



TO: Norwalk Community
FROM: Greg Staples, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Annual Report – Calendar Year 2019

Executive Summary

2019 turned out to be a very successful year for the Norwalk Police Department. The City remained safe from major crime, the residents continued to support the police and we successfully hosted a RAGBRAI event that was completed with no incidents.

The year started off with a highly successful dodgeball tournament organized by Officer Spurr that raised approximately \$11,000 for Special Olympics Iowa. This community policing event set the stage for a variety of other new and continued initiatives that were completed during the year. Our 2nd annual citizen academy was held, we offered Rape Aggression Defense classes, held presentations for seniors educating them on preventing being the victims of scams and fraud. The presentations were held at our senior living centers. We also held the first of our “Gaming with the Good Guys” youth outreach sessions.

After a relatively crime free winter, in March and April several construction trailers were broken into / stolen and a truck was stolen from a convenience store parking lot. The stolen vehicle was later recovered.

Over the summer months, the department launched two new outreach initiatives, “Gaming with the Good Guys” and “Scams against Seniors”. The former involved officers and young teenagers playing old school Atari type video games at the public safety building and the later involved giving presentations to seniors at our senior living centers. Both initiatives were huge successes and plans are being made to continue the programs. Also during the summer, RAGBRAI came through town. Norwalk successfully hosted the lunch stop for the 10,000 riders participating in the event.

In the fall, during a three day period, 17 vehicles were broken into and one car was stolen. Officers were able to gather enough evidence to charge the perpetrators and we were able to recover many of the stolen items. A Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class was started in October. Officers Lewiston, Dunlop and Koestler were certified as instructors in the RAD course and held their first class. Also in October, Officer Jackson made an arrest on an individual with a very large amount of Methamphetamine. This arrest was for one of the largest amount of illegal narcotics in the history of the department.

We finished up the year with our 3rd annual Cops with Carts foodraiser. Over \$6,000 in cash and groceries were donated to the Norwalk Area Food Pantry as a result of the project.

This annual report is divided into several categories. Each area of discussion is designed to give you a brief snapshot of our work during the year. The report is organized as follows:

- Crime and Activity Statistics
- Annual Training
- Police Fleet Status
- Community Policing
- Professional Standards
- Personnel
- Out and About

Crime and Activity Statistics

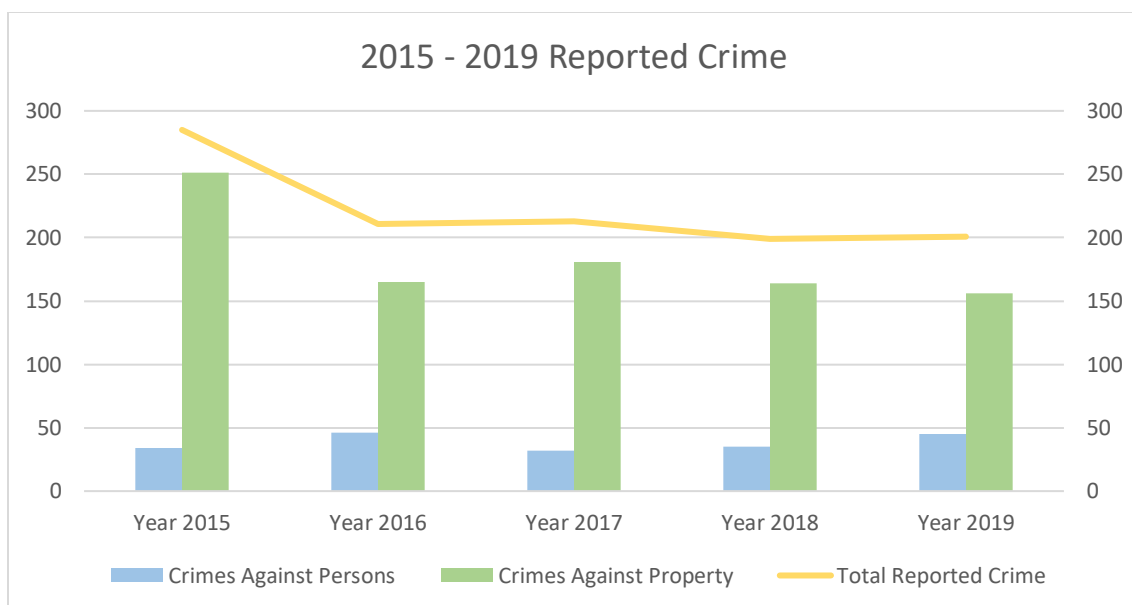
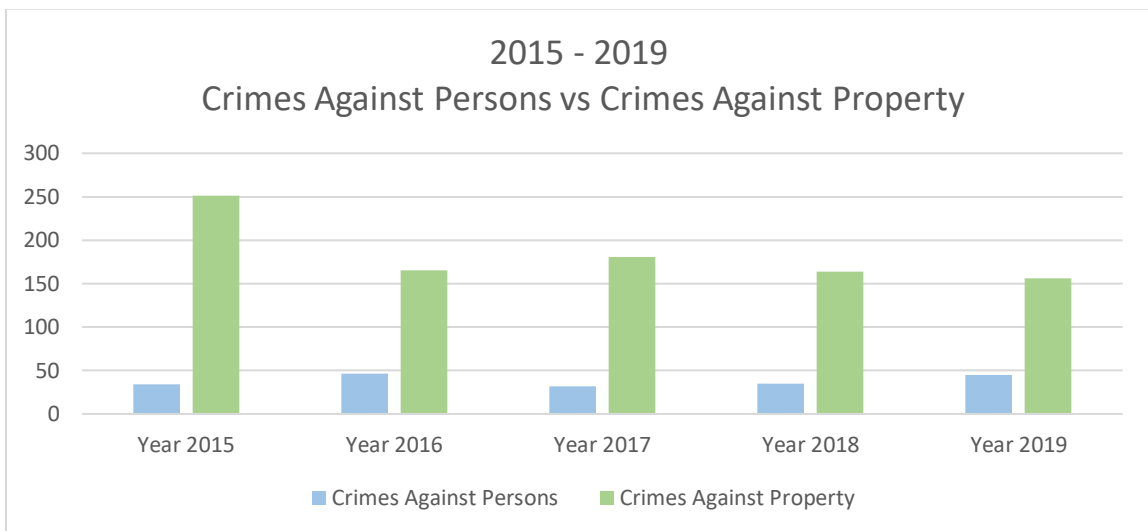
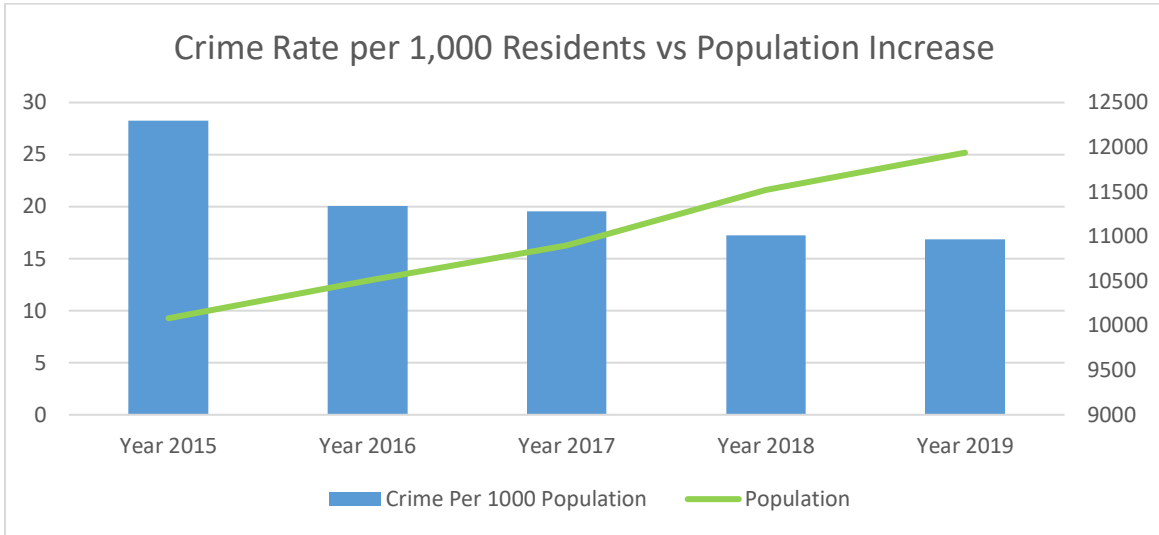
2019 saw a small increase of two reported crimes. There was an increase of 10 crimes against persons reported and a decrease of 8 crimes against property. It is interesting to note that even though the number of reported crimes increased slightly this year, the crime rate per resident went down. This is due to the increase in population. The population increased by 3.6%. The crime rate per 1,000 residents decreased 2.5%.

2019 Reported Crimes

Crimes Against Person	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Change
Assault Offenses	28	37	25	30	37	7
Sexual Assault Forcible	4	4	6	4	7	3
Sexual Assault Non-Forcible	0	1	0	1	0	-1
Robbery	2	4	1	0	1	1
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Subtotal</i>	34	46	32	35	45	10
Crimes Against Property	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Change
Burglary	36	21	18	23	15	-8
Fraud / Forgery / Embezzle	19	16	25	37	35	-2
Theft / Larceny	121	83	86	75	75	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	7	1	10	7	7	0
Property Damage	68	44	42	22	24	2
<i>Subtotal</i>	251	165	181	164	156	-8
Total	285	211	213	199	201	2

The change listed in the right hand column is the change between 2018 and 2019

The below chart is a visual representation of the increasing population and the decreasing rate of crime per resident.



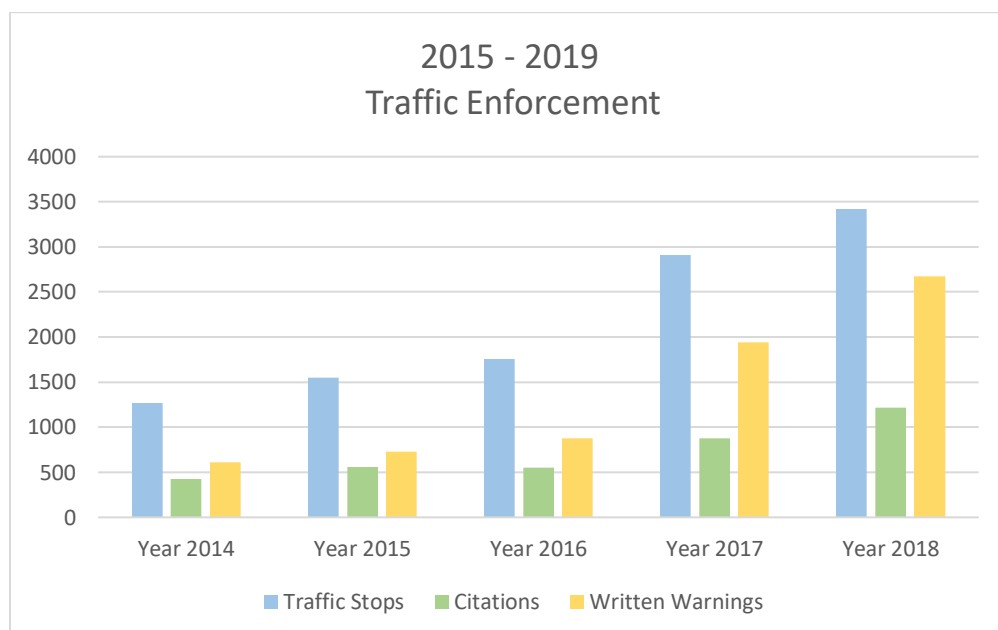
General Activities and Proactive Law Enforcement

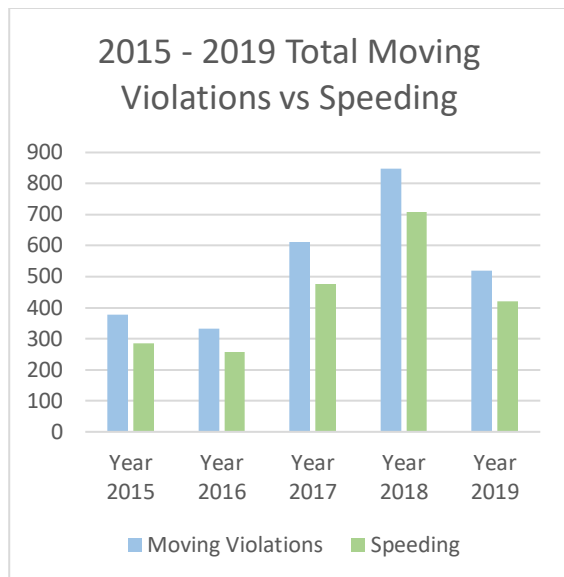
Calls for service in 2019 increase by 211 or 3.7%. Public service calls also increase by 50 or 4.7%. Traffic enforcement decreased significantly. This was due to many factors but mostly due to the unsustainable pace that the officers held in 2018. Officers also concentrated less on the volume of traffic stops and instead spent more time attempting to enforce major traffic violations. It is important to note that approximately 70% of traffic stops resulted in a written warning. Officers believe that in general, a written warning has the same deterrent effect on driving behavior as does a citation and therefore generally choose to issue a warning.

General Activities

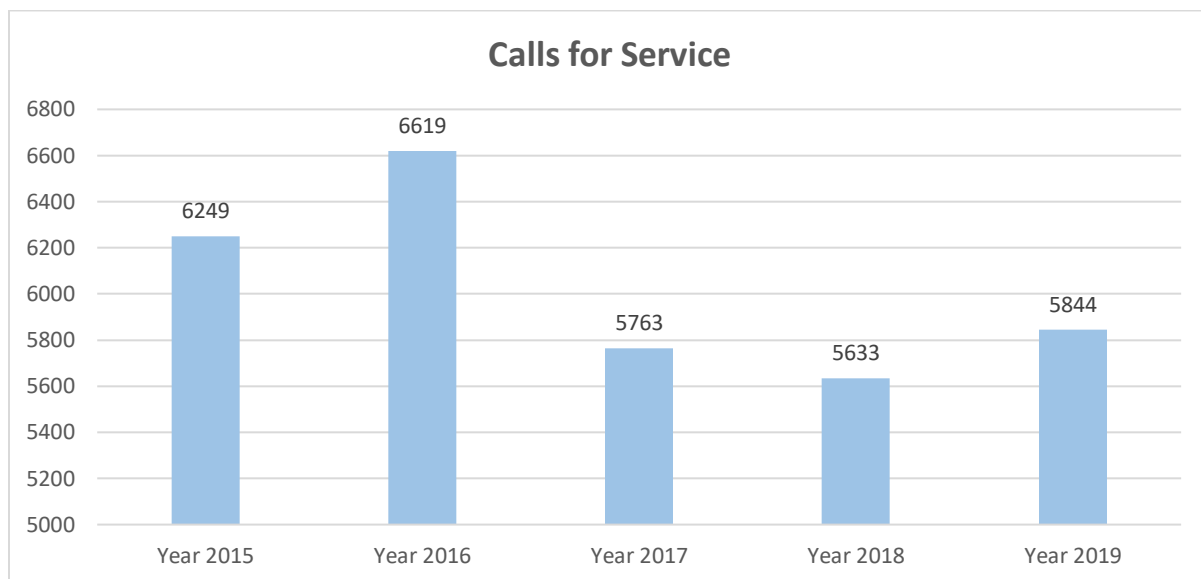
Traffic Related		2017	2018	2019	Change
Traffic Stops		2907	3421	2,153	-1,268
Moving Violations		611	848	520	-328
<i>Speeding</i>		477	709	421	-288
<i>Impaired Driving</i>		33	40	39	-1
Equipment / License Citations		268	365	191	-174
Occupant Protection		36	38	14	-24
Written Warnings		1938	2672	1571	-1,101
Crash Investigations		110	80	104	24
General Activities		2017	2018	2019	Change
Public Service Calls		653	1044	1094	50
Calls For Service		5763	5633	5844	211

The change listed in the right hand column is the change between 2018 and 2019





During the year, 80.1% of all moving violation citations were issued for speeding. This is consistent with previous years. Equipment violations include such things as registration and licensing issues as well as broken or malfunctioning equipment such as headlamps.



The increase in calls for service for this year was 3.7%. This is not unexpected due to the increasing population. Calls for service do not necessarily mean an increase in crime; merely just an increase in request for police service.

Annual Training

Training hours for the year totaled 1,512. The officers completed all State mandated training requirements. Several officers received selected individualized training. Our certified instructors assisted the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy with training help during several of the basic

police academies held during the year. This helps the academy by increasing the instructor to student ratio, it helps keep our instructors up to date on their topic of expertise and allows the Norwalk Police Department to help in the educational development of officers all across the state.

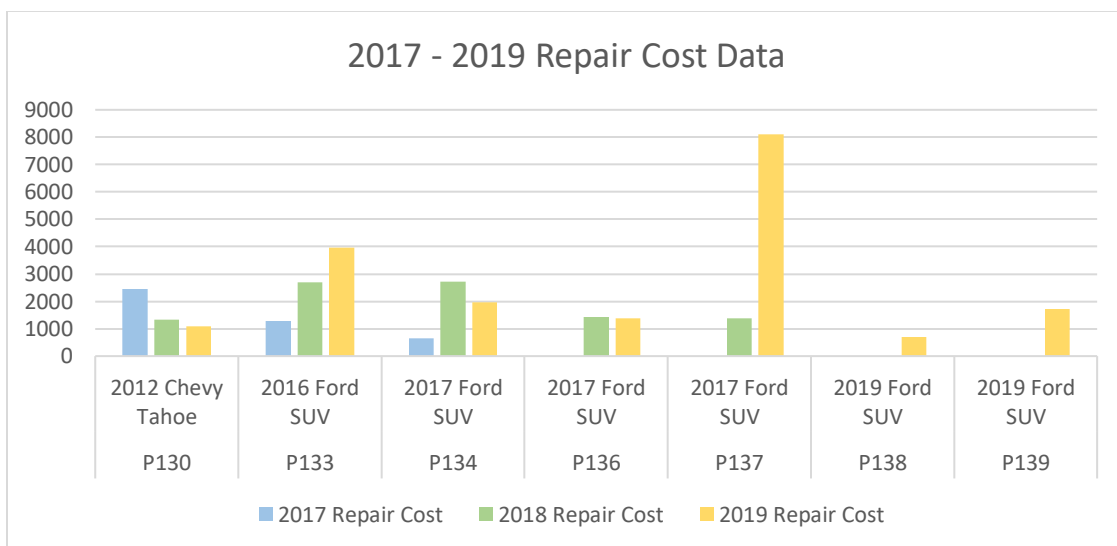
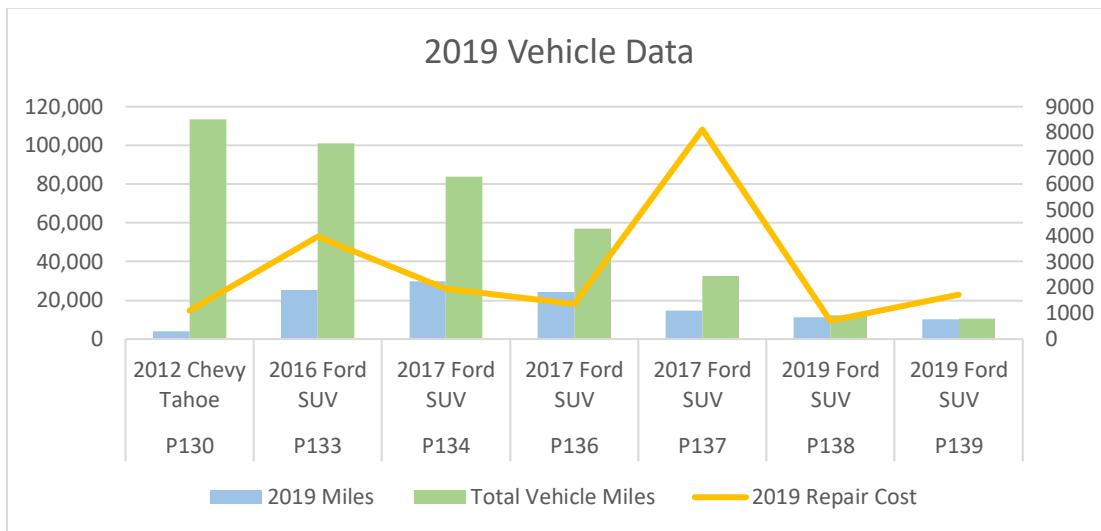
2019 Training

MONTH	TOPIC	OFFICERS
January Total Hours - 164 hours	On-Line Training- Iowa Police Law RAD Instructor School Behavior Threat Assessment Alco- Sensor FST Youth Mental Health First Aide ALICE Introduction for Instructors	All 17 officers Lewiston, Dunlop, Koestler Criswell, Lewiston Koestler Hutchinson, Reed Criswell
February Total Hours- 41 hours	On-Line Training- Human Trafficking Part 1 Mobile Device Analysis	All 17 officers Lewiston
March Total Hours - 55 hours	On-Line Training- Human Trafficking Part 2 Assist ILEA- Defensive tactics ALICE Active Threat Response Assist ILEA- Defensive Tactics Car Seat Technician Recertification	All 17 officers Lewiston Criswell Lewiston Hepperly, Lewiston
April Total Hours - 77 hours	On-Line Training- Iowa Police Law ASP Baton and ILEA Hostage Negotiation ASP Baton at ILEA Vehicle close quarters battle CPS Tech Update Car seat technician re-certification	All 17 officers Lewiston Parker Lewiston Frye Lewiston Lewiston, Hepperly
May Total Hours - 325 hours	On-Line Training- Dementia and disabilities Firearms Qualifications Advanced Road-Side Investigations- OWIs Phone Investigations Less Lethal munitions and Driver Training Sex Assault Investigations Less Lethal munitions and Driver Training	All 17 officers ½ of department Parker, Reed Lewiston ½ department Hepperly ½ department
June Total Hours - 25 hours	On-Line Training- Iowa Police Law TASER Instructor Re-cert	All 17 officers Lewiston
July Total Hours - 204 hours	On-Line Training- Legislative Update On-Line Training- AED operation On-Line Training- Autism Awareness ASP Instructor DARE Conference Firearm Qualifications Violent Risk Assessments	All 17 officers All 17 officers All 17 officers Koestler Dunlop ½ of department Westvold
August Total Hours - 65 hours	On-Line Training- Police Law Update Standard Field Sobriety Instructor School Assist ILEA with ASP Training Assist ILEA with ASP Training	All 17 officers Hepperly Lewiston, Koestler Lewiston, Koestler
September Total Hours- 53 hours	On-Line Training- Domestic Violence Investigations SPEAR Defensive Tactics	All 17 officers Lewiston
October Total Hours - 123 hours	On-Line Training- Domestic Violence Investigation Fall Firearm Qualifications Driver Instructor Recertification ASP Instructor recertification	All 17 officers ½ of department Spurr Lewiston
November Total Hours - 189 hours	On-Line Training- Domestic Violence Investigation Assisted with Driver Training ILEA Recertified as a firearms instructor Firearms qualification ASP, Taser and Defensive Tactics Assisted ILEA with Impaired Driving School Assisted ILEA with ASP training	All 17 officers Spurr Frye ½ of department ½ of department Hepperly Lewiston, Koestler
December Total Hours - 191 hours	On-Line training- Iowa Police Law ASP, Taser, Defensive Tactics Assist ILEA on ASP Training Cellbrite Training/ Certification	All 17 officers ½ of department Lewiston, Koestler Hepperly

Police Fleet Status

The police vehicle fleet contains seven marked patrol vehicles and two unmarked command/investigative vehicles. The marked vehicles were driven 131,148 miles during the year. This is a 3.2% decrease. Two Chevrolet Caprice patrol sedans were decommissioned and replaced with 2019 Ford Interceptor SUVs. The high cost associated with repairs to P137 was due to it being involved in a crash.

Shop	Year and Make	2019 Miles	Total Vehicle Miles	2019 Repair Cost
P130	2012 Chevy Tahoe	4,136	113,363	1096
P133	2016 Ford SUV	25,329	101,187	3968
P134	2017 Ford SUV	29,922	83,954	1964
P136	2017 Ford SUV	24,213	56,973	1371
P137	2017 Ford SUV	14,667	32,464	8113
P138	2019 Ford SUV	11,162	12,177	710
P139	2019 Ford SUV	10,133	10,383	1714



Community Policing

Community policing continues to be a large component of our day to day activities. During the year we continued to interact with the community in effort to give back and to build trust and partnerships. There were 308 staff person visits at 147 events. Our regular on-going projects continued such as:

- Lunch in the Park
- Family Fun Night
- Beggars Night Community patrols
- Lunch with the Chief
- NPD Reads
- Special Olympics Dodgeball
- DARE – Classes, Fun day, Picnic and Golf Outing

Our annual major event, Cops With Carts was held again. This is a fundraiser that raises funds and food for the local food pantry. Over eight police cars were filled with food and delivered to the pantry. This food will help feed a growing population of food insecure families.

Cops With Carts 2019



In addition to the events already listed, the department started new programs. We held our first Rape Aggression Defense class, held Scams Against Seniors presentations, and started a new event called Gaming with the Good Guys. This new event involved old school Atari type gaming at the police station with several young adults. Healthy competition and conversation were the result with fun had by all.



Several officers also participated in a No Shave Winter project to raise money for a local charity. Officers paid for the right to either color their hair in extreme colors or grow a beard. All funds raised were given to Whiskers TNR of Warren County. This organization helped the city remove a large feral cat population that was causing trouble for the residents of the area where the cats lived. The Whiskers for Whiskers project raised approximately \$1,500.

The Whiskers 4 Whiskers Crew. Chief Staples and Sergeant Martin with Officers Criswell, Dunlop, Koestler and Haller



Our most impactful Community Policing event is the Front Porch Norwalk Project. This program encourages neighbors to gather together in their driveways / front porches to talk and connect. Neighbors knowing neighbors is a key component of healthy, safe and crime free neighborhoods. There were three front porch nights this year with multiple event locations on each night. Each night was a great success.

Professional Standards

The department received no formal complaints involving officer conduct during the year.

Personnel

Personnel adjustments for the year were as follows:

- In January Officer Perez resigned from the department
- In April Officer Haller was hired
- In December Officer Jared Slagle was hired
- In December Officer Jared Alcorn was hired

Out and About

Officer Hutchinson at our Drug Take Back



Chief Staples at Lunch with the Chief



Officer Lewiston, Chief Staples with Mayor Phillips at Bike Safety Day



Officer Lewiston at the Des Moines Police Week Event



Officers Lewiston and Hepperly at the Junior Police Academy



The whole crew getting ready for the July 4th Parade



Officers Lewiston and Hepperly at the Loffredo Employee Day



Officer Hutchinson with some scary costumed residents



Officers Palmer and Reed on Beggars Night



Officer Palmer with some fans

