

Student Service Series

Police-d To Serve You

By Kathy Kern

1. You live in Meade Heights and you locked yourself out of your house. You:

A.) wait around or spend all day looking for one of your housemates.

B.) break a window

C.) call Police Services.

2. You are an international student who needs car insurance. You:

A.) call any company in the phone book and go with them, regardless of their rates or reputation.

B.) live without it.

C.) call Police Services and ask for advice.

The answer to both of the above questions is "C": call Police Services. In addition, the Capitol Campus Police provide house checks for vacationing Meade Heights residents, start students' cars with jumper cables, and help students open their cars when the keys are locked inside. Police Services also helps students who are planning to travel by checking the road conditions for them, if the students request it.

But the services don't stop there. If any Capitol Campus faculty member, staff member, or student runs out of gas, the campus police will make sure that the stranded motorist gets fuel. Police Services also checks complaints by students concerning drunk drivers or other incidents. Also, if a student finds pills and is concerned about another student's wellbeing because of the discovery, the student can take the drugs to Police Services. Police Services, in turn, will take the material in question to be analyzed at the State Police headquarters in Harrisburg.

Police Services is located in CRAGS Building, behind the Multi-Purpose Building. The campus police force consists of four full-time officers, including police supervisor Chuck Alesky. In case of an emergency, Lower Swatara Township Police are first on call for Capitol Campus. The Middletown Police will also respond if requested. These two fine

police departments can arrive at the campus in a matter of minutes. The State Police, since their response time may take up to an hour, are third in line for an emergency call here.

It is interesting to note here that, although the University Park Police carry guns, the force here at Capitol does not. The reason, according to Police Supervisor Chuck Alesky, is that "the administration feels that there is no need for it here."

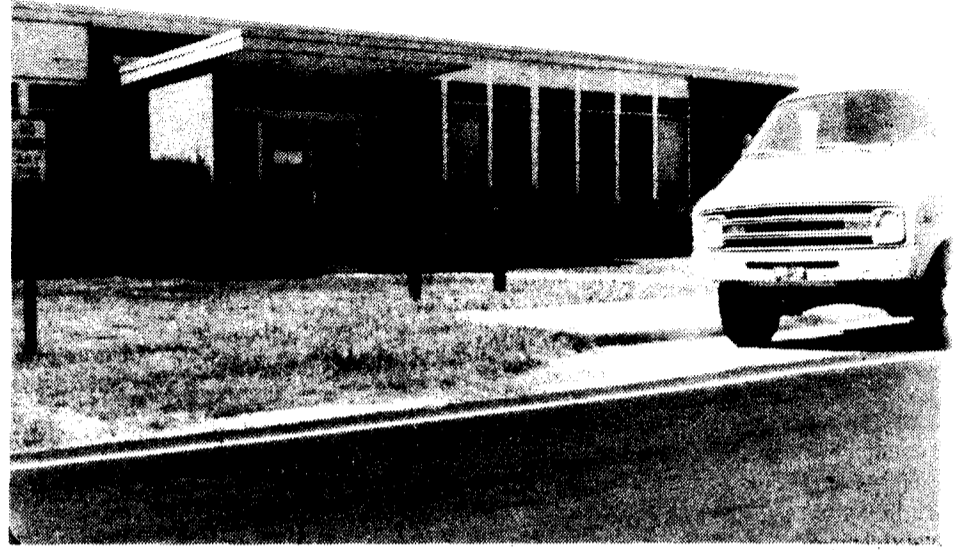
Besides offering many services to the students here, Police Services is now working towards a goal, having student security in mind: bicycle registration on campus. Supervisor Alesky notes that this registration will be done through the Borough of Middletown and will help locate bikes stolen from the campus. If all goes as planned, the service will be in effect for the Spring term.

Equipment used by Police Services to help the force do its job include the Breathalyzer and the engraver.

The Breathalyzer is used on campus when an officer gives a sobriety test to a driver suspected of being drunk. If the driver cannot pick up a coin (first test) and is still suspected of being drunk, he is hauled into the headquarters for a test on the Breathalyzer, an instrument which measures the amount of alcohol in the driver's system. If the driver refuses to take the test, his license is automatically suspended.

The engraver is used for identifying stereo equipment or other valuables which might not carry a serial number. A student engraves either his social security number or his driver's license number on the metal or plastic part of the item. Police Services has issued engraving kits to the dormitories and students who wish to use an engraver should contact any R.A.

The campus police, however, are not without rough spots in their job. Vandalism is a traditionally hard-to-stop and a hard-to-solve crime. Alesky notes that over the past two years here, the incidence of vandalism has decreased.



The Police Services Office is located in CRAGS, the Center for Research and Graduate Studies, located near the Multi-Purpose Building. The Police provide many valuable services to students at Capitol. READER photo by Harry H. Moyer

"The idea is to get the students and staff involved in curbing it," says Alesky. However, he also says that "students don't want to destroy a relationship by reporting a friend who has vandalized school property." The police Supervisor feels that if everyone takes an active role in deterring or reporting the crime, the incidence of vandalism can decrease here for a third year in a row, something which everyone can be proud of.

Another problem facing Police Services is the incidence of non-disabled drivers parking in spaces reserved for the temporarily handicapped drivers registered as temporarily handicapped. Students are requesting more visitor parking spaces, however, saying that there are too many "temporarily handicapped" spaces. It should be noted that there are three spaces for permanently

handicapped drivers and five such drivers registered. Although the registered temporarily disabled drivers are not permanently disabled, according to Alesky, "unfortunately we have people who ignore the signs and park there anyway."

In all, Police Services is here to serve the students' needs and security. "Our primary concern is to protect the students from people who come in from off-campus and vandalize and drive when drunk," says Alesky. He and his squad encourage students to report such behavior to Police Services. Also, it is good to know that when a student has a security question, or car insurance confusion, or is locked out of his house or car, there is someone for him to turn to: Police Services.



The Black Student Union here at Capitol challenges you to be a contestant. ALL YOU have to do is name the famous Black History Characters in the mural located in the Black Cultural Arts Center, W-134.

Entry blanks will be available at these two locations:

1. The Student Activities Office
2. The BCAC Lounge (W-134)

Important Note: the finished entry blanks must be hand-delivered to the Student Activities office by 4 p.m.; Friday, February 20, 1981. All entries must be dated. Limit one entry per student.

Prizes being offered are 1st prize - 100.00 Book Store Scholarship
2nd prize - \$50.00 Book Store Scholarship
3rd prize - \$25.00 Book Store Scholarship