



# CITY OF MILAN

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
AND CITY ADMINISTRATION

## **Kids Get Busted in Milan doing GOOD! Get a Buddy Bucks Ticket from a Milan Police Officer and Get a “Free Ice Cream”**

**Milan Police want to catch more kids doing good things, so Buddy Bucks starts  
May 30<sup>th</sup> and runs until September 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Milan Police are on the lookout for youth between the ages of 5-17 years doing good deeds in Milan.  
The Buddy Bucks program rewards youth with a ticket from the Milan Police that can be turned in for 1  
regular single ice cream cone at:  
Dairy Barn - 805 Dexter Street  
-or-  
Nagle's - 225 Wabash**

This community oriented character building program was created, and is sponsored, by the Milan Rotary Club and Milan Area Schools. The program is implemented by the Milan Police Department. The Buddy Bucks program is a way to reinforce good behavior in children while giving them a positive first encounter with a police officer.

The idea initially came from Sara K. Ford, who was a member of the Milan Rotary Club and President of the Milan Area Chamber of Commerce when the program was created. After reading about a similar program in the May 12, 1998 issue of Family Circle Magazine, Ms. Ford thought the program would be great for Milan. The Milan Police Chief at that time, Rotarian Herb Mahoney, thought it was an excellent idea and that it should be developed further. The Milan Rotary Club recognized the opportunity and agreed to provide the funds to support the program. The program became a reality in 1999 and has been a featured part of the summer here in Milan ever since.

Current Milan Police Chief and Rotarian Gerry Scherlinck strongly supports the project as a way to not only encourage kids to make positive contributions to their families, friends, and the community, but also as an excellent opportunity for positive encounters between police officers and kids.

The project continues to be supported by the Milan Rotary Club as a community project. The club provides the funds to reimburse the participating businesses for the treats.

The Milan Area School District distributes flyers to Milan students to help get the word out. Current Superintendent and Rotarian, Bryan Girbach, strongly endorses the project as a means to reward our youth for positive behaviors throughout the summer, and like the Chief, views this as an excellent tool for police officers to use to reach out to kids in a positive way.

**The program runs from May 30<sup>th</sup> through September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Milan Police Officers will distribute Buddy Bucks Tickets to kids from ages 5 to 17 years old when they observe them wearing their bike helmet, walking their bike on the sidewalk, picking up litter, helping parents, or any other positive behaviors in the community. In addition to rewarding kids for good deeds and safe behavior, kids who officers observe or become aware of who are participating in summer reading efforts will also be eligible for Buddy Bucks.**

**Buddy Bucks build good character and contribute to positive encounters between kids and police officers.**

**Parents or adults who observe a kid doing something worthy of an award may call the Milan Police Department and arrangements will be made for an officer to stop by and give them a “Buddy Bucks Ticket.”**

**For Questions please call Sara K. Ford 743-439-4007 or e-mail at [sarak.ford@yahoo.com](mailto:sarak.ford@yahoo.com)**