

Veazie Police Department

Mark E. Leonard, Chief of Police
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To: Mark E. Leonard, Chief of Police
From: Sheryl Sutherland
Date: October 25, 2004
Re: August, September, October Police Report
CC: William Reed, Town Manager & Town Council

Community Service

- Officer Chris Greeley has become the Senior Citizen Advocate for the Veazie Police Department. Officer Greeley has been attending the senior meetings and visiting the Senior Housing Center. Booklets on "Avoiding Telemarketing Fraud" were handed out to every resident.
- The Penobscot County Triad is a program where law enforcement and seniors work together to help lessen crimes against the elderly. Officer Greeley is a member of this program and is involved with a project called the "911 House Numbering Project". The Police Department will help provide and address numbering sign for the residents of Veazie to insure that emergency personnel respond as quickly as possible to 911 and non emergency calls. For more information contact the Police Department.
- School has opened for the fall season. The Town of Veazie has engaged the services of Seaboard Security again this school year for the crossing guard.
- The Gun Lock Program is still in effect. Free gun locks are available at the Town Office or Police Department. These gun locks were given to us to help promote

CRIME PREVENTION IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

safety at home or where there are firearms. Two different sizes are available for your convenience.

- Officer Kevin Dionne is working towards a child safety seat program for the community and certification for the safety seat installation.
- The Officers check the street lights every night and list the problem ones. Whether they are out of flickering this information is given to the Code Enforcement officer who forwards it to the proper agency. Veazie citizens are encouraged to call the Code Enforcement office or Police Department with any information on faulty street lights.
- The Senior Citizen Housing is being patrolled often for the well being of the seniors, and Officers are entering the building in insure the safety of the residents.
- Officer Greeley went to the Veazie Community School and spoke to students about becoming a Police Officer and the many duties they have. Also discussed was when and how to call an Officer.
- Fingerprinting is done at the Veazie Police Department free of charge. If you need this service please call and set up a time that is convenient for you.

Criminal Activity:

- Six Warrant Arrests were made during the period. A Federal Warrant was issued from the Violent Crimes Task Force for a convicted felon in town that was in possession of a firearm. This felon could be facing drug violation charges also.
- Routine traffic stops turned into arrests for Possession of Drugs, Drug Paraphernalia, alcohol offenses, and suspended license violations.
- The number of incidents that occurred this quarter increased by 56, per month over the last quarter.
- Motor vehicles that were left unlocked, were burglarized and items such as compact disks, a cell phone, and credit cards were stolen. Please remove any item from your car that could be of value. Also, lock your doors and windows to the vehicle. Notify the Police Department immediately if you think your vehicle has been vandalized. Some of these cases are still open investigations.
- Chief Leonard has gone over and above the description of Chief of Police by diligently working long hours and traveling many miles to solve a burglary case which involved Veazie as well as other towns. Because of Chief Leonard's effort and the cooperation of other agencies, businesses and the use of video surveillance, media , and a paper trail, the suspects have been apprehended.

- A juvenile has been summonsed to court for Criminal Mischief and stealing a bicycle from another juvenile. The bicycle was recovered by damaged.
- A local business was broken into and rolled change was taken. The investigation has turned up some possible witnesses and evidence. This is an ongoing investigation.
- A 2500.00 piece of equipment was stolen from a local business. This is still under investigation.
- During a traffic stop, Chief Leonard arrested a suspect on several warrants from another county. After a thorough investigation, Chief Leonard summonsed the suspect's friend for receiving stolen property. He had stolen a Social Security card, and other items. The friend is now being held in New Hampshire where a warrant was issued for other crimes.
- Gas drive offs are still happening in town. Without identification of the vehicle or license plate it is very difficult to investigate.

Training:

- Department training is held every month for all of the Veazie Police employees. These meetings are very informative in keeping up with what is going on within the department. New procedures and review of the old ones along with cases that the Officers are involved in are some of the topics of discussion.
- Officer Greeley qualified for firearms which is mandatory yearly for Officers.
- Liquor Laws and New Case Laws were taught at the Holden Police Department for area agencies. The training was attended by Chief Leonard, Sgt. Emery, Cpl. Dall, Officers Sirois, Bryant, and Dionne.
- Chief Mark Leonard attended the Maine Chief's of Police Conference and participated in the training class on "The Changing of the Guard". This 7 hour session covered areas in recruiting, managing, and retention of Generation X, the new generation becoming adults.
- The Maine Criminal Justice Academy and the FBI, hosted a four day training on Uniform Crime Reporting, and National Incident Based Reporting System. Uniform Crime Reports are done by me on a monthly basis. The information goes to the FBI and other agencies so they can compile it into statistics for the United States. These reports also aid the Veazie Police Department in getting grants when reported on time and accurately.

- Officer Greeley attended a three day class on the Street Crimes program held in Waterville. This was instructed by Pat McCarthy a retiree from the Chicago Police Department.
- Officer Gotreau attended a 5 day course on Advanced Drug Patrol held in Brewer. This class detailed drug investigations, Meth labs, surveillance, drug trends, informants, and search and seizure techniques.
- Self-Defense training was held at the Eastern Maine School of Defense in Veazie. Glen Kennedy conducted the class. In attendance were Cpl. Dall, Det. Bridges, Officers Greeley, Gotreau, Sirois, and Bryant.
- Snowden Environmental Services hosted a Spill Control and Countermeasure training for the Police and Fire Departments. This is a mandatory yearly training that discusses the actions that must be taken in the event of a chemical spill.

Traffic:

- Citation Total: 118
- Warning Total: 141
- Speeding Citations: 49
- Speeding Warnings: 44
- Drug Summonses: 18
- Stop/ Red Light Violations: 9

Of the Speeding violations that were issued, 39% were on State Street.

Designated Patrols for speeding, running stop signs, or traffic lights, and seat belt violations are done every day during a shift at a different location. These patrols are done more than once a day if there is a certain problem area that has been brought to our attention by concerned citizens.

Reminder: Winter Parking begins on November 15th until April 15th, regardless of snow amounts. This is a town ordinance, and if violated will be enforced with a parking ticket and or fine. Please contact the Police Department with any questions on where to park. The number is 947-2358.

Additional Information:

- Officer Raymond Gotreau has joined our Department full time and , Officer Kevin Dionne was hired on as a Reserve Officer.
- Officer Keith Emery has been promoted to Sergeant of the Veazie Police.
- Hunting season is here so be aware of your clothing colors if out near where any hunting might occur. This also goes for your pets. Put an orange or bright collar on them and keep them on a leash. The leash law is a town ordinance and will be enforced.
- Family pets that are outside should have adequate shelter against the cold. When below freezing make sure they are inside or have an insulated structure to stay in. Animals often get very sick when cold and wet, not to mention its inhumane to let them stay out in extreme weather.
- The Veazie Police Department covers the community 24 hours a day, seven days a week including Holidays. There is one Officer on duty at all time. This Officer is covering calls, and doing patrols so is not in the office most of the time. If you need an Officer and no one is available to take your call in the office, call Dispatch at 945-4636 and they will contact the Officer for you. If an emergency call 911 immediately.