Dixon Police Department
Annual Report 2012
April 15, 2013

Mayor James Burke  
Commissioner David Blackburn  
Commissioner Colleen Brechon  
Commissioner Dennis Considine  
Commissioner Jeff Kuhn

City Council Members:

For your review, I am submitting the Dixon Police Department Annual Report for 2012. It is an incredible honor to serve my 4th year as your Police Chief. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to providing the highest level of police service to our community. We have had tremendous success in solving major crimes and significantly reducing the drug problem in Dixon. I would like to thank the members of our department for their daily sacrifice, dedication, and commitment to making our agency one of the best in the State of Illinois. While we have great people, having the necessary staffing levels, training, and equipment is paramount.

This training was evident in the Margaret Atherton homicide investigation in September of 2009. Utilizing the newly created Major Case Squad, Dixon Police Officers investigated a brutal homicide that occurred in the Atherton home. This crime left a husband without a wife and three little girls without a mother. After a comprehensive investigation, which included a 22 hour interrogation over three days, police had strong physical evidence and a confession from Adams. After three years of court motions, Adams was finally tried for his crime and convicted of First Degree Murder. It took the jury less than 3 hours of deliberation to give Margaret and her family the justice they deserved. Byron Adams 60 year maximum prison sentence will ensure that he never walks the streets of Dixon again.

I am happy to report that our intensive war on drugs continues to pay incredible dividends. In the late 90’s and early 2000’s, our community had been invaded by Chicago gang members peddling their poison, crack cocaine. With a very aggressive strategy, incredible teamwork, and dedicated officers who always answered the call, we have eradicated the problem. From times where we could make crack cocaine purchases 3 times a day, we have come to a time where the sale of cocaine is minimal. All of the major drug dealers have been arrested and sentenced to prison. Most of the current cocaine investigations result in drug purchases from people who live outside of Lee County. Many of them require our informants to travel to their town. This has allowed us to focus more time on cannabis, heroin, and prescription drug sale cases.
Not only has the war on drugs eliminated significant drug trafficking, we have eliminated all formal gang activity and the violence associated with it. We aggressively pursue any information on illegal guns and have used our Tactical Response Team to take them off of the streets.

Our society has changed, and we must continue to change with it. School violence is a growing problem across our country. The tragedy of Newtown, Connecticut further demonstrates the need to be proactive in protecting our children. We have worked with our public and private schools for years to implement top of the line prevention and response strategies. The school resource officer program has been instrumental in these developments. The biggest risks lie in our Middle School and High School. We appreciate the partnership with Dixon Public Schools. There is nothing more important than the safety of our children.

While school violence is a growing concern, the threat of child sexual abuse from a person in a position of trust or authority is rampant across our country. The case of Jerry Sandusky exemplifies the severity of this situation. I would like to thank the City Council for supporting our efforts with Erin’s Law. Our department has led the way in community awareness and prevention programs and our work with sexual abuse survivor Erin Merryn has brought a new law to life in Illinois. This law will educate and protect our children from child predators. Erin’s Law gives a voice to the voiceless and will send a strong message to those who perpetrate against our children.

As we know, violence is not just a concern for our citizens. Our department has seen an increase in violent encounters with the police. Over this past year, 3 police officers have been injured while trying to apprehend combative subjects. Officers face diverse and difficult situations on a consistent basis. We continue to provide them with great training and the right police tools to get the job done safely.

While this may have been the toughest year in the history of Dixon, it has left us with a very bright future. All departments worked hard over the past 10 years to do more with less, all while meeting the mission of our individual departments and the City. Like many Illinois communities, the financial outlook was grim and the possibility of layoffs was imminent. While many look at the discovered theft of Rita Crundwell as a significant negative, I look at the future possibilities for our great community. Overnight, our City’s financial future took a 180 degree turn for the better. While we have accomplished many great things as a community, just think about what we will be able to accomplish now. We have a true appreciation for the tough times, which will make us more responsible and disciplined as we move forward. I am excited about the challenges that lie ahead and look forward to serving as your Police Chief for many years to come.

Very truly yours,

Danny D. Langloss, Jr.
Chief of Police
MISSION STATEMENT
DIXON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Our mission is to protect and serve all members of our community equally, to defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America and of the State of Illinois, and to hold ourselves to the highest personal and professional standards.
Department Members
## Seniority List

**“Commitment to Excellence”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>DATE HIRED</th>
<th>SERVICE TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danny Langloss</td>
<td>Chief</td>
<td>09-16-96</td>
<td>16 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clayton Whelan</td>
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<td>01-02-95</td>
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<td>Bradley Sibley</td>
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<td>Michael Wolfley</td>
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<td>Troy Morse</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
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<td>Matthew Richards</td>
<td>Detective Sergeant</td>
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<td>Steven Howell, Jr.</td>
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<td>Scott Heller</td>
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<td>Leslie Shaw</td>
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<td>Jason LaMendola</td>
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<td>Anthony Quadraro</td>
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<td>Mark Dallas</td>
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<td>Lincoln Sharp</td>
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<td>Christopher Cox</td>
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<td>Aaron Simonton</td>
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<td>Ryan McWethy</td>
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<td>Randi Gittleson</td>
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<td>John Simonton</td>
<td>Patrol Officer (Part-Time)</td>
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Command Staff

Lieutenant Brad Sibley, Chief Danny Langloss & Lieutenant Clay Whelan
Leslie Wilcox is an administrative assistant and has been with the Department for 28 years. Leslie is responsible for the following duties:

**Computers** - Initial set-up, maintenance, and ordering of department computers, laptops, network printers, troubleshooting, software updates, setting up new users, email accounts, updating programs, and server back-ups. There are 26 computers within the Police Department and 9 wireless Panasonic laptops that are used in the squad cars.

**Evidence Room** - Intake of all evidence, packaging and mailing evidence to crime lab, organizing evidence room, and disposition of evidence per state and local law.

**Livescan** - Updates and submits all fingerprints as required by federal and state law, enters and submits all school applicants’ fingerprints, and sets up new users on this system.

**Telephone System** - New user set-up and troubleshooting for Police and Fire Departments.

**Racial Profiling** - Compiles all racial profiling data per State law and submits to State Government via the internet on a monthly basis.

**UCR Reporting** - Compiles data on all index crime offenses, arrests, drug crime arrests, and crimes against children/domestic violence/attacks against school personnel and submits to Illinois State Police on a monthly basis.

**Arrest Reports** - Completes paperwork on all misdemeanor, felony, juvenile, ordinances, & traffic arrests and sends to the correct agency; e.g., State’s Attorney, Circuit Clerk, Juvenile Probation, or City Attorney.

**Case File Management** - Opens, tracks, manages, and closes all investigative case files.

**Supply Management** - Tracks and orders office supplies for Police Department.

**Inventory** - Responsible for completing inventory of the department equipment and entering new property.

**IWIN Coordinator** - Orders, implements, and maintains wireless squad car laptop computers, which allow officers to access LEADS. Sets up new users on this system.

**Parking Tickets** - Designs, implements, and maintains parking ticket database, generates, and disseminates invoices and deposits for parking fines.

**Laserfiche Paperless System** - Implements and maintains Laserfiche software. Scans and saves supporting arrest documents, tickets, and citations, according to statute.
Linda Claussen is an administrative assistant and has been with the Dixon Police Department since June of 2005. The duties of this position include dispatch, transcription, data entry, Dixon Police Department Website, Sex Offender Management, Digital Photographic & Video Evidence, and evidence room & computer management in addition to the basic duties.

The duties of sex offender registration and management used to be conducted by sworn personnel. This is a time consuming process which drained resources from the patrol and investigations division. Sex offenders must register with the police department for a variety of reasons throughout the year. Specific records must be maintained for tracking purposes.

Digital photographic evidence used to be the responsibility of the Investigations Lieutenant. This responsibility includes placing all photographic evidence in a secure area of the department database and printing and disseminating the digital photographs.

Due to the volume of evidence seized by officers during criminal investigations, this position is required to assist Leslie Wilcox, another administrative assistant as necessary. This includes initial intake responsibilities and evidence disposal at the conclusion of the criminal case. Every officer used to be responsible, individually, for these functions.

The Dixon Police Department currently has 26 computers and 9 squad car laptop computers which are constantly requiring attention. Linda provides troubleshooting assistance when necessary.

With Linda’s responsibilities, she also assists Leslie Wilcox in her duties. This involves the paperwork generated from 28 officers including arrests, reports, and correspondence. She transcribes taped dictations from all of the officers and verbatim interviews of witnesses, victims, and defendants. She also assists in entering traffic, juvenile, misdemeanor, and felony arrests into the computer system.

Delivering the proper paperwork to the Circuit Clerk’s Office, State’s Attorney’s Office, and the Probation Department on a daily basis is also Linda’s responsibility. When at the courthouse, Linda gathers paperwork from the various offices that she later distributes to the officers at the Police Department.

Linda assists in overseeing the arrest records, fingerprint files, and juvenile files to make sure they are maintained accurately and on time as specified by State statutes.

In the absence of the full-time Police Clerk or other Administrative Assistant, Linda is required to fill his or her position as needed.
POLICE CLERK

Robert McCoy has been the Police Clerk since October of 1993. He has been on disability, as a police officer, since 1987.

Bob works a 9:00am to 5:00pm shift. His prior police experience enables the officers to stay out on patrol as he can handle many of the telephone and in-person complaints himself. He is responsible for handling all in-coming telephone calls and routing them to the proper personnel, along with taking complaints from citizens, dispatching to the squad cars, and keeping abreast of their activities.

Bob must deal with all aspects of the various reasons the public visits the Police Department, from receiving complaints and dispensing information to registering and stamping bicycles.

Bob must be aware of all mandated rules and regulations pertaining to each of the several record systems and keep them in compliance with existing laws. Bob maintains and files with the State on a monthly basis; the Local Area Reference System Report, which is a report of all traffic accidents in the City of Dixon. Bob is also responsible for complaints, bicycle registration, and handicapped parking, just to name a few. He also sends reports to insurance companies and other agencies that request information from our record systems. Subpoenas, Freedom of Information Act Requests, Criminal Background Checks, and Requisitions are also handled by Bob.

MAINTENANCE

George Carey is the Custodian who has been employed with the City of Dixon since February of 2007. George maintains the Dixon Public Safety Building and City Hall. He completes the general custodial/cleaning duties for both facilities and has an outstanding work ethic. He completes all tasks without complaint and often goes above and beyond what is required. In addition to his custodial duties, George is involved in preventative maintenance by assisting with lighting, plumbing or mechanical problems when needed.
Department Awards

Team Player Award - Officer Tony Quadraro
Officer Quadraro consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty to provide assistance and help in many facets of the Dixon Police Department. On day to day police activities, he is the first to help with any situation, whether it be a call for service, processing an arrestee, completing a tour for school-aged children, or completing a press release. He has played an essential role in all of our community programs, personally spearheading the Clothes for Kids and the Cops and Bobbers program. He has set an example for the entire department through his commitment and dedication to our mission, goals and objectives.

Citizen Service Award - Officer Chris Cox
Over the past year, Officer Cox set himself apart from the rest of the department in the area of Citizen Service on two separate occasions. In one instance, working with a mentally disabled combative subject, not only did he establish rapport with him, de-escalate, and calm the situation, he established a relationship with him that will make other officers safer. In addition to this, he went the extra mile and purchased this man a sports jersey with his own money. Additionally, Officer Cox had assisted the family of an Alzheimer’s subject over a 6 month period. After the subject passed away, Officer Cox attended his funeral to honor his life.
Distinguished Service Award - Officer Aaron Simonton
Officer Simonton consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty providing the highest levels of service, compassion, empathy, investigative competencies, and report writing. He consistently displays a positive attitude, is a team player, and is deeply committed to the mission, goals, and objectives of the Dixon Police Department. His work on the Marclare neighborhood watch group with Sergeant Howell has been spectacular.

Officer of the Year - Detective Jessica Garza
While there were many officers who have worked very hard over the past year, Detective Jessica Garza is the one officer who stood out to the awards committee as an obvious choice as our department’s “Officer of the Year”. She has lead the way in service to victims, specifically crimes against children, has become one of the top interviewers on our department, and she has displayed overall exemplary investigative skills. She continues to develop strong drug investigations, significantly reducing the drug problem in our community. Her leadership with Shop with a Cop has resulted in our agency, in partnership with the Lee County Sheriff’s Department, serving more than 100 underprivileged children per year.

Excellence in Investigatory Procedures - Officer Les Shaw
Whether it be a hit and run accident investigation, a burglary to a motor vehicle, or an aggravated arson / attempted murder case, Officer Shaw has shown exemplary thoroughness, attention to detail, and resolve. From spending countless hours tracking down a hit and run to canvassing a neighborhood looking for evidence that directly connected a suspect to an aggravated arson, he has consistently gone above and beyond the commonly accepted law enforcement standards of investigation and evidence procedures.
Pictured is SRO Quadraro, Detective Sergeant Richards, Detective Miller, Detective Oros, SRO LaMendola, Lieutenant Whelan and Detective Garza.
School Resource Officers

The primary goal of the SRO program is the safety and security of students and staff. Dixon High School and Reagan Middle School are two of the most heavily populated areas in Dixon during the daytime hours. The presence of police in schools has become an important part of the duty to protect children in schools.

Statistically, the effectiveness of SROs in America speaks for itself. When an officer is in the school, incidences of school-associated deaths and violence have diminished. The specialized knowledge of the law, local and national crime trends, safety threats, people and places in the community, and the local juvenile justice system combine to make the SRO a critical member of the school’s administrative and policy making team. Law-enforcement knowledge and skill combined with specialized SRO training, for their duties in the education setting, gives our SROs a skill set unique among both law enforcement and education personnel. This skill set enables SROs to protect the community and the campus while supporting the educational mission.

Officer LaMendola began his 7th year as the SRO for Dixon High School. He interacts with the students both formally and informally through his continued open door policies, frequently walking the halls, and classroom presentations.

Officer LaMendola has become a regular in the Health class, the Adult Living class, as well as the Driver’s Education class. Topics generally covered include, drug and alcohol abuse, bullying, sexting, sexual offenses, traffic laws, and traffic safety.

Being at the school, students have ready access to a police officer when needed for reporting criminal offenses, traffic accidents, or the need for other police assistance; such as locking their keys in their cars! Officer LaMendola has built a rapport with the students which allows the students to speak freely on many topics of concern or general interest. The students are encouraged to speak with the School Resource Officer about problems both in and out of school, as well as curiosity questions about the field of law enforcement.

Officer LaMendola has also integrated himself into the culture of the school by coaching both Football and Track & Field. The School Resource Officer program gives students the opportunity to see that police officers are friendly and helpful people that can be fun, while providing law enforcement service or advice. For some students, this may be the first or only time they can see a police officer as a positive role model.

Officer LaMendola is also responsible for administering the Peer Jury Program.
In the fall of 2012, Officer Anthony Quadraro began his 3rd year as the Reagan Middle School Resource Officer.

Officer Quadraro has several duties at school including:
- Monitoring the grounds before school, during lunches, and after school while students are out of the building.
- Working with staff and students on important issues such as bullying, peer pressure, and other young adult based topics.
- Monitoring and ensuring the building is secure at all times.
- Going into the classrooms and interacting with the students on presentations and speaking about a variety of topics.
- Police investigations when the need arises. As always arrest is a last resort for our students.

Officer Quadraro entered the classrooms with the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades and interacted with the students on several occasions throughout the year to speak on an assortment of topics. These topics include: the 4th and 5th amendments, the 2nd amendment and the gun control debate, firearm safety, vehicle and bus safety, drug and alcohol awareness, DUI enforcement, internet safety, sexting, cyber stalking, and bullying.

Reagan Middle School also has a wing dedicated to Pre-K and Early Childhood Education. The children in this section range from 3 to 5 years of age. On occasion the teachers have had Officer Quadraro come into the classroom for presentations to the young children. These presentations include: stranger danger, seatbelt/car seat safety, and bus and vehicle safety. Once a year the Pre-K wing has community workers week. One day that week Officer Quadraro has a uniformed officer bring a marked Dixon Police squad car to the school. The children are given a tour of the police vehicle and allowed to sit inside and work the lights and siren. It is a great interaction between the young children and the police.

School Resource Officers LaMendola & Quadraro have continued to work on the district wide security procedures and active-shooter responses. These duties include: working with staff and administration on policy and procedure changes, monitoring the building for safety concerns, seeing that any concerns are changed or corrected in a timely manner, and working with other members of the Dixon Police Department to make our school as safe as possible.
Patrol Division Officers

Pictured is Officer McWethy, Officer Sharp, Sergeant Howell, K9 Officer Ragan, and K9 Bobby

Pictured is Officer Lehman, Officer Bivins, Officer Friday, and Sergeant Morse
Patrol Division Officers

Pictured is Officer Cox, Officer A. Simonton, Sergeant Wolfley, and Officer J. Simonton. Not pictured: K9 Officer Dallas and K9 Bruno.
Part-Time Officers

For several years, Officer Plachno worked as a full time police officer with the City of Polo. In August of 2006, Officer Plachno joined the Dixon Police Department as a part-time police officer.

Officer Plachno’s main function is to supplement patrol staffing. He assists with staffing for major community events like the Petunia Festival and the Mumford and Sons Music Festival. He also provides IT network support for the department’s large computer network. His knowledge and experience has been very valuable.

Officer Schryver originally was hired as a full-time police officer with the Dixon Police Department. He left full time policing to assist with a family construction business, but remained as a part-time police officer.

Officer Schryver has covered many patrol shifts over the past year to help cover our staffing shortages.

Officer J. Simonton retired, as a Lieutenant, from the Illinois State Police after nearly 30 years of service. For the majority of that time he was in charge of the IL State Police SWAT Operations.

Officer J. Simonton was hired in a part-time function in March of 2011 by the Dixon Police Department. He has been an integral part in assisting and implementing the training of the Dixon Police Department’s Tactical Response Team since that time. His value to the department has grown throughout 2012, and he worked nearly 1500 hours to help alleviate mandated overtime for officers.
New Hire

Officer Randi Gittleson was hired on December 17, 2012. She filled a position that was open since January. Randi is a life long resident of Lee County. She graduated from Ashton Franklin Center and earned her Bachelor’s Degree from Western Illinois University in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. As part of her degree, Randi completed a 16 week full time internship with our department where she displayed all of the positive qualities she brings to the job. She is currently attending the Police Training Institute in Champaign, Illinois for 12 weeks. Officer Gittleson is scheduled to graduate from the Academy in March 2013 and will then begin her field training program.

Military Deployment

Officer Eric Brauman and Officer Ryan Bivins were both deployed by the military beginning in June of 2011. We are very proud of their service to our country.

Officer Brauman was deployed in the United States and worked in the criminal intelligence division on the east coast. Officer Brauman did not return to duty until October 1st of 2012.

Officer Bivins, 1st Lieutenant of the Illinois National Guard, was deployed to the Ghazni Province in southeastern Afghanistan. He was part of an 18 man team, all from the Illinois National Guard. During his deployment, Bivins trained Polish Soldiers and then was assigned as a brigade engineer, managing all the construction in the province. As a result of his service, Bivins was awarded the Bronze Star.
WEEKEND FEATURE | WELCOME HOME

Police officer returns to daughter, new home

BY EMILY K. COLEMAN
ecoleman@saukvalley.com
800-798-4085, ext. 526

DIXON — Ryan Bivins came home from his 10-month military deployment to a new house and a new daughter.

His two sons, Carson and Brady, 4 and 2, were eager to show him the house, starting with their bedroom, playroom and all their toys. Carson wore his red Power Rangers costume that he had gotten for his birthday.

But after the drive from Bloomington and meeting the welcoming party gathered in the parking lot of Dixon High School, Ryan and Jordan Bivins were ready to put the children to bed.

“I put my kids to bed, and that was pretty awesome, to tuck them in and tell them stories,” he said. “I held my daughter and kissed my wife.”

The Dixon police officer was part of an 18-man team, all from the Illinois National Guard, sent to train Polish soldiers who they were then deployed with 2 months later to the Ghazni Province in southeastern Afghanistan.

OFFICER CONTINUED ON A2
Bivins returns to work in mid-June

OFFICER CONTINUED FROM A1

“We were up an elevation [of] about 7,600 feet, so we were in the mountains,” Bivins said. “The seasons were a lot like ours here. We had a pretty harsh winter, a lot of snow, and then during the summer months, it was hot.”

Despite being trained as an intelligence officer, Bivins was assigned as a brigade engineer, managing all the construction in the province. Adding to the intimidation factor, he said, the position was normally filled by a major. At the time, Bivins was a lieutenant.

“The first time out, you know, you always wonder what’s going to happen, but I guess, just like anything else, you don’t get comfortable, but you get accustomed to. ‘All right, we’re heading out,’” Bivins said.

But in nearly daily conversations with family via Skype, he didn’t really talk about his new job. Sitting on the floor of their boys’ bedroom, as Carson and Brady raced their toy cars, Jordan said the conversations were a lot of moments like that, with Ryan just watching the boys play and show off for him.

Over the months, Brady went from just learning how to talk to speaking full sentences. Carson, he said, took over some of the responsibilities, “acting as the man of the house.”

Since he doesn’t go back to work until mid-June, he’s focusing on spending time with his sons and his daughter, Bailey, who he had previously seen only on Skype because she’s just 3 1/2 months old. They found out about the baby about week before Bivins’ deployment.

The extended family has a trip to Florida planned to cap Bivins’ time off. Carson’s got it all planned out: “I’m going to help him build a sandcastle ... as tall as Daddy. Daddy can help me. It’s going to have his face on it.”

Each day while Ryan was gone, Jordan and the boys would take one seashell out of a jar full of shells and put it into an empty box.

Army National Guard 1st Lt. Ryan Bivins holds his daughter, Bailey, after returning home to Dixon on May 2. Bivins was welcomed home by, among others, his wife, Jordan, and his sons Carson and Brady. Bivins served with the Bilateral Embedded Staff Team (BEST) A8 in a 10-month deployment that took him to Ghazni Province in southeastern Afghanistan.

Online Project
Have a local military member who has returned from deployment or retired from service in the past year? We’d like to hear about it. Go to our website, sauvalley.com, and click on the “Welcome Home” tab. There, you can enter information about the hometown hero and attach a photograph. We’ll publish the information on a special page on our website.

“After we put the seashell in, what would we do?” Jordan asked Carson. “Pray,” he said, dragging out the “a.”

And then what did we get to do when all the seashells were in the empty box?” she said. “Pick Daddy up,” Carson said enthusiastically.

The boys also had their own daddy buddy, a stuffed doll in cameo with Bivins’ picture on its head, and a pillow and blanket with family photos on them.

Even though it was sometimes exhausting and got harder during the last months as the boys asked more frequently where Daddy was, Jordan was surprised how well she handled the months he was gone.

“When we were in college, when he went into the military, we always knew that it was a possibility that he would deploy,” she said. “We would go coming home ceremonies and different things, and I would be an emotional wreck.”

“It was amazing, though, how God gave me exactly what I needed because I cried very rarely, not that it didn’t bother me or upset me that he was gone. It just, ‘He’s gone.’

This is what we have to do. We’ve got to get through it. Don’t sit around and think about it.”

It helped that their parents, Sara and Randy Ortgiesen and Tim and Terri Bivins, helped out, babysitting the kids and taking them on Saturday nights, and her sister, Parker Ortgiesen, who works as a full-time nanny, moved in.

Illinois Army National Guard
Cpt. Ryan Bivins
Unit: Bilateral Embedded Staff Team (BEST) A8
Age: 25
Hometown: Dixon
Places of service, dates and duties: Bivins joined the Illinois National Guard in 2006 while attending Olivet Nazarene University. He was deployed to Poland and then Afghanistan for 10 months. He returned in early May.

Family: Bivins and his wife, Jordan, 25, have three children, Carson, 4, Brady, 2, and Bailey, 3 1/2 months. His parents are Tim and Terri Bivins of Dixon. Her parents are Sara and Randy Ortgiesen, also of Dixon.

Dixon Police Department Annual Report 2012
The Dixon Police Department K-9 Teams assist in various operations in the department and consists of two K-9 teams. The teams assist the department in daily operations such as drug detection, tracking, searching for articles, and subject apprehension. In addition to the daily operations, the K-9 teams assisted the Dixon Police Department Tactical Response Team on missions. The teams are Officer Jeffery Ragan and K-9 Bobby, a Hungarian Vizsla and Officer Mark Dallas and K-9 Bruno, a Dutch Sheepard.

K-9 Bobby is used for drug detection and tracking of children and individuals with Alzheimer’s disease. K-9 Bobby is also used for article searches (finding items in open areas).

K-9 Bruno is also utilized for drug detection, tracking, and article search, as well as subject apprehension (individuals who attempt to elude officers after committing a crime).

Both K-9’s were purchased with the generous donations from several businesses and families in the community. Pet Supplies “Plus”, in Sterling, Illinois, has donated food for both dogs for the duration of their service to the community of Dixon. Both the K-9 squad cars are equipped with kennels and Hot-N-Pop systems which were also purchased with donations from the community. The Hot-N-Pop systems are designed to notify the handler by alarms on the squad or a pager system that the handler carries with him in the event that the squad car shuts off in the hot summer months. This is to prevent possible health risks to the dogs from overheating.

The K-9 teams train every month with surrounding K-9 teams from other departments to keep the dogs from getting complacent with the same training areas. Training is held in several areas ranging from vehicle impound lots, houses, warehouses, businesses, schools, and parks. The teams use drugs obtained through the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) for drug detection work.

During the year, the K-9 teams have conducted several searches around vehicles, houses, parks, and schools. The K-9 teams work close with the School Resource Officers completing random passes through the school in an attempt to prevent individuals from bringing drugs in. The K-9 teams assist other agencies in search warrants and assist in searching their schools for drugs. The Dixon High School and Reagan Middle School request that their entire school be searched by the K-9 teams numerous times through out the school year. During these searches, K-9 Units from surrounding agencies are requested to assist.

Both K-9 teams also assisted in removing various amounts of drugs and money from traffic stops and search warrants in Dixon. On one occasion, Officer Ragan and K-9 Bobby located approximately 151.5 grams of Cannabis during a traffic stop in 2012.
Harry D. Ulferts
“Outstanding”

Lieutenant Harry D. Ulferts retired from the Dixon Police Department in 2003, and he passed away while on vacation in Germany in June of 2012. Harry leaves behind his loving wife, Peggy, and his daughter, Elise, as well as a legacy of being a hero and mentor to many officers on the Dixon Police Department. Harry was known as the guy who always did the right thing, it may not have always been the popular choice, but it was the right choice. He instilled great values and ethics into the officers that he trained while working as a police officer and continued this while training and educating students at the Whiteside Area Career Center and Sauk Valley Community College. No one loved the Dixon Police Department more than Harry Ulferts, and he has left an indelible mark upon it and the community of Dixon forever.

Harry, you are missed, rest in peace.
Retired officer, Sauk instructor dies in Germany

BY TARA BECKER
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DIXON – Harry D. Ulferts was the kind of cop people always asked for when they had a problem.

Ulferts, who retired as a Dixon Police lieutenant in 2003, also was the kind of man who treated everyone equally, no matter what side of the law they happened to find themselves on, Chief Danny Langloss said Tuesday.

“The work ethic he instilled was incredibly demanding,” Langloss said. “Everyone always asked for Harry; he always made the time.”

The State Department notified Dixon police Tuesday morning that Ulferts died of natural causes Sunday while vacationing overseas in Munich.

Ulferts was a mentor, a coach, and a leader who touched so many lives.

Ulferts is survived by his wife, Peggy, and his daughter, Elise Hume, also of Dixon. His son, Harry “Andrew” Ulferts, an Amboy Police officer, was killed in a motorcycle accident in May 2010.

Ulferts died of natural causes Sunday while vacationing overseas in Munich, Langloss said. Officers delivered the news to his family.

Langloss “felt like I had been hit by a bus” when he received the news, he said. “Today’s been a really difficult day for everyone at our department. Harry was a mentor, a coach, and a leader who touched so many lives.”

Ulferts is survived by his wife, Peggy, and his daughter, Elise Hume, also of Dixon. His son, Harry “Andrew” Ulferts, an Amboy Police officer, was killed in a motorcycle accident in May 2010.

Ulferts died of natural causes Sunday while vacationing overseas in Munich, Langloss said. Officers delivered the news to his family.

Harry Ulferts, who died Sunday, salutes riders in a memorial motorcycle ride as they pass his home in 2010. Ulferts retired as a Dixon Police lieutenant in 2003.

He also was a teacher. He taught criminal justice at Sauk Valley Community College since 1988 and at the Whiteside County Career Center since 2006. Between 2004 and 2005, he was an international police trainer with the U.S. Department of Justice in Iraq.

When Langloss joined the department, Ulferts was his mentor, as he had been for other officers.

“Harry was the kind of guy who loved new faces and loved positive energy,” Langloss said. “He always was willing to go the extra mile for people.”

Ulferts, a 1969 Dixon High School grad, was with the Dixon Police Department from 1973 to 2003, and was a licensed private detective since 1986.
MONDAY, JULY 2, 2012

LOCAL HERO

Community says goodbye to Ulferts

Beloved Dixon instructor, police officer remembered

BY EMILY K. COLEMAN
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DIXON – Standing at the front of a crowded church, Harry Ulferts’ daughter told those gathered that legends never die.

“If you make yourself more than just a man, then you become something else entirely,” Elise Ulferts-Hume said. “You become a legend. Every since I remember, I was told by many people that, ‘We need more people like your dad. We need more Harry Ulferts in this world.”

Students, police officers, firefighters, colleagues, friends and family gathered under the tall wooden beams of Immanuel Lutheran Church Saturday to say goodbye.

Ulferts, 61, of Dixon, died June 17 of natural causes while vacationing in Munich.

His wife, Peggy, and Elise’s husband, Joey Hume, had joined Elise in Cologne, where she was teaching, for a 2-week trip through Germany and Switzerland.

Harry had stayed behind an extra week, so that he could go to all the museums and sites at the pace he wanted. (During museum visits, the rest of the family would be done. Peggy joked, and Harry would still be in the first room reading everything.)

HERO CONTINUED ON A2

Dixon police detectives Brad Sibley (left) and Clay Whelan, and Chief Danny Langloss, lead retired police lieutenant Harry Ulferts’ casket to its final resting place in Palmyra Cemetery Saturday morning. Ulferts, 61, died June 17 while vacationing in Munich.
Daughter: ‘My dad was a protector’

The trip was important, Elise said, because her father had wanted to show her and her new husband his favorite city in the whole world, and where he was the host to many fond father-son memories.

“He made it a point to take us everywhere him and my brother went,” Elise said. “That was very important to us. It meant a lot.”

The Ulferts’ son, Harry Andrew Ulferts, 26, a police officer like his father had been, died 2 years earlier in an off-duty motorcycle accident.

“His heart was never the same,” Peggy said. “He wanted to share his memories with us. It was just so important to him. I mean, I know he wanted to live. He wanted to continue to do everything, but there was a big hole. We both had a big hole, but that was his boy.”

As the family was sorting through papers after Harry’s death, they discovered an essay Andrew had written while attending Sauk Valley Community College, said the Rev. Frank Langhoff, who used Harry’s well-used and notated Bible during the service.

It was titled “My father, my inspiration.” In it, Andrew wrote about the annual trips he took with his dad. His most memorable times, he said, were when they went to Munich together.

One of the dozens of photos, mementos and tributes that filled four tables in the vestibule shows Harry in his Dixon police uniform, a young Andrew on his lap in a junior police officer uniform. Andrew grew up to be a police officer for Amboy and Franklin Grove departments.

Ulferts was a longtime Dixon police officer, joining the department in 1973 and retiring as a lieutenant 30 years later. He taught law enforcement and criminal justice courses at Sauk Valley Community College, Whiteside Area Career Center and Everest College Phoenix’s online division. He also was a private investigator, and had been an international police trainer with the U.S. Department of Justice in Iraq.

“My dad was a protector,” Elise said. “He protected his friends, his family and his community. He wanted everybody to be happy, but he wanted everybody to be safe. He was like a big father to the community, not just to my brother and I.”

One of her father’s dog tags has joined her brother’s around her neck.

“I feel like his hand is covering my heart,” she said.

It wasn’t long after Harry joined the police department that he asked Peggy out on their first date.

“He actually knew who I was, because my brother and him were the same age,” she said. “He was coaching a girls baseball team. At one point, I crossed the field and he said, ‘Who is that?’ He was told, ‘She’s only 17. You can’t touch her.’”

But not long after Peggy graduated from high school, Harry, who was 5 years older, slowed down his squad car while she was out jogging and asked her to the policeman’s ball.

That was their first date. Their second date involved a drive down old Palmyra Road. Harry wanted to show her his favorite house.

“We ended up buying it even before we were married,” Peggy said. “We’ve been there every since. It’s huge. It’s an old two-story stucco. It’s got a cupola on the top, big pillars. It had no windows, it had no walls, it had no electricity, it had no plumbing. It had no nothing.”

But Harry was nothing if not positive, and he fixed it up himself, she said.

“Every since I was a baby, anytime anybody asked him how he was, he never said good, he never said great, he never said OK,” Elise said.

“He was outstanding. ... More importantly than just the word was the way he said it with the sincerity in his voice and in his eyes.”

Ulferts was buried with full police honors at Palmyra Cemetery in Dixon.
Memories of Harry Ulferts, a ‘champion’ human being

His positive attitude made Dixon better

TED TRULOCK

The Dixon community was shocked and saddened by the death of Harry Ulferts while on vacation in Germany. Harry was retired from a career as a dedicated, outstanding law enforcement officer. He was admired, respected, and loved by family, coworkers and countless friends.

In a special Sauk Valley Media article, Police Chief Danny Langloss did an excellent job telling Harry’s special attributes as a mentor, coach and leader.

One could easily see the admiration and love that police officers had for Harry.

Death has a terrible sting, but death will not end cherished memories. I have many cherished and fun memories with Harry Ulferts.

I first met Harry when I was the manager of the Parkway Drive-in. Harry’s best friend, Harry LaBar, worked for me, so Harry Ulferts would be there quite often. I often think about the fun times we had just joking around.

I can still see that ear-to-ear grin, whether the joke or teasing was on him or someone else.

He was always a pleasure to have around. Even as a teenager, his friendliness, positive attitude, and love for others was already in place. Later, LaBar moved from Dixon, but the two Harrys remained lifetime friends; they actually were like brothers.

After Harry became a policeman, he coached in my girls softball program at Ballou Park. His partner was fellow police officer Bill Walls. One player was a lovely young lady named Peggy Gabary. It appeared that Harry took notice of her, as they fell in love and later married.

I always teased him that he coached only to look for and find a wife.

His response was always the same – that big Harry Ulferts grin.

Harry was so unique; he holds a record as being the only person to bring a bugle to the games. When their team would have runners on the bases, he’d get out the bugle and play “Charge.”

Needless to say, the fans loved it. Harry always expressed to me that Bill Walls really helped him to develop as a police officer and coach.

My last time with Harry was last year when his daughter, Elise, was married. He was totally ecstatic that night and extremely proud. It was a large wedding, but Harry personally thanked everyone for attending. Needless to say, that is the kind of person he was, and his kids were everything to him.

The dictionary states that champion means “a winner.” Harry Ulferts was always a champion husband, father, police officer and public servant. He lived the “American dream.”

Harry Ulferts was the best of the best. We are a better community because he lived among us. We love you, Harry.

Note to readers – Ted Trulock coached many years at Dixon High School until his retirement.
Department Review
In 2012, the Dixon Police Department answered / initiated 14,225 calls and handled 394 accidents involving injury and/or damage over $1,500.00. Officers actually responded to 570 accidents, but legislation in July 2010 changed the damage threshold from $500.00 to $1,500.00. This reduced the number of accidents that officers were required to report to the State of Illinois.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012 Arrests / Citations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Driving Under the Influence of alcohol/drugs or zero</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tolerance for motorist under 21 years of age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speeding</td>
<td>618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Ordinance Citations</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Related Arrests</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Officers trained or attended 1401 hours of continuing education and training in police tactics, technology, and strategies.

The laws and case law decisions are ever changing; this is something that all officers must stay abreast of.
Citations
Compared to 2011, citations issued for ordinance violations are up to 129 in 2012, compared to 97 in 2011. This was due in large part to the roll-out of a new initiative or diversionary program to keep minor violations out of the criminal courts. It is a second chance program that the department is looking to expand as we move into 2013. The program allows more misdemeanor charges to be issued through a city ordinance as opposed to charging someone on a criminal complaint. The violator is then given a settlement date and fine amount that needs to be paid. If they take care of it by that date the violation does not show up on their criminal record. If they do not, the citation is filed in court and it goes through that process. The most significant increases have shown up in the Consumption/Possession of Alcohol as a Minor and misdemeanor counts of Possession of Cannabis.

Felony, Misdemeanors & Drug-related
Felony, misdemeanor and drug-related arrests were down from 663 in 2011 to 532 in 2012. Some of that can be attributed to the new ordinance initiative and their increase in 2012. Another significant factor in the decrease is the number of drug arrests, which have steadily declined since 2010. Much of this is based on the strategies that have been implemented by the department over the last several years. Drug enforcement remains one of our top priorities.

One of the strategies that has been employed is the use of confidential informants. They have the ability to allow us to arrest numerous individuals at one time and have a significant impact over a longer period. An example of this is “Operation Extended Term” which was completed in 2010. Numerous people were sent to prison for a variety of drug-related offenses, and many of those individuals are still incarcerated at this time.

The Dixon Police Department has also fostered a great relationship with the community and that relationship has been a huge factor in drug arrests and gleaning drug intelligence. The community has been very supportive of the efforts of the Dixon Police Department and they have been instrumental in several investigations. Our reputation, and that of the community, is that we have a zero tolerance for drugs. We have seen a dramatic decrease in the sale of cocaine in our area.
Drugs
Prescription (Oxycodone-Hydrocodone, Morphine, Fentanyl) and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs are causing the biggest concern for us now and probably into the foreseeable future. There are over 120 OTC products, primarily cough and cold medicines that contain Dextromethorphan (DXM). DXM goes by several pseudonyms or slang terms (DM, nicks, robo, rojo, skittles, dex, tussin, velvet and vitamin D). Some common medicines are Robotussin, Nyquil, Vicks Formula 44, and Coricidin HBP Cough and Cold. When taken in an excessive dose, DXM abusers can feel euphoria, dizziness, nausea, hallucinations, seizures, and possibly death. We are attempting to stay ahead of the curve with this and although the department has not had any confirmed calls of a DXM overdose, there have been a lot of rumors and innuendo that local teens have been “robo tripping” etc. at house parties.

Why are kids abusing these drugs? *Easy to acquire, Available everywhere, and Cheap.*

Although one or more of the signs below are not necessarily indicative of substance abuse, if several of them are present, a parent needs to be concerned. If you are concerned, have a proactive conversation with your child. You can also reach out to the police department for advice and or information that they may be able to provide.

**Do you think your child may be using drugs? (Signs)**
- Eyes are red-rimmed and/or nose is runny, but they have no cold
- Eating and sleeping patterns change
- Extreme weight loss or gain
- Withdrawn, tired, and careless about personal grooming
- Hostile and uncooperative; frequently breaks curfew
- Verbally and physically abusive
- Relationships with friends and family deteriorate
- Grades and school attendance slip
- Memory and attention difficulties
- Rebellious, lies, cheats, and steals

(Source: Let’s All Work To Fight Drug Abuse 2012)

Heroin is especially difficult for officers to investigate. We have to modify our enforcement efforts to deal with the changes. Heroin users are a tight knit group and one or more of the users typically drive to Rockford to get the drugs for everyone. They are making daily trips to get their drugs and there haven’t been a lot of “stashes” in Dixon. When we use a confidential informant they need to stay clean; this is nearly impossible when they are addicted to heroin. We are modifying our efforts to curb this problem in the community.
Missing Children
In May of 2012, the Dixon Police Department received an alarming call of three missing children. The initial report was a father of an 8-year old who had been notified by the Dixon Public Schools that his child had not shown up at school and there had been no call to report the child’s absence. Through the initial investigation, it was learned that the 8-year old boy had recently been associating with a 7-year old boy. Officers then learned that the 7-year old boy was also absent from school. The 7-year old boy had a 6-year old sister that was also discovered to be absent from school. Descriptions of the children were broadcast to Dixon Police Officers and they began to saturate the area in an effort to locate the children. A witness was located and they reported seeing the children in the area of Division Street and Chestnut Avenue near Reagan Middle School at approximately 7:30 a.m. The children were all seen together on the sidewalk that leads up to Reagan Middle School.

After the initial search efforts failed to discover the whereabouts of the children, the Department implemented an alert notification through “A Child is Missing”. This alert notification system has the capability to place up to 1,000 calls every 60 seconds in the geographic area where the children were last observed. The program is supported by a grant through the U.S. Department of Justice - Office of Justice Programs and more information can be obtained at www.achildismissing.org. The Department also contacted Sauk Valley News and requested that a text alert be disseminated to their contact database in an effort to have more individuals looking for the missing children.

The Dixon Police Department then requested the assistance of numerous other agencies to help out with the search efforts and provide additional personnel. The department was joined by the Lee County Sheriff’s Department, the Dixon Fire Department, the Dixon Rural Fire Department, the Lee County Emergency Management Agency, the Dixon Street Department, the Dixon Water Department, and the Dixon Sewer Department. It is believed that there were more than 40 first responders that assisted in the operation. The search efforts began with personnel dividing up into two-man teams to conduct a checkerboard search pattern of all the streets south of 7th Street that were between Galena Avenue and Chicago Avenue. Law enforcement and fire department personnel also utilized ATVs and foot patrols to search the area of the Burlington Northern Railway that is located south of Reagan Middle School.

The children were located in the enclosed porch of 320 Poplar, Dixon, by Deputy Yater of the Lee County Sheriff’s Department. The residence was currently up for sale and it was quickly learned that the children had caused several thousand dollars in damage by spray painting walls, spilling paint on the floors and carpet and breaking items. The case was settled through the Civil Court Process.
Patrol Division

Notable Arrests in 2012

February 12, 2012
Arrestee: Brandon M. Frey
Charges: Possession of Cannabis 30 to 500 grams
 Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

While on routine patrol, Officer Cox ran the registration on a vehicle that was registered to Frey. Frey came back with an outstanding arrest warrant out of Whiteside County. Officer Cox stopped the vehicle and arrested Frey. Officers located items of drug paraphernalia during a search of Frey’s person incident to arrest.

Officers summoned the Lee County Sheriff’s Department K-9 handler Deputy Ranken and his partner, Pepper. Pepper alerted for the presence of a controlled substance or cannabis when he conducted a free air sniff of the vehicle. Officers subsequently located a baggie containing 193 grams of cannabis under the driver’s front seat.

Frey pled guilty to both charges and was sentenced to 60 days in the Lee County Jail on April 5, 2012. On January 3, 2013, Frey received a sentence of 1 year in the Illinois Department of Corrections for a revocation of his probation.

March 2012
Arrestee: Eric W. Weeks
 Charge: Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child

A nationwide warrant for Eric Weeks was issued out of Davenport, IA for an Illinois equivalent charge of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child. Officers received Information that Weeks was at a hotel in Dixon and that he had made threats that he was aware of the arrest warrant and would not go peacefully. Officers located Weeks’s vehicle at the Super 8 in Dixon. Officers determined that Weeks was staying in Room 200. Officers established a perimeter and an arrest team, with lethal and non-lethal options, to respond accordingly to Weeks’s actions. Detective Albert, one of our crisis negotiators, placed a phone call to Weeks and explained that officers knew he was there and that he needed to surrender. Weeks was then taken into custody without incident.
Patrol Division

Notable Arrests in 2012

April 2012
Arrestee: James S. Jameson
Charges: Burglary to a Motor Vehicle
         Obstructing Justice
Arrestee: James Zacharias
Charges: Burglary to a Motor Vehicle;
         Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

Officers were contacted in the early morning hours by an alert citizen on Good Street. The caller stated that there were a couple of young males wearing dark hoodie sweatshirts. The caller recognized one of the subjects to be James Jameson; he was looking through a wallet. The caller didn’t know if the wallet belonged to Jameson. A second caller in the area called and stated that they observed two subjects and one of them entered a vehicle.

Officers located James S. Jameson and James Zacharias in a garage; after further investigation they were charged with Burglary to a Motor Vehicle. Jameson was also charged with Obstructing Justice and Zacharias was charged with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Officer Shaw did an exemplary job on processing the vehicles for latent fingerprints. They were submitted to the Illinois State Police Forensic Crime Laboratory in Rockford and the results came back that one of the latent fingerprints belonged to James Zacharias. At the time of this arrest, Jameson was also out on bond for previous car burglary arrests in December of 2011, February 2011, and December of 2010.

July 2012
Arrestee: Susan E. Emmole
Charge: Defacement of Property

Emmole pled guilty to a charge of Criminal Defacement of Property that she was arrested for in August of 2010. At that time, Emmole had spray painted vulgar and defamatory statements on a residence in Dixon. This occurred on several occasions from July 1, 2010 to July 23, 2010. Similar statements were also spray painted on Oliver’s Food Pride, Washington School, and Heritage Square. Emmole was given court supervision, but was also ordered to pay $1,520 in restitution to the victim and $778 to the Dixon Police Department to defray overtime costs that were incurred to apprehend her.

In August of 2012, Emmole was arrested again, this time for residential burglary, the case is pending at this time.
Notable Arrests in 2012

**July 28, 2012**

David A. Jones

**Arrestee:** Home Invasion  
**Charges:**  
Criminal Trespass to a Residence  
Unlawful Use of Weapons  
Criminal Damage to Property

Dixon officers were advised at approximately 2:25 a.m. of a man who had entered a residence located at 1214 Ann Avenue, Dixon, Illinois. Officers were advised that the man was armed with an axe. While officers were en-route, the subject left the residence in a vehicle. Officers were provided with a description of the vehicle and subsequently located it in the area. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle and Jones was taken into custody following an investigation. No one was injured at the residence.

**October 2012**

**Arrestee:** Dustin M. Yarbrough  
**Charges:**  
Aggravated Domestic Battery  
Aggravated Battery  
Criminal Trespass to a Residence  
Criminal Damage to Property

At approximately 5:30 a.m. on October 21, 2012, Dixon officers were called to the KSB Emergency Room for a female subject who had been battered. The female had facial injuries that were evident to the officer. It was determined that officers would speak with her further after she had sought treatment. Officers spoke with the female later in the day. It was learned that Dustin Yarbrough had arrived at the victim’s residence and had entered without consent. The victim was then battered, resulting in the injuries which required the treatment at the hospital. This case is still pending in Lee County.

These cases and defendants are just a few examples of the exemplary police work that was conducted by the patrol division in 2012. It is hard to put into words all the great things that officers do on a daily basis, but in general most investigations start with patrol officers.

*All defendants that have not been convicted are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*
During 2012, the personnel assigned to the Detective Division remained constant. Officers assigned to the division consisted of Lieutenant Clay Whelan, Sergeant Matt Richards, Detective Craig Miller, Detective Andy Oros, Detective Nick Albert, and Detective Jessica Garza. School Resource Officers Jason LaMendola and Tony Quadraro also fall under the Detective Division while school is in session for the year. Throughout 2012, there were 50 investigative case files opened and a number of other cases where investigatory assistance were provided.

**Byron Adams Found Guilty**

The most notable accomplishment was the culmination of the three year homicide investigation of Margaret Atherton. On October 9, 2012, Byron Adams was found guilty of First Degree Murder after a week long jury trial. He was later sentenced to the maximum term of 60 years in prison. The murder was discovered in the afternoon of September 11, 2009, after the department responded to a call of a purse located in a dumpster behind Dollar Tree in Dixon. The purse was recovered and further investigative efforts led to a welfare check on Margaret Atherton at her residence of 805 West First Street.

Mrs. Atherton was located deceased inside the residence; was the victim of an apparent homicide. An autopsy revealed that the cause of Margaret Atherton’s death was asphyxiation by strangulation.

The department activated the recently formed Major Case Squad and elicited the assistance of investigators from neighboring jurisdictions. Investigators from the Lee County Sheriff’s Department, Illinois State Police, and the Sterling Police Department were called upon to assist with the homicide investigation. A canvas around the homicide scene and the site where her purse was discarded yielded several good leads. Investigators were able to tie those leads together and Byron Adams was developed as a suspect by approximately 7:30 p.m. that evening.

An arrest warrant was obtained for Byron Adams by 11:30 p.m. that evening on an unrelated charge of Possession of a Stolen Vehicle. Byron Adams was located in the City of Chicago and was taken into custody on the morning of September 13, 2009 by the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force.
Even though Byron Adams was arrested within two days of the murder, there remained hundreds more hours of investigative work to be completed. Throughout 2010, 2011, and 2012, detectives continued to delve into the case. Evidence was submitted to the Illinois State Police Crime Lab to be analyzed forensically and surveillance pictures were submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for enhancement. A chronological compilation of Byron Adams in several surveillance videos was also developed.

In the months leading up to the trial, investigators routinely met with the Lee County State’s Attorney’s Office to review facts of the investigation and explore trial strategy. Lee County Assistant State’s Attorney Peter Buh presented an outstanding case at trial and worked tirelessly in the months leading up to it. The conviction and stern sentence was a testament to the diligence and teamwork between the Dixon Police Department and the Lee County State’s Attorney’s Office throughout this investigation.
Detective Division

Notable Investigations in 2012

Heroin “Buy / Bust” Investigation

In January, Detectives facilitated the arrest of three individuals on drug related charges in an operation that is commonly referred to as a “buy / bust”. A confidential informant told investigators that a subject from Rockford had been delivering heroin to the Dixon area. A deal was arranged to take place in the parking lot of a local business as officers took up surveillance positions. Three subjects arrived in a vehicle and a purchase of heroin was completed. As the subjects began to leave Dixon, a traffic stop was initiated and all three subjects were taken into custody on various charges.

Raymond Brown, age 28, of Rockford was arrested and charged with Criminal Drug Conspiracy (2 counts), Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 feet of a School, Delivery of a Controlled Substance, and Possession of a Controlled Substance. After the arrest, it was discovered that Raymond Brown was currently on parole from the Illinois Department of Corrections on charges of Robbery and Vehicular Invasion in which he had received a sentence of 7 ½ years.

Michael Shell, age 40, of Rockford was also arrested and charged with Criminal Drug Conspiracy (2 counts), Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 feet of a School, and Delivery of a Controlled Substance.

Jeremy Bland, age 34, of Rockford was arrested and charged with Criminal Drug Conspiracy (2 counts), Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 feet of a School, Delivery of a Controlled Substance, and Unlawful Use of Weapons. The charge of Unlawful Use of Weapons pertained to a stun gun that was located under his seat.

- Raymond Brown has since pled guilty to Criminal Drug Conspiracy in Lee County Court Case Number 2012 CF 12 and is awaiting sentence.
- Michael Shell has pled guilty to Criminal Drug Conspiracy in Lee County Court Case Number 2012 CF 14 and was sentenced to 4 years in the Department of Corrections.
- Jeremy Bland plead guilty to Unlawful Use of Weapons, and he received a sentence of 12 months probation in Lee County Court Case Number 2012 CF 13.
Notable Investigations in 2012

**Heroin Investigation**

In February, three individuals were arrested following a month long drug investigation. During the investigation, a confidential informant made controlled purchases of heroin from these individuals.

Thomas O’Brien, age 28, of Dixon was arrested and charged with Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 feet of a School, Delivery of a Controlled Substance, and Possession of a Controlled Substance.

Curt Cheffer, age 26, of Dixon was also arrested and charged with Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 feet of a School, Delivery of a Controlled Substance, and Possession of a Controlled Substance. Bond was set in the amount of $75,000.00.

Charles Ackerson, age 32, of Dixon was arrested and charged with Delivery of a Controlled Substance (2 counts), Criminal Drug Conspiracy (2 counts), and Possession of a Controlled Substance. Ackerson has since pled guilty to Criminal Drug Conspiracy, and he was sentenced to 30 months probation and 180 days incarceration.

A fourth subject was later charged as a result of further investigation. Stephanie Ingersoll, age 25, of Dixon was arrested and charged with Criminal Drug Conspiracy, Delivery of a Controlled Substance, and Possession of a Controlled Substance. Bond was set at $25,000.

*Dispositions are still pending on this case.*

Dixon Police Department Annual Report 2012
Notable Investigations in 2012

**Heroin Investigation**

On March 7\textsuperscript{th}, another arrest was made in regards to the sale of heroin in the Dixon area. Preston W. McMunn, age 32, of 919 Douglas Avenue, Dixon, was arrested on a warrant for the charges of Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1000 feet of a School, Delivery of a Controlled Substance, and Possession of a Controlled Substance. While the charges were still pending in this matter, Preston McMunn died from a heroin overdose in August.

**Armed Robbery**

On April 2\textsuperscript{nd}, the Department received a 911 call and officers responded to the 700 block of North Brinton Avenue regarding an armed robbery. The investigation revealed that the armed robbery had actually taken place in the 800 block of East Graham Street; however, the victim and some acquaintances located the suspect walking in the 700 block of North Brinton. A confrontation ensued and the department was notified. The suspect fled southbound from the area prior to the arrival of officers.

During the investigation, officers located a knife that was believed to be the weapon used in the armed robbery. An undisclosed amount of currency was taken from the female victim during the incident; she was not injured. The subject was known only by the name of “Donte” to the victim. He was described as being a black male in his early 20’s with a Mohawk style haircut and having numerous tattoos on both arms as well as tear drop tattoos under his eye.

The investigation led to the identification of Donte Myles, age 25, of Chicago. Myles was on parole from the Illinois Department of Corrections on previous charges of Armed Robbery out of Cook County. A warrant for a violation of his parole had been previously issued due to his failure to abide by mandatory supervised release conditions. On April 5\textsuperscript{th}, an arrest warrant was obtained for Donte Myles on charges of Armed Robbery; bond was set in the amount of $500,000.00. It was believed that Myles had fled to the Chicagoland area shortly after the incident. Myles was later located and arrested by the Chicago Police Department during a traffic stop. He is currently incarcerated with the Illinois Department of Corrections and the charges against him are still pending in Lee County Court. Case Number 2012 CF 63.
Notable Investigations in 2012

**Burglary - Cash for Gold**

Also in April, Dixon Police Officers responded to an activated alarm at Cash for Gold, located at 1112 South Galena Avenue. The responding officer found that entry had been forced to the building and a safe was missing. The safe contained gold and currency for the business. Detectives were called in to assist with the investigation. The following day, a safe similar to the one taken was found discarded in the Hennepin Canal within the City of Rock Falls. A comprehensive investigation led to the identification of three subjects and they were each charged with Burglary.

Caleb Leifheit, age 22, of Mount Morris was charged and has since pled guilty. He received 3 years in the Department of Corrections.

![Caleb Leifheit]

Jason Geeting, age 36, of Rock Falls was charged with Burglary, and he pled guilty to a period of 4 years in the Department of Corrections.

![Jason Geeting]

Ethan Seidel, age 22, is charged with Burglary and a disposition in the case is still pending.

![Ethan Seidel]

**Criminal Sexual Assault**

Over the same month of April, investigators received a report of a convicted sex offender that forced himself onto an underage female victim. Just prior to the offense, the sex offender had provided drugs to the minor victim so she was under the influence at the time of the act.

As a result of the investigation, Avary Farster, age 23, of Dixon was charged with several sex offenses based on reports from two separate female victims. A second female victim was identified and agreed to cooperate with the investigation. Farster was charged with Criminal Sexual Assault and Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse (2 counts). Bond on the cases was set in the amount of $500,000.00, and he is currently incarcerated at the Lee County Jail.

![Avary Farster]
Detective Division

Notable Investigations in 2012

Ogle County Homicide

In May, Dixon Police Detectives were called upon to assist the Ogle County Sheriff’s Department with a homicide investigation that occurred in their jurisdiction. The bodies of Vickie Weegens, age 55, and Gerald Fossler, age 49, were located in the yard of their rural residence located at 4170 Evergreen Road in Polo.

Dixon Police Investigators teamed up with Ogle County Sheriff’s Detectives to conduct the investigation. This collaborative investigative effort was made possible through the Major Case Squad agreement of numerous area law enforcement agencies. The agreement is in place and it allows for assistance to be provided to area law enforcement agencies upon request.

As a result of their work, it was determined that this was a domestic violence situation in which Gerald Fossler had murdered Vickie Weegens, his long time girlfriend, and then committed suicide.

Aggravated Battery to a Child

On August 6th, the department was contacted by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and advised there was a two-year-old female who was admitted to Rockford Memorial Hospital with a perforated bowel. The attending physician believed that the cause of the bowel perforation was from child abuse and had been caused by blunt force trauma to the abdomen.

During the course of the investigation, detectives were able to determine that Ellis punched the two-year-old victim in the abdomen causing the injury. The department elicited the United States Secret Service to assist with the investigation by administering polygraphs to individuals who were identified as suspects.

As a result of the investigation Eric L. Ellis, age 28, of Dixon was arrested and charged with Aggravated Battery of a Child and Aggravated Domestic Battery. He is currently incarcerated at the Lee County Jail on $200,000.00 bond; the charges against him are still pending in Lee County Court Case Number 2012 CF 154.
Detective Division

Notable Investigations in 2012

**Drug Induced Homicide**

On August 19th, the Department responded to a drug overdose at 919 Douglas Avenue in Dixon. Officers located Preston McMunn, age 32, deceased in the residence. Detectives were subsequently called in to assist.

Through the investigation Eleana Montgomery, the girlfriend of McMunn, was identified as supplying heroin to him. An autopsy later confirmed that Preston McMunn had died of an overdose of heroin.

Ms. Montgomery was charged with Drug Induced Homicide in October, and she has since pled guilty to the charge. Ms. Montgomery received a sentence of 7 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

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**Stabbing / Aggravated Battery**

On August 31st, investigators were called upon for a stabbing that occurred in the 300 block of Madison Avenue. The victim was stabbed with a box cutter style knife during an altercation with an individual known to the victim. The victim went to KSB Hospital for treatment and officers were notified by the medical staff.

The perpetrator was identified as Edward A. Martin, age 24, of Dixon. Detectives learned that Martin had fled town so an arrest warrant was obtained on charges of Aggravated Battery, Unlawful Possession of Weapons by a Felon, and Unlawful Use of Weapons. Investigators received information that Martin was hiding in the Sterling area. The Sterling Police Department was contacted and provided with the information and his photograph.

On September 14th, Martin was arrested by Sterling Police Officers. Martin has since pled guilty to the charge of Aggravated Battery, and he received a sentence of 2 years in the Department of Corrections.
Detective Division

Notable Investigations in 2012

**Drug Deal Gone Bad**
On September 1st at 12:55 a.m., officers were sent to KSB Hospital for a report of a subject who had been struck by a vehicle. Officers spoke to the victim and learned that the incident began as a drug transaction. The victim reported that he met with four subjects in a white vehicle near the 1200 block of Washington Avenue to facilitate a drug deal. A gun was displayed by a passenger during the incident in an effort to steal the drugs from the victim. A brief struggle ensued, and the victim placed his arm in the vehicle. One of the passengers held onto the victim’s arm as the driver of the vehicle drove away. The victim was able to hold onto the vehicle for a short time, but he eventually fell to the ground. The victim’s legs were run over by the vehicle. During the course of the investigation, officers identified the subjects responsible for the incident.

Patrick M. Linscott, age 23, of Dixon was charged with Aggravated Robbery and Aggravated Battery. Charges still pending.

Samantha J. Thomas, age 19, of Dixon was charged with Aggravated Robbery and Aggravated Battery. Charges still pending.

Karl E. Ketchum, age 17, of Dixon was charged with Aggravated Robbery and Aggravated Battery. Charges still pending.

Jason M. Yater, age 20 of Dixon was charged with Aggravated Robbery and Aggravated Battery. He pled guilty to Aggravated Battery and he was sentenced to 96 days in the Lee County Jail and 30 months probation.

Karl E. Ketchum, age 17, of Dixon was charged with Aggravated Robbery and Aggravated Battery. Charges still pending.
Notable Investigations in 2012

Sex Offender Compliance Checks

On the morning of October 26th, investigators broke up into teams and began a city-wide sex offender compliance check. Within 30 minutes officers located two sex offenders that were out of compliance.

Clint E. Starr, age 25, had registered with the department as a homeless sex offender. Officers made contact with him and inquired about his location. Starr indicated that he was at a residence in the 500 block of West 6th Street in Dixon. Investigators met with Starr at the location and began speaking with the occupants of the residence. It was learned that Starr had been staying at that location and was in violation of the Sex Offender Registration Act. Starr was charged with Unlawful Failure to Register as a Sex Offender.

As one team investigated Starr’s violation, a second team was checking a residence of 800 block of North Brinton Avenue. Officers had prior knowledge that Ariel M. Braker, age 31, had attempted to register this residence at the beginning of the month as his address. The department was aware of a DCFS registered daycare that is within 500 feet of the residence. Braker was informed that he could not reside at this location due to the daycare being within 500 feet. Braker then registered as homeless with the Dixon Police Department. As officers made contact with the occupants of the residence, they were informed that Braker was at the location. After waiting for several minutes Braker did not come downstairs to meet with officers. The occupants checked for Braker and then stated that they could not find him. Officers searched the second floor and attic of the residence and did not locate Braker inside the residence. During the search of the attic, a window was found ajar. Officers inside the residence then requested other officers that were outside of the dwelling and on the perimeter to begin checking the roofline for Braker. An officer observed Braker laying on the back roof of the residence. Braker agreed to surrender and he proceeded back to the attic window where he was taken into custody. Braker was charged with Unlawful Failure to Register as a Sex Offender and Unlawful Residence Within 500 Feet of a Daycare Home.

The sex offender compliance check also located a third sex offender that was not in compliance with the Act. Andre Montgomery, age 35, had a registered address in the 500 block of Depot Avenue. As officers checked that location, it was learned that he had left that residence a couple of weeks prior and had failed to fulfill his obligation in reporting it to the department. An arrest warrant was obtained for Montgomery on charges of Unlawful Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. He was subsequently tracked down in Rochelle and was taken into custody on the warrant a couple of days later.
Notable Investigations in 2012

Aggravated Arson
On September 20th at 2:43 a.m., the Dixon Police responded with Dixon Fire to a fire at 511 West 3rd Street. The caller observed flames and smoke coming from the residence. Upon their arrival, responding officers observed three separate fires on the south, west, and north sides of the building. Officers and firefighters were able to extinguish the fires; there were no injuries reported at the residence. The investigation revealed that each fire had been intentionally set. The Arson Investigation Unit of the Illinois State Fire Marshal’s Office was contacted in order to assist in processing the crime scene.

A short time later officers arrested Christopher C. Owens, age 20, of Dixon on a charge of Aggravated Battery that stemmed from an earlier disturbance at that residence. Owens was later charged with Attempted Murder (7 counts) and Aggravated Arson (4 counts) for setting the fire at the residence. Owens is currently incarcerated at the Lee County Jail on $100,000.00 bond in Lee County. Court Case Number 2012CF181.

Heroin Investigation
In November, detectives concluded a several month investigation involving the sale of heroin by a Dixon resident. A confidential informant made two purchases of heroin, and as a result Alax M. Farster, age 35, of 817 South Ottawa Avenue, Dixon was arrested on November 27th. Farster was charged with Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 feet of a school (2 counts), Delivery of a Controlled Substance, and Possession of a Controlled Substance. Bond was set in the amount of $200,000.00 and he is currently incarcerated at the Lee County Jail pending disposition on the case.
On December 31st, investigators were contacted by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services in regards to a child abuse case. It was learned that there was a one-year-old female that was admitted to KSB Hospital with a broken arm.

During the course of the investigation, investigators were able to determine that Naylor L. Rice, age 18, of Dixon had forcefully grabbed and pulled the child causing the injury. Rice was charged with Aggravated Battery of a Child and Aggravated Domestic Battery for the injuries to the child. He was additionally charged with Criminal Sexual Abuse, as the mother of the child was only 15-years-old. At the time of this incident, Naylor Rice was on parole from the Illinois Department of Corrections on the charge of Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapons. He is currently incarcerated with the Illinois Department of Corrections and the charges against him are still pending in Lee County Court Case Number 2013 CF 8.

The previously mentioned investigations are just a sample of the cases that the Dixon Police Department worked during 2012.
It should also be noted that any person awaiting trial should be presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
The Dixon Police Department Tactical Response Team (TRT) continued to perform various missions in 2012. The TRT’s overall mission priority is to, “Save Lives.” The team currently is comprised of ten members. Four additional officers also operate as snipers in the event of a critical situation. Team members may be called upon to assist in safely resolving any incident for which they are activated. TRT consists of: Team Commander, Sergeant Mike Wolfley; Team Leader, Sergeant Matt Coppotelli; Assistant Team Leaders, Sergeant Steve Howell and Officer Jason LaMendola; Team Members, Officer Jeff Ragan, Officer Nick Albert, Officer Jake Muntean, Officer Lincoln Sharp, Officer Aaron Simonton and Officer John Simonton. The two sniper elements are comprised of Officer Les Shaw & Officer Ryan McWethy; Officer Doug Lehman & Officer Mark Dallas. In addition, Officer Ragan’s K-9 partner, Bobby and Officer Dallas’ K-9 partner, Bruno can be used for tracking and drug operations.

The Dixon Police Department Tactical Response Team may be deployed in a number of situations including “high risk” search and arrest warrants, barricaded subjects, active shooter situations, and vehicle assaults and hostage situations. Search warrant situations; intelligence information gathered prior to serving the warrant must indicate a propensity of the offenders to be armed, or to have a past history of violent activities in which there would be a strong likelihood of resistance to police officers. The location and layout of the structure are also factors in the consideration process. The officers must be able to make a quick entry into the structure to secure it and the individuals inside. This is accomplished using speed, surprise, and being able to overwhelm a person’s natural “fight or flight” defense response. Team members may also conduct surveillance during criminal intelligence gathering operations and controlled drug purchases.

ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE:

In light of recent incidents in the nation, the team continues to train in response to Active Shooter Situations. In the event of such an incident, the team members have been briefed that they are to take the initiative upon entry into such a situation to resolve the situation. Given their advanced training, the team member present is tasked with coordinating the responding patrol shifts to resolve the situation as quickly as possible. As always, the TRT has the continued support from the school district for training within the public schools as well as the two parochial schools in town. Response to school violence training is further conducted with the entire department.
Tactical Response Team

TRAINING:

Officer John Simonton is a retired Illinois State Trooper and was in charge of the Illinois State Police SWAT program. He currently works for our department 1,500 hours per year. He assists Sergeant Wolfley in training development. His knowledge and expertise is a valuable asset to the Dixon team and has greatly enhanced the team’s training and tactics.

The TRT trains every month covering areas such as: special weapons, dynamic entry, covert searches, hostage rescue, tactical movement, tactical planning, room clearing, linear assaults, and close quarter battle techniques. The team is supported by the snipers during call-outs. The snipers provide not only protective over watch for the entry team, but also gather and relay intelligence during a situation that can be used by the entry element. The department also currently has officers trained to perform Critical Incident Negotiations. These negotiations can be during an incident involving a suicidal subject, barricaded subject, or a hostage incident. These officers are trained to establish communications and defuse a situation, if possible, and safely resolve an incident.

TRT members have trained with the FBI-Chicago S.W.A.T. Team, the Illinois State Police North Tactical Response Team, the Rockford Police Department S.W.A.T. Team, and the Lee County Sheriff’s Department Tactical Response Team. Training has been conducted in a variety of locations ranging from houses, apartments, warehouses, and businesses, to vehicular and bus assaults.

LESS LETHAL FORCE:

Team members train in less-lethal force applications to aid in resolving conflicts as well. Examples of less-lethal means are the use of specialty impact munitions such as 12 gauge shotgun beanbag rounds and the 40mm Exact impact round. TRT members also have the capabilities to use chemical munitions to safely resolve incidents. Officers train with Avon protective masks which would be utilized in operations in which chemical munitions have been deployed.
2012 OPERATIONS:

There were several operations of note for the year. The team conducted a vehicle assault after an arranged drug buy from a Rockford Heroin dealer. Intelligence information suggested the subject normally carried a firearm.

The team also assisted the Rock Falls Police Department with a drug investigation in which they and the Whiteside County Sheriff Department’s team conducted simultaneous search warrants. The team was called upon later in the year for a suicidal subject. Near the end of the year, the team assisted the Blackhawk Area Task Force with a drug and weapons investigation in Dixon.

The TRT again had the opportunity to train in live, “real time” breaching. The team was fortunate to have had access to two homes which were scheduled for demolition. The team was able to conduct actual breaching on exterior and interior doors as well as windows. This provided members valuable training time on the dynamics of properly striking a door or window for the quickest entry. It also provided training on techniques for breaching doors which had been fortified. This is a key element of training, as the beginning of a safely initiated operation revolves around a quick and successful breach and entry.

The team also conducted a live-fire hostage incident which incorporated the team, both sniper elements, and the negotiators. The scenario allowed everyone to work on areas such as the recovery of a downed officer or subject, negotiations, communications between elements, sniper initiated assaults, and command post operations. These types of “live” training days are invaluable for everyone to experience in training and do not present themselves very often. It is the goal to conduct at least one of these types of full scenario training days each year.

TRT members continue to train to improve proficiency and maintain high standards of physical and mental fitness. Team members are highly dedicated officers who have displayed strong skills of motivation and self-discipline. Officers are trained to make split second decisions to quell a critical incident. These highly trained officers continue to provide the citizens of Dixon with a much safer community in which to reside.
Modern hostage negotiation principles began in 1972 when law enforcement recognized the need for trained personnel in the intervention of hostage and/or crisis situations. Crisis negotiation is a technique for law enforcement to communicate with people who are threatening violence, including: barricaded subjects, hostage takers, stalkers, threats, workplace violence, or persons threatening suicide. Hostage negotiation is a subset involving negotiation with a person or groups of people, for the release of one or more hostages.

The Dixon Police Department Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) executed one mission during 2012 in conjunction with the Tactical Response Team. As in years past, the CNT's overall mission priority is to “Save Lives.” The team currently is comprised of two members, Detective Nick Albert and Detective Jessica Garza. Over the history of the Dixon Police Department’s CNT many members of the department have participated as crisis negotiators including: Chief Langloss, Sergeant Richards, and Detective Oros.

TRAINING:

In the Fall of 2012, the CNT participated in a large training with the Dixon Police Tactical Response Team and the Dixon Police Department Sniper Team. This training was a full realistic scenario intended to activate all specialty teams simultaneously. The purpose of the training was to evaluate the team’s proficiency to work together as one unit for the common goal of resolving the incident by de-escalating it to save lives.

CNT members have all been to a 40-hour class and certified as Crisis Negotiators. They have also been to a 40-hour class and certified as Crisis Intervention Team Members. This training deals with resolving issues with persons with disabilities or mental disorders.

The CNT also has an agreement with the Lee County Sheriff’s Department CNT to respond and assist the Dixon Police Department’s CNT during an incident. This agreement provides more manpower in such incidents so that they can be resolved with the greatest amount of safety to personnel and the community. They can also call on the Sterling Police Department, the Rock Falls Police Department, the Ogle County Sheriff’s Department, the Illinois State Police, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation all who have training in Crisis Negotiators.

The CNT members continue to train to improve proficiency and maintain high standards of record keeping and mental fitness to insure each incident is resolved to the best possible outcome. Team members are highly dedicated officers who have displayed strong skills of motivation and self-discipline. These highly trained officers continue to provide the citizens of Dixon with a much safer community in which to reside.
Lee County Drug Court began its planning phase in early 2005. The first candidate was admitted to Drug Court in November of 2005. At this time, there are currently fourteen people placed in drug court up from twelve people in 2011. Currently four more people are being assessed for placement into drug court. Heroin is the drug of choice for many drug court clients. In 2012, there were two candidates that graduated from the Lee County Drug Court in November.

Drug court is a diversionary program for substance-abusing offenders in the community. Drug court is designed to help these offenders through comprehensive supervision, drug testing, treatment services, and immediate sanctions and incentives. Drug courts bring the full weight of all interveners together, forcing the offender to deal with his or her substance abuse problem.

Drug court is not intended for those who are distributing drugs into our community, rather it is for those who are addicted to drugs and are willing to make changes to their life. Drug court is meant to target addicts and the crimes that are committed to facilitate their addiction.

The mission of the Lee County Drug Court is to lower the effects of drug related crime and costs to the community by assessing and directing individuals with substance abuse problems into the judicial supervision of treatment with a goal of developing substance free productive citizens; thereby breaking the cycle of criminal recidivism. The goals of the Lee County Drug Court are to protect the public safety and public property by reducing the recidivism rate of drug court participants. The second is to produce an expedited system response to substance abusing offenders by accelerating the court process and treatment access. The third is to monitor the process through data collection and evaluation to enable the drug court program. Last is to demonstrate its value to produce productive citizens who have a legal source of income or who are enrolled in school.

In the 20 years since the first drug court was founded, there has been more research published on the effects of drug courts than on virtually all other criminal justice programs combined. The scientific community has put drug courts under a microscope and concluded that they work better than jail or prison; better than probation and treatment alone. Drug courts significantly reduce drug use and crime and are more cost-effective than any other proven criminal justice strategy.

Nationwide, 75% of drug court graduates remain arrest-free at least two years after leaving the program. Rigorous studies examining long-term outcomes of individual drug courts have found that reductions in crime last at least 3 years and can endure for over 14 years.
The most rigorous and conservative scientific “meta-analyses” have all concluded that drug courts significantly reduce crime as much as 35 percent more than other sentencing options.

Nationwide, for every $1.00 invested in drug court, taxpayers save as much as $3.36 in avoided criminal justice costs alone. When considering other cost offsets such as savings from reduced victimization and healthcare service utilization. Studies have shown benefits range up to $12 for every $1 invested. Drug courts produce cost savings ranging from $4,000 to $12,000 per client. These cost savings reflect reduced prison costs, reduced revolving-door arrests and trials, and reduced victimization. In 2007, for every Federal dollar invested in drug court, $9.00 was leveraged in state funding.

Unless substance abusing/addicted offenders are regularly supervised by a judge and held accountable, 70% drop out of treatment prematurely. Drug courts provide more comprehensive and closer supervision than other community-based supervision programs. Drug courts are six times more likely to keep offenders in treatment long enough for them to get better.

Parents in drug court are more likely to go to treatment and complete it. Children of family drug court participants spend significantly less time in out-of-home placements such as foster care. Family re-unification rates are 50% higher for family drug court participants.

**DRUG COURT TEAM MEMBERS:**

Currently the members of the Lee County Drug Court team are: Lee County State’s Attorney’s Office, Anna Sacco-Miller; Lee County Probation Office, Kim Becker, Staci Stewart, Mike Wilcox, and Lesley Dever; Lee County Public Defender’s Office, Doug Lathe; Treatment, Jane LaFever; Lee County Judges, the Honorable Jacquelyn Ackert and the Honorable Ronald Jacobson; and Dixon Police Department, Steve Howell.

Sergeant Howell is the Dixon Police Department’s representative to the Lee County Drug Court. In October, Sergeant Howell replaced Detective Albert as the Dixon Police Department’s representative. Detective Albert has been a member of the Lee County Drug Court since December of 2005. Sergeant Howell’s responsibilities include monitoring candidates enrolled in drug court through home visits and compliance checks and the carrying out of swift delivery of warrants. Sergeant Howell also acts as a liaison to law enforcement agencies, assists candidates in gaining employment, conducts employment monitoring and visits, and drug screening. Sergeant Howell assists all members with special requests as they arise, and participates in staffing as a team member providing input and recommendations in the best interest of the participant and community.

“There is no greater time in our history than now to ensure we put Drug Court within reach of all who need it.”

- NADCP CEO Wes Huddleston
There are four phases of drug court. When candidates complete all four phases of the program, they then graduate. The Lee County Drug Court program lasts a minimum of one year. Most people take two years to complete the program. After successful completion of the program they are also eligible to have their felony charges, that placed them into drug court, expunged.

**TRAINING:**

In September of 2012, Detective Albert and other members of the drug court team attended the Illinois Association of Drug Court Professionals in Decatur, Illinois. While in Decatur, they learned that the new push by the federal government and many of the new grants will be geared towards Veteran Courts or services for veterans.

In July of 2013, Sergeant Howell and many other members of the drug court team are attending the 19th Annual National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) conference in Washington, D.C. This is a great opportunity to further their training and learn more about additions so they are on the cutting edge of proper treatment. There will also be opportunities to lobby our legislators to increase the federal spending for addictions.

The drug court team could not be more pleased with the change in lifestyle of their graduates. The people admitted to drug court are “hard core addicts” whose addictions are influencing every aspect of their lives. These are people that have frequent contact with law enforcement and now have made a commitment to change their behavior. Drug court has a saying: “To beat your addiction you must change your people, your places, and your things.” This could not be more true. These graduates have done just that and the drug court team could not be prouder. Sergeant Howell and the entire team are looking to expand the drug court program and are actively looking for additional drug court candidates.

Working together we can put the drug court within reach of every citizen in need. We will transform the justice system and lift up our society one neighbor at a time. That is why the Dixon Police Department and Sergeant Howell are committed to the drug court program.

“We know Drug Courts work… [they are] a justice based approach that can, in fact, change lives.”

- Assistant Attorney General
Laurie Robinson
The Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) is a consortium of law enforcement agencies all across the State of Illinois. The map below shows where the different ILEAS regions are located within the State. Officer Scott Heller & Officer Chris Cox of the Dixon Police Department are on the ILEAS Mobile Field Force (MFF), Region 2 Team. Some of the local police agencies that also have officers on the MFF team are Sterling, Oregon, Rochelle and Freeport just to name a few.

Alarm System purpose:
- To provide immediate extra law enforcement manpower and equipment at the scene of law enforcement emergencies.
- To provide for an automatic and systematic response of law enforcement manpower teams.
- To provide for contractual responsibilities and liabilities.
- To provide broad area coverage.
- To foster a cooperative spirit for law enforcement emergency planning.
- To provide access to specialized manpower and equipment which no one department could afford to maintain.

ILEAS does not relieve a community of its responsibility to provide adequate manpower and equipment for day-to-day law enforcement operations. Each agency has its first line of defense and its reserves. A community may only report to ILEAS when a law enforcement emergency has caused the agency to exceed its own routine capabilities.

The Mobil Field Force functions as a platoon of police officers of various ranks with a leader. Tactics used are based on small squad tactics developed by the Office of Domestic Preparedness as well as the more traditional MFF tactics. A team generally consists of four squads and may be supplemented by specialized units from ILEAS member agencies.
Department Statistics
DRUG COMPARISON 2010-2012

CANNABIS
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES
PARAPHERNALIA
OTHER DRUG CHARGES

2010 2011 2012
Statistics

**POSSESSION OF DRUGS**

- 2010: 199
- 2011: 139
- 2012: 89

**SALE/DELIVERY OF DRUGS**

- 2010: 102
- 2011: 43
- 2012: 36

**FELONIES & MISDEMEANORS**

- 2010: 883
- 2011: 663
- 2012: 532
### JUVENILE CONTACTS

- **2010**: 210
- **2011**: 231
- **2012**: 168

### WARRANT ARRESTS

- **2010**: 343
- **2011**: 339
- **2012**: 215
ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

2010: 78
2011: 97
2012: 130

ACCIDENT REPORTS

2010: 479
2011: 453
2012: 394
Statistics

2012 TRAFFIC CITATIONS
Total issued - 2155

- Speeding: 613
- Operation of Uninsured MV: 559
- No Valid Registration: 104
- Seat Belt/Child Restraint: 104
- Revocation/Suspension: 95
- All Other: 497
- Traffic Sign/Signal Violations: 107
- DUI/Zero Tolerance: 76
- Revocation/Suspension: 95

TRAFFIC ARRESTS

- 2010: 1608
- 2011: 2430
- 2012: 2155
2012 WARNING NOTICES
Total Issued - 2607

- No Taillights: 130
- One Headlight: 328
- No Lights When Required: 103
- Disobeyed Stop Sign/Signal: 290
- No Turn Signal: 122
- Other Moving Violations: 99
- All Other Violations: 440
- No Valid Registration: 102
- Other Equipment Violations: 121
- Speeding: 872
- No Lights When Required: 103

WARNING TICKETS

- 2010: 1726
- 2011: 2960
- 2012: 2607
Protecting Our Children
Erin’s Law

Protecting our children from sexual predators has always been a top priority of the Dixon Police Department. In November of 2000, then Detective Dan Langloss was selected as one of the first members of the Lee County Multi-Disciplinary Child Protection Team. Lee County State’s Attorney Linda Giesen applied for and received a grant that created the Shining Star Children’s Center. Members of the team became child forensic interviewers and received extensive specialized training for child sexual abuse investigations. Over the next few years, Langloss interviewed more than 150 children between the ages of 3 and 13 years old at the center. The team worked hard to put child predators behind bars.

Chief Langloss meets Erin Merryn

In February of 2010, Chief Langloss was working with the child protection team on a community awareness campaign focused on preventing child sexual abuse. While attending a training Conference, hosted by the Shining Star Children’s Center, he met an incredibly brave, courageous, driven, and determined young lady, Erin Merryn.

Erin shared her story of child sexual abuse. From the ages of 6-8 and then again from 11-13, Erin was sexually assaulted and abused by two men she knew and trusted. One of them was a family member. Erin spoke to more than 100 professionals on that day about how in school she was taught “Stop, Drop, and Roll”, the 8 ways to say “No” to drugs, and stranger danger. She knew exactly what to do if there was a tornado, but no one ever spoke with her about “Safe and Unsafe” secrets, “Safe and Unsafe” touches, or what to do when someone breaks the touching rule. The only message she received was from the perpetrators. Both her perpetrators told her that the abuse was “their little secret” and “no one would believe her.”

Years later Erin broke her silence and today she has turned her pain into passion, travelling the country as an activist and motivational speaker. On that February day, Erin spoke of her vision to mandate child sexual abuse prevention education in Illinois schools, to give all children something she didn’t have as a young girl: a voice. Immediately after her presentation, Chief Langloss spoke with Erin about her vision and the efforts underway in Dixon.
Erin’s Law

Bringing Erin’s Law to Life

Within 2 weeks of their first meeting, Chief Langloss and Erin met with Senator Tim Bivins (R-Dixon), and the first version of Erin’s Law was drafted. With the assistance of Representative Jerry Mitchell (R-Sterling), the Erin’s Law Task Force was created in May of 2011. Nineteen professionals were appointed to the task force and their work began in September of 2011. Chief Langloss was selected to serve as the Chairman of the task force and in May of 2012, the task force submitted their final report to Governor Quinn.

In November of 2012, Chief Langloss and Shining Star Children’s Center Executive Director Shelly Brantley met with Representative Linda Chapa Lavia (D-Aurora) and Senator Jacqueline Collins (D-Chicago). Both legislatures offered their full support and agreed to lead the way in a Democrat controlled House and Senate.

During the hearing in the House Education Committee (which was chaired by Representative Chapa Lavia) Representative Mitchell fought hard to have Erin’s story heard and passed out of the committee. This was the first education mandate Mitchell had supported in more than 15 years.

Erin’s Law

- Mandates child sexual abuse prevention education programs in public schools grades Pre-K through 12.
- Allows child sexual abuse training courses to be approved Certified Professional Development Units (CPDUs) for teachers.
- Allows for child sexual abuse training to be a selective strand of the Administrators Academy.
Erin’s Law passed both the Senate and the House of Representatives with overwhelming majorities. Governor Quinn signed HB 6913 (Erin’s Law) into law on January 24, 2013 at the Schaumburg Children’s Advocacy Center, the place Erin first broke her silence. This was a tremendous victory for the children of Illinois and a clear message to offenders across our State.

As of March 2013, Erin’s Law has been passed in 5 states, and Erin was named one of Glamour Magazine’s Women of the Year. On March 11, 2013, Chief Langloss presented Erin with Illinois Children Advocacy Center’s highest award, the Champion for Children Award. Erin is truly an inspiration to everyone in the law enforcement profession. It has been an incredible honor for the Dixon Police Department to have played a major role in this extraordinary endeavor.

Erin’s National Crusade

Erin has made it her mission to pass her law in all 50 states. Erin was Governor Quinn’s guest at the National Governors Conference. She shared her vision with these top law makers and met President Barack Obama.
Community Involvement
The biggest event in Dixon in 2012 was not the Petunia Festival, but the concert on August 18th featuring the band Mumford and Sons.

Josh Albrecht, Executive Director of Dixon Main Street, had submitted an essay to the promoters, and Dixon was chosen as one of the four cities from across the United States to hold a concert for the band. There was some concern within the community when it was first announced that Mumford and Sons were coming and that they were selling 15,000 tickets for the event. There were also several camping venues planned and some in the community were concerned about intoxicated people being in their neighborhoods, trash, and vandalism.

The police department and other public safety agencies met early and often with the promoters of the event, Jam Productions. They were great to work with and there were hundreds of hours of prep time that went in to this to ensure that everyone had a safe and good time.

The Mobile Command Post Bureau County Sheriff’s Office RV was the main command post located on the river front, having the police force centralized and visible to the public.
Dixon Hosts Concert

Thousands of people began descending upon Dixon early on August 17th. Amazingly, by having multiple camping venues traffic congestion was less of a problem than we anticipated. Due to the planning and staffing there were virtually no problems from a law enforcement perspective the entire weekend.

Everyone that spent time downtown on Friday and Saturday were very friendly and respectful to all, including the officers that were working. Although, Dixon was not chosen for the 2013 Mumford and Sons tour, we are hoping that the relationships fostered with Jam Productions may bring similar events to Dixon in the future.
Shop with a Cop

Over the past several years the Dixon Police Department has started numerous community programs, which include: Shop with a Cop, Dress for Success, and Holiday Food Baskets. The programs are geared towards building the relationship between the members of the police department and the community. The programs give people from the community a chance to interact with the officers outside the normal day-to-day police duties. These programs were established to help less fortunate families through difficult financial and emotional times.

In 2013 there were over 115 kids that participated in the Shop with a Cop Program. The Dixon Police Department along with the Lee County Sheriff’s Office were able to help many families with purchasing Christmas gifts for their children.

In addition to the Shop with a Cop, the Dixon Police Department was able to assist approximately 25 families with holiday meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The baskets of food included all the traditional holiday fixings.
The annual Clothes for Kids event was held on August 20th, 2012. Approximately 25 students participated in the program. The students were selected by consulting with locate agencies and schools.

The students and their families met at the Dixon Police Department. The students were paired with a Dixon Police Officer. The students and their families then enjoyed dinner with the officers.

After dinner the students, their families, and the officers traveled to Wal-Mart. Each child was provided with $100.00 to shop for clothes, shoes, and other items needed for school. The goal of the Dixon Police Department is to promote a sense of pride within the student by providing them with new items for the school year. All funding was provided by the Dixon Police Charitable Association.
The annual Cops and Bobbers fishing derby was held on August 25, 2012, along the bank of the Rock River at Lowell Park. This year’s event was a great success. There was a great turnout, 42 children participated and 28 fish were caught and released. This was the biggest turnout of participants since the event was created. Each child received a prize, snacks, and drinks for participating. Prizes were awarded for biggest fish and most fish caught in boys and girls divisions.

Seven year old Ellie Meyers was the big winner of the day. She landed five Channel Catfish (with the help of her grandpa’s secret recipe cheese bait). Ellie not only won the biggest fish award for her age group, but she also won the big prize for most fish caught by a participant.

Officer Les Shaw, Officer Tony Quadraro, and Retired Officer David Gerdes assisted with the event. Special thanks to Officer Shaw for his knowledge of fishing and use of his personal tackle. Some participants needed assistance with setting up their fishing poles or needed various tackle items. Officer Shaw was quick to lend a hand and see that all the children had a positive experience with a police officer. Great Job Officer Shaw!
Monday, August 27, 2012

COPS AND BOBBERS FISHING DERBY

ABOVE: Ethan Tate and his dad, Brandon Tate, of Dixon, fish off the edge of the dock at Saturday’s Cops and Bobbers fishing derby at Lowell Park, sponsored by the Dixon Police Department.

LEFT: Rick Tosi and granddaughter Ellie Meyers, 6, of Dixon, hope to reel in a few catfish during the fishing derby Saturday. The event gives kids through age 16 and their family members the opportunity to fish with a police officer.
Water, water everywhere ... well not so much this past summer, but Sauk Valley residents did have some fun last weekend with the wet stuff, whether from a hose, river or the sky itself. These fun-seekers are true

Water Sports

Photos by Michael Kuhberr: info@kuhberrimages.com

RIGHT: Rick Tosi helps Ellie Meyers, 6, of Dixon, reel in a catfish Aug. 25 during the Cops and Bobbers fishing derby at Lowell Park. The event was put on by the Dixon Police Department.

TOP: Water droplets form on well-waxed cars at Amboy Depot Days’ car show Aug. 26. Although attendance was down, car lovers braved the rain to show and see some of the fine vintage automobiles.

ABOVE: Xander Hudson, 9, of Tampico, holds a fish he caught at the Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA’s second annual Outdoor Adventure Fest. The YMCA stocked its pool with various types of fish and allowed kids to catch them.
WHAT IS THE PEER JURY PROGRAM

The Peer Jury Program envisions the deterrence of negative juvenile behavior by redirecting our youth to behave in a positive manner; therefore becoming an asset to our community. Youth courts strive to promote feelings of self-esteem and desire for self-improvement, and foster a healthy attitude toward rules and authority. By intervening in early anti-social delinquent and criminal behavior, reducing the incidence, and preventing escalation of such behavior at the onset of these actions, youth will be deterred. The Peer Jury Program provides guidance, rehabilitative placements, mentoring, and close supervision of juvenile offenders. In-turn it develops youth to become positive contributing citizens of their community. The program also educates and personally enriches many volunteer members, and jurors of the program in law-related education. Which also fosters their development by encouraging them to participate in extra-curricular activities.

WHO IS CHOSEN AS RESPONDENTS

To be chosen for the program the youth must meet the following criteria: First time offending youth, committed an offense in the city that is offers the opportunity to proceed in the Peer Jury Program, who voluntarily agrees to proceed in the program. By agreeing to proceed before the peer jury, the youth obtains certain benefits and waives certain rights that otherwise would be attached in connection with the traditional criminal justice processing. These youth are typically 10 to 17 years of age with older and younger exceptional circumstances.

WHAT HAPPENS

The peer jury will address the problem of anti-social, delinquent and criminal behavior engaged in by young people. The particular goal of repairing the harm caused to all victims, by building on the offenders competencies and preventing the escalation of such behavior, thus moving toward a safer community. To the extent that peer judgments are influential, a sentence imposed by a jury of peers will shape positive behavior. Sentencing in youth courts is designed to hold youth accountable, according the idea that peer pressure exerts a powerful influence over adolescent behavior. If peer pressure leads juveniles into law breaking, it can be redirected to become a force leading juveniles into law-abiding behavior. The diversion of cases to the peer jury will reduce the case-load of the courts and the probation office, resulting in saving time and resources.
In January of 2006, Detective Albert and Detective Howell created the department’s first Explorer Post Program. Since then many other officers have assisted in teaching and training the explorers in a variety of areas. This program was implemented to give our youth an opportunity to learn about the police department. The current advisors for Explorer Post 612 are Officer Muntean, Officer Heller, Officer Sharp, and Sergeant Wolfley.

Dixon Police Explorer Post 612 is a career education program for young men and women, who are at least freshman in high school to 18 years of age. The explorers program provides experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their interest in law enforcement and develop life skills. Explorer Post 612 gives members an inside look at the daily operations of the Dixon Police Department.

Explorer Post 612 currently has six members. Over the last year, several Explorers have aged out or left the area to attend college. They are issued uniforms to help identify them and to portray the professionalism of the police department they represent.

The Dixon Police Explorers receive training on: radio communication, firearm safety, first aid and CPR, conducting traffic stops, building searches, accident investigation, TRT training, DUI enforcement, crime scene investigation, drug enforcement, fingerprinting, DNA for identification purposes, and bike registration. After a probationary period, the explorers are allowed to participate in the Dixon Police Department ride-a-long program.

Explorers assist the police department with community events, traffic control, and other special projects. This year the explorers specifically assisted the department during the Petunia Festival and Reagan Run with traffic control. They participated in several DNA Booths, which provide parents with a DNA standard to help law enforcement if needed. Explorers also assisted with a fingerprint demonstration at Sauk Valley Community College.

Explorer meetings are held at the Dixon Police Department on the second Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to sit in on an explorer meeting to observe what we do. To become a member of Explorer Post 612 you must live in the city of Dixon or be enrolled at the Dixon High School. You must be a freshman to 18 years of age, have no serious criminal record, complete a probationary period, present a neat and clean appearance, be able to attend meetings once a month, follow all post rules and regulations, and have a professional attitude while representing the department.

We are looking forward to expanding the involvement of the explorer post in new and exciting ways in 2013. For further information about the program please contact Officer Jake Muntean jbmuntean@dixonpd.com or 288-1211.