

O'Fallon Police

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter – December 2021



Chief Kirk Brueggeman

Congratulations to Kirk Brueggeman who was sworn in as O'Fallon's new Director of Public Safety on Monday, November 15. Kirk has served with the O'Fallon Police Department since January 1999. Over the years, Kirk has worked as a Patrol Officer, a School Resource Officer, a Detective, a Patrol Sergeant, a Lieutenant, and a Captain. Now Kirk will serve as the Director of Public Safety and the Chief of Police.





Congratulations to the officers involved in our latest round of promotions on November 16. The above three outstanding individuals were promoted by our Board of Fire and Police Commissioners.

Mike Mojzis was promoted to the rank of Captain, with the oath of office being administered by Commissioner Thoman. Mike had been serving as a Patrol Lieutenant and will now take over as the Support Services Captain.

Nick Stewart was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, with the oath of office being administered by Commissioner Brown. Nick had been serving as a Patrol Sergeant and he will now take over as one of our Patrol Lieutenants.

Finally, **Joe Wagner** was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, with the oath of office being administered by Commissioner Holden. Joe had been serving as a Senior Officer on a patrol crew, but he will now take over his own patrol crew as a Patrol Sergeant.

Congratulations Captain Mojzis, Lieutenant Stewart, and Sergeant Wagner!

On Chief Van Hook's last day, Mayor Roach dedicated the Community Room at the Public Safety Building in his honor. On November 15, the sign and plaque were hung to make it official.

A fitting tribute to someone who dedicated 30 years of service to this community!



On November 12, [Texas Roadhouse](#) Presented **Special Olympics** with a check for \$1753 from a portion of the sales at the Dine to Donate fundraiser last month. Combined with the two silent auction items and tips from you all, **we raised over \$10,000!** Texas Roadhouse, we couldn't do this without you. Thank you!



Thank you to [Courage & Grace](#) and [Kloss Furniture](#) for hosting events in November to benefit the [O'Fallon Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #198](#) (FOP) "Cops & Kids" program!

Each December, members of the O'Fallon Police Department take children in need shopping at the O'Fallon Walmart for toys, clothes, and whatever else they want or need. Thanks to various donations to the **FOP** throughout the year, including these contributions from Courage & Grace and Kloss, we plan to take approximately **50** children shopping on December 5. We can't wait to see the smiles on everyone's faces!



[O'Fallon-Shiloh EMS](#) will also take children holiday shopping at Walmart on December 11. Their event is made possible by donations to the **Metro-East Paramedics Association (MEPA)**.

We hope there are some toys left for them after the FOP invades the toy section the week before!



Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's Warner's Winter Warm Up! Through your generosity, we were able to collect three large bags of coats that were donated to help those in need.

The coats were delivered to Warner's Winter Warm Up in mid-November.



The O'Fallon Police Department is now accepting donations for the [US Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program](#). In 2020, we were given the **Commander's Award** due to all the support from the community. If you would like to donate a **new and unwrapped toy**, please bring it to the O'Fallon Police Department main lobby before December 12, 2021. Donation boxes are located by the records window.

If you would like to donate large items or have any questions, please contact Detective Adam Krack at 618-624-9595 or akrack@ofallon.org



Forgot to lock the car!





O'Fallon Police Department

BREAKFAST

with

SANTA

December 11

8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Amelia V. Carriel Jr. High

451 N. Seven Hills Rd. O'Fallon

Come enjoy a pancake breakfast with Santa!

Breakfast will be served 8a - 10a

Santa will arrive at 8:30a

Crafts will be available to make

**We will also be collecting canned goods for the O'Fallon Food Pantry
as well as unwrapped gifts for Toys for Tots.**



Breakfast with Santa is scheduled for Saturday, December 14 at Carriel Jr. High from 8 to 11 AM!

This event is provided **free** through a partnership between local community sponsors and the O'Fallon Police Department.

For more details, contact Det. Adam Krack at akrack@ofallon.org.



Holiday Safety Tips from O'Fallon Fire Rescue and the National Fire Prevention Association



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



Before Heading Out or to Bed

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- ❗ **More than a third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ❗ **Forty-two percent** of decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards