

YORKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

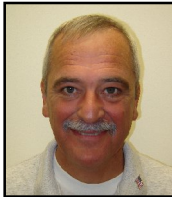
May 2007

Meet Our Retirees

Two of our officers, Senior Sgt. Ron Diederich and Detective Sgt. Greg Sibenaller are retiring this month. Combined these two sergeants have over 60 years of service in law enforcement. They have shown great commitment and professionalism through their careers.

Sgt. Diederich

Sgt. Diederich started his career at the Kendall County Sheriff's Department as a deputy and was later hired by the Yorkville Police Department, eventually obtaining the rank of sergeant. During his employment, he also served as interim police chief. After several years as a patrol sergeant, Sgt. Diederich initiated a senior sergeant position that he enjoyed to retirement.



Sgt. Sibenaller

Sgt. Sibenaller started his law enforcement career at the Yorkville Police Department where he became an advocate for youth. Sgt. Sibenaller has worked to promote cooperation between local and state agencies with juvenile programs. He has also worked tirelessly for Special Olympics.



During retirement Sgt. Diederich's first adventure will

be building a new home and Sgt. Sibenaller will be going into partnership with his brother on a home improvement and construction business.

Traffic Corner

This month I would like to address a dangerous traffic offense that seems obvious, but often goes unnoticed. Driving through red lights might seem to be something that every driver knows he/she should not do, but many times distractions lead to drivers not even realizing that they have committed the offense.

There are often times when sitting at an intersection, a driver might notice that vehicles travel through red lights. Upon closer inspection, while watching the vehicle, a driver might also notice that the individual driving through the red light might be on a cell phone, changing the radio, or even reading. The scary fact is, often when these people are pulled over for this offense, they have not observed that there was a light at the intersection.



It is also considered disobeying a traffic control signal if a vehicle is traveling so close to a semi tractor that the traffic light at an intersection cannot be seen and the driver travels through a red light. Usually when this offense is committed and the individual is stopped for the violation, the excuse usually includes

statements such as "I couldn't stop. I couldn't see the traffic light." This excuse does not clear the driver of responsibility to stop at the intersection. It is the responsibility of the driver to visually see the traffic light color before proceeding into the intersection.

Please think when you drive and be observant at all times. Limit distractions while driving and focus on the task at hand.

Spykes

As we work to prevent underage drinking, I am very concerned about a new product being marketed. The brand name of Spykes is an alcoholic product that is used to flavor other alcoholic beverages. This 12% alcohol by volume additive potion is used to change the flavor of beverages that some people may not like. If for example beer has a bitter taste to your taste buds it can be changed to a sweeter or spicier flavor and it adds more alcohol to the drink.

When teaching DARE, I have tried to honestly describe the taste of beer like that of cooled rotting hops, barley and other grains. Now there is an additive to change that. Their brochure states that they market it to a coed audience of 21-27 year olds, however I believe alcohol companies making their products better flavored, there is a great temptation to youth.

Parents, please be aware and educate yourself on these products.

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Neighborhood Watch Block Parties

The Yorkville Police Department is implementing new rules regarding neighborhood watch block parties. Permission will need to be granted and a signed agreement will need to be obtained prior to the block party.

We are also very excited about having a block party trailer that will be assigned to a Yorkville block party on a first come first serve basis. The trailer has four picnic tables, two 55-gallon garbage drums, and two road barricades. The barricades will only be able to be utilized if your block is suitable for blocking the road otherwise the barricades will be locked to the trailer.

The person scheduling the party will be held responsible for the trailer and equipment and will have to sign all pertinent paperwork. Taking the equipment off and putting it back on the trailer and the removal of garbage will be the responsibility of the scheduler.

The trailer will also be used in emergency situations by the police department. If one of these situations arises, the trailer will be taken out of block party duty.

If you are a registered Yorkville Neighborhood Watch group and are interested in booking the block party trailer please call Barry Groesch at 630 553-8511.

Special Programs Squad

Our new Special Programs Squad is a 2001 Ford Crown Victoria that has been transformed with a modified NASCAR motif, sporting 20-inch wheels, spoiler, shaved door handles, and Air Ride suspension. The car has been totally rapped in a lightening theme that has the sponsors' names along with the programs that the police department works with.

Yorkville Customs has completely fabricated the squad, from its unique suspension to lack of door handles. The handles were removed and covered with metal plates before the car was painted. The front doors were fitted with electronic door poppers. The spoiler was attached and painted with the rest of the car. Fox Valley Auto Paints supplied all paint and other products needed to paint the squad. Air Ride Technologies supplied the suspension equipment at an extremely reduced price. Action Graphix completely wrapped the squad in lightening themed vinyl with all our programs and supporters free of charge. American Wheels gave us a substantial discount and F/S Grainco donated the tires. Al's Car Care restored the engine to pristine condition and Paradise Car Wash will keep the car looking good, both of these businesses are doing this free.

Thank you to all who have participated!

Radio Patrol

The Yorkville Police Department is on WSPY 107.1 FM. Officer Barry Groesch is co-hosting a half hour radio show called Yorkville Police Department on Radio Patrol. The purpose of this show is to highlight criminal justice programs throughout Kendall County. We have had shows regarding bike patrol, senior services, evidence technicians and accident reconstruction to name a few.

Future shows will feature Probation, covering topics including what it means when someone is on probation and what probation officers do. The Circuit Clerk will also be featured, explaining what they do, what happens to the money that is collected from citations, who gets what and how is it divvied up.

The show is aired live on the first Friday of each month from 9:05 to 9:35am. If you are interested in hearing anything specific about our judicial system on the show, please contact Barry Groesch at 630-553-8511.

Find More Online!

- City of Yorkville:
www.yorkville.il.us
- Illinois Laws:
www.legis.state.il.us
- Secretary of State:
www.cyberdriveillinois.com