



TPD Monthly Community Newsletter

May 1, 2019



Topeka Police Motorcycle Unit has impressive showing at competition

In April, members of the Topeka Police Department's Motorcycle Unit competed in the 9th annual Police Motorcycle Challenge hosted by Gail's Harley Davidson.

The competition had riders from the Kansas City Metro area, Topeka and Hutchinson. TPD's officers placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th in several categories at the competition.



Competitions such as the Motorcycle Challenge allow officers to fine-tune their skills under pressure, which provides them invaluable training.



Volunteers in Police Service continue to make impact

The Topeka Police Department's Volunteers in Police Service program also known as the VIPS continues to make an impact in the Topeka community.

The mission of the VIPS is to serve the citizens of Topeka as a volunteer support service to the Topeka Police Department.

The VIPS enhance the effectiveness of community policing by supporting services when requested or required by the department.

During the month of April the VIPS assisted with the sixth annual Topeka Easter Parade and Family Fun Fair, the Patriot Flag Project at the Kansas State Capitol building as well as being present at the National Volunteer Week proclamation at Topeka's City Council meeting.

In 2018 the VIPS volunteered 2,765.71 hours in the Topeka community on behalf of TPD.

If you are interested in learning more information about the VIPS program, contact Maria Anderson at manderson@topeka.org.

Topeka Police accepting applications for summer camps

The Topeka Police Department and Topeka Public Schools Police will be hosting two Police Adventure Camps in June.

The first session will be held June 11 – 14 at Chase Middle School. The second session will be held June 25 – 28 at Robinson Middle School. The camps start at 8:30 a.m. and go until 3:00 p.m. each day.

The camps are open to incoming 6th and 7th graders. The camps are free to attend, but are limited to 30 people.

During the 2019 Police Adventure Camps, campers will spend the day with TPD and TPS officers covering topics such as traffic and internet safety, they will also see interactive presentations on various TPD and Topeka Fire Department Units. The week will conclude with a trip to Sky Zone Topeka located at West Ridge Mall.



The application can be filled out [here](#). Applications are due May 23.



Planning for National Night Out underway in Topeka

National Night Out 2019 will be held August 10 and more than 50 local neighborhoods have signed up to date.

National Night Out is an opportunity for the community and law enforcement to come together to form a powerful partnership in the fight for a safer, crime and drug-free community.

If you are interested in signing your neighborhood up, you can go to the National Night Out planning meeting May 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library located at 1515 SW 10th Ave. You can also email Judy Wilson at jwilson@safeststreets.org.

Topeka Police Department ID card initiative continues

In December 2018, the Topeka Police Department unveiled new identifications cards for individuals in the community needing a form of ID. This initiative had never been done in Kansas.

The purpose of the cards is to bridge the gap for the unsheltered or those who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford or have the proper documentation to apply for a state issued ID. The City of Topeka ID cards are free and available to anyone in need.

The City of Topeka ID cards can be used to apply for a job through Day Labor Services, apply for residency and more.

To apply for a City of Topeka ID card, you can come down to the Law Enforcement Center on Thursday's between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. and fill out an application. If you are unable to come during that time, you can email Sgt. Josh Klamm at jklamm@topeka.org.

176 City of Topeka ID cards have been issued to members of the community.

Topeka Police remind citizens of pedestrian and bicycle safety

A note from Topeka Police Lieutenant John Trimble

As the weather continues to get warmer, the Topeka Police Department is seeing more people outside walking, running and riding their bicycles in our beautiful city. I am Lieutenant John Trimble with the Topeka Police Department and I too enjoy biking throughout our city. While many of us like to take advantage of these opportunities to be outside, it is important to share with you some of the laws that are applicable to our pedestrians and bicyclists while in the city of Topeka.

- STO 63 states that pedestrians shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control device specifically applicable to them unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

- Another important part of the law is when traffic-control signals are not in place or not in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall yield to the right of way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian entering or crossing the roadway within a crosswalk. Simply stated, pedestrians have the right of way at crosswalks and traffic must yield to them.
- Where crosswalks are not available, pedestrians crossing the roadway are required to yield the right of way to all vehicles upon the roadway. Furthermore, between intersections where traffic control signals are in operation, pedestrians shall not cross the roadway at any place except in a marked crosswalk
- Lastly, pedestrians shall use sidewalks when they are available and practicable. If a sidewalk is not provided, pedestrians shall walk or run on the left side of the road towards oncoming traffic.

It is also important to remind the bicyclists of Topeka of the laws that pertain to them.

- Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle. In other words, bicyclists riding in the street are subject to the same rules of the road as vehicles.
- Bicyclists shall ride as close to the far right side of the roadway as practicable except when overtaking another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction, making a left hand turn, or when avoiding conditions in the roadway that would not be conducive for bicycle traffic. On certain roadways additional signs or markings may permit bicyclists to use special lanes or the full width of the lane of travel.
- The city of Topeka also recently approved the use of electric scooters on some city streets. Electric scooters are not permitted on any street with a speed limit of 35 mph or greater unless a marked bike lane has been designated for use. Riders of electric scooters must yield the right of way to pedestrians and give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.

It is also important to remind drivers that they should exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian, and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary, and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any obviously confused or incapacitated person. Please remember to stop your vehicle prior to entering a crosswalk when you have a stop light or stop sign. Look both ways prior to entering the crosswalk as pedestrian traffic can come from any direction. Be sure to give pedestrians, bicyclists and electric scooters three feet of space when overtaking them. You never know when a pedestrian or bicyclist will need some extra space because of something in the road.

Thank you for working to keep yourself and other safe on the roadways.

May Community Events/Meetings

- **May 1:** 11:45 a.m. - Safe Streets Coalition Meeting - Great Overland Station - 701 N Kansas Ave.
- **May 2:** 6:30 p.m. - East Topeka North NIA Meeting - Salvation Army - 1320 SE 6th St.
- **May 2:** 6:30 p.m. - Likins Foster NIA Meeting - Countryside Methodist Church - 3221 SW Burlingame Rd.
- **May 2:** 8:00 p.m. - Kansas Law Enforcement Memorial Candlelight Vigil - Kansas State Capitol building, first floor rotunda - SW 8th & SW Van Buren
- **May 3:** 12:00 p.m. - Kansas Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony - Kansas State Capitol building - SW 8th & SW Van Buren
- **May 6:** 6:30 p.m. - Highland Acres NIA Meeting - Highland Park High School - 2424 SE California Ave.
- **May 6:** 7:00 p.m. - North Topeka West NIA Meeting - Papan's Landing Senior Center - 621 NW Paramore St.
- **May 7:** 12:00 p.m. - North Topeka Business Alliance Meeting - Great Overland Station - 701 N Kansas Ave.
- **May 8:** 6:30 p.m. - Historic Old Town NIA Meeting - Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church - 725 SW Buchanan St
- **May 9:** 6:00 p.m. - Café con la Policía - Tacos El Sol - 2124 SE 6th Ave.
- **May 9:** 6:30 p.m. - East End NIA Meeting - Rice Community Center - 432 NE Norwood St.
- **May 9:** 6:30 p.m. - Chesney Park NIA Meeting - Red Cross - 17th & Lincoln, 1st Floor
- **May 11:** 9:00 a.m. - Community Pancake Feed - Avondale East - 455 SE Golf Park Blvd.
- **May 11:** 4:00 p.m. - CoreFirst Bank & Trust Country & Food Truck Festival - 9th and Kansas Ave.
- **May 13:** 6:00 p.m. - Quinton Heights-Steele NIA Meeting - Grace United Methodist Church - 2627 SW Western
- **May 13:** 6:00 p.m. - Historic North Topeka East NIA Meeting - Garfield Community Center -1600 N Quincy St.
- **May 13:** 6:30 p.m. - Central Highland Park NIA Meeting - Hillcrest Community Center - 1800 SE 21st St.
- **May 13:** 7:00 p.m. - NOTOMA Meeting - Garfield Community Center -1600 N Quincy St.
- **May 14:** 6:30 p.m. - Elmhurst NA Meeting - Topeka Shawnee County Public Library - 1515 SW 10th Ave.
- **May 14:** 6:30 p.m. - National Night Out 2019 Planning Meeting - Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, room 101BC - 1515 SW 10th Ave.
- **May 16:** 6:00 p.m. - Monroe NIA Meeting - Brown vs. Board - 1515 SE Monroe St.
- **May 16:** 6:30 p.m. - Central Highland Park NIA Meeting - Hillcrest Community Center - 1800 SE 21st St.
- **May 17:** 5:00 p.m. - Brown v. Board 65th Anniversary Celebration - Brown v. Board National Historic Site - 1424 SE Monroe St.
- **May 20:** 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Strengthening Police and Community Partnerships (SPCP) - District 4 Discussion - American Legion - 3800 SE Michigan Ave.
- **May 20:** 6:30 p.m. - Oakland NIA Meeting - Oakland Community Center - 801 NE Poplar St.
- **May 20:** 6:30 p.m. - Rolling Meadows NA - American Legion - 3800 SE Michigan Ave.
- **May 20:** 7:00 p.m. - College Hill NA Meeting - Westminster Presbyterian Church - 1275 SW Boswell Ave.
- **May 23:** 8:00 a.m. - Coffee with a Cop - McDonald's - 1100 S Kansas Ave.

- **May 23: 6:00 p.m.** - Hi-Crest NIA Meeting - Avondale East School - 455 SE Golf Park Blvd.
- **May 21: 9:30 a.m.** - Mayor and City Manager's Monthly New Conference - City Hall, third floor conference room - 215 SE 7th St.
- **May 28: 7:00 p.m.** - Crestview NA Meeting - Crestview United Methodist Church - 2245 SW Eveningside Dr.
- **May 30: 6:30 p.m.** - Ward Meade NIA Meeting - Westside Baptist Church - 1008 SW 4th St.

For a full list of community events visit [Topeka 365](#).



Downtown Community Police Officer

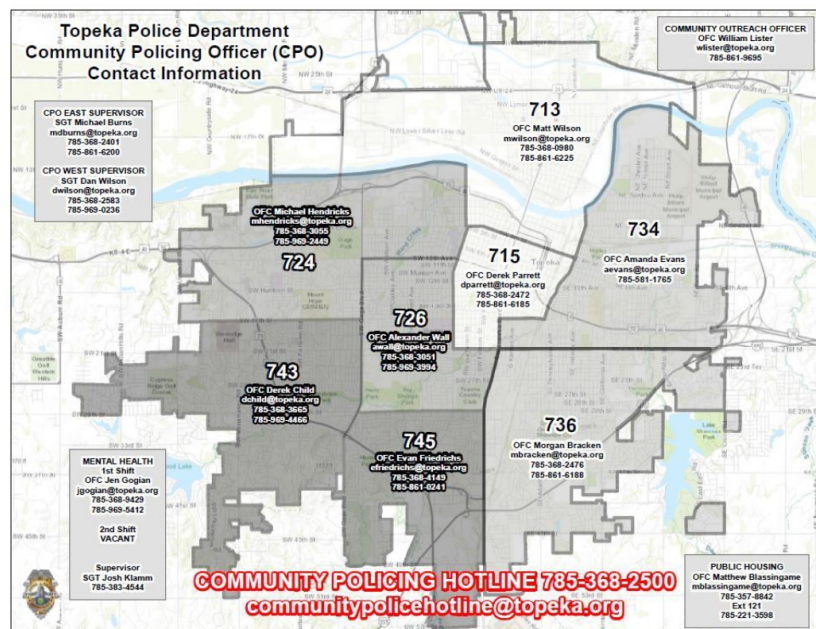
Officer Matt Wilson

The Downtown Community Police Officer focuses on working with residents and businesses in the Downtown Topeka and NOTO Arts District area to ensure safety and open lines of communication.

With recent economic development in these areas, the Topeka Police Department wants to ensure that it is done with safety in mind.

You can contact Officer Wilson with questions or concerns by email at mwilson@topeka.org. You can also call him at his office at (785) 368-0980 or on his cellphone at (785) 861-6225.

Find out who your Community Police Officer is



Important Numbers

Shawnee County Crime Stoppers/Gun Stoppers Tip Line: (785) 234-0007

Community Policing Hotline: (785) 368-2500

Topeka Police Department Non-Emergency Number: (785) 368-9551

