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SHEBOYGAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

Community Traffic Safety

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DATE: May 5, 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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CASE NO. None

With the warmer weather finally here in Sheboygan and that the school year is drawing to a close, the Sheboygan Police Department would like to take this opportunity to promote safety awareness in our community. Motorists will see an increase in the number of bicyclists, runners, walkers, and pedestrian traffic that are out and about in the community. Pedestrian traffic will also include those who use electric personal assisted mobility devices. The City of Sheboygan has in addition to our regular roadways, marked designated bicycle lanes and marked designated bicycle sharrows – shared roadways for our bicyclists. We have bicycle/pedestrian paths that intersect with roadways in the community. We invite you to visit the Non-Motorized Sheboygan County website for detailed information on those programs in our community and county.

The Sheboygan Police Department urges motorists to be aware of all of those who use our streets and sidewalks especially the children of our community who will be at the playgrounds, parks, and beaches. We urge motorists to yield to all of those pedestrians, bicyclists, and those who use electric personal assisted mobility devices in crosswalks. As we urge motorists to respect the rights of pedestrians and bicyclists, we urge pedestrians and bicyclists to respect the rights of motorist as we all share the road. Bicyclists and pedestrians should wear reflective clothing during hours of darkness or reduced visibility. Bicycles need to be equipped with lights, reflectors if they are operated during the hours of darkness. Bicycles need to be licensed in the City of Sheboygan and licenses can be obtained at the local bicycle shops in the city including Wolf Cycling and Fitness, Sheboygan Bicycle Company, Johnnies Bike Shop and Bicycle Works in Sheboygan Falls.

Motorists need to be mindful of their speed in the City of Sheboygan and obey all traffic signals, signs and School Crossing Guards. This includes motorists stopping on yellow traffic signals unless the stop cannot be made safely. The Sheboygan Police Department urges motorists not to text while driving or be distracted in anyway with their cell phones or engage in any activity that takes away from their concentration of operating their motor vehicles. We remind motorists of the dangers of impaired driving either by alcoholic beverages, unlawful drugs, or the use of lawful prescription medication.

Starting May 18, 2015 and continuing through the end of the month, The Sheboygan Police Department will be joining with other law enforcement agencies in our county and state in the annual traffic safety program of "Click It or Ticket" This is a program to help Wisconsin motorists realize on how using seatbelts saves lives and can prevent injuries. Officers will emphasize this by issuing tickets for those who are not wearing seatbelts. Drivers can be cited for passengers in their vehicles who are not wearing seatbelts. It is our law in Wisconsin.

In June, our department will be hosting two free bicycle rodeos. The bicycle rodeos are programs to teach bicycle safety, bicycle handling skills and safe operation of bicycles on streets and sidewalks. The program is for children ages 6 to 14. The first bicycle rodeo will be held at the Sheboygan Evangelical Free Church, 1710 N. 15 Street (South Calumet Neighborhood) on Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. The second bicycle rodeo will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2015 from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM at ST. Peter Claver Church, 1439 S. 12 Street (Franklin Park Neighborhood). Bicycle helmets will be available for those who need them.

We have a wonderful and safe community. We in the Sheboygan Police Department urge our neighbors and neighborhoods in our community to watch out for one another as we collaborate with each other to make this a wonderful community to live, work, grow and raise families. For more information on safety and other programs in our community, visit the Sheboygan Police Department website, our "Facebook" and "Next Door".
