



SANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

August 2014

NW Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1
(New concept, New Design)

Special points of interest:

- August 5th is Tisha B'Av (Jewish Holiday)
- August 6th is National Watermelon Day (eat up!)
- August 11th school starts
- August 21st is Senior Citizen's Day

What Is Tisha B'Av?



Many Jewish people in the United States observe Tisha B'Av, which is the ninth day of the month of Av in the Jewish calendar. It is a day of mourning to remember various events such as the destruction of the First Temple and Second Temple in Jerusalem (4).

What do people do?

Many Jewish people in the United States observe various restrictions during Tisha B'Av. These restrictions may include:

- Fasting.
- Avoiding washing, bathing, shaving or wearing cosmetics.
- Not wearing leather shoes.
- Avoiding certain types of work.

Back to School and Driving Safety

Soon your children, and the neighborhood children, will be heading "back to the books."

As a conscious driver, you need to be aware not only of children riding their bikes to school or walking, but also school crossings, bus stops, and posted school zones.

When a school bus has yellow flashing lights on, it is likely that bus is about to stop for a pickup. The driver will then change the yellow flashing lights to red, and the stop signs will deploy along the side of the bus. If you are on a two-lane road, ALL traffic must stop. If you are on 4-lane road with NO raised median, ALL traffic must stop. If there is a "safety," or turn lane, dividing all 4 lanes, you still must STOP. Vehicles may only proceed passed a stopped school bus IF you are moving in the OPPOSITE direc-

tion and there is a 5-foot RAISED median (i.e., concrete or grass). A violation can result in a \$264 citation!

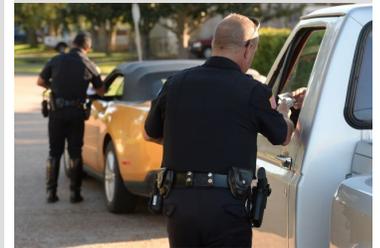
Also, the City has several schools, which includes several posted school zones. All posted school zones in the city are 20mph. Please take notice of your vehicle speed if you see school crossing guards out and yellow flashing school zone signs. Our traffic officers will be out in these areas monitoring the traffic flow, and taking necessary enforcement action. Speed violations in a school zone can range from \$156 to \$606!

Be cognizant in the mornings and afternoons while driving through school areas!

Sanford Police Department's Traffic Unit has 'Zero Tolerance' for inattentive drivers!



Sanford's Traffic Unit utilizes Pro Laser III speed measuring devices to strictly enforce unlawful speed.



Tips For Online Shopping

Years ago, we came across the invention of internet. Along with that came online shopping: making purchases from the comfort of your couch. Be leery when doing so, as there are "internet predators" looking for easy targets to steal your credit card information and have a shopping spree of their own. Here are a few tips to assist you in your internet frolicking:

Don't Shop Publically. As internet cafes grow increasingly popular, so do economic

crimes. Your best bet is to browse the web while in public WiFi spots, but conduct all your shopping needs from home (1). If you're using a public computer—at the library, at a cyber café, or at work—to do your shopping, you have no control over who might be using that computer, as well. You also don't have any control over what kind of spyware or malware might be infecting that computer (1).



Never Store Information. It's very convenient and easy to do: automatically store your credit card information for future purchases. If a company that you're shopping with has a data breach, your personal information could be put at risk (1).



Nutrition for the Brain

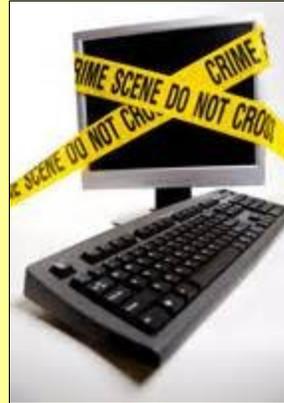
The clock at Magnolia Square originally hung on the First National Bank building. In 1931, A. H. Moses donated the clock to the city. It was placed at the intersection of Park Ave and First Street where it remained until 1961 when it was moved to the Elks Club on Second Street. On July 9, 1985, the renovated clock was installed at its present location to once again serve as the focal point for downtown (2).

Online Tips cont'd

Verify Website Security. Some websites you shop on may not be secure. You can tell if a site is secure by the URL. A secure web site starts with HTTPS:// instead of HTTP://. Secure sites will also have a small lock icon in the lower right corner of the screen (1).

Choose Credit Over Debit. Credit cards offer protection from identity theft that debit cards don't. With a credit card, your liability for fraudulent charges caps at \$50 as long as you report the fraud within 30 or 60 days (depending on the company). If you're using your debit card online and someone

gains access to it, they can clean out your checking account before you even learn there's a problem (1).



Disposable Is Better. Disposable credit cards work just like most gift cards. You add a specified dollar amount to the card, and it's good until that is gone. Both Visa and American Express now offer these cards in varying amounts, so they're easy to get hold of. The bonus is that if the number from a disposable credit card is stolen, it's anonymous, and criminals can't gain access to anything more than the dollar amount that's still available on the card (1).

The Door Swings Both Ways: Homeless Debate

The City receives multiple complaints on the issue, as does the police department, but what can *really* be said when it comes to homelessness?

Did you know in 2012 there were 634,000 homeless people in the country? Within that number, 62,000 were veterans of our armed forces (5). Listen carefully to that fact: the men and women who went and put their life on the line for *us*! It is understandable some might consider homeless people a

"nuisance," but is that any different than sign twirlers, people in front of grocery stores asking for donations, PDA, loud stereos, and the list goes on.

One city, here in the U.S., is spending about \$3 million, over the next 18 months, to "clean things up" (5). That number doesn't include factors such as lawsuits, internal investigations, or on-duty injuries resulting from the initiative (5). Can we *really* "clean up" homelessness in our city by arrests or

bus tickets out of town? These are temporary fixes, pawned off on someone else, *somewhere* else.

Officers can continue to enforce laws and direct people to services, but we can't stop an alcoholic from drinking, and we can't give a job to an unemployed person. Officers must still treat the homeless with dignity and respect, without letting their guard down (5). They have just as much right to be in a public place as you or I.



August 6th Is Wiggle Your Toes Day...Who Knew?

Wiggle Your Toes Day encourages you to give your little piggy toes some exercise. Those ten extremities at the ends of your feet, are crying out for a little freedom. Cramped up inside a pair of shoes or sneakers all day long, your stinky toes just don't get a chance to move about freely, as they would like to do.

Celebrate *Wiggle Your Toes Day* by airing out your toes, and wiggling them around for all to see. The best place to wiggle your toes, on a hot August day, is in the pool. Or, sit on a dock and stick your wiggly little toes in the water.

Did you Know? Not all toes are alike. Like people, toes come in all shapes and sizes. There is a small percentage of the population who have two or more toes partially joined together....web like toes (3).

References

1. Ledford, Jerry. "Five Tips for Online Shopping Safety." About.com 2014. (<http://idtheft.about.com/od/preventionpractices/a/onlineshopping.htm>).
2. "A Brief History and Walking Tour of Sanford." *Sanford Historical Society, Inc.* No date. (<http://sanfordhistory.tripod.com/a-brief-history-walking-tour-of-sanford.html>).
3. "Wiggle Your Toes Day." Holiday Insights. Electronic. (<http://www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/August/wiggleyourtoes.htm>).
4. Premier Star Company. "Tisha B'Av in the United States." Time and Date AS 1995–2014. (<http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/tisha-b-av>).
5. Bulthead. "The Complicated Line Between Ridding a Community of Homeless People & Upholding Their Rights." *Law Officer* June/July 2014: 48.