

# Talk With the Hawk

October 2022

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The latest news, views, and announcements

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# Flock Cameras

By Major Hawkins

**The Brentwood Police Department has partnered with Flock Safety and implemented five license plate reader cameras throughout the city. Two more cameras are in the process of being permitted and will be installed by the end of the month. These cameras have led to thousands of alerts for wanted vehicles and assisted in the apprehension of multiple felony offenders, weapons, narcotics, and stolen vehicles.**

As you will see in one of the below Officer of the Month blurbs, Flock cameras have made an enormous impact in the small community of Brentwood. Not only do these cameras immediately alert our officers to a vehicle that is wanted for a violent crime or stolen, but the technology built into the camera's software allows for our investigators to search by vehicle characteristic. In the event we have a violent crime and have a vehicle description for the suspect but no license plate number, we can plug that vehicle's brief physical description into the system and may be able to identify the vehicle's last known direction of travel. Here in Brentwood the current cameras are at southbound (1) and northbound (2) McKnight just south of 64/40, Wrenwood westbound (3) into Brentwood Forest, Eager eastbound (4) just before the Promenade, and Eager westbound (5) from I-170. The additional cameras will be installed at Brentwood Blvd. and 64/40 southbound (6), and Hanley at Musick southbound (7).

The City of Brentwood is one of many local municipalities investing in Flock technology and we can share data with all Flock agencies, both public and private. Additionally, the Brentwood Dierbergs has four cameras at the entrances to the Brentwood Pointe shopping center.

As I say in every newsletter, please lock your vehicles, always keep valuables and guns with you, and call 911 if you see anything suspicious.

# Officer Recognitions

July, August, September 2022 Officers of the Month



**During the month of July Officers Mundorf and Johnson were selected, after a vote, as June Officer of the Month and below is a snapshot from their nomination.**

On 7/7/22, PO Mundorf observed a and conducted a traffic stop resulting in the driver being arrested for a felony warrant from St. Charles County. On 7/23/22, Officer Mundorf was patrolling the Promenade shopping district when he observed a suspicious occupied vehicle parked in a handicap space. An investigation into the driver began. In addition to not having a valid driver's license, the occupant of the vehicle was also wanted by several surrounding agencies. After his arrest, a search of his vehicle revealed narcotics and a firearm (both being seized). On 7/28/22, Officer Mundorf observed an unlicensed vehicle exiting an apartment complex. After stopping the vehicle for traffic violations, the driver admitted to having narcotics inside the vehicle. An investigation led to the arrest of the front seat passenger for the possession of suspected heroin and meth. This subject was also in possession of a handgun with an extended magazine. It was also determined that this subject is a convicted felon and had recently been paroled for Robbery 2nd. He was arrested for the possession of narcotics and being a felon in possession of a firearm. An in-custody warrant was issued by St. Louis County the following morning with a cash only bond set at \$20,000.

It should be noted that Officer Thearn Johnson is also nominated because he had assisted Officer Mundorf on each incident. A review of body-cam footage showed a great display of officer safety tactics performed by Officer Johnson while assisting. Officer Johnson performed thorough secondary searches of suspects, vehicles, and had assisted in locating narcotics and weapons.

**During the month of August Sergeant Bowersox was selected, after a vote, as August Officer of the Month and below is a snapshot from his nomination.**



On 8/26/22, Officer Clark and Sgt. Bowersox received a radio assignment for an overdose at 1558 E. Swan Cir. The victim was locked in the bathroom, and the caller could hear the victims breathing turn agonal. Sgt. Bowersox retrieved the sledgehammer located in the trunk of his patrol vehicle and he used the sledgehammer to gain entry to the bathroom and was able to administer Narcan to the victim. Brentwood Paramedics took over the scene and determined the victim's heart had stopped beating. Fire Captain Jake Erschen stated without the quick actions of officers, the victim may have died.



**During the month of September Officer Lachenicht was selected, after a vote, as September Officer of the Month and below is a snapshot from his nomination.**

On Tuesday 9/6/22 PO Lachenicht was notified of a stolen vehicle around Eager and I-170 from a FLOCK hit. The vehicle was eventually located near Chick-Fil-A. PO Lachenicht initiated a traffic stop, confirmed the vehicle was stolen and took two suspects into custody. During his investigation, he also located a controlled substance purported to be methamphetamine.

# Brentwood Days

Another successful year is in the books for the Brentwood Days festivities! The parade was an enormous success thanks to our fabulous City Hall staff, and we had 32 excellent entries. After the parade, we got a visit from the Metro Air Support unit in the Police helicopter. Kids and families got to see inside the helicopter and talk with the pilots.



As night came the neon lights from the rides and happy shrieks of delight could be heard and seen for blocks. I am happy to announce we had no major incidents related to this event.