



**MANAGER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 14, 2014
GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESPONSES TO MAYOR & COMMISSIONER REQUESTS**

Places to be this Week...

Village Council Meeting - The Village Council meeting will be held on **March 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers** at Village Hall.

Future Calendar Reminders...

Village Council Meeting - The Village Council meeting will be held on **April 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers** at Village Hall.

Anniversary of Officer Barth's Death - This year is the 40th Anniversary of Officer Barth's death in the line of duty. Attached is a memo issued by Chief Porter to members of the Police Department. The annual Richard J. Barth ceremony will take place on **Police Memorial Day, Thursday May 15, 2014**, at 1:00 p.m.

BNSF Railway Signal Upgrades - BNSF Railway Company has notified the Village that they will be performing federally mandated upgrades to their signal system from Lisle to Hinsdale. The purpose of these upgrades is to install the Positive Transit Control System, a safety mechanism to reduce the impact of potential human error leading to collisions and derailments. There will not be long closure periods at any of the track crossings, but there may be brief periods when gates are down as new software is tested. Federal law requires all trains to sound their horns whenever workers are present. The signal upgrade periods are as follows:

Friday, March 28th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 29th from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 30th from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Attachments

Memo from Chief Porter to Police Department

CHIEF ROBERT A. PORTER
DOWNERS GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF'S OFFICE



March 10, 2014

To: All Police Department Staff

Re: 40th Anniversary of Officer Barth's Death

Next Tuesday, March 18th represents the 40th anniversary of the most tragic day in the history of our Police Department. On this day 40 years ago, one of our own was shot and tragically killed in the line of duty. Officer Richard Barth was handling what appeared to be a "routine call" of two suspicious youths in what is now known as Hoopers Hollow Park.

While he was questioning the youths, one of the subjects, Paul Fontani produced a handgun and fatally shot Officer Barth. The two suspects were later arrested and convicted of first-degree murder. Unfortunately, both of the subjects are now out of prison.

Officer Barth's death serves as a grim reminder of the dangers associated with our chosen profession. Officer Barth is one of over 19,000 brave men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice protecting our nation's streets. We can never forget the sacrifices that these Officers have made while faithfully discharging their duties.

As your Police Chief, I urge all of you to please be cautious, diligent, and professional as you carry out your duties in serving and protecting our community. Please keep in mind that no call should ever be considered a "routine assignment". In our chosen profession it is vitally important that you should never "let your guard down" when you come to work each day. As Police Officers, we have grown to expect the unexpected. At one point in time you may be assisting a citizen because they locked their keys in their vehicle and within minutes you may be responding to an active shooter situation. We simply do not know what each tour of duty brings each day. Unfortunately, Police Officers are being slain across the Country at an alarming rate. Please be cognizant of this fact and be very careful while faithfully protecting and serving the public.

In conclusion; in honor of Officer Barth's death, I would ask that all of you who possess badges to please wear a black band on your badge on March 18th. I would also ask that we have a moment of silence at each roll call to honor Officer Barth as well as all of our fallen brothers and sisters who have given their lives in order to make this world a better place.

As I have done annually on the anniversary of Officer Barth's death, I will be contacting Officer Barth's family and letting them know how much we respect and appreciate Officer Barth's ultimate sacrifice for his community.

Arrangements will be made to have black ribbons placed on the squad car's antennas out of respect for Officer Barth. Thank you all for your dedication to duty, and please continue to be safe.