

Lyndhurst Police Department



2010 Winter Edition
Volume 3 Issue 1

Commissioner
Robert Giangeruso

Chief of Police
James B. O'Connor

Community Policing

KEEPING THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY SAFE AND INFORMED

Phone Numbers & Links:

- Police/Fire Emergency 911
- Police (non-emergency) (201) 939-2900
- Community Policing Bureau (201) 939-9101
- Lyndhurst Police Department at www.LyndhurstPolice.com
- CrimeReports.com
- Nixle.com (register to receive free text and e-mail alerts)
- Township of Lyndhurst at www.LyndhurstNJ.org
- Anonymous Tip Hotline (201) 804-9346 (leave message)

To receive your free subscription to the Lyndhurst Police Dept. Community Policing Newsletter, forward your e-mail to CommunityPolicing@LyndhurstPolice.com.

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What You Can Do to Prevent Cyberbullying

It wasn't too long ago that school bullies were known to flex their muscles face-to-face and at school, but times have changed. The internet has become an attractive bullying ground for many teenagers and children. This trend is commonly known as cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is a serious problem that simply cannot be ignored. According to the National Education Association, nearly 160,000 children miss school each day because they are scared of bullying.

Cyberbullying can create equal, if not worse, problems than missing school. For example, a 15 year old boy from the Washington, D.C. area committed suicide, after two years of online harassment.

How can we prevent situations like this from repeating themselves?

1. Trace e-mails or IMs: Forward the cyberbully's e-mail to abuse@ (the domain name follows the @ sign in the cyberbully's e-mail address), and request that the cyberbully's account be terminated. If the harassment is by text message, contact your phone company to trace the sender. If the threats are severe enough, contact the Lyndhurst Police Department.

2. Have offensive web sites removed: If threats or offensive comments about your child are being posted on a web site,

you can contact the hosting company to request the site be taken down. You can find the host of the web site by going to whois.net and typing in the Web site address. **3. Contact your child's school:** Schools can do little to stop cyberbullying since it usually takes place off school grounds. However, some schools may be able to provide counseling or mediation between your child and the bully if they attend the same school. **4. Teach children that their internet activity is not anonymous:** Cyberbullying is fueled to large degree by the myth that what happens on the internet is completely anonymous. However, it's critical that we work together to dispel the falsity that the internet is a place of anonymity. Kids need to understand the broad concept that not only can parents view their internet behavior, but so can millions of people around the globe—including internet service providers, law enforcement agencies, and people with software designed for that purpose. Creating safe passwords and user names helps reduce risks, but ultimately all of our Internet use can be traced with software or hardware tools.

CommunityPolicing@LyndhurstPolice.com.

2009 Crime Statistics

Assault	↑	1.5%
Auto Theft	↓	44.1%
Burglary	↓	32.6%
Robbery	↓	44.4%
Theft	↓	4.3%
Thefts from Auto	↓	23.5%

Want to receive e-mail alerts on the latest scams, missing persons, terror alerts, weather emergencies and much more? Sign up for free at Nixle.com.

Welcome back!

The Lyndhurst Police Dept. would like to welcome you back to the Community Policing Newsletter. Each newsletter is designed to inform you of what's new at the LPD, as well as to point out some safety tips to help keep you and your family safe.

Chief James B. O'Connor

Mobile Command Post on the Job

The Lyndhurst Police Department recently unveiled its new Mobile Command Post. The command post will serve as a satellite police facility equipped with a surveillance camera, lighting and satellite communications, so that policing a particular event, whether it's a crime scene, disaster area or a community event, it can be handled from the vehicle, separate and apart from the rest of the town and relieving the main communications center from that responsibility. The truck is also outfitted with several work stations and is rigged with a retractable slide mechanism, which when activated will widen the vehicle by as much as four feet, allowing for additional work space. In one portion of the truck, a commanding officer can utilize a "SMART Board" to diagram strategy and conduct a briefing. In another portion, hostage negotiators can communicate directly with a hostage taker, and in a third portion of the truck, officers can communicate directly with any number of emergency service organizations, schools, companies and hospitals by utilizing a communications network called Mutualink. Mutualink offers the capability of sending and receiving text, photos, and real-time video feeds.

What's most impressive is that all of these activities can be carried out simultaneously. The truck contains five closed-circuit TV monitors, a telephone line, a facsimile/copy machine and an on-board mini-weather station. During its first week on the job, the truck was put into action when an area man threatened to take his own life by jumping off the DeJessa Memorial Bridge (linking Lyndhurst to Nutley). Thankfully tragedy was averted that day, but not before the whole incident was recorded for evidentiary value and internal training purposes. On November 5, 2009, the truck was utilized in New Milford, NJ where it participated in a mock "school shooter" response scenario, where it performed to rave reviews.



The Lyndhurst Police Department's new, state of the art, Mobile Command Post.



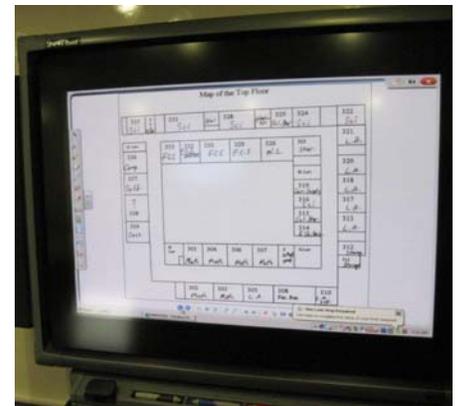
Communications center which provides both audio and visual communication with other agencies.



Conference room equipped with video monitors, telephone, SMART Board interactive whiteboard, DVD player/recorder and multiple traditional whiteboards.



Workstation designed for hostage negotiations.



The SMART Board interactive whiteboard.

Retirement Announcement



After a long and distinguished career with the Lyndhurst Police Department, Sergeant Christopher Valiante announced his retirement this past Spring. Sgt. Valiante joined the LPD on Nov. 11, 1974. Sgt. Valiante was promoted to Detective on Jan. 5, 1998, and then to the rank of Sergeant on Sept. 13, 2007. During his tenure, Sgt. Valiante served as President of PBA Local 202, a position he held for 20 years. Prior to joining the LPD, Sgt. Valiante proudly served with the US Army 11th Infantry Regiment during the Vietnam War. Sgt. Valiante will certainly be missed, and we wish him and his family all the best in their future endeavors.

If you witness a crime or strongly suspect one is about to occur:

Without putting yourself in danger, carefully note any details which might be helpful to police.

These include:

- * type of crime: *automobile theft, burglary, theft from an auto, etc.*
- * location: *the street address or nearest cross street.*
- * description of the suspect(s): *note height, build, color of skin, eyes, and hair, clothing description.*
- * disguises, or special marks, such as: *unusual features, scars or tattoos, and any weapons, tools, or vehicles being used.*
- * description of property of person(s) being subjected to criminal activity.
- * Don't try to deal with the situation yourself. Call the police - *the sooner the better.* But even if some time has passed, it's not too late to call the police.

Department Promotions

Commissioner of Public Safety Robert Giangeruso recently announced the following promotions within the Lyndhurst Police Department:

- Charles Giangeruso**—Deputy Chief
- Paul Haggerty**—Captain
- Pete Shellhamer**—Captain
- Joseph Turner**—Lieutenant
- Carmine Litterio**—Lieutenant
- Patrick Devlin**—Lieutenant
- John Fata**—Lieutenant
- Michael Carrino**—Lieutenant
- John Giammetta**—Sergeant
- John Mazure**—Sergeant
- John Kerner**—Sergeant
- John Castiglia**—Sergeant
- Andrew Marmorato**—Sergeant
- Michael Failace**—Sergeant
- Richard Jarvis**—Sergeant
- Michael Lemanowicz**—Detective

Retirement Announcement



After a long and distinguished career with the Lyndhurst Police Department, Lieutenant Nicholas Valiante announced his retirement from the force this past Spring. Lt. Valiante joined the LPD on August 27, 1984. Lt. Valiante was promoted to Sergeant on December 13, 1996, and then to Lieutenant on March 31, 2006. During his tenure, Lt. Valiante served as a firearms instructor, as a liaison to the Crisis Response Team and was an original member of the LPD Special Response Team. Lt. Valiante will certainly be missed, and we wish him and his family all the best in their future endeavors.

Don't Get Skimmed

Credit/Debit Card skimming is something you may have heard about it. Credit card skimming has gotten a lot of press lately mainly because it has become more prevalent. Credit/Debit card skimming is when someone takes your credit card account information via the magnetic strip and feeds it into a capture device (skimmer). That person then has all the information they need to defraud your account or sell your account information to some-

one else. Can you be skimmed? You sure can and in just seconds. Skimming devices can be as small as a cell phone. Protect yourself by keeping an eye on your card when possible, retrieve your card immediately after the transaction, keep your account receipts and review your account statements carefully and be on the look out for unusual behavior and small devices.

Upcoming Presentations

- Disaster Preparedness**
Wed., February 3, 2010 at 10:00 AM
 - Identity Theft Prevention & Awareness**
Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 10:00 AM
 - Personal Safety Awareness**
Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 10:00 AM
- Note:** All presentations will be held at the Lyndhurst Health Department located at 253 Stuyvesant Avenue.

Prescription Drug Dangers

How do you stop the abuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs?

Although more and more teens are turning away from street drugs, now there's a new threat, and it's from the family medicine cabinet. The abuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Parents and caregivers are the first line of defense in addressing this alarming trend.

What's the problem?

Teens are abusing some prescription and over-the-counter drugs to get high. This includes painkillers, such as those drugs prescribed after surgery; depressants, such as sleeping pills or anti-anxiety drugs; and stimulants, such as those drugs prescribed for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Teens are also abusing over-the-counter drugs, such as cough and cold remedies.

Every day 2,300 youth age 12 to 17 abuse a pain reliever for the very first time. More teens abuse prescription drugs than any illicit drug, except marijuana. In 2008, more than 2.1 million teens ages 12 to 17 reported abusing prescription drugs. Among 12- and 13-year-olds, prescription drugs are the drug of choice.

Because these drugs are so readily available, and many teens believe they are a safe way to get high, teens who wouldn't otherwise touch illicit drugs might abuse prescription drugs. Unfortunately, not many parents are talking to them about it, even though teens report that parental disapproval is a powerful way to keep them away from drugs.

What's are the dangers?

There are serious health risks related to abuse of prescriptions drugs. A single, large dose of prescription or over-the-counter pain killers or depressants can cause breathing difficulty that can lead to death. Stimulant abuse can lead to hostility or paranoia, or the potential for heart system failure or fatal seizures. Even in small doses, depressants and painkillers have subtle effects on motor skills, judgment, and ability to learn. The abuse of OTC cough and cold remedies can cause blurred vision, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, coma, and even death. Many teens report mixing prescription drugs, and alcohol. Using these drugs in combination can cause respiratory failure and death. Prescription and OTC drug abuse is addictive. Between 1995 and 2005, treatment admissions for prescription painkillers increased more than 300 percent. For more information, visit www.theantidrug.com.

This message is sponsored by the Lyndhurst Municipal Alliance.

Neighborhood Watch Program

The Lyndhurst Police Dept. recognizes that community participation in crime prevention programs is essential to improving the quality of life in the Township of Lyndhurst. One of the most effective ways to promote citizen interaction with police is the sharing of information.

At its heart, The Neighborhood Watch Program encourages this partnership between the police and community. It is a program of neighbors watching out for other neighbors, particularly during times when criminal activity would likely occur. Also, as a part of Neighborhood Watch, citizen groups determine

specific needs or problems and then share this information with local police. The police then act on this information and report back to the group on their progress.

If you are interested in joining a neighborhood watch group in your area, please contact the Lyndhurst Police Community Policing Unit at (201) 939-9101 or complete the form and return it to:

**Lyndhurst Police Dept.
367 Valley Brook Avenue
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071**

**Attn:
Special Operations Division,
Community Policing Unit**

Yes, I am a Lyndhurst resident and would be interested in joining a neighborhood watch group in my area.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Best Time to Contact You: _____