

YORKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

April 2006

Meet Our Employees

This month's featured officer is Officer Jeff Ackland.

Officer Jeff Ackland



Officer Ackland has been a police officer for six years starting his career in Plano. He is working towards his goal of completing a bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University.

Ackland has diversified his career by becoming certified in several different aspects of policing. These certifications include Juvenile Officer, Bike Officer, DARE, Evidence Technician, Gang Officer and several drug classes that teach the officers to identify the characteristics of use and identification of illicit drugs. Most recently he has completed a two-year commitment to the Cooperative Police Assistance Team (CPAT).

Officer Ackland is married and has three children. He enjoys spending time with his family and golfing.

Dog Complaints

Recently we have been receiving several complaints about dogs in the neighborhood that are a nuisance. People may not want to disrupt the harmony of their

neighborhood, but dogs are running at large or barking incessantly. If you are experiencing this type of problem, it is usually an indication that others in your neighborhood are feeling the same way.



This type of a problem is exactly what Neighborhood Watch was designed to alleviate. The team approach in a tactful way is the best way to tackle an issue like this. It can be done in a broad sense by having a meeting discussing these problems without singling anyone out specifically.

If you or your neighbors are experiencing issues like this, talk with your captain and set up a meeting with your Neighborhood Watch group. When inviting your fellow neighbors make sure you inform them of the agenda and that one of our officers will be there to discuss the pertinent ordinances.

Blogging Update



Yorkville High School Liaison Officer Helland has taken a lead role in monitoring some of our youth regarding placing personal information on Internet sites. There are several different sites out there; an example of one of them would be MySpace.com.

Officer Helland has found numerous Yorkville youth, who are under the age of 14, creating these personal sites. Pictures they have uploaded onto their sites have identified several of these kids. The children in question are

not just from the middle school, but also from the grade schools. Some of these kids have been identified as ten and eleven year old youths.

We have several concerns about our adolescents' activity. Officer Helland has been working with MySpace.com in a proactive effort to stop child predators from gaining vital information from these children. Our youth are easily manipulated into giving out too much personal information that can be very detrimental to their well being.

A minimal amount of these underage blogs are found this way. The parent really needs to be the lead investigator and follow up on their child's activities. A parents guide on how to check MySpace.com for this information has been created and is available through the Yorkville Police Department.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

April is National Alcohol Awareness Month. This promotion encourages local communities to focus on alcoholism and alcohol-related issues with the goal of helping reduce the stigma of alcoholism and its treatment. Alcohol addiction crosses all socioeconomic boundaries and affects both men and women, and every ethnic group. Incidentally, denial is still the major obstacle to treatment for alcoholism. Individuals often refuse to consider that alcohol use can be the root cause of their problems.



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Crimewatch March 1 through March 31, 2006

Location	Description of Incident
1300 block of Carolyn Ct	Several sheets of plywood were stolen from a construction site.
2000 block of Ingemunson Ln	Various construction materials were stolen from a residence under construction.
3000 block of Grande Trail	A window of a building was broken.
700 block of Game Farm Rd	An iPod was stolen and later recovered.
Area of Route 47 & Galena Rd	A campaign sign was damaged.
700 block of Game Farm Rd	Scratches were found on a parked vehicle.
1100 block of Sunset Ave	A parked vehicle was dented and scratched.
2000 block of South Bridge St	Gasoline was pumped and not paid for at a local gas station.
500 to 900 block of Heartland Dr	Several mailboxes were damaged.
Area of Freemont St & Park St	A park bench was damaged.
1200 block of North Bridge St	An area business was broken into and an amount of currency was taken.
200 block of East Countryside Pkwy	Entry was attempted into a local business.
1200 block of North Bridge St	An area business was broken into and an amount of currency was taken.
1800 block of Marketview Dr	A purse was reported missing.
2000 block of South Bridge St	At a local gas station, gasoline that was pumped was not paid for.
700 block of Game Farm Rd	A parked vehicle was damaged.
700 block of Game Farm Rd	An iPod was reported stolen and was later recovered.
1500 block of Stoneridge Ct	A glass door of a residence was broken.
500 block of West Hydraulic Ave	Furniture was reported stolen from a residence.
700 block of Game Farm Rd	A CD player and CD's were stolen.
2700 block of North Bridge St	A computer was stolen.

Your Juvenile Driver



Are you concerned if your child is mature enough or has the mechanical aptitude to negotiate a 3000-pound vehicle?

As a parent you have the authority to require your adolescent to drive more than fifty hours with you. You can mandate that they complete one hundred or more hours. It is a parent's discretion if they feel if their child is ready to acquire a driver's license. Even if you thought they were ready but they have proven you wrong, you still have the authority to have their license rescinded. All it takes is a letter from the parent to the Secretary of State requesting your son or daughter's license to be taken away.

This can only be done when they are at the age of sixteen. It would be like they never had a driver license and would be required to take all testing and classes over.

"Pharming" - The New Drug Craze

The family medicine cabinet, may now be "pharmed" by kids looking for drugs. They may take over-the-counter, prescription, or whatever else they can find. What they do next is frightening.

Most kids will combine them all in a bag, hat, or bowl. Then they pass them around, take a handful, and then sit back to see what happens. The consequences are soon obvious and the results of "pharming" can be dangerous.

While the abuse of over-the-counter drugs is nothing new, studies now show it's more common among 12 to 17 year olds. In fact, adolescents are 18 more times likely to die from an over-the-counter overdose than from an illicit drug overdose.



On the Web

City Ordinances & Information: www.yorkville.il.us

Illinois Laws: www.legis.state.il.us

Secretary of State: www.cyberdriveillinois.com