

YORKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

January 2007

Meet Our Employee

This month's featured employee is Police Records Clerk Sally Dillon.

Police Clerk Sally Dillon



Sally is retired from the Illinois State Police after thirty-five years of service. Sally started out as a crime laboratory analyst and worked her way up to a management position of director. Her position was held at Maywood for six years followed by a return to Joliet as an assistant director in charge of the DNA unit.

Sally holds a Bachelor's of Science degree with a major in biology and she was also the first female laboratory director in Illinois. Through her career she was also the first female president of the Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (MAFS). She also is a fellow in the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and emeritus member of the American Society of Crime Lab Directors serving on the Executive Board.

In Sally's free time she enjoys seasonal decorating and craft work.

Winter Survival



In the beginning of December we experienced some brutal weather conditions, including a heavy rain followed by a freeze and then several inches of snow. That is a recipe for road problems. We have some tips to help keep you out of the ditches.

The very first thing is to listen to your media outlets especially the local radio stations. They can give you a report of what the roadways will be like. Here are some other great tips from the Secretary of State

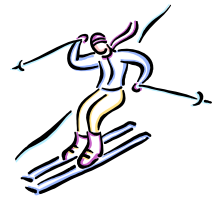
- Plan your travel, selecting both primary and alternate routes.
- Try not to travel alone, two or three people are preferable.
- Travel in a convoy with another vehicle, if possible.
- Reliable transportation is especially important in the winter. If you have a car, make sure it is ready for whatever winter may bring.
- Drive carefully and defensively.

For more information on driving in snowy conditions and more winter safety tips, visit <http://www.safeusa.org/winter.htm> online.

Explorer Post 1155

Do you know a 14-21 year old male or female who is interested in our judicial system and in high adventure? The Kendall County Criminal Justice Explorer Post 1155 is just the organization for them. We meet two times a month on the first and third Thursdays at the Kendall County Safety Center. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm and continues for approximately 1-½ hours.

For our next trip, scheduled in February, we will be traveling to Cascade Mountain Ski



Resort in Wisconsin. This overnight trip is designed for people who like to ski and for those who just like to get away and do something different. The members who don't ski can plan different activities that may include a movie or some other point of interest.

Our main event will take place during the summer of 2007. We are planning an 8-day sailboat trip in Florida.



Explorers is a coed program that is part of the Boy Scouts. If you know someone who may be interested, have them contact Officer Barry Groesch at 630-553-8511.

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Traffic Corner

Over the last twelve months, there has been an issue in Yorkville that has resulted in over 320 complaints taken by the police. The issue is parking. The police department has taken complaints ranging from parking in no parking zones (including handicap zones) to parking against the flow of traffic. Sometimes those who have received either a written warning or a citation for illegal parking think that parking is a minor concern for the police. This is not always the case.

A relatively minor offense of parking on or obstructing the sidewalk can cause bigger problems. If there is a vehicle blocking the sidewalk, a young child is forced to bike or walk on the street causing a potentially dangerous situation. Also, if there are people walking, jogging, or pushing a stroller on the sidewalk, and the route is blocked, then these people are forced into the road, and might be hard to see by passing motorists, creating a dangerous situation.

Another situation that arises is parking on the streets after snowfall. The city ordinance states that there will be no parking on city streets after two inches of snow for 24 hours following the conclusion of a snowfall. This is so that the roads can be cleared completely of the snow. As winter progresses, please remember these ordinances to keep others and yourself safe.

Snow on Street

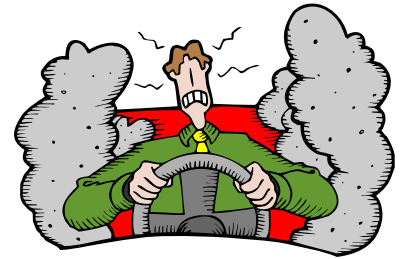
When clearing your driveway of snow it is illegal to deposit the snow onto a street. If snow or any other material is dumped onto the roadway, it constitutes a hazardous material that could cause an accident. If a driver attempts to go around it or goes through it and the obstacle was a "cause" for the accident, not only could there be criminal charges (Depositing Hazardous Material onto the Roadway) but there also could be civil litigation filed against you by the person involved in the accident.



Be careful out there and don't overexert yourself while removing the snow from your driveway or sidewalk.

Crime Prevention

Lately, we have experienced several burglaries and trespasses to vehicles that were left unlocked. During one particular night, the only vehicles burglarized were those left unlocked. We would like to remind you to take an extra moment to lock your car doors. This small step can help prevent you from dealing with the loss of property, taking time to file a report and working with your insurance company to replace the stolen items.



16 Year Old Driver

Parents did you know if your 16 year old driver is not driving to your expectations, you can have their drivers license annulled? It is something nice to know if you are worried that they could potentially hurt themselves or someone else with their driving habits. All it takes is a letter to the Illinois Secretary of State and it's like they never had a license. This only works when they are 16, after that they are on their own.

Here's another interesting tidbit of information. All curfew laws apply to 16-year-old drivers. If the driver is out after curfew their driver's license is null and void. They would not only be charged with a curfew violation but they would be given a citation for driving without a valid driver's license.

Parents you do sit in the "drivers seat" when it comes to your 16 year old driver.

Helpful Links:

City Ordinances & Information:

www.yorkville.il.us

Illinois Laws:

www.legis.state.il.us

Secretary of State:

www.cyberdriveillinois.com