

# Waunakee Police Department Newsletter July 2018



## Big Rig Gig

Officer Christenson and Officer Barman attended Waunakee's 7<sup>th</sup> annual Big Rig Gig on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Ripp Park. Kids of all ages were able to get up close with their favorite big rigs including a front end loader, snow plow, tractor, fire engine, squad car, large construction vehicles and even UW Med-Flight. This event is sponsored by the Waunakee Recreation Department.



On Wednesday August 8, 2018 the Waunakee Police Department will be hosting their National Night Out festivities at Village Park in Waunakee from 5pm-7pm. National Night Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, and co-sponsored by the Waunakee Police Department, will involve over 10,000 communities from all 50 states.

National Night out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts;(3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and united with the police in their efforts to make Waunakee a safe community to live in.

There will be activities for kids, prizes, free brats and hot dogs, and numerous displays by various law enforcement agencies. Members of the community are encouraged to sign up to win one of the many prizes to be given away at Village Park during National Night Out.

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The annual WaunaFest celebration is scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup>. The Waunakee Police Department will have extended office hours and increased staffing. **Carry-in alcoholic beverages are prohibited and no alcoholic beverages are allowed outside designated areas.**

Please note: The WaunaFest parade will be held July 29<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Hwy 19/113 E. Main St will be closed to traffic as will other streets along the parade route. (The parade begins at the corner of E. Main St. and S. Division St., travels down Main St. to O'Malley St., travels down O'Malley St. to 6th St., travels down 6th St. to Holiday Dr. and travels down Holiday Dr. to the WaunaFest grounds at Centennial Park). **Please do not park vehicles overnight in the parade route as they will be towed.**

Please visit the WaunaFest website at <http://www.waunafest.org/> for more information on the event.



Officer Geldernick had the opportunity to meet 10 year old Tyler Carach who is traveling the USA delivering donuts to police officers. Tyler has delivered more than 65,000 donuts to officer in the last two years. Check out Tyler's Facebook page below and you can follow Tyler's tour across the country.

<https://www.facebook.com/IDONUTneedareasonstothankacop/>



® **849-2TIP** "We want your information, not your name"

The Waunakee Police Department maintains an anonymous tips line, 849-2TIP (2847). Callers can leave a message about criminal activity including drug information. The caller may report the information they have and can remain completely anonymous. Tipsters may be eligible for a cash reward if the information results in an arrest.



## Park Safety

This time of year we often receive traffic/vehicle related complaints in our larger parks (Ripp, Centennial and Village Parks). Please drive slowly and safely in the park and obey all traffic signs. The speed limit is 15 mph inside the parks. Please park in the designated parking areas and not on the grass. Park hours are from 5:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.



## Fireworks Reminder

Fireworks in Wisconsin are strictly regulated by state law WI Stat. 167.10

Very few fireworks are actually legal in Wisconsin, without having a permit. Those “fireworks” are; sparklers, stationary cones and fountains, toy snakes, smoke bombs and caps, noisemakers and confetti poppers with less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a grain of explosive mixture. These “fireworks” are the type usually found in convenience and grocery stores.

Possessing or using any other fireworks such as firecrackers, roman candles, bottle rockets and mortars, without a valid permit is illegal. A general rule of thumb is if the device leaves the ground or explodes it is illegal.



## Facebook Grant Scam

Wisconsin consumers are reporting a grant scam that uses Facebook Messenger to transmit phony pitches for free money. Messages look like they are coming from friends, but they are not. The messages state that the consumer’s name appeared on a list as being eligible to receive grant money, and that the consumer will receive thousands of dollars in grant funds after paying a fee. The consumer is encouraged to contact a company via an email address or phone number that is provided. Do not call or e-mail based on this information.

Tips to avoid grant scams include:

- Promises of free grant money are common scams. Consumers who receive contacts about free money should delete the message and not respond.
- Remember that you should never pay money to win a prize or to receive “free” grant money.

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) does offer grants to social service programs, but not to individuals.
- It is illegal to ask someone to pay to apply for a federal grant or to increase their odds of being awarded a grant.

## Warrant Scam

We have been notified of a warrant scam that is active in the Waunakee area. Each case is different but all have the same goal... stealing your money. These scammers tell potential victims that there is an outstanding warrant for an unpaid debt, missed jury duty, identity theft or some other legal infraction. The caller will then demand payment via debit/credit card, Western Union, or instructs victims to obtain a prepaid card to cover the payment.

To sound credible, these scammers may provide legitimate names and information of law enforcement employees, the victim's family members. They sometimes use Caller ID "spoofing," which makes it appear as though the call is coming from a local law enforcement agency, federal agency or court office.

If you truly have a warrant for your arrest you are not going to be notified via a phone call. If you have a warrant for your arrest, a law enforcement officer will make efforts to contact you in person. If you receive a call like this or similar don't waste your time, hang up the phone.

For more information on recent scams and consumer alerts please go the Wisconsin Department of Trade and Consumer Protection website: [https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News\\_Media/ConsumerAlerts.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News_Media/ConsumerAlerts.aspx)



## Safe Gun Storage

If you are the owner of a firearm, please consider a safety plan on how to best secure it so children and other unauthorized individuals do not have access. There are many ways to store a firearm in the home but if you have small children please lock them up. If you keep a firearm in your vehicle, at minimum lock your vehicle. We have received reports of stolen guns that were left inside unlocked vehicles.

Children can easily find a handgun hidden in the nightstand. Storing a firearm "out of reach" on a shelf or hidden does not always keep it away from a child. Wisconsin Statute § 948.55, states leaving or storing a loaded firearm within the reach or easy access of a child can be a crime.



## Body Worn Cameras

Officers working for the WNPD have been wearing the Panasonic Arbitrator, Body Worn Cameras for over a year now. Overall, this tool has benefited our department in many ways. The body camera assists in collecting visual and audio evidence at crime/accident scenes. It has provided the officer the ability to review statements made by individuals. It has also has been a beneficial tool for supervisors investigating citizen complaints involving an officer.



## Safety at Night

Summer weather increases the numbers of individuals who walk and ride their bicycles. It is very important that you are visible when walking or biking at night. Follow these rules to stay safe.

Reminder: Curfew for individuals under the age of 16 is 11:00 pm.

### Walking

- Wear light or bright colored clothes, something reflective, or carry a light, especially at night.
- Be intentional showing you want to cross, wave an outstretched arm.
- Use flags if available
- Make eye contact
- Cross at crosswalks and corners

### Bicycling

- Have a bike light attached to the front
- Have a red rear reflector
- A steady or flashing red rear light is recommended
- Make sure to wear something reflective: a vest, an arm band.
- Don't wear black or other dark colors.



The following items were found in Ripp Park after the Waunaboom event. If any of these items belong to you please call the Waunakee Police 849-4523 so we can return your property.

1. Kids green frog bag chair
2. Red crackle water bottle (OGGI)
3. Black Oakley sunglasses
4. Tortoise Shell Old Navy sunglasses
5. Tortoise Shell Foster Grant sunglasses
6. Blue baseball resistance bands
7. Brown MGE blanket bag and blanket
8. Blue girls size 9 shoe with white stars (Cat&Jack)
9. Black/white slide style sandals (men's size 6)
10. White baby hat with strap
11. Black fanny pack
12. Black GPX brand armband radio w/ white earbuds.
13. Baby blue/silver butane hand torch



**Facebook**

Please "like" our Waunakee Police Department Facebook page. We provide information regarding local events, safety tips and press releases for major incidents. You can also send us your questions through private messages and tips on any recent crimes that have taken place.

Questions can be sent to [newsletter@waunakeepd.org](mailto:newsletter@waunakeepd.org). Questions submitted may be featured in future newsletters. The person submitting the question will not be identified.