

O'Fallon Public Safety

Monthly Newsletter – May 2022



Ofc. Orr, Lt. Feldhake, Lt. Buck



Ofc. Orr, Ofc. Krug, Lt. Stewart

Chief's Commendations Presented

On April 20, we recognized several of our officers for their accomplishments. Each officer was awarded a Chief's Commendation in recognition of their efforts.

Officer Rick Orr, Lt. Patrick Feldhake, and Lt. Eric Buck were recognized for their efforts that led the apprehension of a serial burglary suspect. In addition to locating and arresting the suspect in the process of committing a burglary, these officers executed several search warrants that lead to recovery of over \$75,000 in stolen property. The recovered stolen property had been taken from multiple locations across several jurisdictions.

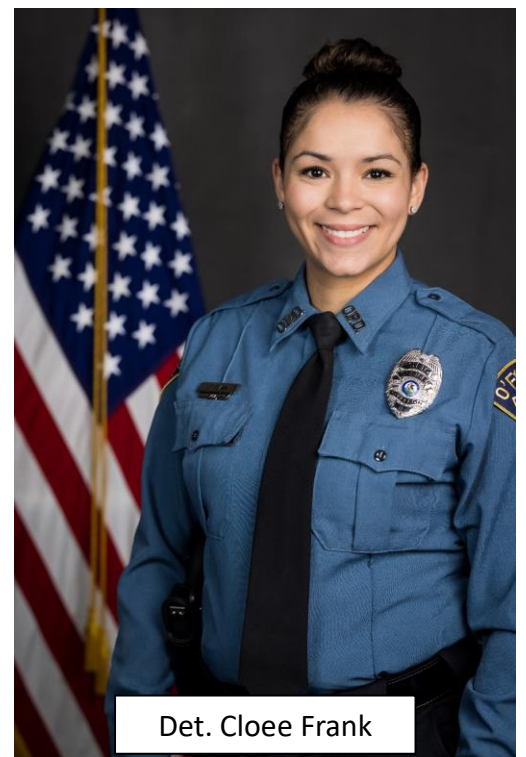
Officer Rick Orr, Officer Jared Krug, and Lt. Nick Stewart were recognized for their assistance with a shooting that occurred inside St. Clair Square. Officer Orr, Officer Krug, and Lt. Stewart's efforts were instrumental in quickly identifying the suspects, locating the suspects, and recovering the weapons involved in the incident. Without these officers quick and decisive actions, the suspects would not have been identified and taken into custody so quickly. Great work gentlemen!



On April 27, the O'Fallon Police Department and other O'Fallon city employees participated in **Denim Day** to show support for survivors of sexual violence. Denim day began in 1999, after the Italian Supreme Court overturned a rape conviction because the justices felt that since the victim was wearing tight jeans, implying consent. The following day, the women in the Italian Parliament came to work wearing jeans in solidarity with the victim. This protest gained international media attention and Denim Day was born.

In conjunction with Denim Day, we also revealed our new **trauma-informed interview room**. The trauma-informed interview room is furnished with soft chairs that both swivel and rock, and the room is decorated to promote positivity and a connection to nature, which has a calming effect on the interviewee. When a victim provides a statement to the police they are not only assisting in the investigation, but they are reliving the traumatic experience that brought them there. The trauma-informed interview room is designed to minimize re-traumatization during this stage of the investigative process.

A special thanks goes out to Det. Cloee Frank and Captain Mike Mojzis who were instrumental in designing and developing the trauma-informed interview room. Additionally, we would like to thank facilities/maintenance employee Riley Weaver for all his hard work on the project.



Det. Cloee Frank



MECOMM Celebrates National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (NPSTW) is held annually during the second week of April to honor telecommunications personnel for their commitment, service, and sacrifice. NPSTW initially started in 1981 by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in California. In 1994, President William J. Clinton signed [Presidential Proclamation 6667](#), declaring the second week of April as NPSTW. This week is a time to celebrate and thank telecommunications personnel across the Nation who serve our communities, citizens, and public safety personnel 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

This year, Metro East Communications (MECOMM) celebrated by decorating the Communications Center with Superheroes with the theme of #HeadsetHeroes. The Telecommunicators (TCs) were provided personalized coffee mugs, 9-1-1 tumblers, meals of their choice, cupcakes and enjoyed themed dress down days.



MECOMM currently has 13 Full time TCs and 11 part time TCs that serve three Police Departments, three Fire Departments, An EMS Department and MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System).

In 2021 Our TCs answered over 26,000 911 calls and approximately 100,000 calls for service. We are fortunate to have some of the best in the business working for our community!





The O'Fallon Police Department will be hosting our annual **Youth Police Academy** from June 27 - July 1, 2022. The program is open to students entering the 8th and 9th grades. The Academy will allow young adults to see and experience a variety of aspects of First Responders, while operating in an environment of responsibility and self-discipline.

Class size is limited to 20 participants. Follow the link below to learn more information and to download the application.

Questions may be directed to Ofc. Ben Callahan at 618-624-4545 or bcallahan@ofallon.org

<https://www.ofallon.org/programs/pages/youth-police-academy>

On April 22, our newest Officer, Mike Shewmaker, graduated from the SWIC Police Academy. Officer Shewmaker began his 14 week field training program on April 25.

Chief Kirk Brueggemann (left) and Captain Dave Matevey (right) are pictured here with Officer Shewmaker at the graduation ceremony.

Congratulations Officer Shewmaker and welcome to the team!



Grilling Out for Special Olympics

Special Olympic Athletes and O'Fallon Police Officers will be selling Hot Dogs and Burgers at Sam's Club to raise money for Special Olympics Illinois!



When: **Saturday, May 21 & Sunday, May 22**
(10:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

Where: **Sam's Club 1350 W. Highway 50 O'Fallon, IL**

Hot Dog or Hamburger, Chips, & Drink – Only \$5.00!

Cash, Check, or Charge Accepted.



Special Olympics
Illinois

Let me win.
But if I cannot win,
let me be brave
in the attempt.

-Special Olympics athlete oath



Meet **Lucas**, our newest team member!

O'Fallon EMS will be deploying new life saving equipment on May 1. We have purchased and will begin training on an automatic external device to replace hands on CPR in some cases. This device is called the LUCAS and can quickly be deployed to deliver perfectly timed, uninterrupted chest compressions in the case of a cardiac arrest. The LUCAS does not suffer from fatigue the way human responders can, thus minimizing interruptions by avoiding changing compressors. High quality CPR is our highest priority on this type of call because it has been shown to be the most important intervention we can provide. Lucas will also free up his human co-workers to do other vital tasks like pushing medications and providing oxygenation for our sickest patients. Next month we will take you through a step-by-step guide to how we quickly deploy and utilize this life saving tool. Stay tuned!



EMS SuperMOMs



With mother's day right around the corner, O'Fallon EMS wants to highlight some employees that fill both the roles of mother and medic. Ladies, thank you for your service both on-duty and off!



Above: Paramedic Hefner with her daughter Elizabeth.

Above Right: Paramedic Kayla Hoese pulling double duty with twins Emerson and Avery

Right: Paramedic Mickey Wrigley and her daughters Charlie and Hannah.



Did you know??



~45,000

POPULATION SERVED



7 Min 32 Sec

AVG DISPATCH TO ARRIVAL



1100

TOTAL INCIDENTS
FOR 2021



28Min 29Sec

AVERAGE TIME ON SCENE



4

FIRE STATIONS



O'FALLON FIRE RESCUE

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