

From the Bangor Police: Texting and driving never a good idea

Duck of Justice
From the Bangor Police Department Facebook page



File this under "missed connections,"

There you were. I did not notice you for a moment as I was blinded by the glorious, bright paintwork of your brand new Teutonic AWD steed. The 14 day plate was not even dirty yet. HID headlights and I bet the steering wheel is heated. Lucky you.

I am not sure if you felt the heat from your leather clad, ship's wheel as your hands were too busy typing wildly on your pink cased, iPhone 6S. I guarantee that baby is the 64GB version. You're gonna need all those gigs too. Pictures, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest tips on how to personalize that slick ride. Maybe keep a couple of body shops in your contacts. I think you might need it at some point.

I was beside you at each light. Watching you skillfully dazzle your text-mate with LOLs and ROTFL comments. The road in

front you wide open as the drivers who were watching the light pulled forward at appropriate times when the signal turned green. You? Not so much.

If I had been behind you, even the extra sound deadening provided by the workers at the Spartanburg, South Carolina plant would not have been able to muffle the horn that I would have employed to move you along. I couldn't tell but I bet the driver's behind you were becoming frustrated.

I was not in a cruiser so it did not matter to you. You never even looked up. I was not on duty yet and just heading to the office.

You are a good driver. It is obvious that you have a doctorate in textology. The only issue you really had was that you stopped behind traffic a little late and moved on in traffic a little too slowly. If you were looking up, I never saw it. Perfect form, I will give you that.

When you do crash that machine, I hope the deductible is low. I am sure there is a compartment to hide your phone before the driver in front of you comes back to ask why you hit them. That thing looks like it has some extensive stor-

age and cubbies.

Hey, the good news is, the new Bangor Police Department Special Enforcement Team started yesterday and it gave me an idea for a project. Thank you for that.

Officer Steve "Maverick" Pelletier and Dustin "Goose" Dow will wing their way around Bangor today using rusty cars and marked interceptors to watch and write tickets to those who are texting and driving.

Using the skillful eye of Rookie Police Officer Sam "I am the man" McCarty, they will be roving and watching. Sam is the cameraman. He will document your electronic messaging, Facebooking and whatever else you are doing with that thing. Sam is headed to the police academy next week to start his training. This saves him from shredding documents and shoveling the roof until the academy starts. He thanks you.

In the Sesame Street segment "one of these things is not like the other" it was always quite simple to pick out the item that was, not like the others.

I think we can agree that it would be easy to

pick out the tourist in this photo. If I might point out the extremely white and natty sneakers being displayed by our Officer Keith Larby, I think you catch my drift.

It also should be noted that Mainers tend to purchase new sneakers before heading south for vacation. I know I do. Wearing them in and out of the house in mud season does give them a yellow tone, even when cleaned appropriately. It is clear to me that Officer Larby spent a considerable amount of time selecting just the right sneakers to scream "tourist" before going down to the Savannah, Georgia area.

He left the Bangor Police Department bearing gifts and these two Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department Officers were the recipients of Officer Larby's kindness. He is another Duck of Justice apostle.

Officers Shawn Dobbs and Brittany Dobbs are proud and pleasant officers and they are also married. Larby's gesture of goodwill was welcomed right up until he asked them to adopt him. Then, it got a little uncomfortable. He took it well and



XXX/THE WEEKLY

Bangor police officer Keith Larby (center) poses with Savannah, Georgia police officers Shawn and Brittany Dobbs, who received Duck of Justice t-shirts.

returned to the Bangor Police Department last week to start on a year long rotation of Midnight shifts.

I told him that the Dobbs meant no harm filling out the harassment warning and that he can go back to Savannah on future vacations. He had better bring some Bangor police department key

chains. Then, all the popcorn on their living room rug will be forgotten.

The men and women of the Bangor Police Department salute the men and women of the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department. Be safe.

The men and the women of the Bangor Police Department will be here!

support groups

Support group listings run as space permits. Items are due at least seven to 10 days before the Thursday of publication. Email: weekly@bangordailynews.com. Mail: The Weekly, P.O. Box 1329, Bangor ME 04402.

BANGOR:
• Al-Anon meetings for relatives and friends affected by the excessive drinking of someone else, Bangor area and throughout Maine. Meeting times and locations, maineafg.org or 800-498-1944.

• Bangor Area Narcotics Anonymous meeting for families and loved ones of addicts. 6-7 p.m. Thursdays, St. Francis Center (old firehouse) across from St. Joseph emergency entrance, 368 Center St. Janice, 299-8802.

• Bangor Area Parkinson's Group, 1-3 p.m. third Sundays, Acadia Hospital. Room reserved. Open to patients and caregivers.

• Bereavement support for parents who have lost a child. 6-7:30 p.m. third Wednesdays, Brookings Smith Family Center, 163 Center St. Judy, 889-9025.

• Celiac Sprue Support Group, 7 p.m. third Tuesdays except in December, St. Francis Center. 294 Center St.

• Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder, or CHADD, 6-7 p.m. third Tuesday, office of Barry Rubin, Bangor Family Counseling, Suite 335, 96 Harlow St. Free. 990-1555.

• Eastern Maine Crohn's and Colitis Support Group for IBD patients, caregivers and family members, 6-7:30 p.m. second Thursdays, Dr. Frank Chapman Conference Room, 2nd floor, St. Joseph Hospital. 974-9724.

• Eastern Maine Medical Center Bereavement Support Group, 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursdays of each month, Cascade Room, Riverside Inn, 495 State St. Sandra Levesque, 973-6604.

• Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous, 6:30 p.m. Mondays, First United Methodist Church, 703 Essex St. Free. Twelve Step recovery program for those suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating, anorexia and bulimia. 781-321-9118 or 942-1738.

• National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support Groups for anyone affected by mental illness, Acadia Hospital. Information and meeting schedule, Jean-Ann, 949-5658, or Betsy, btsygrs@yahoo.com.

• Maine Kids-Kin Greater Bangor Support Group for grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings and other family members who are raising a relative's child, 6 p.m. first and third Tuesdays, Families and Children Together, 304 Hancock St. 941-2347 or 866-298-0896.

• Nicotine anonymous, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, conference room, Maine Veterans Home. Provides help for those who have quit smoking and want to stay that way. Larry, 843-7563.

• Ostomy Support Group ostomy patients, their families and caregivers, 3-5 p.m. second Tuesdays, Felician Conference Room, second floor, St. Joseph Hospital. Free. Rose Cyr, 907-1550 or rosanne.cyr@sjhhealth.com.

• Overeaters Anonymous for those with eating disorders, 10 a.m. Saturdays, 5 p.m. Sundays, Strauss meeting room St. Joseph Hospital, Center Street; and 10 a.m. Mondays and noon Thursdays, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 540 Essex St. Barbara, 990-2025.

• Safe Place, for those who have lost someone to suicide, 6:30-8 p.m. first Wednesdays, St. Joseph's Healthcare Park, 900 Broadway. Peer led group with no fee. Associated with Ameri-

can Foundation for Suicide Prevention. afsfp.org.

• Spruce Run-Womancare Alliance support groups for women affected by partner abuse. Day and evening groups; child care activities. Spruce Run-Womancare Alliance, 800-863-9909.

• St. Joseph Diabetes and Nutrition Center Diabetes Support Group, Willette Conference Center, Building 1, St. Joseph Healthcare Park, 900 Broadway. Meetings facilitated by certified diabetes educator. Group members share tips on diabetes management. Open to all. Free. 907-1187.

• Bangor TOPS 0311, (Take off Pounds Sensibly), 9-10:15 a.m. Fridays, Nason Manor community room,

140 Hancock St. Matthew, 605-0167

BREWER:
• Bangor Area Recovery Network recovery education and support, 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays, BARN Community Recovery Center, 142 Center St. Free. 561-9444 or bangorrecovery@gmail.com.

• Central Maine Brain Injury and Stroke Support Group, 4-5 p.m. third Mondays, conference room, Brewer Center for Health and Rehabilitation. Open to survivors and caregivers. Patty, 989-7300, ext. 134.

BUCKSPORT:
• Cancer Support Center of Maine support group for cancer patients, 12:30 p.m. first Wednesdays, Buck-

sport Regional Health Center, 110 Broadway. Bring bag lunch or snack. 469-6383.

HOLDEN:
• Vestibular Support Group for those experiencing dizziness, imbalance, vertigo or ringing in the ears, Brewer Physical Therapy and Spine Clinic, 51 Main Road. 989-4122.

ORRINGTON:
• Al-Anon meetings, 6-7 p.m. Fridays, East Orrington Congregational Church, 38 Johnson Mill Road. 284-1844 or questions@maineafg.org.

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Turning the pages from the past
The Weekly

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