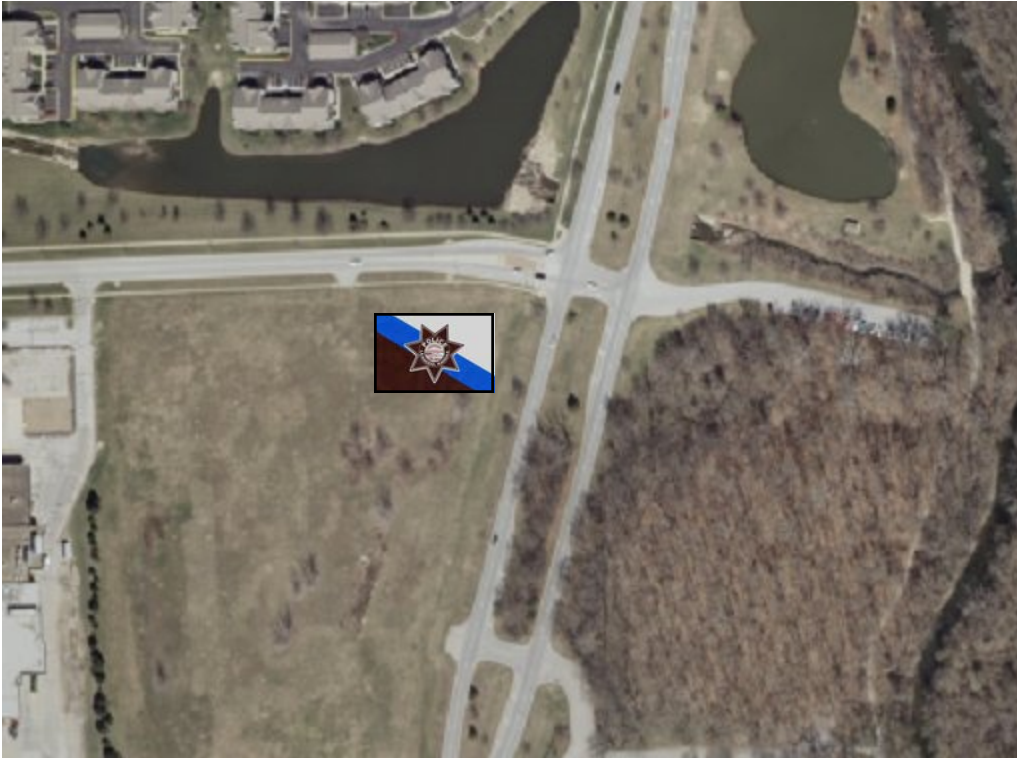




Leawood Police

2010 Annual Report



New address — the southwest corner of 117th and Tomahawk Creek Parkway (left, courtesy of Johnson County AIMS) will soon be home to the new Leawood Justice Center. The center will house the police department as well as the municipal court, city attorney and Information Technology departments.

Work progresses on PD's new home

It's been a long time coming, but the Leawood Police Department is going to get a new home.

"I can remember the possibility of a new police building being discussed at the department when I started with Leawood nearly 18 years ago," Major Troy Rettig said. "Now that we know it is coming and are realizing what a great facility it is going to be, the anticipation seems to grow every day. I am sure this will only increase as construction begins later this year (2011)."

Since March of 2006, plans for a new Leawood Justice Center have been underway, beginning with the passing of Resolution No. 2552. This authorized the City of Leawood to purchase land on the southwest corner of 117th Street and Tomahawk Creek Parkway. In addition to the Police Department, the Justice Center will also house the Municipal Court, City Attorney's staff and Information Technology staff.

Yet, in a sense, the building will also belong to the community as a whole.

"This is a facility that will not only benefit the Police Department, but it will also benefit the community," said Chief John Meier of the plans for the new facility. "Our intent is to make as much of the building open and accessible to civic and community groups as we possibly can."

The Police Department has been in its current facility since 1990, when other city department's moved out and the building was remodeled for just the Police Department and Court. At the time the department had 49

See **New Home** on back page

From the Chief



John M. Meier
Chief of Police

In evaluating how successful you are as a police department, one of the most significant factors to know is how safe do the members of the community feel. Based upon conversations I have had with citizens and in reviewing survey results, I think we are doing fairly well in this important category. On a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest level of safety, 89.9% of respondents to our community survey answered 4 or 5. The good news is 89% of our respondents feel safe; the bad news is 11% don't feel the same level of safety. It is our goal that all people who live or work in Leawood feel safe while they are here.

One of the reasons that we as a department have achieved some level of success in making people feel safe is the cooperation we receive from the community. Unlike some communities, the citizens of Leawood are willing to get involved and to call the police when they see something that doesn't seem right. On five separate occasions this past year, we were able to arrest individuals burglarizing homes or businesses because citizens recognized something unusual and then called the police. Without their willingness to become involved these crimes would have occurred and it's possible that those involved would not have been caught. Making our community safe is all of our responsibilities and the Police Department is thankful for those of you who are willing to watch out for your neighbors. With the commitment of the Police Department and your assistance, maybe next year we can be closer to helping everyone feel safe in Leawood.

Two Win Valor Awards

For their efforts in stopping the sexual assault of a 92-year-old woman and arresting her attacker despite a physical assault, Leawood Police Officers Nick Rothwell and Greg Turney were recognized with the Silver Award for Valor by the Metropolitan Chiefs and Sheriffs Association at their annual awards ceremony on November 19, 2010. The Chiefs and Sheriff's' Silver Award "recognizes a person who has performed a dangerous and distinguished act that conspicuously exceeds the performance that is normally expected."

Just after midnight on June 30th, officers were dispatched to a residence north of I-435 on an unknown call for the police. Communications Officers said they'd received a 9-1-1 call from the address and could hear a woman yelling for help before the line went dead. Rothwell arrived less than a minute later and recognized a vehicle parked outside the address as one involved in an attempted commercial burglary in Lenexa earlier in the night. Turney joined Rothwell moments later and the two approached the house, Turney walking towards the back of the house while Rothwell went toward the front door.

Looking through a darkened rear window with his flashlight, Turney saw a sexual assault in progress and startled the suspect, who fled toward the front of the house. Alerted by Turney's radio broadcast, Rothwell kicked open the front door only to immediately be punched in the head by the fleeing suspect. Shaking off the blow, Rothwell tackled the resistant subject in the front yard. Despite attempts by the suspect to claw his way free or get his weapon, Rothwell pinned the suspect on the ground. Turney forced his way into the home and, after pausing to assure the victim, ran out the front and helped Rothwell handcuff the resisting suspect.

It was later determined that the suspect had committed multiple burglaries while driving a stolen vehicle as well as the attempted business burglary. Once in Leawood, he rang the victim's doorbell repeatedly until she answered. He then forced the door open and stole money from her purse before sexually assaulting her.

"This violent act could have been much worse if not for the quick response and actions taken by Nick Rothwell and Greg Turney," said Leawood Deputy Chief Troy Rettig. "It also ensured this very active suspect was immediately taken into custody."

Rothwell, Klaassen Chosen by Peers

Officer Nick Rothwell and Communications Officer Tim Klaassen were chosen from nominations by their peers as the 2010 Officer and Civilian Employee of the Year. The awards were announced at the department's annual awards dinner on Nov. 13, 2010.

In nominating Officer Rothwell for the award, one of his supervisors said of the 15-year veteran, "Although he has been in law enforcement long enough to be given the title of veteran, he has shown no signs of losing his enthusiasm for the job. (Nick) approaches each shift as an opportunity to accomplish something meaningful."

Just three months after returning to the Patrol Division from a three-year tour in Investigations, Officer Rothwell responded to an unknown call for the police. At the scene it was determined that officers were interrupting a sexual assault and Rothwell was struck by the fleeing suspect as he forced entry into the home. Despite the unexpected blow to the face, Rothwell fought back and was able to restrain the suspect. For this response both officers were honored with Awards for Valor by the Metro Chiefs and Sheriffs Association.

In addition to his patrol duties, Rothwell also serves the department as a Defensive Tactics instructor, Police Training Officer for new recruits and is an Evidence Technician. He joined the department in 2001 after serving nearly six years with the Paola, KS, Police Department.

Klaassen, who celebrated his 10th anniversary with the department this year, was singled out for the manner he conducts himself daily as well as a project he undertook this year. Tim single-handedly contacted every business in the city to update the business' emergency contact information and let them know of the services available to them from the police department.

"Day to day, Tim lends a calm voice to the radio, even in the most tense situations. He is often able to provide answers to officers before they have even made a request of dispatch," read one nomination for the award. "While some may have been discouraged by the sheer enormity of this task (contacting the businesses), Tim set off each day with a positive attitude."

During the evening Officer Joe Peeples was recognized as the department's Top Gun for achieving the best score on a firearms course of fire involving all of the standard patrol weapons. Officers Jesse Ryman, Paul Day, Rod Laubenstein, Matt Losee and Ron Hulsey were recognized for earning the department's Lifesaving Awards during the past year.



Nick Rothwell



Tim Klaassen

Leawood Officers spearhead new fund raiser

After hearing about the Super Cops events of the 1980's, Leawood Police Officers Kevin Cauley and Shawn Farris decided to revive the concept as a fund raiser for Special Olympics. The Leawood Police Department and other area law enforcement agencies have been strong supporters of Special Olympics through the annual Torch Run, but many agencies in recent years have also participated in the Polar Plunge, Tip A Cop and other fund raising events.

On August 7th, 85 officers and civilian employees from around the area gathered at the Olathe District Athletic Complex to compete in a variety of individual and team athletic events: 100 yard dash, 1 mile run, 4 x 100 relay, weight lifting (bench press), tug-of-war, softball toss, CrossFit (a test of their endurance) and an obstacle course. In addition to raising funds for Special Olympics, several area Special Olympians were excited to come out and present medals to the winners. The participants raised more than \$2,000 in this inaugural event.

Overall in 2010, 40 Leawood Police employees participated in the department's various fund raising activities and brought in almost \$14,000 for Special Olympics.

Leawood Police 2010 Annual Report



What we do each day:

In 2010, Leawood officers handled 35,797 calls including:

- 19,313 traffic stops
- 1,678 total arrests
- 891 911 calls
- 1,135 warrant arrests
- 637 medical calls
- 551 crashes (0 fatal)
- 425 thefts
 - * including 49 id thefts
- 363 pedestrian checks
- 230 DUI arrests (2009)
 - * 13 drug tests
 - * 6 blood tests for alcohol
- 203 disturbances
- 92 civil matter calls
- 128 solicitor complaints
- 114 drug arrests
- 99 assault/battery calls
- 66 vandalism calls
- 68 fireworks complaints
- 70 burglary calls
- 12 minors with alcohol
- 24 auto thefts
- 10 weapons violations
- 8 criminal threats
- 4 rapes
- 3 furnishing alcohol to a minor
- 1 robbery
- 0 homicides
- 0 arsons

Officers completed...

- 3,715 reports (down from 3,954)
- 11,167 tickets (up from 9,965)
- 205 car seat checks

The top citations in '10

Speeding* (all versions)	5,933
*Average of 15.49 mph over the posted limit	
No proof of insurance	1,705
Expired or no license tag	1,586
Fail to wear Seat Belts	1,324
Driving while suspended	531
Fail to maintain lane	286
Switched license plates	230
DUI*	222
Driving with expired DL	156
Fail to stop at a stop sign	149
Fail to stop @ steady red	142
Driving without a license	138
Illegal turns (right, left, u)	129
Unsafe turning or stopping	118
Refuse Prelim. Breath Test	110
Illegal tinted windows	109
No DL in possession	100
Inattentive driving	96
Altered/dirty license plate	72

* some DUIs filed in District Court

Police K9

During 2010, Leawood K9s Rocco and Duke completed 145 deployments (including 52 for other agencies). Among the specific things they did were:

- 88 vehicle searches
- 18 tracks or area searches
- 15 public demonstrations
- 3 building searches
- 3 article or evidence searches
- 3 school searches

The two canines uncovered 232.4 grams of marijuana, 3 grams of heroin, 1 gram of methamphetamine, 89 pieces of drug paraphernalia and \$740 in currency. The dogs assisted in the arrest of 21 felons and 45 others on misdemeanor charges, including four suspects who surrendered when advised that a K9 was on scene.

How are we doing? www.leawood.org/police/citizensurvey.aspx

Answering the call

The department's Communication Specialists in 2010:

- answered 84,188 phone calls, a 66 percent increase from a year ago;
- of these, 11,414 were 9-1-1 calls, including 6,488 from mobile phones and 2,738 from residences;
- dispatched 12,676 assignments
- handled 20,986 self-initiated incidents.

23 valid alarms

The City of Leawood had 4,595 registered alarms in 2010. From these systems, Leawood emergency personnel were sent to investigate 1,978 alarms. Of the 1,416 alarms that were not canceled, 872 were residential alarms, 423 business burglary/security alarms, 101 were panic or hold-up alarms and 20 were external audible alarms. The Fire and Police Departments combined responded to 159 fire and 20 medical alarm calls. Only 23 of the alarms received were valid, a rate of 1.62 percent which is a slight increase over last year. The most frequent causes for false alarms that could be determined by responding officers were accidental activations by a user (348) or a door left ajar (145). Finally, 13 False Alarm Prevention/Alarm School programs were presented to 104 attendees last year.

Damron named "Everyday Hero"

Communications Officer Greg Damron was one of three individuals in the Kansas City Metro area named an "Everyday Hero" by the Mid America Regional Council (MARC) on April 16th. Damron was recognized for his exceptional work during the past year, not only in Leawood but also the assistance he provided to other departments in the area. The award came during National Telecommunicator Appreciation Week, held April 11-17, 2010.



D.A.R.E.[®]

**Educating
the
Community**

Working in the schools and within the community, the police department's three DARE/Crime Prevention officers presented:

- 549 DARE lessons
- 325 other school presentations
- 87 community education programs
- 44 Internet safety/Cyber-bullying classes
- 25 residential security surveys
- 15 self defense seminars
- 14 station tours
- 9 bike safety sessions

Policing the Animals

In 2010, Leawood Animal Control Officers handled:

- 1,568 calls for assistance
- 250 general animal reports

The 3-member unit dealt with:

- 311 loose animals
- 193 deceased animals picked up
- 177 impounds, of which 87 or 49% were reclaimed
- 126 injured animals
- 86 wildlife complaints
- 74 dog complaints
- 21 cat complaints
- 19 complaints of neglect
- 13 dog bite reports
- tranquilized 8 animals

Department looking forward to new home

members: 36 officers and 13 civilians. Since then we've nearly doubled to a staff of 84: 61 officers and 23 civilians.

"When this was remodeled, we were already nearly maxed out," said Sgt. Tayne Smith, one of 12 current employees who moved into the "new" station. "The idea was soon we'd get a new police station after they built City Hall."

Financing for the new facility was begun in November of 2006 when the City Council passed an ordinance for a 0.4% sales tax. Over a period of five years, April 1, 2007 through March 31, 2012, the revenue from this tax was designated to provide funding for the construction of the new Justice Center. Other revenue from a county law enforcement program was also set aside with the idea that the building would be paid off when the doors opened.

Plans really took flight in 2010 when Hofer Wysocki Architects (HWA) was chosen through a bid process to develop a site plan for land. HWA was subsequently selected in November of 2010 to design the building itself. In the last few months of 2010, a department committee toured various police departments and emergency operation centers to obtain ideas for the new Justice Center. With a proposed ground-breaking in the fall of 2011 and an estimated move-in date in 2013, excitement and anticipation abounds. It has definitely been a long time coming.

In Recognition

Retirements

**Police Officer
Gary Polter**



Promotions

**PSO to
Police Officer
Christina
Farquhar**



New to the Staff

**Police Officer
Mark Teerink**



**Animal Control
Officer
Carla Lewis**



Anniversaries

30 years: Tayne Smith

**20 years: John Dickey
Randy Wiler**

**10 years: Eric Gould
Lee Graves
Tim Klaassen
Jake McGuire
Troy Osborn**

Top crash locations

- I-435 corridor — 37
- 103rd & State Line — 12
- 135th & State Line — 10
- 133rd & State Line — 8
- College & State Line — 7
- 135th & Mission — 5
- 135th & Roe Ave. — 4

Educating motorists

The Traffic Management Unit, which includes the police motorcycle unit and traffic safety officers, worked diligently to educate the public and enforce traffic laws, particularly in complaint areas. During the last year, the Traffic Unit's six members issued 6,040 citations (48% of the department's total); deployed the radar trailer or stealth speed detection device in 27 complaint locations; and helped investigate many of the 551 crashes that took place.