

# YORKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

December 2006

### Meet Our Employees

This month's featured employee is our newest addition to the cadet program, Cadet Matt Feldott.

#### Cadet Matt Feldott



Cadet Feldott is a graduate of Yorkville High School and is currently attending Waubesa Community College. Cadet Feldott's position is one of a support nature that is very important to the police department. His duties include lockouts, motorist assist, errands, squad maintenance relays, and assistance with crime prevention programs to name a few of his duties. By implementing the cadet program, more police officers are out on the street.

You can identify our two cadets by their light blue uniforms and amber light bar on their squad that identifies them as Yorkville Cadets.

Cadet Feldott is interested in becoming a police officer and is planning to study at Western Illinois University. Cadet Feldott's interest is in sports, including football and basketball.

### Underage Drinking

Underage drinking is the number one drug problem among teens in America. Alcohol is responsible, directly and indirectly, for more teen deaths and injuries than all other drugs combined. Alcohol is implicated in traffic crashes, sexual assaults, school dropouts and a host of other serious, even deadly, problems.

The community cares about this problem; that's why the police department and local businesses have partnered together in an attempt to curtail these activities. We work together by providing Beverage Alcohol Seller Server Educational Training (BASSET) sessions to bartenders, waiters, waitresses, and managers. This six-hour state sanctioned class is free to all United City of Yorkville's businesses.

Our next line of defense is what we call alcohol compliance checks. We will have an undercover special agent work with the police and check all alcohol licensees.



The police department and the businesses take this problem very seriously and will continue to do our part to help the youth of Yorkville.



### Kendall County Criminal Justice Explorer Post 1155

It's that time of the year again. The explorer post's largest fundraiser is the annual Christmas tree sales. We have moved because of the sale of the Bristol Kendall Fire Department building next to Fox River Lanes. Fire Chief Mike Hitzemann graciously let us move our tree stand to their main building on Route 47 & Beaver Street in the Industrial Park.

We will again have a large selection of types and sizes. All trees will be \$35.00 and our times of operation will be 5:00pm to 9:00pm on weekdays and 10:00am to 6:00pm on weekends. We will start sales on Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup> and stay open until the trees are gone.

We are always looking for new members who are 14-21 years of age and are interested in high adventure and police activities. We are the last phase of Boy Scouts, but we are coed. We meet the first and third Thursdays at 6:30pm at the Kendall County Sheriff's Department. If you have any questions regarding the explorer post please contact Advisor Barry Groesch at 630 553-8511.

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### Citizens Police Academy Graduation

Our eleventh Citizens Police Academy class graduated Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Seventeen brave Yorkville citizens completed the intense rigors of this holistic criminal justice training in order to graduate with distinction from this local academy. These rigors include listening to fourteen specialized speakers over thirteen weeks discussing what they do in the judicial system. Examples would include Eric Weis from the Kendall County States Attorney's Office, Officer Kellie Vanderlie from the Kendall County Probation and Commander Rich Hart from the Special Response Team (SRT). We also enjoyed several field trips that included Kendall County Corrections, Kencom Dispatch and the Kendall County Coroner's Office. We ended with participants partaking in mock traffic stops, getting a real taste of what police work is like. All of these activities are not mandatory but we do ask that you complete 70% of the sessions. Whatever you miss can be retaken at the next scheduled CPA class.

If you are interested in attending our next class slotted for Spring of 2007, you can obtain an application on line or by stopping by the police department. Congratulations to Class XI

### Traffic Corner

This month I would like to bring up a topic that to some, seems basic and to others, is a situation that brings annoyance and stress: merging into traffic. Picture this situation: you're driving southbound Route 47 just south of Route 34. You are driving slowly in the left lane, when all of a sudden, a vehicle comes up at a high rate of speed in the right lane, and attempts to pass you, right before the right lane merges. You know that the individual will not have enough time to safely get into the left lane, so you are forced to slam on your brakes to let them in. Not only is this an everyday occurrence, but it is also a situation that brings about many crashes each year.

As to who has the right of way in a situation like this, it would be the vehicle that is in the lane that does not merge. The individual who is merging should either speed up or slow down to safely move into the lane of traffic.

When dealing with merging trucks, keep in mind that a car is very hard to see while a truck driver is trying to merge.

A good rule or thumb when faced with a situation like this is to allow those who are merging to merge and to be a courteous driver. This will save some time and effort getting a vehicle repaired as well as save some money on your insurance costs.

### Did You Know?

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 2-33.

### Vacation Watch



Going on vacation? Give us a call at 553-4340 before you leave to be put on our vacation watch list. We will need to know when you will be gone, any lights that may be on in your home, any cars that may be in the driveway and contact information for any key holders you would want us to call if a situation arose.

Before you leave, do a perimeter check of your residence. Check to make sure all windows and doors are secure. Make sure all outbuildings are locked to deter theft and usage of your own tools or ladders to gain entry into your home. All mail, papers, or other deliveries need to be halted and inform a trusted adult neighbor to collect any unknown deliveries and to keep an extra watch on your property. By doing these small preventative measures you can help keep your residence safe.

Helpful Links:

City Ordinances & Information:

<http://www.yorkville.il.us/>

Illinois Laws:

<http://www.legis.state.il.us/>

Secretary of State:

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/>