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Wilmington PD continues truck enforcement efforts

BY MARNEY SIMON
EDITOR

The crackdown on truck traffic where it doesn't belong in Wilmington continues to get results.

On June 13, Police Chief Adam Zink reported to the members of the Committee of the Whole that the department is currently short staffed with three people out on medical leave. However, officers are still getting the job done.

"Our guys are still doing a good job keeping up with the workload," Zink said. "Our statistics are still in line with what they've been. Notable, the truck enforcement, nearly \$17,000 worth of fines last month, they're still

doing a great job out there." The chief said a total of 20 trucks were weighed based on a suspicion of being overweight and fined accordingly.

To go along with those enforcement efforts, the department purchased new scales in May, and are now on the lookout for more equipment to assist.

"We're looking to get a customized box installed into one of the squad cars to hold the scales, so they can take them from place to place," Zink said.

Zink said a custom fabricated storage rack to hold those portable truck scales will be paid for as part of the WPD's 2023 grant award from the

Illinois Department of Transportation.

The rack will be mounted in the truck-enforcement squad car, to allow the safe storage and easy access to the scales by those officers assigned to enforce overweight trucks.

The rack will be customized and installed by Holoohan Heating and Sheet Metal, at a cost of \$3,000, below the original budget of \$5,000 and thus allowing extra funds for other areas of need.

Zink also reported the following activity for members of the WPD for the month of May:

- 13 Pedestrian/suspicious person stops

- 114 Business checks
- 6,603 Premise Checks
- Two misdemeanor and/or warrant arrests

- Two felony arrests
- 76 written traffic citations
- 89 written traffic warnings
- Six compliance/parking (local ordinance) tickets

Zink's report added that officers with the WPD also handled an additional 405 calls for service and wrote 39 related reports.

The department's investigations division closed six cases, and has one case waiting for review by the Will County State's Attorney's office.

Investigations also added five new cases, including assault with

weapon, motor vehicle theft, and fraud

Officers with the WPD also engaged in firearms training, drone certifications, and online training in the month of May, and participated in the Cop-on-a-Rooftop event at Dunkin in Diamond with the Braidwood Police Department, raising more than \$7,500 in donations for Special Olympics Illinois.

Zink also reported that the city's code enforcement officer processed 15 new work orders in May, including property maintenance complaints, tall grass complaints, and a call regarding feral cats.

Classic cars for a good cause



CARS WITH CHARACTER - This 1946 Dodge pickup - Rat was an eye catcher Saturday at Winchester Green Shopping Center where the Rusty Nutz car club held a car show to benefit Kuzma Car Cottage. More than 80 vehicles were on display from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. vying to one of 10 trophies. May of the cars had character including a couple with unique "poisin ivy" ad "Just a dream" pin striping.



Wilmington teen killed in Lorenzo Road accident

STAFF REPORT

A tragic accident has taken the life of a Wilmington teenager.

The Will County Coroner's Office reported over the weekend that Chloe McCully, 17, of Wilmington, was killed in an automobile accident on Saturday, June 17.

According to the report, McCully was pronounced deceased at 7:57 p.m. on Saturday on Lorenzo Road approximately 550 feet west of Cooper Road in Wilmington Township.

McCully was the driver of a vehicle that was traveling westbound on Lorenzo Road when the car left the roadway, rolled over, and struck a fixed object.

Two other occupants in the vehicle did not sustain life-threatening injuries.

The preliminary cause of death is listed as multiple injuries due to a motor vehicle mishap.

The Will County Sheriff's Police Department is investigating the incident.

Officials with the Wilmington School District offered their condolences in a message sent to families, and



CHLOE MCCULLY

added that counseling is available at the high school from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. June 21 and June 22 (today and tomorrow) for any students who may need some help in processing this tragedy.

Referrals for ongoing local counseling will also be available.

Services for McCully will be held today (Wednesday) at Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington from 4 to 7 p.m., and again on Thursday, June 22, from 10 a.m. The full obituary can be found on page 8 of this edition.

Truck stop looks to annex to Wilmington

BY MARNEY SIMON
EDITOR

The property owners of a gas station and truck stop along Lorenzo Road are looking to incorporate that site into the city's limits.

On June 13, the members of the City Council Committee of the Whole heard some preliminary plans about annexing the Mohsen gas station within the city limits. The site, which is owned by Mohsen and Susana Arabshahi, holds a gas station and truck stop, hotel, and restaurant, though the hotel and restaurant are currently closed.

The Mohsen property sits on 8.55 acres on Lorenzo Road and the Frontage Road.

Moshen, Inc. is an independent gas and trucking company based out of California, and has owned the property since 2018.

City leaders said the change has been prompted in part by plans to construct a new interchange at Lorenzo Road and Illinois Route 129 at I-55.

"It kind of ties into the long term IDOT plan. They will be losing access as they know it," Mayor Ben Dietz said.

SEE TRUCK STOP, PAGE 2



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