

O'Fallon Police

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter – August 2020



NEW RESOURCE! Special Needs Information Program

The [Special Needs Information Program](#) is designed to reunite members of the community who have been separated from their families, schools, or other caretakers.

Often children and adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), Alzheimer's disease, or other medical conditions that involve memory loss or confusion may wander away from their home, school, or other caretakers' residence and get lost. When someone is lost, TIME is the biggest factor to ensure someone returns home safely and quickly, especially during extreme temperatures or dangerous weather. Providing accurate information to First Responders is critical and transmitting this information to the public is important. This program will assist First Responders in having advanced information on their mobile data terminals in their vehicles to locate individuals to reunite with their families.

Important information for First Responders includes current photographs, physical descriptions, contact information for the individual, and medical information that will help with safety and behavioral concerns regarding the individual. This includes what they are attracted to, where they have been located before, and if they currently use any kind of tracking device. Suggestions for interacting with the individual and tips on what to do when they are located are also very important. This includes communication differences, verbal/non-verbal and sensory facts. Once all the information is collected the individual's information will remain confidential and will be secured in the O'Fallon Police Department's database so it can be provided to First Responders when necessary. These are critical facts needed to locate individuals who wander away or assist in identifying individuals who are located who have not yet been reported.

You can self-enroll, or have a parent, or loved one complete enrollment form. A signed waiver must also be completed before you can be enrolled. All of this can be done digitally on the [O'Fallon Police Department Website](#). The O'Fallon Police Department will periodically ask for updates to ensure all information is accurate. This program is open to all O'Fallon residents, caretakers of individuals with special needs, and anyone with special needs who attends school or works in O'Fallon.

There is no cost associated with registration and you may delete your registration at any time by contacting Detective Adam Krack at akrack@ofallon.org.

To Register, please visit <https://www.ofallon.org/police-department/webforms/special-needs-information-program>

Thank You Walmart for the generous monetary donation to the Major Case Squad! Your continued support to this organization is very much appreciated.

For more information about the Major Case Squad, visit <https://majorcasesquadstl.org>



The O'Fallon Police Department would like to thank **Police Chaplain Aaron Lynn** for nearly three years of dedicated service. Over that time, Chaplain Lynn has volunteered his time and energy to support the police department and service the citizens of O'Fallon.

The O'Fallon Police Chaplains volunteer 100% of their time and give their time in addition to working at local area churches. While Chaplain Lynn will be missed, we will be jealous of his weather come winter, as he is following a new calling in Naples, FL. Thank you again Aaron!



Thank you to [Dick's Sporting Goods](#) in Fairview Heights for providing OPD with **gun locks**. We often have citizens come to the PD who inquire about taking steps to securing their personally owned firearms and these come in handy to pass on to them.

Stop by the Police Department if you would like one (or two) for **free**.



OPD will resume our free prescription drug drop off program on the **first Saturday of each month**. We will take your unused or unwanted medications for safe disposal from **11 AM – 1 PM**. This will take place in front of the Public Safety Facility (285 N. Seven Hills Rd.), if weather permits, or inside the lobby. Safely disposing of medications:

- Keeps the medication out of our water supply
- Keeps addictive and dangerous medicine from falling into the wrong hands

***We cannot take any needles, inhalers or liquids**

FRAUD ALERT

We have received several reports of suspected fraud/identity theft regarding Pre-Paid Debit Cards from the [Illinois Department of Employment Security](#). The debit cards are arriving at people's homes through the mail even though they never applied for any unemployment benefits.

If you have received one of these and did not apply for unemployment benefits, **do not activate the card**. Please report the fraud to The Illinois Department of Employment Security at www2.illinois.gov/ides/Pages/Reporting_Unemployment_Insurance_Fraud.aspx

You should also file a report for Identity Theft with the Federal Trade Commission at www.identitytheft.gov This site will also give you information on how to best protect yourself from Identity Theft.



The O'Fallon Police Department is planning to host its **9th annual Citizen Police Academy beginning** in September 2020. The program will be taught by members of the O'Fallon Public Safety Department and guest speakers from other agencies. This academy is open to O'Fallon citizens or persons working in the City of O'Fallon.

There is a tax deductible **\$25 course fee**, which will be donated to "[The BACKSTOPPERS, Inc.](#)". The Academy is designed to give participants a realistic view of the day to day operations of public safety work by providing instruction, practicals, and education on numerous topics.

For more information and to apply, visit:
<https://www.ofallon.org/citizen-police-academy>



Participants will be introduced to a variety of topics and hands-on training to include:

Agency History and Structure, Police Operations, Patrol Tactics, Traffic Stops/DUI, Current Drug Trends, General Investigations, Firearm Training, Response to Resistance, CPR and AED Training, Fire Safety/ Demos, Major Case Squad, 911 Communications.