

Public Safety Activities Report

February 2006

Police Activities

In February the Police Department held several events at the schools. The first was the Driving Class for the High School. This is an on going class for students who have just received their driver's license. We talk about the responsibility of driving and show a short video. Also this month we did the Alcohol Awareness Class for the students in Mrs. Hamilton's and Ms. Vaughn's 7th grade Health classes at the Junior High. This deals with the problems associated with drinking alcohol.

Also, in February, we became members of the Ohio Internet Crimes against Children. This is a state wide task force that strives to help fight online crime against children. The Police Department now has an online computer that is dedicated to undercover investigations that include the exploitation of children through chat rooms and child pornography. The computer is not on the city network so it cannot be traced back to the department and cannot affect the city network. The department also has the ability to forensically analyze computers for evidence. We currently are the only agency in the county to be able to do this right now. Computer crime is on the rise and we are looking at ways to meet the challenge.

Patrol Activity:

In February of 2006 Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Southwestern Ohio Affiliate, sent a letter thanking Ptl. Josh Holbrook for "getting one of the worst offenders...off the streets and highways and appreciate your continued efforts to help stop drunk driving and making Ohio highways safe." Ptl. Holbrook arrested a subject for his 11th offense of driving while intoxicated.

Criminal Investigations:

There were 118 actual offenses reported to the Police Department in February 2006 with 68 offenses being cleared. A total of 56 arrests were made clearing the offenses.

The top Part I Offenses reported to UCR were Larceny (26), Burglary (10). Part I Offenses are Criminal Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny-Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson. Within the category of Larceny, Larceny: Theft; All Other Thefts (15) offenses were filed in February 2006.

The top two offenses reported in all other types were Criminal Damaging and Offenses against Family and Children, both with 7 offenses reported.

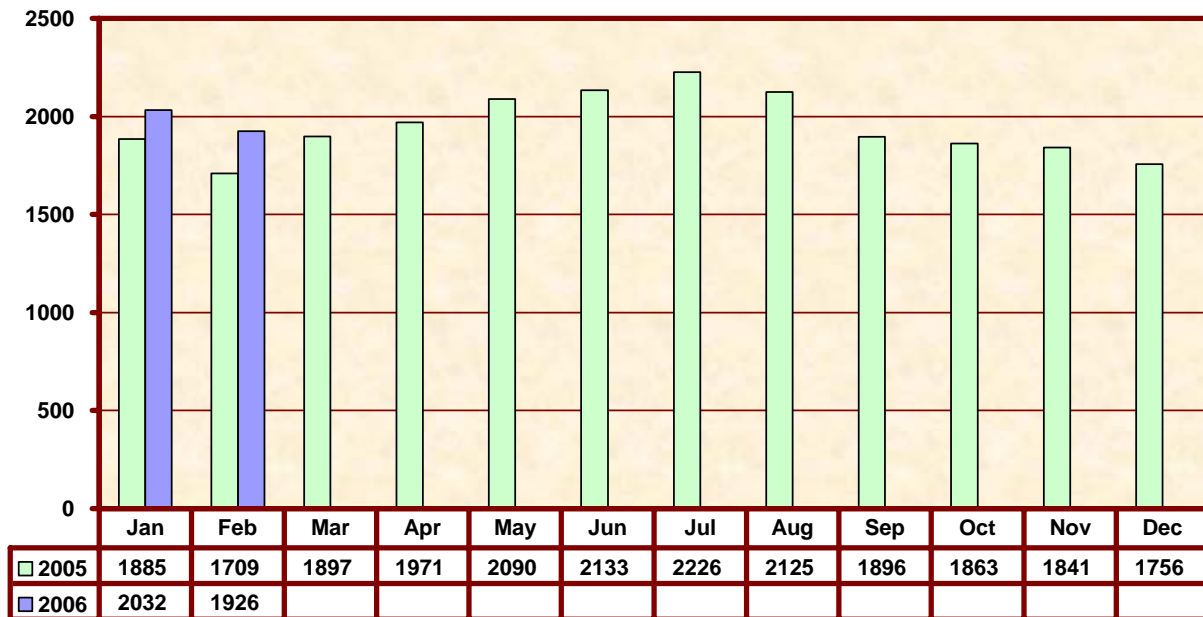
Arrests:

A total of 122 physical arrests were made in February 2006. This number is an increase of 18 arrests when compared to February 2005. Of the 124 arrests, 110 were adults and 12 were juveniles. The top offenses for physical arrests, other than traffic offenses, were Bench Warrant-Fail to Appear (15), and Domestic Violence (7).

Calls for Service:

The Calls for Service for February 2006 showed an increase of 217 calls over February 2005.

Calls For Service



Fire and EMS Activities

During the month of February 2006 the Fire Division staff responded to a total of 206 calls for service. 133 of these calls were emergency medical and 76 were fire calls.

On February 10, 2006 the Fire Division responded to a house fire at the corner of West Main Street and South Sycamore Street. Crews arrived to find a fire in the basement. The fire was contained to the basement and the structure remains sound. Investigative work at the scene by police officer Steve Drake and a subsequent fire investigation by Captain Mark Schockman has resulted in formal criminal charges being filed on a juvenile resident of the home. Assistance was received from Turtlecreek Township FD in fighting the fire.

On Saturday February 11, 2006 fire crews participated in a day long training event with Union Township/South Lebanon FD in a church scheduled for demolition. Fire crews worked on various skills such as using power tools to cut holes in the roof, breaching concrete and block walls and search and rescue work in a smoke filled environment. This was the second day long training opportunity we have been able to schedule with Union Township/South Lebanon FD in recent months, and both events we very well received by the members.

Of the 133 EMS calls 36 were handled by the crews assigned to the new fire station. Of the 104 removals made to area hospitals 72 removals were made to Bethesda Warren County.

Duty crews performed 30 different fire inspections.

During February, Beverly and Harold Bowers conducted various public education programs in the elementary and preschools. At Bowman School they instructed 1st graders on seat belt safety and 2nd graders on poison safety. These are part of the primary school's health and safety education class. At the various preschools, lessons covered seat belt safety. In all we saw or spoke to approximately 1000 different children.

Our current fire station staffing is 4 part time firefighter/EMT's downtown and 2 part time firefighter/EMT's at the new station, plus the Captain every day. We operate on 6 hour shifts, so during February we should have had scheduled 6 people on duty per 24 hour period, which means we had a total of 672 six hour shifts in January. Due to lack of staffing the new fire station was closed for 1 six hour shift and we were short staffed an additional 13 shifts during the month.

EMS crews have dealt with calls involving very small children in recent months with several tragic endings. Crews are researching the availability of public service announcements (PSA) that we can broadcast over our cable television network to maybe keep parents more alert to potential serious situations.