

# Best of the Blotter



**Excerpts from police calls are a regular feature in all nine Bee Group newspapers. Some of the more unusual reports from 2016 are reprinted here. Each is an actual listing from a local town or village police blotter.**

*Illustrations by Josh Flanigan*

- A “Peeping Tom” on Scamridge Curve was a teen sneaking into the house to avoid his mother.

- A Hirschfield Drive resident received a text message from an unknown source that said, “I hid the body. Now what?”

- A Courier Boulevard resident said someone placed a Confederate flag on her vehicle.

- An employee at a Harlem Road store said someone stole six cases of candy.

- Nothing was missing from a Williamstowne Court apartment, but the burglar left behind his glasses and a newspaper.

- Hundreds of fliers containing the complainant’s address were thrown around a Garden Village Drive apartment complex.

- Three thieves made off with \$246 worth of candy from a George Urban Boulevard store.

- A Princeton Avenue man complained that his apartment stunk because a neighbor was intentionally blowing body odor smells into his unit.

- A man on Penora Street said what appeared to be LSD strips on his person were just pieces of paper he keeps in his wallet.

- A couple walking around a Depew grocery store about 1 a.m. took the large entrance mat, rolled it up and fled.

- Black candle wax was dripped inside a downstairs room at a Main Street church, but the church doesn’t use black candles.

- A driver who struck a hydrant at an East Aurora intersection was trying to use a rake and paint roller to free his car.

- A woman who got locked inside a North Buffalo Street ATM enclosure did

not have a phone and after two hours kicked out the glass to free herself. She will pay for the glass.

- A Wagner Avenue man said his car went missing while parked in a neighbor’s yard. Police spoke with a neighbor who said he had the car towed.

- A Genesee Street woman said someone was walking around outside her window. The noises were made by the wind.

- A woman in Depew reported to police that she had been struck by another vehicle. Her license was found to be suspended, and she was taken into custody.

- A Cheektowaga couple accused of shining a laser into a neighbor’s window actually were using it to play with their cat.

- A man denied entry to a Genesee Street store before it opened reportedly mooned the employees before leaving.

- A driver slumped over the wheel on Philip Drive said he’d gotten a flat tire and decided to take a nap.

- A canine Colts fan was collared on Creekbend Court. The small black Lab was wearing the team’s jersey but no dog tags.

- A woman stole crab legs and candy from a Union Road store, but her purse and wig were left in the parking lot.

- A man on Sebring Drive told police a muskrat was chasing his daughter and wouldn’t leave her alone.

- A woman on Garden Village Drive wanted police to intervene because a neighbor was “talking bad” about her.

- An Amherst woman said a neighbor was stealing potatoes from her yard. The multi-hued spuds include some that are red, white and blue.

- A Lasalle Avenue resident reported that he is suspicious of people who have moved onto the street because

they didn’t greet him with a “hello.” The resident admitted he didn’t offer any greetings either.

- A hamster newly purchased from a pet store broke free on the drive home and got stuck in the dashboard.

- An accused shoplifter at a West Seneca Tops was likely preparing for Easter. Carrot cake and a ham were stolen.

- An Alpine Place resident complained that the odor coming from a neighboring apartment smelled like drugs. The smell was fried chicken.

- Police escorted a man from a Genesee Street church. He was interrupting a service so he could preach in the pulpit.

- Three youths in a North French Road convenience store were asking people to buy them “cerveza.” They fled before police arrived.

- A Delaware Avenue woman told police it was too hot in her apartment and she had to get out of there.

- A loose bichon named P. Diddy was seen at a Dean Road business, but security couldn’t find the pooch.

- A woman wearing a red hat and having no teeth was asking Niagara Falls Boulevard motorists for money.

- An American Campus Drive woman said a former roommate put onions on the couch and chicken under the cushions.

- Depew police answered a noise complaint at 11 p.m. and found a man using power tools to build a backyard chicken coop.

- Two women screamed, swore and wanted to fight an employee over the price of shoes at an Amherst store.

- A man with only a learner’s permit ran a red light in Depew. The owner of the car, who was the passenger, had only an expired learner’s permit.

- A car was stopped in Lancaster for having 10-15 air fresheners on the rearview mirror, but police still smelled an odor of marijuana.

- A woman whose car was stuck on a West Seneca fence said she’d had a long day and consumed two drinks. She was charged with DWI.

- An apparently thirsty man admitted to taking two beers from a West Seneca Tops and drinking them in a Petco restroom before being caught.

- A man without a valid license drove himself to his probation officer’s office. The officer reported him to Depew police.

- Police advised a man who was hitting golf balls at kids playing baseball on a Maryvale Drive soccer field.

- An aggressive goose kept dive

bombing employees as they entered a Wehrle Drive business.

- Orchard Park police were waiting for a man when he returned a car the day after he took it on a test drive. He had 11 suspensions on his license.

- An intoxicated woman told Depew police she “didn’t want to” when asked why she waited three days to report being attacked by three people.

- Police responding to an eight-person fight on Walden Avenue learned that a birthday cake had sparked the brawl.

- Adding insult to injury, a youth who stole a Donald Trump sign in Elma also gave the complainant the finger.

- A disturbance was reported at an address in Clarence. A couple were arguing about who would do the dishes.

- A man with handcuffs, bullet-proof vest and gas mask seen talking to motorists at a Union Road intersection was later found working in a haunted house.

- A Central Avenue driver, asked for any paperwork regarding his suspended license, said, “I threw it in the garbage.”

- At a Transit Road grocery store, a woman

reportedly paid for a cart full of items but attempted to leave the store with nearly \$60 in makeup in her purse.

- An intoxicated man told police he left his Williamstowne residence for 20 minutes and returned to find that two pairs of Chuck Taylor shoes were missing. The shoes were found on his balcony.

- A “suspicious” person sitting in a car outside a Harlem Road business was just afraid of the “shady characters inside.”

- A woman pounding on doors in a Windwood Court apartment complex eluded police but dropped something indicating there is a warrant for her arrest out of Evans for criminal impersonation.

- A man was reported to be setting up camp in the pine trees outside a Transit Road grocery store.

- A Sweet Home Road resident asked police to scare her son because he was acting disrespectfully toward her.

- A man asking people for money at a Main Street fast food restaurant threw empty plastic bottles at those who refused him.

- An apparently nutrition-conscious thief made off with fruits, nuts and other produce from an Orchard Park grocery store.

- A caller said items found in a suitcase behind a Genesee Street hotel could be drug paraphernalia “or foreign food.”



**A Shepard Avenue resident reported that someone broke into her house to do laundry.**



**Clown sightings led to a police response in Sloan. Three clowns were jumping in front of and chasing cars on Reiman Street.**

● A visitor to Cheektowaga Town Park flagged down a police car near the pools. Police said the person just wanted to say hi.

● Responding to a report of suspicious people on Walden Avenue, police found lovers in a car. The couple were told “it’s not the right spot for this sort of activity.”

● A woman flagging down a Kenmore officer wanted to tell her boyfriend she may be pregnant but wasn’t sure which apartment he lived in and whether he would take the news well.

● During a West Seneca traffic stop, a driver stopped for multiple violations volunteered that there was possibly a warrant out for her arrest in Cheektowaga.

● Patrol Car 17 “won” a hide and seek game for helping some women on Old Union Road find an expert — and intoxicated — hider.

● A Jenny Court woman returning home from work found a note on her door thanking her “for the use of your swing for my nap.”

● An Amherst complainant said roofing company employees were urinating off a roof and their supervisor thought it was funny.

● A verbally abusive man was reportedly throwing \$100 bills at employees of a Niagara Falls Boulevard restaurant so they wouldn’t call police.

● A man in a gas mask and carrying a leaf blower on Niagara Falls Boulevard was just a state employee cleaning sewer grates.

● The vehicle of a Baker Road speeder had no registration, inspection, insurance or mirrors. The driver said the truck was a “project vehicle” he was getting ready for the road.

● A driver who was asked for identification in West Seneca had to fumble through a pile of chicken wings, beer cans and energy drinks to produce his license.

● When a Shepard Avenue girl sought the return of a guitar she lent, the borrower sent a photo of an instrument on fire. Patrols reported that the guitar was returned in good condition.

● A woman in Depew whose car left the road and flipped over after an accident blamed a “flock” of deer, but she smelled of alcohol.

● A Depew woman allegedly threatened to chop off the fingers of a neighbor’s yard crew because they were blowing leaves under her fence.

● On George Urban Boulevard, a bounce house stake ruptured a gas line and set off an alarm.

● A Williamstowne Court resident said he had received a suspicious package. Police responded, but it was a new cellphone he’d been expecting.

● A Garden Village Drive man entered his former apartment through a window while drunk and fell asleep in the bed.

● A Parkwood Avenue resident reported finding a possible pelvic bone in the river — about five to seven years ago.

● A Hedley Street caller said male neighbors were yelling in a foreign language and fighting. The men were practicing kung fu.

● A man walking in the middle of Union Road was worried about wildlife jumping out at him if he stayed on the sidewalk.

● Police removed a raccoon that appeared to be catching some rays in a Bowen Road sunroom.

● An unknown trouble complaint on South Blossom Road was found to be a resident upset with a nonworking phone.

● A Hidden Ridge Court resident reported that someone stapled an American flag to a “no trespassing” sign staked on his property.

● Suspicious people reported in various parts of Cheektowaga were just playing the new Pokémon Go game.

● A woman charged with petit larceny involving the Kmart on Harlem Road was accused of stealing a smiley face spatula and body spray.

● A driver on Reading Road whose car was fully involved in flames told police he just bought it and was driving it home.

● Callers were screaming at a Tremaine Avenue business about a delivery driver who forgot the bleu cheese. The manager wanted it to stop.

● Lancaster police agreed to let a man’s girlfriend take him home following an incident, but he yelled obscenities and spit on the patrol car when leaving and was arrested.

● A Laurel Lane woman reported that a shirtless man with “pants hanging off him” was walking his dog. Police told her that isn’t illegal.

● A Genesee Street woman insisted that someone had stolen her Yorkshire terrier puppy. Police found the dog behind a couch.

● A Borden Road caller said a cockatoo in a nearby garage had been squawking for hours. Some drunken men were trying to teach it a new word.

● A woman whose car was stopped in Depew gave the officer a passport instead of a license. Her license was suspended.

● A woman on Miller Road received mysterious packages containing sexual merchandise. They appeared to be from China.

● Teens speeding through a Cheektowaga cemetery told police the driver

was learning to use a manual transmission.

● An uninvited neighbor made a bigger splash than expected in an Elma pool — setting off the residential alarm.

● A Zent Court woman said neighbors were doing laundry in her child’s pool and had damaged an earlier pool by doing so.

● A complainant feared a found letter might contain “dangerous powder,” but it concerned the Lancaster district mascot.

● An employee at a French Road business refused to sell a customer beer, so he scanned it himself and left cash behind.

● A group of suspicious people were reported at the Clarence Soccer Center. The people were watching a meteor shower.

● A Harlem Road caller said two women were attempting to hitchhike and were doing calisthenics in the street. Police were unable to locate the pair.

● Police stopped a man driving without headlights on Transit Road and found that his license had been revoked in 2005.

● A Glenhaven Drive resident said youths in a tree were making too much noise for him to sleep.

● Traffic on Youngs Road was reportedly obstructed by a wild turkey.

● A vehicle that was parked at the Clarence Soccer Center was wrapped in Saran Wrap. It was some sort of prank.

● The assistant dog warden had to corral a resident’s pig, which was wandering around the Wabash Avenue neighborhood.

● A man in a fedora and leather vest was in a Raymond Avenue yard howling at the dogs.

● A Borden Road caller complained to Cheektowaga police about a “middle-of-the-night cheer practice” at a neighbor’s house.

● A resident of Nantucket Drive West came home to find a vehicle in her driveway and a woman sleeping in it.

● A mysterious man was reportedly selling meat door to door on Pound Road in Elma.

● West Seneca police weren’t swayed by the excuse of a man accused of stealing a bike from Kmart. He said someone had stolen his.

● An Orchard Park resident set off a potato launcher but didn’t secure the bottom plate, which hit him in the face.

● A Cheektowaga man said his neighbor repeatedly challenges him to fight because he supports Donald Trump.

● Children reported to be “hiding” in an Amherst yard were just waiting for a ride.

● A car with a “be right back” sign on it had been parked on Herbert Avenue for a couple of weeks.

● George Urban Boulevard neighbors were arguing about a year-old road rage incident. They were advised to “let it go.”

● Cheektowaga police said a driving



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school vehicle hit a parked car on Maryvale Drive.

● A Shepard Avenue resident reported that someone broke into her house to do laundry.

● The Orchard Park Road Wegmans reported that a man stole steak and milk and consumed them in the store.

● A rock, four nails, a towel hook and a wooden rod were found in the underwear of a woman arrested on Clinton Street.

● A Carol Drive caller reported screaming and crying from a nearby house. The ruckus resulted from people chasing a fly.

● A woman charged with DWI by Orchard Park police told the officer, “You can’t arrest me. It’s my birthday.”

● A motorist on Hopkins Road said another driver looked creepy and should be checked out due to his face paint.

● People “with some sort of fire” were seen on a North Seine Drive baseball field. They were practicing fire juggling skills.

● On Beach Road, two men were setting off fireworks whenever the Bills scored. They were advised.

● A rooster was wandering around the Nadine Drive neighborhood and had awakened some residents.

● A Windwood Court resident said she kept hearing “creepy music like a circus clown” outside. There were no clowns.

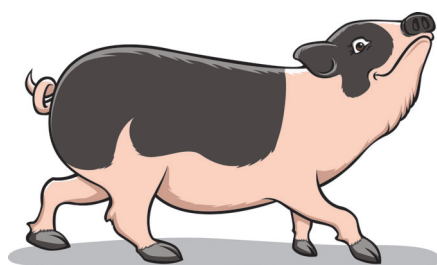
● A suspicious package left on a Springbrook Shores Drive front porch was a sports bag containing a live cat.

● A caller in Kenmore reported that someone brought a tiger into the building. The person was having issues with medication.

● A man traveling 120 mph in a 40-mph zone on Orchard Park Road “wanted to see what the car had in it.” He received multiple charges.

● A Genesee Street caller reported a loose coyote, saying it was last seen on Route 33 West. Police couldn’t locate it.

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