

WPD asks public to view information video

By Leah Ward
lward@dglobe.com

WORTHINGTON — The Worthington Police Department released a video Thursday about a Level 3 sex offender who recently moved into the community, and the WPD is asking the public to watch it in order to become informed.

A Level 3 sex offender is considered at high risk for re-offending. Because of this, state law requires law enforcement to notify the public when a Level 3 offender moves into the community, explained WPD Det. Sgt. Brandon Piel.

Typically, local law enforcement would hold an in-person public forum when this occurs. Due to COVID-19, however, the Minnesota Department of Corrections recommended a video instead.

In the video, Minnesota Corrections Agent Brad VanderVegt spends about 45 minutes explaining how the sex offender levels are assessed and what it means for a community member to be a Level 3 offender.

Of the nearly 19,000 predatory offenders in the state of Minnesota, only 446 are considered Level 3. Nobles, Murray and Cottonwood counties are home to one Level 3 offender each.

"Research and data ... supports that

a well-informed community is a safer community," VanderVegt said.

However, Piel emphasized, the goal is not to scare the public or create a sense of worry.

"The more information, the better," he said.

Information helps people make better decisions and form safety plans for themselves and their communities, VanderVegt added.

VanderVegt's video is available to watch on WPD's Facebook page.

While members of the public consider the information shared, VanderVegt recommends not dropping a bombshell on children by telling them all the details at once. Rather, he suggests having regular, age-appropriate conversations with kids about how to stay safe in their communities and where to go for help if they feel unsafe.

For any public safety concern, the WPD is the best local resource, VanderVegt said. Anyone who has been a victim of a predatory offense should reach out to the Southwest Crisis Center, VanderVegt emphasized. Help is available at (218) 666-8336 (Youth Text Line), 376-4311 (Main Office), 1-800-376-4311 (24-hour Crisis Line) or mnsbcc.org.

READ THE GLOBE ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.

The Globe



The Globe E-paper is just like your print newspaper, but with MORE news!

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY!



LIKE
My Summer Photo Contest!

Submit a photo of yourself or your favorite local place, event or activity you enjoy during the summer months.

You could win a \$100 Gift Certificate to your choice of the Contest Sponsors!

3 EASY WAYS TO SUBMIT YOUR PHOTO

(be sure to include your name, address, phone number & a brief description of the location or activity in your photo)

E-mail: contest@dglobe.com

Mail: The Globe Contest, PO Box 639, Worthington, MN 56187

Facebook: Message us on our Facebook page



CONTEST RULES: Submit a photo between Wednesday, August 19, and Tuesday, August 25. Include a comment with your picture telling us what and where the place or activity is, and why you like this local venue so much. On Wednesday, August 26, we will publish the photos in the LIKE My Summer Photo 2020 album on our Facebook page. People will vote on their favorite photos, and the owner of the photo that has the most LIKES will win a \$100 gift certificate valid at the sponsoring business of their choice. The winning photo will be published in The Globe on Wednesday, September 2, as well as on our Facebook page. Participants must be 18 years or older to enter.

SERVICE IN A FLASH!

GRAHAM
YOUR TIRE STORE NEXT DOOR

1999 East Oxford Street Worthington, MN
507-372-5454

"SNAP" OPEN A COLD ONE THIS SUMMER WITH...

Worthington Liquor Store

Southwest Minnesota's largest selection of liquor, wine and beer.

HOURS:
Monday-Thursday 10am - 8pm
Friday-Saturday 10am - 9pm
Sunday 12pm - 5pm

- Liquor • Ice
- Wine • Mixes
- Beer

WALK IN BEER CAVE!

1190 Ryan's Road • Worthington, MN • 507-372-8620

THE STAG CLOTHIERS
FASHIONS FOR MEN & WOMEN

412 Tenth Street
Worthington, MN
Phone: (507) 376-5920

Brown's SHOE FIT CO.

324 10th Street, Worthington
507-376-4160 • Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 9-4

@BrownsShoeFitCoWorthington
brownshoefitco.com

ZOOM IN TO SAVINGS!

HyVee EMPLOYEE OWNED

1235 OXFORD STREET • WORTHINGTON
507-372-7354 • HY-VEE.COM

PICTURE
a healthier you with

the Daily Apple
HEALTH • CLOTHING • GIFTS

507-372-7127

207 10th Street • Worthington, MN
facebook.com/TheDailyAppleWorthington
Follow dailyapple1 on Instagram