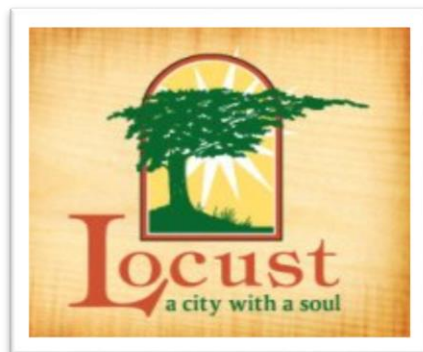




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COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
May 2016
Volume 5 Edition 3



LOCUST POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Welcome all to the May 2016 edition of the Locust Police Department Community Newsletter. We're gearing up for school letting out for the summer and for all the hot weather. Typically, the summer months tend to be the busier months from an activity perspective for our department, but as of now, our criminal activity numbers have stayed at around the usual annual average.

We continue to experience regular to semi-regular reports of scam attempt activity through phone calls and email. Fortunately, due to media outlets reporting about these types of scams as well as law enforcement efforts to educate citizens, these attempts have mostly remained just that.....attempts. I continue to encourage all of you to be extremely wary of phone calls and mail correspondence that involves you having to provide any type of information. A good rule would also be to always double-check any call or mail you receive by contacting a number you find personally to assess if the call or email you received was legitimate. For more information, check our website for information on scams.

<https://locustnc.com/police-department-resources/>

LOCUST OFFICERS WIN AWARDS AT ANNUAL EVENT

After a one-year hiatus, the Officer Jeff Shelton Foundation returned to Il Bella Gardens on May 17th to hold an awards dinner and silent auction. The event which started in 2013 is held by the foundation as part of National Police Week, and honors Stanly County officers while raising money for their annual scholarship they award to criminal justice students.

As with every other year it has been held, the Locust Police Department was well-represented with finalist nominees for each award; Stanly County Officer Of The Year, the officer nominated "Got Your Six" award, and the community nominated "Every Day Hero" award. This year the foundation also added the Outstanding Career Service Award that resulted in who I believe is the most talented and well-respected law enforcement officer in Stanly County being honored.

Locust Officers Kevin O'Connor and Brittany Tucker along with Badin Sergeant Steven Butler were awarded the Every Day Hero award for their outstanding community work with their annual "Shop With A Cop" Christmas program.

Locust Officer Dwayne Dietz was a finalist for the Got Your Six award for his role in stopping the drunk driver of a stolen vehicle that was being pursued by police and was speeding recklessly toward busy Locust streets when Officer Dietz was able to stop the suspect's vehicle with a "Stop Sticks" device. Albemarle Officer Lance Fallen was the recipient of the award.

A huge honor was given to Locust Officer Trent Middlebrook who was named as Stanly County Officer of the Year. Middlebrook, who has just over two years of service led the Locust Police Department last year in citations issued, DWI and drug arrests and seizures, as well as working multiple investigations involving prescription fraud that resulted in big arrests being made. Officer Middlebrook is a rare example in our field of someone whose abilities and knowledge far out-distance the amount of time he has served.

The biggest honor of the evening was bestowed upon thirty-year veteran and a former Assistant Chief of the Locust Police Department. Stanly County Sheriff's Office Captain Eric Thomas was awarded the foundation's first ever Outstanding Career Service Award for an exemplary and distinguished career that began in the late 1970's. I can very assuredly say that Captain Thomas is the most well-respected law enforcement figure in all of Stanly County, and I have attempted to pattern my own career around doing things the way Captain Thomas does. There is without a doubt a no more deserving officer in Stanly County for this award than Captain Thomas.



From Left To Right: Badin Sgt. Steven Butler,
Locust Officers Kevin O'Connor, Brittany Tucker, Trent Middlebrook,
Stanly County Sheriff's Office Captain Eric Thomas

We've got some recent crime briefs listed below along with some recent month's crime statistics. I hope everyone has a wonderful rest of May.

RECENT CRIME BRIEFS

- In March and April, the Locust Police Department charged Mr. Reid Huneycutt, Ms. Hannah Dial, Mr. Felix Lopez, Ms. Alesia Butler, and Mr. William Fuchs Jr. with driving while impaired.
- In checking station ("checkpoint") activity, Mr. Patrick Southerland was charged with felony possession of a Schedule II drug, and Mr. Cornelius Crowder was charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon as well as possession of a firearm with an altered or removed serial number.
- In the evening hours of March 5th, a vehicle operated by Mr. Travis Allen Wheeler was clocked by Locust police at 63 mph in a 45 mph zone on Coley Store Road. Wheeler attempted to elude pursuing Locust officers by accelerating to a high rate of speed and cutting off the lights on the vehicle. Wheeler was apprehended at the intersection of Austin Road and Running Creek Road. Wheeler was arrested and charged with felony flee to elude arrest, speeding, no operator's license, and simple possession of marijuana.

- In the evening hours of April 14th, Locust police responded to the report of suspicious activity involving multiple individuals at the Locust Wal-Mart. Management reported multiple individuals attempting to acquire gift cards with \$500 placed on them in addition to purchasing items with gift cards and attempting to return the items for cash refunds upon purchase. After investigation it was discovered that 8 total individuals in two separate vehicles had been at the business with one group of three attempting to convince multiple employees to put \$500 increments on gift cards at the business after they would swipe “dummy cards” claiming they were cash cards. These individuals were successful in securing nearly \$10,000 in gift cards that they did not purchase. A second group entered the business a short time later with two individuals purchasing electronic items with acquired gift cards and then attempting to return the items for a cash refund. Locust police arrived and were able to apprehend Mr. Marquarious Taylor and Mr. Nigere Fant, both of Flint, Michigan. They were charged with obtaining property by false pretense, and attempt to obtain property by false pretense. Taylor was also charged with resist, obstruct, and delay. After interview, a subject from the group that acquired the \$10,000 in gift cards was identified as Ms. Honesty Unique Warren of Savannah, Georgia. Warrants were issued for her arrest. Locust police are also pursuing a felony conspiracy charge for all three subjects.

(Recent Monthly Crime Statistics To Follow)

LOCUST POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME STATISTICS

JANUARY 2016

INCIDENTS/OFFENSES

Note – Total incident reports generated number will be lower than number of offenses/incidents listed. This is due to there being multiple offenses within one report on some occasions. Incident reports are generally documented when any interaction with the public or an enforcement action is made on a dispatched call.

Escorts Provided (General, Business Closing, Child Custody Exchange, Funeral) – 26
Larceny From Business (Misdemeanor, Felony, Concealment) – 12
Drug Offenses (Citations, Arrests) – 11
Investigation Calls (General, 911 Hang-Ups, Suicide Threats, Open Doors, Etc.) – 10
Assist EMS/Fire Department – 9
Mutual Aid Given (Help Given To Other Agencies) – 9
Alarm Calls (Business, Residential) – 8
Disturbances (General, Domestic) – 7
Calls For Service (Various Community Service Reasons, Animal Complaints, Etc.) – 5
Damage To Property Calls (Residential, Business, Vehicle, Minor Vehicle Crashes) – 5
Vehicle Traffic Violations (Resulting In Other Charges, Arrests, Vehicle Towed, Etc.) – 5
Suspicious Activity (Activities, Vehicles, Persons) – 4
Assaults (Simple, Affray, Domestic, Etc.) – 2
Counterfeiting/Fraud (Forgery, Obtain By False Pretense, Identity Theft, Etc.) – 2
Harassment (Phone Calls, Communicating Threats, Etc.) – 2
Property Calls (Lost, Found) – 2
Arrest Warrants/Processes Served (Failure To Appear, Subpoenas Etc.) – 1
Breaking & Entering/Larceny Residence (Attempted, Misdemeanor, Felony, Larceny After B&E) – 1
Alcohol Charges (All Other) – 0
Assist Motorist (Stranded, Keys Locked In Vehicle, Tire, Etc.) – 0
City Ordinance Violation Calls/Investigations – 0
Death Investigation (Non-Criminal, Unattended Death, Suicide, Etc.) – 0
Driving While Impaired (Alcohol, Illegal Substances, Provisional, Drive After Consuming, Etc.) – 0
Illegal Activity (Resist, Delay, Obstruct, Vehicle Pursuits, All Other) – 0
Juvenile Violations (Juvenile Offenses, Contributing To Delinquency, Etc.) – 0
Larceny From/Of Vehicle (Misdemeanor, Felony, B&E, Motor Vehicle Theft, Etc.) – 0
Larceny From Person (Common Law, Snatching, Armed Robbery, Etc.) – 0
Missing Persons (Reported, Found) – 0
Sex Offenses (Attempted Or Completed Rape, Indecent Liberties, Crimes Against Nature, Etc.) – 0
Trespassing (1st, 2nd Degree, Domestic Etc.) – 0
Vandalism (Defacement, Arson, Etc.) – 0
Weapons Offenses (Unlawful Carry Concealed, Possession Firearm By Felon, Etc.) – 0

TOTAL OFFENSES – 121

INCIDENT REPORTS GENERATED – 106

AVERAGE DAILY INCIDENT REPORTS DOCUMENTED – 3.4

AREA PATROLS/CHECKS

Neighborhood Checks – 786
Business Checks – 639
Suspicious Vehicles – 3
House Checks – 1

TOTAL AREA/SECURITY CHECKS – 1429
DAILY AREA/SECURITY CHECKS AVERAGE – 46.1

ARRESTS/OFFENSE CHARGES/COUNTS

Communicate Threats – 4
Larceny Defeat Anti-Theft Device – 4

TOTAL ARREST CHARGES – 8
DAILY JAIL COMMIT ARREST CHARGES AVERAGE - 0.3

CITATIONS

Speeding – 78
Expired Registration – 10
No Operator's License – 6
Child Restraint Violations – 4
Speeding In School Zone – 4
Driving While License Revoked – 3
Misdemeanor Larceny – 3
Operate/Allow Vehicle With No Insurance – 2
Possess Drug Paraphernalia – 2
Possess Schedule VI – 2
Stop Sign/Stop Light Violations – 2
Fictitious/Altered Registration – 1
Hit And Run/Fail To Stop Property Damage – 1
Lane Violations – 1
Other/Minor Violations – 1
Passing Violations – 1
Reckless Driving – 1
Vehicle Equipment Violations – 1

TOTAL – 123
DAILY CITATION CHARGES ISSUED AVERAGE – 4.0

DOCUMENTED TRAFFIC STOPS WITH WARNINGS ISSUED – 132

TRAFFIC CRASHES

Crashes Reported – 11
Injuries Reported – 0
Approximated Total Damage - \$22,600

Street Or Highway - 6

- East Main Street At Jacks Road
- East Main Street At Officer Jeff Shelton Drive

- North Central Avenue
- West Main Street At South Central Avenue
- Ray Kennedy Drive At West Main Street
- West Main Street At Renee Ford Road

Parking Lot (Public Vehicular Area) - 5

- 1876 West Main Street (Wal-Mart) – 3
- 403 West Main Street (O'Reilly Auto Parts)
- 1204 West Main Street (Alco)

TOTALS

TOTAL MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES
(INCIDENTS/INVESTIGATIONS, CHARGES, CITATIONS, WARNINGS, AREA CHECKS,
 TRAFFIC CRASHES)

1824*

EXCLUDED – DISPATCHED CALLS THAT DO NOT RESULT IN A REPORT GENERATED

MONTHLY DAILY ACTIVITIES AVERAGE

EXCLUDING ABOVE

58.8

FEBRUARY 2016

INCIDENTS/OFFENSES

Note – Total incident reports generated number will be lower than number of offenses/incidents listed. This is due to there being multiple offenses within one report on some occasions. Incident reports are generally documented when any interaction with the public or an enforcement action is made on a dispatched call.

Escorts Provided (General, Business Closing, Child Custody Exchange, Funeral) – 29

Alarm Calls (Business, Residential) – 12

Assist EMS/Fire Department – 12

Larceny From Business (Misdemeanor, Felony, Concealment) – 11

Counterfeiting/Fraud (Forgery, Obtain By False Pretense, Identity Theft, Etc.) – 10

Calls For Service (Various Community Service Reasons, Animal Complaints, Etc.) – 9

Damage To Property Calls (Residential, Business, Vehicle, Minor Vehicle Crashes) – 9

Disturbances (General, Domestic) – 9

Investigation Calls (General, 911 Hang-Ups, Suicide Threats, Open Doors, Etc.) – 9

Suspicious Activity (Activities, Vehicles, Persons) – 9

Vehicle Traffic Violations (Resulting In Other Charges, Arrests, Vehicle Towed, Etc.) – 8

Illegal Activity (Resist, Delay, Obstruct, Vehicle Pursuits, All Other) – 7

Mutual Aid Given (Help Given To Other Agencies) – 7

Arrest Warrants/Processes Served (Failure To Appear, Subpoenas Etc.) – 5

Drug Offenses (Citations, Arrests) – 5

Assist Motorist (Stranded, Keys Locked In Vehicle, Tire, Etc.) – 4

Driving While Impaired (Alcohol, Illegal Substances, Provisional, Drive After Consuming, Etc.) – 4
Breaking & Entering/Larceny Residence (Attempted, Misdemeanor, Felony, Larceny After B&E) – 3
Property Calls (Lost, Found) – 2
Alcohol Charges (All Other) – 1
Assaults (Simple, Affray, Domestic, Etc.) – 1
Harassment (Phone Calls, Communicating Threats, Etc.) – 1
Larceny From/Of Vehicle (Misdemeanor, Felony, B&E, Motor Vehicle Theft, Etc.) – 1
Sex Offenses (Attempted Or Completed Rape, Indecent Liberties, Crimes Against Nature, Etc.) – 1
Weapons Offenses (Unlawful Carry Concealed, Possession Firearm By Felon, Etc.) – 1

City Ordinance Violation Calls/Investigations – 0
Death Investigation (Non-Criminal, Unattended Death, Suicide, Etc.) – 0
Juvenile Violations (Juvenile Offenses, Contributing To Delinquency, Etc.) – 0
Larceny From Person (Common Law, Snatching, Armed Robbery, Etc.) – 0
Missing Persons (Reported, Found) – 0
Trespassing (1st, 2nd Degree, Domestic Etc.) – 0
Vandalism (Defacement, Arson, Etc.) – 0

TOTAL OFFENSES – 170

INCIDENT REPORTS GENERATED – 148

AVERAGE DAILY INCIDENT REPORTS DOCUMENTED – 5.1

AREA PATROLS/CHECKS

Neighborhood Checks – 703
Business Checks – 589
House Checks – 2

TOTAL AREA/SECURITY CHECKS – 1294

DAILY AREA/SECURITY CHECKS AVERAGE – 44.6

ARRESTS/OFFENSE CHARGES/COUNTS

Driving While Impaired – 9
Failure To Appear – 4
Possession Schedule VI – 4
Assault On A Female – 2
Obtain Property By False Pretense – 2
PWISD Marijuana – 2
Resist, Delay, Obstruct – 2
Carrying Concealed Weapon – 1
Possess Drug Paraphernalia – 1
Possess Schedule III – 1

TOTAL ARREST CHARGES – 28

DAILY JAIL COMMIT ARREST CHARGES AVERAGE - .97

CITATIONS

Speeding – 37
Expired Registration – 16

Speeding In School Zone – 7
Driving While License Revoked – 6
Operate/Allow Vehicle With No Insurance – 4
Revoked Registration – 3
Child Restraint Violations – 2
License Violations – 2
Misdemeanor Larceny – 2
No Inspection – 2
No Operator’s License – 2
Unsafe Movement – 2
Fail To Reduce Speed – 1
Fictitious/Altered Registration – 1
Following Too Close – 1
Open Container Of Alcohol In Vehicle – 1
Other/Minor Violations – 1
Passing Violations – 1
Possess Drug Paraphernalia – 1
Reckless Driving – 1
Stop Sign/Stop Light Violations – 1
Vehicle Not Registered – 1

TOTAL – 95

DAILY CITATION CHARGES ISSUED AVERAGE – 3.3

DOCUMENTED TRAFFIC STOPS WITH WARNINGS ISSUED – 103

TRAFFIC CRASHES

Crashes Reported – 13

Injuries Reported – 3

Approximated Total Damage - \$22,750

Street Or Highway - 10

- East Main Street At Art Lane
- East Main Street At North Central Avenue
- North Central Avenue At Rodney Street
- West Main Street At Locust Avenue
- West Main Street At Ray Kennedy Drive
- Market Street At Ray Kennedy Drive
- West Main Street At Meadowcreek Church Road
- Meadowcreek Church Road – 2
- Redbridge Boulevard At West Main Street

Parking Lot (Public Vehicular Area) - 3

- 1004 West Main Street (Food Lion)
- 1876 West Main Street (Wal-Mart)
- 11652 Red Bridge Boulevard (Dollar Tree)

TOTALS

TOTAL MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES
(INCIDENTS/INVESTIGATIONS, CHARGES, CITATIONS, WARNINGS, AREA CHECKS,
TRAFFIC CRASHES)

1703*

EXCLUDED – DISPATCHED CALLS THAT DO NOT RESULT IN A REPORT GENERATED

MONTHLY DAILY ACTIVITIES AVERAGE

EXCLUDING ABOVE

58.7