

# **BAZETTA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

2671 McCleary-Jacoby Rd. Cortland, Ohio 44410, 330- 638-5503, Fax 330- 638-9927

Michael J. Hovis- Chief of Police

Christopher G. Herlinger-Sergeant



February 8, 2017

Dear Residents,

Annually I take the time to write a letter to the residents to keep them informed of what had occurred in the past year and to inform them of the goals of the year to come. Our staffing level has remained at 8 fulltime and 4 part time officers as well as 2 administrative secretaries. 2016 was a very proactive and productive year for our department. We will continue to staff the department in 2017 with these current levels.

In 2016, new state mandates were handed down to law enforcement in the state of Ohio. I am proud to say that our department was the first department in Trumbull and Mahoning Counties to receive this certification. This major accomplishment was only possible by having a great team of officers and administrative staff that worked on this project. I would personally like to thank each of them for their unwavering commitment to professional policing. .

Our police department handled 6,838 calls for service and this was a slight decrease from 2015 of 6,955. Our arrests for 2016 were 817 up from 610 in 2015. 2016 was a major focus of the department for making our roads safer to travel on for everyone. Of our 1,077 traffic citations that were written, 319 of them were cited for having no driver's license. Also, of the 1,077 citations written, 411 of those drivers had no insurance. Continuing to make the streets safe will be a major focus of the department in 2017.

2016 was a very challenging year for the department operationally. Officers are mandated to conduct neighborhood patrols, residential spot checks and business checks while on daily patrols. Calls for service and investigations have a major impact on our ability to conduct neighborhood patrols.

In 2016 we had the ability to purchase a new marked cruiser from Mark Thomas Ford due to the continued support of our taxpayers. In 2017, our department will be receiving a grant for \$8,633.58 that will cover the cost to equip a new 2017 cruiser from Mark Thomas Ford. The ability to purchase a new cruiser every year decreases the cost of repairs and increases the ability to respond to emergency calls.

Our Senior Watch program in 2016 has increased to 35 participants up from 29 in 2015. Our continued support from our fire department has made a much safer community for our seniors and both departments are looking forward to the challenges that 2017 will bring. Please feel free to contact our office should you know of a resident that could benefit from our program. If you are a family member that lives out of town, please call and register your family member for our program.

Below will be a list of community related services/programs that are always being conducted by our police department;

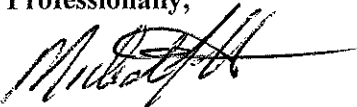
- **Drug Take Back-drop box located in lobby of the police station during office hours of 8:00-4:00**
- **Free Smoke Detectors- can be obtained at the police department during office hours**
- **Safety Day at Mosquito Lake Marina-we encourage the youth to attend to build relationships**
- **Food Drive- conducted annually by police and fire department to benefit Cortland Area Cares**
- **Safe Exchange Zone- located in parking lot at administrative office on State Route 5**
- **Identification Kits- passed out at elementary school with fire department and Bazetta/Cortland Optimist**
- **Shop with a Cop and Fireman- conducted annually with police and fire department personnel**

- Narcan- carried by all officers with a total of 7 life saves in 2016
- CPR-all officers are trained and ready to save lives
- Officers present during school arrival of students and departure daily

2017 will bring my fifth year as your chief of police. While sometimes hectic and at times consuming, this has been the most fulfilling and satisfying experience I have ever had. I thank the board of trustees and fiscal officer for their continued support in serving this community. I would also like to thank the staff of the police department for supporting the goals of the department and working with me to ensure that accountability is carried out to all our taxpayers.

As sure as I know that there will be peaks and valleys and ebbs and flows that 2017 will bring, I can ensure you that our department is on its way to being a cutting edge department for all to respect in the state of Ohio. We have the best interest at heart for our residents and we all are committed to making our community better. I thank you for your time and look forward to serving you in the year to come.

Professionally,



Michael J. Hovis- Chief of Police  
Bazetta Township Police Department  
2671 McCleary Jacoby Road  
Cortland, Ohio 44410  
[MHovis@bazettatwp.org](mailto:MHovis@bazettatwp.org)  
Ph: (330) 638-5503  
Fax: (330) 638-9927