

MERRIAM

highlights & recreation

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MERRIAM

Just right.



Merriam Police Officer Receives Life Saving Award

Officer April Gebke was honored with a Life Saving Award on Jan. 14.

Last December, Officer Gebke responded to a car crash where the driver had suffered cardiac arrest. Officer Gebke quickly removed the driver from the vehicle, began chest compressions, and then hooked up an AED to administer several shocks to the driver. The driver made a full recovery.

"We are very proud of Officer Gebke and the work she did to save a life in Merriam. Her quick response and action to start life-saving efforts were crucial to helping the driver survive what otherwise might have been a fatal event," Merriam Police Chief Michael Daniels said.



Merriam Welcomes Two New Police Officers

Police Officers Nick Moeller and Kaleb Bryant were sworn in on Jan. 14.

Officer Moeller said he knew he wanted to be a police officer since he was a young child. Originally from Davenport, Iowa, Officer Moeller holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and sociology from Simpson College.

Officer Bryant comes to the City of Merriam from the City of Overland Park, where he also grew up. He's currently attending Johnson County Community College pursuing a criminal justice degree.



From left: Officer Nick Moeller, Officer Kaleb Bryant

Crashes Down on Shawnee Mission Parkway

Statistics collected for the 2018 Merriam Police Annual Report showed the fewest number of crashes on Shawnee Mission Parkway since 2013. There were 116 car crashes in 2018, down from its peak of 167 crashes in 2014.

In March 2017, the police department began using Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Study (DDACTS) enforcement to find areas with high incidences of crime, car crashes, and traffic violations.

Merriam police identified Shawnee Mission Parkway as a primary focus of traffic enforcement and said the crash reduction is due, in part, to the program using statistics to determine the most effective places and times to patrol areas in Merriam.

Read the 2018 Merriam Police Annual Report at merriam.org/police.

