

# Best of the Blotter

Excerpts from police calls are a regular feature of all nine Bee Group newspapers. Some of the more unusual reports from 2007 are reprinted here. Each is an actual listing from a local town or village police blotter.

Illustrations by Robert Malloy

● An officer stopped a vehicle for speeding on Seneca Street. The officer noticed an odor of alcohol on the driver. When asked for his license and registration, the driver handed the officer a \$10 bill. The driver was placed under arrest for DWI.

● A welfare check was requested by a ski resort looking for an employee from Amherst who had missed two days of work but never missed a day in the past. Police reported the person in question was in jail.

● A Coventry Road resident reported that someone broke into her house and stole her pet's dog dish.

● A Transit Road resident called police to tell them he had a bat in a plastic container and would be leaving his residence shortly for an appointment.

● An officer responded to a complaint of loud music on Nash Street. Upon his arrival, the patrol could hear the music in the street, coming from a half-open garage door. When confronted, the suspect refused to believe his music was too loud and said he would play it as loud as he wanted. At this point, the man raised his hand to the officer. The suspect was handcuffed and taken to the police station, where he was held until he was sober.

● On Berkley Road, a resident was concerned about a camera she found on the side of her house that she hadn't installed. The item the complainant thought was a camera was the transmitter used by the water authority to read the meter.

● West Seneca police responded to the Route 219 South entrance on Ridge Road, where a vehicle was off the road. Though the driver said he had not been drinking, he failed field sobriety tests. While attempting to recite the alphabet for the second time, the suspect said, "My mouth doesn't work right."

● An employee at Tops on Harlem Road noticed a white male in his mid-30s stuffing a bag of Doritos, two bags of shrimp and two bags of scallops under his Buffalo Bills jacket. The man dropped everything except the Doritos and fled on foot toward Clinton Street.

● A man told police that while he

was at an automotive dealership in Orchard Park, someone entered his vehicle and stole cologne, compact discs and a cigarette adapter.

● An Amherst resident complained to police that when her boyfriend moved out, he took the cat.

● A dispute was reported on Grandview Drive because a mother wouldn't give her 16-year-old daughter the cell phone charger.

● On Niagara Falls Boulevard, a larceny was reported regarding an employee who hid two bags of sandwiches behind a Dumpster.

● Erratic driving was reported on Transit Road in Clarence; the car could not be located.

● A patrol observed a vehicle pull onto Seneca Street without yielding to traffic and nearly causing an accident. When asked how much he had been drinking, the driver said, "Too much to be driving."

● A North Collins man reported that while his vehicle was parked on Abbott Road, somebody broke the passenger side window and stole a radio worth \$150.

● A female on Main Street believed that her cupcakes had been poisoned because she was fatigued and had a dry mouth.

● Police were at a Clinton Street residence for a domestic call when one of the officers noticed a brass pipe, prescription bottle and other drug paraphernalia on a dresser in the bedroom. When questioned about the items, the resident said, "It's mine, but I haven't smoked cocaine since January. I only do cocaine when my friends are over."

● A larceny was reported at a Transit Road restaurant; a cellular phone was taken from the employees' locker room.

● A one-legged turkey was reportedly in the middle of Willow Ridge Drive. The complainant said the bird was unable to move to the side, but it chased the patrol car that responded.

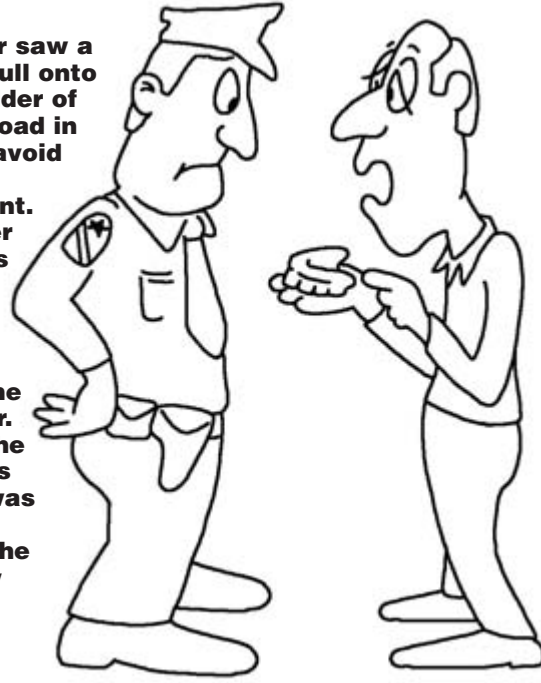
● On Robin Road, someone reportedly went into a locked apartment building and threw snow into the hallway. The complainant stated that this has happened before.

● Two mothers stopped their cars on Tonawanda Creek Road and were involved in an argument. They had just picked up their teens who had been caught shoplifting.

● A person called from Niagara Falls Boulevard to report that a woman was beating on her own car.

● A suspect was arrested for shoplifting from Tops on Orchard Park Road after he pushed a cart filled with \$160.17 of assorted merchandise into the parking lot without paying for anything. Eggs, juice, cake mix, frosting and pork chops were

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among the goods that the suspect allegedly attempted to steal.

● A Niagara Falls Boulevard business reported a group of youths sprayed Silly String all over the store after being asked to leave.

● A Hillside Drive resident reported that a garbage can was stolen overnight. It was the third time since the summer that a can full of yard brush was taken and the rest of the garbage and cans were left behind.

● A truck was reported stolen from a Clarence residence. Officers determined it actually had been repossessed.

● Two men stole 99 razor blades from Eckerd Drugs on Mineral Springs Road.

● An officer saw a vehicle pull onto the shoulder of Transit Road in order to avoid a police checkpoint. The driver exited his vehicle and began walking toward the patrol car. He told the officer his speech was slurred because he had "new teeth."

● A patrol responded to the complaint of an unwelcome guest pounding on the door of a French Lea Road residence. Upon the officer's arrival, the suspect, who had a strong odor of alcohol on his breath, was standing on the porch. When asked what he was doing, the suspect said he was "trying to get some action."

● Police arrived at a Wedgewood Drive residence to execute two warrants. It was determined that the suspect was hiding in the attic. Police shouted orders to give himself up, but the suspect refused to answer. An officer found the suspect lying face down in a pile of insulation. He was placed under arrest.

● A 60-year-old man was stopping cars on Sheridan Drive and asking people for a light. The man left prior to police arrival.

● A Fiddlers Green resident reported that she had locked herself with her newborn baby in the bathroom because there were two bats in the house and she was unable to get them out on her own.

● An Amherst resident returned to her home to find the house unlocked and a nonthreatening note in her bathroom.

● A man took a set of car keys from his ex-wife and left. He said he was upset the vehicle was being sold and just wanted to drive it.

● An underage Goodrich Road resident was issued an appearance ticket for possessing one bottle of Smirnoff strawberry vodka and two empty cans of beer.

● A suspicious vehicle was reported in the Main-Transit plaza. It had been parked there for 40 minutes.

● Representatives of an Orchard Park movie theater complex reported the theft of a cardboard standup sign from the movie "Borat."

● Harassment was reported on Sheridan Drive. Someone entered a restaurant, pulled the complainant's hair and yanked menus out of her hands.

● Police charged a 21-year-old

East Aurora man with leaving the scene of an accident after police received a call of an explosion on Ellicott Road. When they arrived, they found a 20-year-old East Aurora man on the side of the road. He told police he was riding in the back of his friend's pickup truck when he heard something that sounded like an M-80. He said he stood up, lost his balance and fell off the back of the truck.

● On Northwood Drive a complaint was made about two males selling magazines. They said they weren't selling anything, just practicing to be attorneys.

● A restaurant on Main Street reported customer trouble involving a man who sent back his first meal, then complained the second was cold. The manager stated that the man was talking on his cell phone and never touched his food.

● Police responded to a report of a car striking the guard rail on the Interstate 90 ramp to Route 400. The suspect was located walking home on Harlem Road. He was intoxicated and had minor cuts on his head. He said he had been at a tattoo shop and then fell asleep behind a church.

● Two women reported that a man in his car had purposely exposed himself in two separate incidents in the parking lot of a bar on Orchard Park Road. The women reported that the man appeared to be about 50 with shoulder-length blond hair and round, wire-frame glasses. They said he resembled musician Tom Petty.

● A 911 hang-up call was investigated on Bridlewood Drive. A child called because he was hungry. His parents were advised.

● An underage drinking party was reported on Greenbriar Road, but the event was a parentally supervised practice for the high school powder puff game.

● A Dorset Drive woman reported that someone stole several Halloween decorations from her front lawn. One was a wooden tombstone with the saying, "Trick or treat smell my feet."

● A large dog chased a man and his wife down Washington Avenue.

● A Kenmore 911 caller mumbled something about his shoe and then hung up.

● Deputies investigated a complaint of a female outside screaming on Four Rod Road in the Town of Elma. Upon arrival, the police found the intoxicated woman to be all right

and she was escorted home.

● Deputies responded to a residence on Townline Road where political signs were taken from a property.

● A caller from Ridge Park Avenue reported a male with long hair and a goatee was breaking into a vehicle. Police arrived at the scene and discovered the male was just leaving a note to his friend.

● A woman called police from a Main Street address because a man was snoring in front of the TV. Reportedly she was intoxicated and was going to wait for police outside. The report didn't indicate the man and woman's relationship to each other.

● A Wabash Avenue woman's inflatable pumpkin was stolen from her front yard.

● A Washington Avenue resident reported that someone came into her home and wrote on the wall.

● Police responded to a loud music complaint on Millersport Highway. The tenant, who was not home, was contacted by cell phone and told to return home to turn off her stereo.

● Police responded to a call on Amberwood Drive in which a woman reported receiving statements for banks she didn't belong to. She was advised it was just junk mail.

● A patrol responded to a report of a car-fence collision on Harlem Road. The officer arrived to find a vehicle stuck on the fence next to Winchester Elementary. The driver said his ex-girlfriend cut him off and he lost control of his vehicle.

● Police responded to a report of an intoxicated individual in the parking lot of Pappas bar on Orchard Park Road. Police advised the woman to take a cab home, but she accused them of trying to take her money.

● Someone apparently used a hidden key to enter a Michael Road residence. The homeowner noticed the key's hiding spot was disturbed and a strange pillowcase was left on

her kitchen counter. Nothing was missing from the residence.

● A Tonawanda resident reported that his house may have been struck by lightning.

● A truck on Victoria Boulevard was seen being driven with the headlights off, and a passenger was throwing lit fireworks out the window.

● Police were called about a highly intoxicated male who was in town for the Bills' game and was lying in Transit Road. The man called his girl-

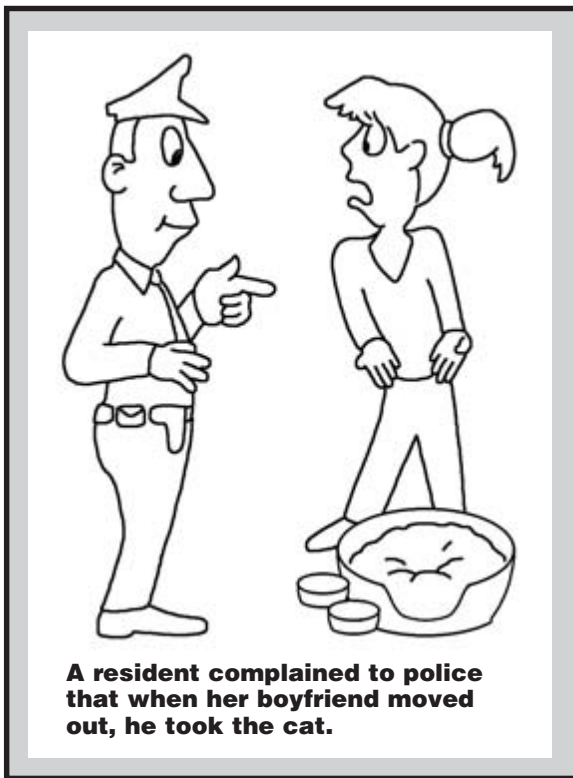
friend, saying he was in the back of a truck, being driven around by unknown people.

● A shopper reported that while she was waiting for the cab driver to load her groceries at a store on Sheridan Drive, two older ladies came by and took half of her things and she didn't discover it until she got home. The call was canceled when her husband located the groceries.

● A Valley Drive resident reported several acts of criminal mischief that occurred in his yard. A lawn ornament was glued to the front stoop, and landscape rocks were tossed on the driveway. In addition, someone entered the garage and wrote a profanity on the floor and damaged a piece of paneling. Family members' shoes were also taken from the garage and scattered throughout the yard.

● Erratic operation was reported on Kraus Road, but the car could not be located.

● Disorderly youths were reported skateboarding on Main Street. They were stopped and advised by patrol.



A resident complained to police that when her boyfriend moved out, he took the cat.



A welfare check was requested on Island Park on Main Street for a middle-aged man that was on the ground moaning. He was practicing yoga.