

WPD BLUE LIGHT NEWS

February 2014 Issue VI



FACEBOOK!

Please like our Facebook page! We have found recently that Facebook is a helpful tool in getting news from our department out to the Community and Residents of Williston. We have had tips and information about crimes in Town come in through Facebook that served helpful to the successful apprehension of suspects. People have located their missing animals quickly and sometimes before they even knew they were missing. The Police are also able to inform the public about issues they are dealing with and what the community can do to help. Please "Like" our page and your feedback is always appreciated if you have ideas of how we can continue to improve the lines of communication between the Community and law enforcement.



Community Room Artwork Display

The Williston Police Department encourages artists who would like to display their work in our Community Room to please contact us at 802-764-1152. We currently have openings coming up in May 2014 for works to be displayed. This room is used by many different groups to hold meetings and events. If you would like to expose your artwork to the community please contact us and set up a time to come in and see the room and show us your talents!

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Town of Williston

Police Department

Offers the following vehicle for sale to the highest bidder

2010 Dodge Charger RWD
White, 4 Door Sedan
5.7 Liter V8 HEMI Engine
Mileage- 103,562 Miles
Cloth Seats, Back seat included

This Vehicle can be viewed at the Williston Police Department with appointment. The vehicle is being sold in "as is condition". The minimum bid accepted for this vehicle is \$7000.00. Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:pm on February 27, 2014 at the Police Department 7928 Williston Road, Williston, VT 05495. Any questions please contact 802-764-1152. Thank you.

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Watch Your Step!

In this cold weather and with all of the ice accumulation this year in Vermont we thought it may be a good idea to remind people of some simple precautions they can take when out and about Town.

- When walking in driveways and parking lots just assume there is ice. Dark or wet areas on pavement can often be slick ice. Also with the short snow squalls this time of year a thin glaze of snow can make for a quick fall that is unforeseen.
- Wear proper foot wear! There are also cleats and slip on grips you can purchase at area sports and fitness stores that will slide over your shoes to prevent falling and allow good traction even on ice.
- Pointing your feet outward (like a penguin☺) when walking will increase your center of gravity and can prevent a fall.
- Wear a nice heavy, bulky coat that adds cushion in case you do take a spill.
- Don't put your hands in your pockets, this decreases your center of gravity and also does nothing for balance.
- Avoid landing on your knees or wrists if you fall and try to land on a cushioned part of your body like your side.
- If there is ice and you have neighbors who may have trouble traveling around please check on them.



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Our busiest season is behind us and we are moving forward with our normal operations.

We begin our new year with some minor organizational changes, moving our night supervisors to the day shift and visa versa. Longtime Detective Sergeant Chamberlain is moving back into the patrol schedule and Sgt. Justin Huizenga will move into the Detective Sergeants position. As the Chief, I feel it is important that officers do not stay on the same schedule for long periods of time and it is always good for our officers to experience changes in leadership style and experience.

Much work has been undertaken in the past 3 months to create our plan for the upcoming fiscal year, namely in the area of budgeting. We have included funding in the upcoming budget to add one more additional officer, but at a far reduce cost to the taxpayers since we were awarded a Community Oriented Policing Hiring Grant. In the upcoming year, we only need to match the salary and benefit cost with a 25% share. This figure will go up incrementally over the following two years by 25% until the 4th year when we would have to pay 100%. We are anxious for the opportunity to have an extra officer in the agency so we can better meet the needs of our community. The grant has a total value to the Williston community of \$125,000.

We have also recently undertaken a funding initiative to raise funds to obtain equipment needed to provide the R.A.D. self-protection education program. R.A.D. stands for Rape Aggression Defense. We have approached members of the Williston Area Business Association in an effort to gain partners in providing this valuable training to our community. Our community indicated a strong desire in our community survey to have this program offered. As of today, we have received gifts/donations from Walmart and The Northfield Savings Bank. We thank these contributors very much for their support.

We have recently added Officer Logan Young to our agency. He begins his employment with us initially as a part-time officer and upon successful completion of the part-time officer's academy in March, he will be re-classified to full-time status as approved by voters last March.

As always, please drive safely on the roads. New legislation has gone into effect for using cell phones while driving through work zones; it is illegal to use cell phones unless a hands-free device is used. Please be cognizant of this new rule, but even more importantly, using the cell phone while driving simply detracts from drivers attention to what is going on. Please put your phones down and wait until the car comes to a stop to return calls and never text while driving.

As always, please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions.

Chief Shepard



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Burglaries On The Rise

- Detective Mike Lavoie

Burglaries seem to be on the rise again in communities surrounding our Town. Please be sure all your doors and windows are locked, this includes your vehicles.

Try keeping all your valuables out of sight & in a secure place if possible.

Take pictures of all of your valuables & write down the serial numbers of your electronics.

An Alarm System is a great deterrent, whether it's a local alarm or monitored by a security company.

There are do it yourself systems available, do the research and see if you can find one that fits your needs.

Lastly if you come home and find your house has been burglarized, LEAVE THE HOUSE & CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY!!! PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB ANYTHING.

INCIDENTS FOR JANUARY 2014

Larceny: 16

Fraud: 4

Drugs: 8

DUI: 1

Vehicle Accidents: 64

DLS: 5

LSA Motor Vehicle: 12

Agency Assist: 42

Citizen Assist: 27

False Alarm Response: 72

Motorist Assist: 20

Suspicious Person/Circumstance: 43

Animal Problem: 6

Background Investigation: 7

Citizen Dispute: 6

Directed Patrol: 7

Lost or Found Property: 9

VIN Inspection: 13

Welfare Check: 4

Public Speaking: 5

Juvenile Problem: 4

Parking Problem: 5

Miscellaneous Incidents: 51

Total Arrests: 15

Total Calls for service: 556

Total Incidents: 436