



January 2026

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

## Beat 1



**Sergeant Collin Klein**

Hours 5:30pm—5:30am  
630-736-3764  
cklein@streamwood.org

### Protecting our Youth Starts with Us: Online Child Safety

Keeping kids safe online is a shared responsibility. Parents, guardians, and care-takers should be mindful of the online activities of their children and can take the following steps to help keep their family safe online:

- Set boundaries: Establish clear rules for screen time and online activities.
- Stay involved: Encourage children to share what they're doing online and check in regularly.
- Use parental controls: Enable privacy settings and filters to block inappropriate content.
- Teach caution: Remind kids never to share personal information, photos, or passwords.

Model good habits: Practice safe online behavior yourself—kids learn by example.

## Beat 2



**Sergeant Eric Pagels**

Hours 5:30pm—5:30am  
630-736-3752  
epagels@streamwood.org

### Got a New Electronic Device for Christmas?

- ◇ That brand new tablet or cell phone is going to bring you great joy as long as you keep it safe.
- ◇ Don't lay your hand-held electronics down while you are out or leave them in a vehicle
- ◇ Record the serial number
- ◇ Activate tracking software (many devices have this for free)
- ◇ Lock your device with a password only you know
- ◇ Change passwords often and don't keep them on you device



## Beat 3



### Sergeant Doug Knoll

Hours 5:30am—5:30pm  
630-736-3752  
dknoll@streamwood.org

As our children head back to school after winter break, I wanted to take a moment to address best practices for driving in school zones.

- Slow down, and obey the traffic control conducted by the crossing guards.
- Driving while texting or talking on a hand-held cellular device is strictly prohibited.
- Be mindful of stopped school buses and know that children may be running to them, or away from them.
- Motorists approaching a stopped school bus with its visual signals activated, lights and extended stop sign, must stop their vehicle at least 20 feet before reaching the school bus.
- Adults are encouraged to promote safe walking habits with their children, including using sidewalks, crossing the street at designated crosswalks, and not walking in-between cars.
- Pay attention to parking signage as it's designed to create a healthy and safe flow of vehicular traffic in designated areas.

## Beat 4



### Sergeant Hank Bradtke

Hours 5:30am—5:30pm  
630-736-3741  
hbradtke@streamwood.org

#### Winter car Checklist!

Are you prepared for winter weather driving? There are some steps you can take to help winterize your vehicle and keep you safe during the coldest months of the year.

- Keep your car maintained with regular service appointments. During these appointments, make sure your brakes and battery are in good condition and replace if needed.
- Check the tread on your tires. Tires are not safe and should be replaced when the tread is worn down to 2/32 of an inch, according to NHTSA.
- Fill your windshield washer fluid with a "no freeze" solution and use your washer fluid when road grime gets on your windshield.
- Test your windshield wipers to make sure they are working and keeping your windshield clean and streak-free. If the wipers skip or are causing streaks, it may be time to replace the wipers.
- Keep your A/C button ON and your air on the defrost setting to help keep your windows from fogging up. Keeping the A/C feature on with the heat up dries out the air and helps keep fog down.
- You never know when you may need an emergency kit. Keep one in your car with high visibility markers, water, a blanket, a cell phone charger and other cold-weather necessities.





# HELLO JANUARY

January 1st - New Years Day  
January 5th- U-46 Classes resume  
January 20th-MLK Day, Village  
offices closed



Officer Ed welcomed a group of very small girl scouts to the station!





# Streamwood Community



## Holiday Helping



The Village of Streamwood Social workers Nicole and Taylor with the assistance of volunteers from the Fire, Police departments and Village Hall hosted the 2025 Holiday Helping program. Funded entirely through donations, we helped 35 families and 90 children. 21 children got the opportunity to shop with a police officer or fire fighter at Target.





# Winter Safety

## Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Did you know?



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.

As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart!



Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source.



U.S. Fire Administration



## Winter Car Kit Checklist

- windshield scraper
- small broom
- flashlight
- blanket
- spare radio with batteries
- snacks or energy type food
- water
- jumper cables
- flares and matches
- shovel
- sand or shingles (for tire traction)
- hats, socks and mittens
- first aid kit
- fluorescent distress flag





# Community Events

The Streamwood D.A.R.E. officers along with Streamwood Police Department Comfort Dog Hope visited Sunnydale elementary first graders on 12/15/25.



Officer O'Shea joined officers from other local villages to be part of Santa's body guard team at Roselle's holiday festival.





# Spotlight Officers



**Cpl. Sachen**



**Ofc. Woolsey**



**Ofc. Cardenas**

January's Spotlight Employees of the Month are Corporal Steve Sachen, Officer Peter Woolsey, and Officer Sebastian Cardenas. Corporal Sachen has been with the department for 14 years, Officer Woolsey for 21 years, and Officer Cardenas for 12 years, and they are all currently assigned to a dayshift patrol team.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, these three officers responded to Fulton Dr. for a report of a person that was unconscious and not breathing. Dispatch advised that a man in his 50's collapsed in the driveway while shoveling snow. Officers provided immediate medical assistance that included CPR and the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) until the Streamwood Fire Department arrived. Paramedics continued providing medical aid, and the patient was awake and breathing before arrival at the hospital. The heroic actions of these officers undoubtedly contributed to this individual being alive today.

Corporal Sachen, Officer Woolsey, and Officer Cardenas are being acknowledged for their heroism and commitment to serving the citizens of Streamwood, and they deserve to be recognized as "Some of Streamwood's Finest"!



# New Laws 2026

**SB 0008** creates the **Safe Gun Storage Act**. Gun owners must store their firearms safely if they know or should know that a minor, at-risk person, or someone who is not allowed to have a gun could access them. Unsafe storage can result in fines from \$500 to \$10,000, depending on what happens as a result. Exceptions apply when the gun is lawfully carried, under the owner's control, or taken through unlawful entry. The bill also makes other changes regarding reporting lost or stolen guns and gun dealer responsibilities.

**SB 1899** creates a pathway for certain first-time, low-level weapon possession offenders in Illinois to apply for a Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) card after completing a diversion program. Individuals who successfully complete the First-Time Weapon Offender Diversion Program can apply for a FOID card, as long as they meet all other eligibility requirements. This change removes a previous restriction and gives program graduates a chance to lawfully own a firearm. Find out how having a criminal record could affect your ability to get a gun license.

The sharing of any non-Streamwood information does not constitute an endorsement of products or services on behalf of the Village of Streamwood.

