



## Council Update –Chief of Police

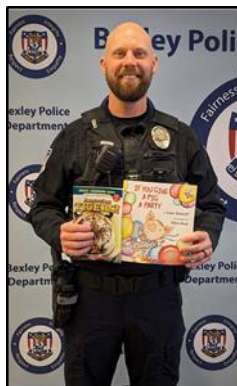
April 9, 2024

**Retirement** – After 25 years of outstanding and loyal service, Officer Joseph “Chappy” Chapman retired on February 29, 2024. He will however, continue to serve our community. He will join the City’s Ground Maintenance Team at the Service Department on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Eagle Scout Ceremony** – Chief Lewis and Mayor Kessler participated in Troop 166’s annual ceremony. Four new members were introduced to the Eagle Scout Court of Honor.



**Books and Badges** – The Department has partnered with Starfish, a non-profit, volunteer organization to bring "Books and Badges" to our community. This program connects officers with elementary school students to encourage literacy and build relationships in the community. Officers will read a book to the students, and Starfish provides every child with a copy of the book as a gift from the officer. First up is Officer Mel Davis on April 4<sup>th</sup> at Gan Ephraim Preschool.



**Coffee with a Senior** – Through a joint partnership with Bickford Senior Living, Starbucks, Christine's Flowers, and Anthony Thomas Candies, officers enjoyed a few hours with the seniors at Bickford on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.



**Bexley Public Library** – Officers Grimes, Adams, and Hopper, Detective Briley, and volunteers from the BCPAAA provided hands-on CPR/First Aid and Active Threat training on March 20<sup>th</sup> for the staff of the Bexley Library.



**Safety and Security** – Places of worship of all denominations in Bexley met on March 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss safety and security measures impacting their services and members.



**Lunch Program** – Officers Shawver and Adams and Lieutenant Overly recently joined Bexley students at the Bexley United Methodist church. Church members provide reduced price lunch for Bexley students every Thursday.

**Adverse Weather** – Lieutenant Overly prepared the department to respond to the possibility of a tornado or straight winds that could occur during recent severe thunderstorms that came through central Ohio. We were fortunate that no damage was experienced in the community.

Storm updates were posted throughout the day and into the evening on the Emergency Management Facebook page.

**Emergency Management Mutual Aid** – On March 15<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Overly assisted the Village of Lakeview Volunteer Fire Department with the search and rescue operations after tornadoes caused damage in the Indian Lake area. This opportunity allowed for a clearer understanding of utilizing search teams, command process during a disaster, and allocating resources needed.

**K9 Team** – Officer Shawver and Pia continue to run safety checks for our local synagogues. The team has visited other central Ohio police departments, sharing information and helping when needed.

**Detective Bureau** – The Bureau continues to work through their caseload and present cases for indictment. Recently they submitted six more cases to Franklin County Prosecutors Office to be presented for felony indictments and presented seven cases to the Grand Jury. Detectives submitted three items to the lab for analysis and completed three subpoenas for information out of different fraud cases. Detective Briley is combing through cell phone records to attempt to identify a suspect from a burglary and set up a polygraph with a potential suspect. Detective Byrd interviewed a forgery suspect at Jackson Pike Jail that was arrested on warrants.

As a reminded to all, as tax season is upon us and coming to completion, please be cautious with giving information out over the phone to anyone that is representing themselves as an IRS agent. Information is available on the IRS webpage (irs.gov) regarding scams and how the IRS will normally contact you. Do not let yourself be a victim of a tax scam, and lastly, the IRS does not accept gift cards as payment.

**Animal Control** – March was a month for barking dog complaints. Many of the dogs were barking at various neighborhood sounds and quieted quickly. Officer Jennings was able to speak with several owners and explain the barking ordinance and give them ideas to help reduce barking. If no contact was made on-scene, a notice was left with similar information and Officer Jennings’s contact information.

There were a couple overnight complaints that she followed up on, resulting in notices left on the door.

There were a few loose dogs that were returned home. There was a dog that the owner lost, but was quickly located. There was a call involving a couple of loose pit bulls that someone found on E. Fifth Avenue. They were taken to the Bexley Vet Hospital. The owner was located with microchip information and Officer Jennings spoke with the dog owner when he picked them up.

While patrolling, Officer Jennings observed several dog owners not using leashes for their pets and advised them of the City’s leash law. There were two owners with dogs in Jeffrey Park with no leash that kindly put the leashes on their dog and left the park.

There were some wildlife complaints and several follow up complaint visits.

Officer Jennings and her dog, Zelig, also had the honor of visiting the residents of Bickford of Bexley. She had a great time and Zelig got lots of love.

**Statistics:**

Start Date	End Date	Calls for Service	Business Check	Total	Incident & Offense Reports	Arrest Reports	Crash Reports	Total	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Burglary/B&E	Robbery
1/1/2024	4/3/2024	4537	1100	5,637	189	79	53	321	59	9	7	2
1/1/2023	4/3/2023	4426	607	5,033	203	83	56	342	43	14	15	1
4/4/2023	4/3/2024	18731	3911	22,642	976	355	184	1,515	278	50	63	10
4/4/2022	4/3/2023	14509	1163	15,672	972	374	209	1,555	235	73	58	11