

## Crossing Guards



The Mason Police Department partners with the Mason School District in employing school



crossing guards for the City's youth. We currently have seven full-time guards and four substitutes. Crossing guards are essential to the safety of our school children. Not only do they assist them in crossing busy streets, but they keep a watchful eye out for suspicious persons and situations that might pose a threat to them.

In 2006, we saw quite a shifting of personnel. Two of our crossing guards—Leo Savoie and Bob Leyko—retired due to physical problems. Substitute guard Roger Shiery took over one of their posts, and we hired Delbert (Mike) Pierson to fill the other one. Our Department's part-time clerical worker, Cindy McNamara, also signed on to be a substitute guard because we desperately needed back-up workers.

Our crossing guards are rarely given the appreciation that they deserve. Not only do they have a very important job, but they are an extremely dedicated and loyal group. The majority of them go above and beyond the call of duty—often putting in longer hours than they are paid for just to make sure their particular students get to school and back home safely. They keep on top of what's happening in the children's lives and serve as mentors to those who are having a difficult time or just need a friendly ear. Although they sometimes are “forgotten” when it comes to being recognized as City of Mason employees, their jobs are just as essential to the City as any others. And their dedication



cannot be questioned—whether it's raining, sleeting, snowing, storming, or sweltering outside,



they can always be counted on to be at their posts—watching out for and keeping the City's school children safe.