. Police encourage discussions that include what to do when approached by a stranger, who safe people are in the community and explain what some of the common abduction ploys are such as offering a ride, offering candy, asking for help in finding an animal, offering money and asking for directions. Remind children who they can go to if they feel uncomfortable and how to "be nasty" if the situation that they are in doesn't feel right. (Run, Yell, Kick, Bite and or go someplace safe and tell an adult authority figure as soon as possible)

We also want to encourage parents/grandparents/care givers to be observant when walking or driving kids to school. Take notice when you see something or someone that appears out of place and report it to our department. We have officers on duty 24/7 to respond to concerns and remember it takes a community to raise our youth!

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark A. Winder
Chief of Police