



Mount Vernon

An Innovative Community; Authentically Hometown

Police Department Accepts Teddy Bear Donation

St. Vincent de Paul School helps keep decades-long community project going

MOUNT VERNON, October 27, 2023 – Friday, October 27 was Teddy Bear Day in the United States, an observance created to honor one of childhood's favorite toys, but for the Mount Vernon Police Department, teddy bears are part of each day protecting the City's residents.

For a couple of decades now, the MVPD has been handing out teddy bears to children in crisis who the department's officers have encountered in the course of performing their duties. Over the years a variety of organizations have stepped forward to provide the Police Department with teddy bears for this effort, and this year the St.



Vincent de Paul School, 206 E. Chestnut St., Mount Vernon, stepped up, donating 40 of the toys.

"Our officers always keep a few teddy bears in their cruisers to give out to traumatized kids," said Police Chief Robert Morgan. "We thank the St. Vincent de Paul School for their support, and promise to give these teddy bears a good home."

Mayor Matthew Starr thanked the City's Recreation Board for helping to make Friday's teddy bear donation happen.

From left in rear, Leslie Buehrer, of St. Vincent de Paul School and a member of the City's Recreation Board; City Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers; Mayor Matthew Starr; Police Chief Robert Morgan, along with several St. Vincent de Paul schoolchildren show off some of the teddy bears the school has donated to the Police Department.

"Anything we can do to show the City's youngest residents that Police Officers aren't scary but are here to help them is vital," he

said. "Their mission to protect and serve can mean so many things, including handing out a teddy bear to a child in need from time to time."

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ABOUT THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON:

The City of Mount Vernon is an innovative community with an authentic hometown feel. The City is dedicated to providing modern services with an emphasis on continual improvement, customer service and equitable laws that support our citizens and visitors, while retaining and attracting investors in our community. Home to 17,000 people, Mount Vernon is the county seat for Knox County and boasts historic buildings and districts as well as business and professional, educational and recreational opportunities through many adaptive reuses of the community's infrastructure and spaces. The City has strong ties to higher education, with Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Kenyon College and Central Ohio Technical College operating satellite locations in the historic downtown. Located 40 miles northeast of Columbus, Mount Vernon is near the geographic center of Ohio and has connections all over the globe.

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