Message from the Chief

Our last newsletter went out April 1, but I had it mostly complete prior to the COVID-19 situation. So a lot has changed in the last 90 days. You know…..almost everything got shutdown and now it’s opening up again. Our civilian staff & sworn officers continued to handle the day to day duties that we are tasked with. As part of the Mayor’s Emergency Management Team, I attended lots of meetings. We made a lot of decisions and learned a lot. We are not through this yet, but I believe we have been fortunate as a community. We had so many challenges, sometimes on a daily basis, I can’t even remember them all. City business was only slightly altered, such as drive thru only at city hall and curbside at the library. Lytle ISD students never returned after spring break and the school was forced to shift to online and at home learning. They really had to move fast to meet the student’s needs. It appears they did a real good job. During the height of the shutdown we were much slower than usual, even the crooks were worried about getting COVID-19. After a while they came out of quarantine and got back to work, unfortunately. Our community was challenged but it stayed focused and I am really proud to work here and call Lytle home.

A new challenge also developed with the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Law Enforcement was thrust into a worldwide debate, complete with protest and all. I think when it is all said and done you will see some reforms come down the pipe….but on a bigger picture, I think we will see some progress on race relations and equality. - Richey

COVID-19 Pandemic

The last 90 days brought us toilet paper shortages, social distancing, wearing facial coverings and a lot of businesses were shut down. At the police department, the above “supplies” became hot commodities. The number of Clorox wipes on hand became more important than just about anything else.

City’s Website Has Been “Refreshed and Updated”

Our project to refresh and update our website is now complete. It is now designed to better support mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets, which in 2009 were not nearly as common as now. It is also more compliant with ADA rules. So just a big improvement all the way around. Though I am sure it will take a while to work through some minor “kinks”.

www.lytletx.org
Chief Priest & Mayor Bowen Present Cpl. Robison with his 20 Year Service Award at the June 8 City Council Meeting

Cpl. Danny Robison Hits the 20 Year Mark and also Earns His Master Peace Officer License.

Congratulations to Cpl. Danny Robison who reached his 20 years of service mark as a Lytle Police Officer. Danny was sworn in on May 1, 2000 and served as a non-paid, reserve Peace Officer until March of 2019. He retired from his full-time career and moved his status over to full-time Peace Officer. He has seen Lytle really change in his time with us. Maybe we can convince him to stay on another 20 years.

Lytle PD Policy Updates
We are in the middle of updating our policy manual. The City Council has approved some new policies and we hope to be submitting some each month for council approval.

COVID-19 caused the cancellation of at least 4 local training classes that officers were set to attend. Most will be rescheduled.

Officers are being assigned additional on-line training through various providers to ensure that they are not only meeting existing training requirements, but exceeding them.

We still have 1 vacant full-time position. A new full-time position set to be funded on June 1 has been delayed, at my request, due to the current situation.

AACOG, through a grant, provided area law enforcement agencies a credit card skimmer detector. We have been able to check gas pumps and have the ability to check point of sale devices as well. This will help in the fight against credit card skimmers that are covertly placed by crooks. ACCOG also provided training on skimmers and how they work.