



On the Beat

Think Spring!

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

April 2011

From the Chief

www.spartapd.com

Very few would argue that we live in rapidly changing times. The advent of the internet, personal computers, and now smart phones have changed the way we conduct business, interact with others, and build relationships. Today we can stay connected with friends and family almost anywhere in the world through these electronic devices. One of the unfortunate side effects of this technology though is that we can easily become disconnected with our neighbors. The nucleus of most communities has always been the idea of neighborhoods where residents got to know each other and looked out for one another. This is especially important when we talk about crime prevention. No one knows the neighborhood better than those who live there. The nationally recognized Neighborhood Watch Program was founded on the premise of neighbor looking after neighbor and assisting the police by reporting suspicious activity in their neighborhood. If you're interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch Program, the Sparta Police Department can help. Call Lt. David Kuderer at 269-3122 to learn more. Let's all be good neighbors!



Chief Mike Kass

Dogs—Licensing and Regulations

- Must be on a leash if off owners property
- Over six months old need licenses
- Current on rabies & distemper
- 2 dog limit; over six months old
- Adequate shelter/food/water
- Fecal matter cleaned up



If you have enjoyed this newsletter and wish to continue receiving it, please sign up for our electronic version. Send an email to:

mbrown@spartapd.com

It will also be available on our website:

www.SpartaPD.com

Mopeds—The Rules

With gas prices steadily climbing, some of you may be thinking about purchasing a moped for getting around town. Mopeds are economical and can be fun to operate. Here are a few need-to-know facts regarding mopeds:

- You must have a valid driver's license to operate a moped on a roadway
- You must obey all traffic laws!
- Passengers are not allowed
- Mopeds must be titled and registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles
- You're not required to wear a helmet, but it is highly recommended



Bike Registration—A Free Service



Increase your chances of recovering a lost or stolen bike; registration is quick, easy, and free. Forms are available at the PD.



STOP Bullying NOW!

Did you know that nationally 15-25% of students believe they've been bullied? Bullying effects an individual's self esteem and can adversely affect their ability to learn. **Stop Bullying Now** is a national campaign to educate adults and kids about bullying and what you can do to prevent it. The Sparta Police Department supports this initiative and encourages you to learn more at:

www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids



Dann Schamens Continues to Serve His Community

After 15 years of loyal and dedicated service to the Sparta Police Department, Officer Dann Schamens resigned to work full-time with the Sparta Area Ambulance. We thank Dann for his service and wish him only the best.



- ✓ Get a Kit
- ✓ Make a Plan
- ✓ Be Informed

Are YOU Ready??

With spring comes the threat of severe weather, floods, or other disasters. The time to prepare is now before disaster strikes. **ReadyWisconsin** is there to assist you in developing the four key components to disaster preparation. Visit their website for more information:

www.readywisconsin.wi.gov

Severe Weather Warning Sirens NOT Tornado Warning Sirens

The City of Sparta maintains severe weather warning sirens at various locations throughout the City. These sirens are sometimes called tornado warning sirens; however, this is a misnomer. The sirens are actually part of a severe weather warning system designed to warn the public of impending severe weather. Upon hearing the sirens you should seek shelter and/or tune into local weather for more detailed information. As always, be safe.

