



On the Beat

Happy New Year!

121 E. Oak ST/Sparta, WI 54656/269-3122/

January 2011

From the Chief

www.spartapd.com

This is the Department's first attempt at a regularly published newsletter and hopefully you'll find it both entertaining and informative.

A police officer is probably one of the most recognizable government officials that routinely interact with the public. Police officers proudly wear the uniform of their community and take an oath to uphold the law and impartially discharge their duties. The law enforcement profession we know today can trace its heritage back to 1829 London, England. Sir Robert Peel is credited with establishing the first all civilian Metropolitan Police Force and establishing guiding principles that standardized the profession. In fact, his nine guiding principles are still taught in police academies today and are referenced in the Sparta Police Department's Mission Statement. To learn more visit our website or stop by the Police Department where the statement is proudly on display.

Chief Mike Kass

2010 Citizens' Academy—A Great Success

With maximum enrollment, this year's academy proved our most popular yet. The once a week sessions included:

- OWI enforcement
- Use of firearms
- Evidence collection
- Emergency vehicle operations
- Tours of courthouse and jail
- Other law enforcement-related activities

Look for announcements for the 2011 academy. We hope to see you there.



ALTERNATE SIDE PARKING

We still have three months to go for alternate side parking which ends April 1st and wanted to remind you of the rules.

Alternate side parking is in effect every day from 2:00 a.m. until 6:00 a.m.

On even dates, park on the even side of the street.

On odd dates, park on the odd side of the street.

The odd or even side of the street is determined by house numbers.

Cul-de-sac parking is not allowed during this time period.



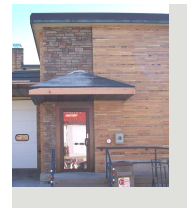
Police Department Building Remodel

If you've driven past or visited the Sparta Police Department lately, you may have noticed the remodeling we have done. A two year project, we have finished the front of the building, removed a couple towers, did some roofing, and put in a lighted "police" pole.

Next year we hope to complete the project with planters along the railings, a sign consistent with other City departments, a police officer memorial and seating.

We hope you enjoy the improvements as much as our employees admire and appreciate it.

Thanks to all in the City who have helped us so far.



It's a New Law—No More Texting while Driving

Effective December 1, 2010, the State of Wisconsin signed into law a bill prohibiting "a person from driving while composing or sending an electronic text message". A recent study done by Virginia Tech, found that individuals texting while driving had a 23 percent more chance of being involved in a crash. If found in violation of this law, you may be fined up to \$400.00.

Department Anniversaries: 15 Years: Dave Livingston, Dann Schamens, and Micky Brown; 10 Years: Kyle Seubert; 5 Years: Marc Nelson

Find us on Facebook "Like Us"

Sparta Police recently developed a Facebook page to keep you informed and involved through postings of our community involvement, fund raising efforts and department improvements.

2010 4th Quarter Department Recognition

Lt. Dave Livingston received the Award of Excellence for his unwavering dedication and management of the Crime Stoppers Program for the past six years.

