Tip of the month

Finally, school is out and we can all get on with summer! I thought I would offer some vacation tips, as we venture from our homes. If you plan on leaving your home for an extended period of time, it's a good idea to ask a friend or neighbor to retrieve your mail and check on your home periodically. A full mailbox is a good tip for a would-be thief, that nobody is home. Have a couple interior lights placed on a timer switch. Lights on inside the home could mean somebody is home and might deter a thief.

Prepare your vehicle for any long road trips. If you are handy, make sure all the fluid levels are topped off, your tires have the proper amount of air in them and are in good condition and check your belt for wear. You may need to take your vehicle in for a "check-up" to avoid any problems on long trips. Also, plan stops accordingly on long drives. Get out and stretch your legs so you don't get too tired. Fatigue can certainly lead to an accident.

After such a long winter and school year, we are anxious to enjoy the summer. Don't let a minor mishap occur that could be avoided, by taking a little extra time in the beginning!

Deputy Richard A. Charon

Ionia County Sheriff's Office