



CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY BEGINS SEPTEMBER 5TH

The Police Department is excited about starting our 19th Citizen's Police Academy. The Academy will begin Tuesday September 5th, 2006. The Academy will consist of 12 weeks of learning combined with a fun and casual atmosphere. Each class will run from 6:30pm to 9:30pm each consecutive Tuesday. There is no physical fitness requirement.

After completing the academy, you will come away with a new understanding of the officers

who protect you. Each class will highlight a different division or unit in the department and is instructed by a member of that division. There will be plenty of hands on activities as they relate to each particular instructional session.

The Citizens Academy allows you to venture inside the Winter Park Police Department and experience the day to day operation. Citizens



will have direct contact with the officers

Continued on pg 2

SCHOOLS BACK IN

School will be back in session August 7th. Hopefully you will allow some extra time if you drive by a school. This includes not only parents, but everyone in the community. School zones

have an impact on traffic flow for commuters through the city. Young people traveling to and from their respective schools should pay extra attention to avoid accidents and safeguard

younger children. We would like to share some tips for keeping our children out of harms way.

1. Children should never accept a ride or get into a car of anyone they do not know. Many kids think a stranger is someone that

Continued on pg 2

Inside this issue:

Academy cont'd	2
Schools in cont'd	2
Officer honored	3
Volunteer ad	4

Special Points

Of Interest

Remember to lock all of your doors and your windows. The vast majority of crimes are committed because someone left a door unlocked or a window open. Criminals look for an easy target and something they can get away with fairly quickly, usually under 5 minutes. Open garage doors are also a red carpet invitation for a criminal.

Many crimes are committed by someone in the neighborhood. Don't tempt them. Lock everything up.



ACADEMY FROM PAGE 1

who are devoted to upholding the integrity and laws within the city. Participants will be taught how to properly handle handguns and will actually have the opportunity to shoot department firearms if they so choose. Part of this program will also include a ride-along with sworn police officers during an actual patrol shift. It is the next best thing to being an actual sworn officer.

The Academy is open to all residents of the city of Winter Park, citizens who work in the city, and city employees. You must be at least 21 years of age and pass a criminal history check.

The Police Department maintains the right to refuse acceptance to anyone. Please contact Officer Steve McDaniel @ (407) 599-3455 or email: smcdaniel@cityofwinterpark.org, for more information or to register for the academy.



SCHOOLS FROM PAGE 1

looks like a monster. Remind them that strangers look like everyone else. There is no way to tell good strangers from bad ones. Therefore assume all strangers are bad. If your child is to be picked up by someone other than a family member, invent a code word that can be used by your child.

2. Make a map of the route your child takes when he/she leaves for school and returns home. Instruct them to stick to the route. If they do not arrive in a timely manner you can start searching. Kids become distracted, have flat tires on bikes, talk to friends, etc.

3. If your child rides a bike to school, ensure they wear a helmet.

4. Have a list of your child's friends and their phone numbers. Occasionally one child will go home with a friend and not tell anyone.

5. If your son or daughter is a "latch key" child, make sure they keep their house key in a safe place and do not give it to anyone. They should also call an adult as soon as they get home from school.

RED LIGHT RUNNERS BEWARE

The state of Florida and the City of Winter Park consider red light runners a dangerous problem and are taking steps to curb this activity. At the end of 2005, 3,432 family members and friends died in traffic accidents in Florida, unfortunately setting a new record. Traffic deaths have steadily increased in this state throughout the past 5 years, rising from 2,920 in 1999 to preliminary figures showing 3,200 fatalities in 2004, according to the Florida Highway Patrol and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Factors including the rising number of drivers and an increase in aggressive driving are to blame. As an incentive to stop red light runners, Winter Park officers will be actively enforcing the law throughout the city. The fine for running a red light anywhere in Orange County is \$180.50. Hopefully we can make a difference together by voluntary compliance on your part and enforcement of those who choose not to comply with the law.

OFFICER RECEIVES AWARD

In May, Officer Steve McDaniel received the Officer of the Year award for community involvement from the American Society of Industrial Security International (ASIS). This organization, with more than 33,000 members, is the largest international organization for professionals responsible for security, including managers and directors of security. Steve received the prestigious award at the Omni Rosen Plaza during a formal presentation.

Officer McDaniel has been a member of the Winter Park Police Department for over 22 years and has been assigned to uniform patrol, traffic enforcement and as a D.A.R.E. officer in our elementary schools. For the past 10 years Officer McDaniel has been assigned to our Community Policing Unit where he is responsible for the Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch programs. During his tenure in the unit Officer McDaniel became certified through the Attorney General's Office as a Crime Prevention Practitioner.

To our citizens and business persons that interact with Officer McDaniel on a daily bases he has become the face of the Winter Park Police Department.

During the past year Officer McDaniel was instrumental in redesigning and updating numerous programs that serve our residential and business communities. Officer McDaniel worked diligently to increase the number of active Neighborhood Watch groups and also redesigned our Neighborhood Watch Newsletter giving it a fresh new look to increase readership.

Officer McDaniel should be congratulated for his outstanding service to the citizens of Winter Park.



Pictured L to R: Deputy Chief McEachnie, Ofc. McDaniel, Captain Straw

BREAK INTO POLICE HEADQUARTERS

We thought that would get your attention. **Actually we are inviting everyone in Neighborhood Watch to come to the Police Department on August 1st from 6:30pm to 9:30pm for our National Night Out Open House.** Crime prevention will be the focus of the program in keeping with the National Night Out theme. Numerous displays will be set up and officers available to educate everyone on the most current crime prevention techniques & applications.

Take your time at your own pace and enjoy not only the great summer weather, but the company of your neighbors. We want to say Thank You for being the extraordinary people who make up Neighborhood Watch. We would love to see you and enjoy getting to know more of you. The message we want to spread is neighbors looking out after neighbors and being the eyes and ears of the police. We can't do it without you and appreciate your involvement.

ELDER ABUSE WHAT IT IS AND HOW TO SPOT IT

Elder abuse is a crime. In most cases abusers can be charged with a criminal offense. People who commit the crime of elder abuse are often related to or responsible for the older man or woman they harm. Victims of elder abuse know their abusers. Most victims of elder abuse depend on the people who hurt them, sometimes for food, shelter, personal care, or companionship.

There are many kinds of elder abuse. Physical abuse is one kind. It includes any kind of physical battery, such as slapping, pushing, kicking, punching, or injuring with an object or weapon. It also includes deliberate exposure to severe weather, inappropriate use of medication and unnecessary physical restraint. Sexual abuse includes any forced sexual activity. All are crimes under Florida law.

Neglect is another form of abuse. Neglect is the result of deliberately failing to provide common, normal human necessities. It includes inadequate provision of food, clothing, shelter, required medication or other kinds of health and personal care.

Elder abuse also includes financial exploitation, misuse of property by fraud, trickery, duress, or force. If someone close to an older person forces them to sell personal property, steals money, pension checks or possessions, this is elder abuse. Forgery, extortion, and the wrongful use of Power of Attorney can also be elder abuse. Please call the police if you think someone you care about may be a victim.

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"We're always there when you need us"



Community Policing

Services & Programs

C.A.T. Program: Enroll your vehicle in this free anti-theft program. This program allows police to stop a vehicle with a C.A.T. sticker on it if the vehicle is being driven between 1:00 am and 5:00 am, the time when most car thefts happen.

Business Watch: Business owners are offered anti-theft ideas, information regarding fraud, workplace violence & robbery issues, and become aware of current criminal trends.

House Check Program: If you are out of town more than a few days the Police Department will stop by your home (work load permitting) and check the exterior of it to ensure it is secure. If any problems are found, your emergency contact will be notified. This service is free. Contact the Police Communications Center at (407) 644-1313.

Ride-Along Program: Ride with an officer on a tour of duty. Riders must be at least 18 yrs. old and of good moral character. Contact Officer McDaniel @ (407) 599-3455. Riding is at the discretion of the Police Department.

Security Surveys: Officers of the Community Policing Unit will be glad to meet you at your home to offer advice for crime-proofing your home. Just call Officer McDaniel at 407-599-3455 to set it up.

We're on the web!

www.wppd.org

Find out what crime is doing in your area. Log onto the web for residential crime statistics

VOLUNTEER SEARCH

Are you are retired or currently find yourself with some spare time?

Are you looking for a way to give back to the community?

Do you want to make a difference and do something positive while working in an interesting environment?

If you answered "yes" to one or more of these questions then perhaps we are what you are looking for.

The Police Department is looking for volunteers who have time to spare during the day. Volunteers would be working between 2 and 4 hours a day either in the morning or afternoon during normal business hours.

Tasks include dealing with the public, computer use, data research and some filing duties.

Call Officer Steve McDaniel 407-599-3455 for more information.

