

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Provided by: Tucker Crime Prevention Unit of the DeKalb Police Department

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## **COMMISSIONER JOHNSON'S SURVEY**

Commissioner Larry Johnson has put together a survey asking citizens how many additional police officers they think are needed in DeKalb County. If you or your residents are interested in sharing your input in this matter, please visit the DeKalb County website @ <http://www.co.dekalb.ga.us> and click on Commissioner Larry Johnson's name. Your input will assist the Commissioners in making crucial decisions regarding the amount of additional police officers that you feel need to be hired. NOTE: Chief Bolton's Action Plan asked the County Commissioners to approve funding for 800 additional officers to be added over the next 4 years; 200 officers to be added each year, which will bring the department up to the level of manpower necessary to adequately service the population of DeKalb County. Additional pay incentives to attract highly qualified applicants are another part of Chief Bolton's Action Plan. If you know someone who is interested in becoming a police officer, hiring information can be found at the precinct—4451 Lawrenceville Highway, Tucker, Ga. 30084.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT CHANGES**

As most of you are aware by now, many new changes have taken place recently within the police department. Police Headquarters has relocated from the Bobby Burgess Building on Memorial Dr. to the former Bell South buildings located at 1950 and 1960 West Exchange Place, Tucker, Ga. 30084. Fire Services are the primary occupants of the 1950 building, but some police related departments (Code Enforcement is one) are located in this building too. Police Services are located in the 1960 building. This, of course, means that there are all new telephone numbers for all of us to obtain. The county has installed a new, state of the art Communications (911) Center and Tucker Precinct has a new Acting Precinct Commander, Captain Thomas Lane.

## **INTERACTIVE COMMUNITY POLICING**

A new unit, Interactive Community Policing (ICP), is projected to be initiated in January, 2008. This unit will consist of 10 officers per precinct and will provide more direct contact between law enforcement and the public.

### **311**

This non emergency number is still in pilot project status. At this time, it is not programmed to accept non-emergency police calls.

## **NEW PRECINCT BOUNDARIES**

New precinct boundaries went into effect on July 16<sup>th</sup>. If your community is new to Tucker Precinct, we welcome you. It will take a little time to gain the familiarity that we have with the territories that have remained with us, but we are getting more familiar with your communities each day. Some of you have expressed to me your concerns regarding police response times because of the distance between the precinct and your communities. Police officers are not dispatched from the precinct building. They receive their calls in their police units, so they already in the areas where your communities are located.

## **HOLIDAY SEASON**

The holiday season is quickly approaching. Most police departments, nationwide, experience a spike in burglary activity during this period. This is a good time to review your security measures and to upgrade them if necessary. If you have some concerns regarding your home security measures, call me to schedule an on-site Home Security Survey @ 6.937.5339. Also, if you see suspicious persons in your community, call 911. Provide good identifiers so that the police can question persons that fit your description. Police have to have a reason to stop someone and question them, and by your action, you have provided the reason.

## **ANNUAL P.R.I.S.M. HOLIDAY POLICE LUNCHEON**

P.R.I.S.M. and Ga. Perimeter College have co-sponsored an annual Holiday Police Luncheon for the past 8 years. It is a large undertaking as they provide food and door prizes to 2 DeKalb Police Precincts, Clarkston, Stone Mountain, and Pine Lake Police Departments, Ga. Perimeter College Security personnel, and six fire stations. They are asking for donations from you or your community to support this effort. I am enclosing a letter (attachment) from Betty Efird which provides more details about this event. All donations are greatly appreciated, but do not feel that there is any obligation to make a donation.

**LAST MINUTE NEWS:** A Teen Violence Community Forum presented by DeKalb's Homeland Security is scheduled for: Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00P @ Antioch AME Church, 765 South Hairston Rd. SM 30088. For additional information contact State Representative Michele Henson @ 4.296.1442 or [michelehenson@earthlink.net](mailto:michelehenson@earthlink.net)

*Sharen Dorcon*

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November 14, 2007



**PRIDE RINGS IN STONE MOUNTAIN**

**POB 2478, Stone Mountain, GA. 30086**

October, 2007

Dear Neighborhood Watch Communities:

It is time to plan the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Police Appreciation Luncheon, which is co-sponsored by PRISM and Georgia Perimeter College. The luncheon provides food and door prizes for the Center and Tucker Precincts within the DeKalb Police Department, the Clarkston, Pine Lake, Stone Mountain Police Departments, Georgia Perimeter College Security Staff, and six fire stations.

The luncheon will be held at Georgia Perimeter College on Friday, December 14th. If you would like to make a *donation*, your Neighborhood Watch community will be listed in the program given to all attendees, if received by December 8<sup>th</sup>. Early donations will help to determine how generous we can be with our public safety personnel.

Your contribution will help purchase food for the buffet lunch and door prizes for restaurants, department and home improvement stores, and supermarkets. As always, we will prepare baskets and donate gift certificates for six fire stations in the Stone Mountain and Tucker areas.

The police officers and firefighters are so grateful for this special show of appreciation that we want to continue this event. We can do it with your help. **Checks should be made payable to PRISM and designated “for PL” (this will cover both police and firefighters,) and mailed to the letterhead address. Please also show “PL” on the envelope.**

You have an opportunity to say “thank you” in a special way by helping with this event. We hope you will do so.

If you have questions, please call me at the number below or email me at [befird@bellsouth.net](mailto:befird@bellsouth.net).

Thank you in advance for your donation.

Sincerely,

*Betty Efird*

Betty Efird, Co-Chair, Appreciation Committee  
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November 14, 2007