

Lyndhurst Police Department



2012 Summer Edition
Volume 5 Issue 1

Mayor and
Public Safety Director
Robert Giangeruso

Chief of Police
James B. O'Connor

Community Policing Newsletter

KEEPING THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY SAFE AND INFORMED

Phone Numbers & Links:

- Police/Fire Emergency: **9-1-1**
- Police (non-emergency)
(201) 939-2900
- Community Policing Unit
(201) 939-2900 ext. 2770
- Lyndhurst Police Department at
www.LyndhurstPolice.com
- CrimeReports.com (what's happen-
ing in your neighborhood)
- Nixle.com (register to receive free
text and e-mail alerts)
- Twitter.com/lyndhurstnypd (register
to receive free "tweet" alerts)
- Township of Lyndhurst at
www.LyndhurstNJ.org
- Anonymous Tip Hotline -
(201) 804-9346 (leave message)

*To receive your free
subscription to the
LPD Community
Policing Newsletter,
forward your E-mail to
CommunityPolicing@
LyndhurstPolice.com.*

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Lyndhurst PD Offers New Reverse 911 and Notification System

In our efforts to provide more reliable communication with Residents and Businesses in the Township of Lyndhurst, Mayor Robert Giangeruso and Police Chief James O'Connor are pleased to announce the implementation of a new town wide emergency notification system. The new system, known as Swift911, will replace the Reverse 911 the Township had previously been contracted to use through a private company. The Swift911 system will provide improvements and offer several ways to notify residents on any type of emergency or immediate concern.

The Swift911 notification system, which is part of the Swiftreach Networks and based in Mahwah, is offered to Lyndhurst at **NO** cost through the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management. Swift911 is a high speed notification program with the capability of delivering pre-recorded messages to the entire community via telephone, cell phone, email and text messaging. The system can send out over 100,000 phone calls in an hour with most residents being notified in 15 minutes or less. Residents and businesses can add, update or remove their information from the system whenever they choose.

Swift911 is also integrated with a GIS

mapping system so specific and defined areas of the Township can also be alerted if necessary. This technology provides the Township with the ability to keep Swift911 in its simplest form, a system that makes phone calls to specific people or areas in the event of an emergency or for sharing important information.

If you would like to register with the system, simply visit the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management website at www.BCOEM.org. Registration is free and easy.



If you have any questions, or if you do not have internet access, please feel free to contact our Community Policing Unit at (201) 939-2900 ext. 2770.

Welcome to the latest edition of the LPD Community Policing Newsletter!

I hope you find this newsletter informative and helpful. I also want to remind you, if you see or hear something suspicious.....**Please report it!**

Chief James B. O'Connor

LPD graduates students from one-of-a-kind leadership program

This past spring the Lyndhurst Police Department joined forces with the Hasbrouck Heights Police Department to form a program designed to prepare students to go out and set positive examples for their peers and help them prepare for the myriad of challenges that they are sure to face as they advance in life. The program was known as the Advanced Leadership Initiative. The Advanced Leadership Initiative is a unique, cooperative effort between the Hasbrouck Heights and Lyndhurst Junior Police Academies. It is designed to provide leadership, character education, and content-specific training to select members,

who will then turnkey their knowledge and skills back to the community. Eligible candidates from both towns were required to have successfully completed their town's respective junior police academy.

Participants were then selected based on a rigorous application process that included an interview and letters of recommendation. When the process was complete, there were 11 students that were determined to be worthy of the challenge.

The program is designed to be an extension of the junior police academies, which are conducted during

the summer. Advanced Leadership participants met every Thursday evening for two hours from April through their graduation on June 21st. They addressed such topics as case studies, public speaking, and the characteristics of good leaders. They also portrayed the role of police officers in lifelike scenarios based on the instructors' experience. In the final class, the students and instructors switched places, and the class members presented lessons on bullying, which they researched and developed.

"I'm proud of the fact that our police department continues to recog-

sentiments. "We've been wanting to do something like this for a long time – to extend what the kids experience in their junior academies. Now with our first one completed and we see how the kids have grown, I can see a lot of potential for the future."

While instructors from both towns have presented at each other's summer junior police academies, this is the first joint program. But, it won't be the last. Both O'Connor and Hasbrouck Heights Chief of Police Michael Colaneri hope to see the future Junior Police Academy graduates participate in this program.

"Now that we've given these kids the tools to take more of a leadership role, I'd like to see them put their skills into practice – in school and in the community," O'Connor said.

"Our graduates are role models for the younger kids coming up," Colaneri said. "Hopefully, this institute has prepared them to go out and set a positive example for their peers and made them more ready to handle the challenges they will face as they get older. I know it has given them a deeper appreciation of the challenges faced by law enforcement every day."

The students were honored for their accomplishments with dinner and a graduation ceremony, which was held at Michael's Riverside Restaurant.



nize the importance of building relationships with the youth of our community, especially at a time when some departments are cutting back or eliminating their community outreach programs we're able to see ours expand," said Mayor Robert Giangeruso.

Lyndhurst Police Chief James O'Connor, echoed Giangeruso's

Do you know someone with dementia, Alzheimer's or cognitive disabilities?

Do you have a friend or family member living here in Lyndhurst that is afflicted with Alzheimer's disease or some other form of dementia? Do they have a tendency to wander? If so, the Lyndhurst Police Department would like to know. One of the major trends effecting our society today is the increase in the number of people effected by cognitive conditions who tend to wander.

As a result, the LPD will be formulating a database that contains information about residents who are suffering from these terrible diseases and may harm the themselves if they wander and can't recollect even the

most basic of personal information. The database would contain a photo and basic information such as address, telephone numbers, and age. It would also include information such as hobbies, favorite locations to visit, medical history, employment history, etc. to help police officers identify someone should they wander. Additionally, the LPD participates in the Project Lifesaver program. Project Lifesaver outfits a person who tends to wander with a wrist-watch sized radio transmitter. The transmitter constantly emits radio frequency signal which can be tracked. For more information contact us at (201) 939-2900 ext. 2770.

Service to protect kids from Identity Theft launches

In the 2011 winter edition of this newsletter, we highlighted the child identity theft scam. Scammers have increasingly been using children's social security numbers to steal their identities and establish fraudulent credit cards and loans. AllClear ID is launching a service for consumers interested in protecting their children (until age 17) from identity theft. The free ChildScan service allows users to add their child's Social Security number to a database hosted by credit management company TransUnion. Creditors are then alerted if their information is ever used to apply for credit. The ChildScan evolves as AllClear warns of the rise in child identity theft in a

recent report. According to their findings, children are 35 times more likely to fall victim to ID theft than adults. ID thefts of kids under age 5 has more than doubled, says the report. The reason? AllClear ID says since children haven't established a credit history, they have clean records that are prime targets for thieves. "It's important for parents to understand that child ID theft is a real and growing trend," said AllClear ID CEO Bo Holland in a statement. "Rather than letting this trend continue, consumers -- parents especially -- should take the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of their child's livelihood." Visit allclearid.com for additional information.

Jury Duty Scam Returns

Crooks are betting many people have forgotten about an old scam, but unfortunately the Jury Duty scam is circulating again. Callers claim to be with the courts and try to trick you into believing you've failed to show up for jury duty. Scammers are preying on your civic duty because they know we are all wired to want to comply to what is required of us as American citizens and that is just something that makes us an easy target.

If you get one of the calls, be prepared for the crooks to be bold and use scare tactics to get your personal information. One common threat that they utilize is to say you missed jury duty and a warrant for your arrest has been issued. You are sure to be caught off guard and inform them you had no knowledge you even had jury duty. That is when they ask you for verify your personal information. After they have gotten you to

relinquish your personal identifiers, they confirm that it is you. Sometimes they take it a step further and they ask for your credit card information telling you to simply pay a fee, and you will absolved of any crime. Don't fall for it. The courts will **never** call and ask for you personal information. Remember, if there is a problem with you serving jury duty, generally you get a letter in the mail. The criminals are usually after your information to steal your identity, and they are rarely caught.

Your first line of defense is yourself and not responding and giving out personal information to someone you have no idea of and it's unsolicited. If you ever have any questions about jury duty, or think you have been a victim of this crime, contact us immediately. You will also want to monitor your account statements and credit reports.

2012 Police Unity Tour - Riding for Those Who Died

“Riding for Those Who Died.” That was the slogan adopted by six members of law enforcement, all Lyndhurst residents, four of whom serve with the Lyndhurst Police Department. On May 9, 2012, Lyndhurst Police officers Steve Passamano, Paul F. Haggerty, Richard



Deputy Sheriff Kyle Pagerly & his K-9 partner, Jynx

Jasinski, Jr., and Michael Keane, along with Frank Scardino, from the Bergen County Sheriff's Department, and Nick Haggerty, a dispatcher with the Bergen County Police Department, mounted their bikes for the 330 mile bicycle ride from East Hanover, NJ to the National Law Enforcement Monument in Washington, D.C. Focused and determined, these young men raised nearly \$13,000 for the National Law Enforcement Memorial and Museum. The team chose to ride in honor of Deputy Kyle Pagerly of the Berks County Pennsylvania Sheriff's Department, who was shot and killed in the line of duty on June 29, 2011. Other officers returned fire and killed the subject. After Deputy Pagerly was struck, his K-9 partner Jynx tried to pull Kyle to safety. Unfortunately, Kyle succumbed to his wounds. Visit



From left to right : Nick Haggerty, Frank Scardino, Michael Keane, Steve Passamano, Paul F. Haggerty, and Richard Jasinski, Jr.

www.teamlyndhurstput.com for more information. The group is already preparing for next year's Police Unity Tour.

“If you stopped yourself every time you said, ‘I have to...’ and changed it to ‘I get to...’ it might change your entire experience.”

- Deputy Kyle Pagerly

LPD Purchase Patrol Vehicles at No Cost to Taxpayers

Mayor and Public Safety Director Robert Giangeruso recently announced the addition of three new patrol vehicles to the fleet. The Lyndhurst Police Department, using compensation raised from the use of vehicles and equipment during off-duty details and forfeiture funds acquired during criminal investigations, purchased three Chevrolet ‘Police-Package’ Impala’s. Mayor Giangeruso is also proud to report that since taking over the reigns of the Public Safety Department in 2005, the Police Department has *not* purchased any police vehicles with taxpayer money. The Mayor noted, “The utilization of non-traditional funds is another opportunity to save tax payer dollars and continue to provide proficient police services to the citizen’s of Lyndhurst.” The cars are purchased under a New Jersey state contract, for which the state has negotiated bulk rate prices for government agencies. These types of funds by law can only be

used for law enforcement purchases such as the purchase of vehicles and equipment. “It’s a win-win for everyone when we can purchase vehicles and equipment at **no** cost to the taxpayer,” said Chief James O’Connor.



Mayor Giangeruso with one of the new police vehicles purchased *without* using taxpayer dollars