

Around Town

For Release 12 noon Wednesday, April 11, 2007

By Billy Ray McKelvy

De Queen Mayor

The De Queen Police Department has been directed to focus each month on a specific law enforcement issue that affects our city.

During the month of March, officers stepped up patrol at railroad crossings in an effort to reduce the number of drivers who risk their lives by trying to beat the train. There are several railroad crossings inside the city limits and at least one serious car-train accident occurred last year.

Last month, De Queen Police officers issued 11 citations for disregarding railroad warning signals.

During the month of April, police will be concentrating on drivers who park on the left side of the street, especially in the downtown area. State law requires the wheels on the right side of a parked vehicle to be no more than 18 inches from the curb.

Police will be looking for improper parking during the month of April and violators will risk a citation to District Court.

This project will be publicized in local news media in order that drivers may be aware of the focus on parking rules.

At the end of the month, police will issue a report on the number of enforcement actions taken.