

# SMITHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Issue 6, July 2011

## RECENT EVENTS

**Law Enforcement Torch Run:** On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Smithfield Police and Fire Department members joined together for the *Special Olympics R.I. Torch Run*. These public safety officials donated their time (and bodies) to raise money for *S.O.R.I.* They ran and biked from Smithfield to the R.I. State House. The RI Police-Fire-Corrections Torch Run is part of an international campaign for Special Olympics coordinated and managed by all divisions of law enforcement officers, fire fighters and corrections officers throughout the State. Its mission is to raise dollars and awareness of the Special Olympics movement.



**D.A.R.E. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Achievement Ceremonies:** May 18<sup>th</sup> through June 16<sup>th</sup>, *D.A.R.E.* Officers Robert Squillante and Orlando Braxton completed 17 weeks of instruction with nine 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes throughout the Town. The *D.A.R.E.* ceremonies graduated 250 fifth-graders. The Smithfield Police Department is very proud of those kids and wishes them a safe summer. •

**Smithfield High School Post-Graduation:** On June 14<sup>th</sup>, Officers Squillante, Braxton and Marcello participated in the annual *Smithfield High School Post-Graduation Party*. They, along with many other volunteers, left Bryant University following graduation and stayed up all night with the recent grads. The post-graduation party is part of our continuing efforts to establish a proactive partnership with the community and to keep our students safe.



**Special Olympics Medals:** The Smithfield Police Department, once again, participated in the *Special Olympics Northern Area Games* at Bryant University. Department members joined other law enforcement agencies to help hand out medals to some of the top olympians. Chief Richard St.Sauveur is pictured here awarding a silver medal to an athlete.



**Special Olympics**  
**Rhode Island**  
[www.specialolympicsri.org](http://www.specialolympicsri.org)



*"To be recognized as the most professional, well respected, highly trained, proactive, community-oriented law enforcement agency in Rhode Island."*

SMITHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT **VISION STATEMENT**



## Rhode Island Law Enforcement Explorer Camp:

From June 26<sup>th</sup> through July 2<sup>nd</sup> the *Smithfield Law Enforcement Explorers* joined five other law enforcement posts from throughout the State at the *Feinstein Youth Camp* in Pascoag, RI.



These dedicated young men and women survived 5:00 a.m. physical training regiments and intense classroom training. They went through a week-long simulated police academy that tested them physically and mentally. They received some of the best police training from officers and civilians representing different departments around the State.



The men and women of the Smithfield Police Department are very proud of the six (6) explorers who represented Smithfield at the camp.

**TIPS Training:** On Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> TIPS trainers Officer Braxton and Marcello along with Patty Sweet from *Tri-Town Community Action* trained 20 participants in Alcohol Server Training through the T.I.P.S. program. T.I.P.S. trains servers, sellers, and

consumers of alcohol on how to prevent intoxication, drunk driving, and underage drinking. The T.I.P.S. trainings are part of our continuing efforts to reduce underage drinking and are funded through a *Tri-Town Community Action* agency grant. Our next class has yet to be scheduled but is expected sometime this Summer. Please contact the Community Policing Unit at 231-2500 ext. 202 for further details. You may also send an email to [events@smithfieldpd.com](mailto:events@smithfieldpd.com) and enter "TIPS" in the subject line.



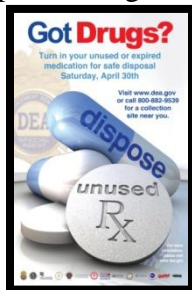
**Smithfield Harry Potter Movie Night:** To celebrate the end of the school year, on Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, the Crossing at Smithfield was transformed into the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry! Despite the rain, attendees enjoyed Revlar the Magician and other activities. The movie will be shown on a different date, which will be announced in the future. The event benefited the Smithfield High School Library.



**Smithfield Rotary Club's Food Drive:** During the month of April, the Smithfield Police Department in conjunction with the *Smithfield Rotary Club* "to help combat hunger in our community" collected **316 pounds of food**, all of which was donated to the Smithfield Food Bank at the Senior Center. A special thanks to all the members of the Department who participated. Pictured at center are Smithfield Rotarians Chief St.Sauveur and Janet Prairie. •



**DEA's Prescription Drug Take-Back Effort:** On Saturday, April 30, 2011, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, the Department took part in the *National Prescription Drug Take Back Day*. The purpose of this National Take Back Day was to provide a venue for persons who wanted to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs. This effort was a huge success in removing potentially dangerous prescription drugs, particularly controlled substances, from our nation's medicine cabinets. There were approximately 3,000 state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the nation that participated in the event. This was a great opportunity for those who missed the first event back in September of 2010. The Department collected over **40 pounds of prescription medication**. Thanks to all that participated.



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## ONGOING EVENTS

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**Smithfield Police Leadership Academy:** Running July 11<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup>, this academy is a partnership between the Police Department and the Smithfield School Department. The goal is to teach students team building and leadership skills, while keeping them engaged over the summer and allowing them to build a relationship with the police officers they see regularly. Students are chosen based on school recommendations and work with the police officers for two weeks. The program is in its third year and continues to grow.

**Rhode Island Team Spirit:** Running July 24<sup>th</sup> through July 27<sup>th</sup>, the Smithfield Police Department Community Policing Unit will, for the second year in a row, participate in *M.A.D.D. Rhode Island's Teen Spirit Conference* at Bryant University. This conference is meant to promote the prevention of alcohol and drug use by youth. The conference provides students and their advisors with the motivation, information, skills, and support necessary to organize alcohol and drug free events and activities in their schools and communities.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**National Guard Youth Development Camp:** Beginning August 3<sup>rd</sup> and running through August 5<sup>th</sup>, the *Rhode Island National Guard's Youth Development Adventure Camp* is a four-day, intensive, teambuilding / confidence development course aimed at youth between 12 and 17 years of age. Participants will be exposed to leadership and teamwork concepts through the use of mental and physical training. Each individual will be challenged by using various games, teamwork activities and their own inner strength. Interested individuals should have the willingness to learn new concepts, work as a team and stretch beyond their current expectations. Built into this program are daily drug awareness themes. We currently have openings in the camp but they will fill up fast. We will fill the openings on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact the Community Policing Unit 231-2500 ext. 202 for further details. You may also send an email to [events@smithfieldpd.com](mailto:events@smithfieldpd.com) and enter "National Guard" in the subject line. •



### The Crossing at Smithfield

Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011  
3:00 p.m. - Dusk

Smithfield Police Department and Target to Host

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is a unique crime/drug prevention event that involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials.

#### EVENTS

R.I. National Guard Rock Wall, Food Sampling, Dunk Tank, Smithfield Fire Department, Music, Children's Bike Rodeo, Helmet Safety, Child ID Kits, R.I Safe Kids Car Seat Checks, Giveaways, Sidewalk Sales, State Fire Marshal Smoke House, Raffle prizes, Smithfield Police Mobile Command Center, Home Depot Workshop

#### Participants

Uno Chicago Grill, Home Depot, Dick's Sporting Goods, Kohl's, Barnes & Noble, Dave's Market Place, Cox's Solutions, Verizon Wireless, Smithfield Police Explorers, Target, Chili's Grill & Bar, Sparks Toy Store, Target

*All proceeds will go the Smithfield Friday Night Lights.*  
[www.smithfieldpd.com](http://www.smithfieldpd.com)

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SMITHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT VISION STATEMENT



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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE POLICE BLOTTER

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**Suspect in Several Larcenies Arrested:** On Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at approximately 3:30 p.m., the Smithfield Police, with assistance from the Rhode Island Fusion Center, arrested Joseph Cruz, 21 yrs., of 825 Plainfield Street Providence. Cruz was charged with fourteen counts of larceny from vehicles, two counts of malicious damage, and one count of larceny of a vehicle, in connection with the recent larcenies from vehicles in the Esmond area. He appeared before Judge Stephen Isherwood, who set surety bail at \$17,000. He was held without bail, being a violator in District and Superior Courts. Cruz is scheduled to appear in court on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, to answer to the charges. •

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## CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

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All auto break-ins usually have one thing in common: *there was something left in the car worth stealing.* Most larcenies from cars are "crimes of opportunity" that could be prevented by taking some preventative steps.

- **Do not leave valuables in your vehicle:** You would be surprised how often this happens, but individuals leave valuable items in plain sight all the time. If you leave items in your vehicle and they are visible, the chances your vehicle will get broken into increase greatly.
- **Place items out of sight BEFORE reaching your destination:** Someone may be watching when you put your valuables under a seat or in the trunk. The moment you leave your vehicle, a thief could break into it. So place those items in a safe place before you get to the park, beach, baseball game, etc. Valuable items that thieves target are GPS units, MP3 players, credit cards, money, packages and so forth. If you cannot take the items with you, secure them in a safe place in your vehicle, like a locked glove compartment or your trunk.
- **Avoid leaving packages or shopping bags out in the open:** Lock them into your trunk, if you have to leave the vehicle unattended. Never open a trunk, fill it full of valuables, close it, and then just walk away.
- **Lock ALL of your vehicle's doors:** This is true even if you plan on only being gone for "just a second". Remember, it only takes seconds to steal items from your car. It is not uncommon, for thieves

to walk down a row of parked vehicles, looking for unlocked doors. Also, make sure car windows are not left open.

- **Park in busy, well-lit areas:** Pick a parking spot where there is a lot of activity. Auto thieves prefer breaking into cars in isolated areas.
- **Do not leave a trace:** Do not leave any sign that there might be valuables "out of sight" in your vehicle. For example: the suction cup on your dashboard, might tell thieves, that you have a GPS system in your vehicle.
- **Leave nothing in plain view:** Very few auto break-ins are "random". The thieves usually see something out in the open or hints of possible hidden valuables.
- **Alarms or anti-theft devices work:** Thieves are usually looking for the "easiest" target. If your car has an alarm, it could act as a deterrent. But do not make this common mistake: Just because you have an alarm, doesn't mean thieves won't break-in, IF you leave valuable items in plain sight.
- **Do not leave spare keys in your vehicle:** An experienced thief knows all the hiding places. Store spare keys elsewhere, possibly your wallet or purse.

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Although many of these tips refer to parking lots, much of the same advice applies to parking and securing your vehicle at home in your own driveway.

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One of the "hottest" items that thieves are targeting both locally and nationally, is the GPS system in your vehicle. It's very simple: if you leave a GPS system in your car, then chances are it will be stolen. Here are few tips to prevent your satellite navigation system from being taken:

- Take the whole unit out of your vehicle including the mounting bracket. Don't leave your vehicle unattended with the GPS system in plain sight.
- Wipe the windscreen so that the suction marks left from the system are wiped away.
- If your vehicle is stolen or property is taken from the vehicle there are number of things you can and should do: Call police immediately. Provide a complete description of the items taken. Also provide license plate number, make and model of vehicle, year and color, plus VIN number and insurance company.

(Reprinted courtesy of Buffalo PD <http://www.bpdny.org/Home/Prevention/AutoTheft/>.)

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**IF YOU SEE A CRIME IN PROGRESS OR HEAR SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS NEAR YOUR HOME, CALL THE POLICE WHEN IT IS HAPPENING.** Our chances of catching suspects are greatly increased when information is provided to us a timely manner.

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