NEWS

APRIL 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF:



Community engagement is an essential component of my vision for the Rochester Police Department. We know that through engagement, the community is given a significant voice in how we police. It is my goal to enhance the community's voice and sow the seeds that build trust.

I believe that by actively engaging our community, we can significantly improve the way we deliver police services, as well as reduce criminal and antisocial behavior, and establish trusting relationships with those we serve. The relationships we build will also help us solve crime.

It is equally important that we focus on developing relationships with youth. One of our strategies is to build relationships with children before they enter secondary school. By investing in young people, we will not likely see immediate change; however, it is my hope that this investment will help erode the destructive "no snitch culture."

This is an acknowledgment of the many tireless hours spent volunteering by members of the RPD. These men and women have demonstrated their commitment to truly making a difference, not only through enforcement efforts, but through relationship building, mentoring and role modeling. Knowing that, I appreciate all that you do.

I must also mention how appreciative I am for the assistance we receive from our community partners. Many individuals and organizations assist the RPD in our engagement efforts. I am grateful to the teachers who have invited us into their classrooms to read to students, for those who host sporting events, and for those who helped us collect and distribute thousands of books to grammar school students.

As I look towards 2013, I know that we will build upon our successes and enhance our existing partnerships.

Chief James M. Sheppard

Policing in the Spirit of Service

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ROCHESTER POLICE FOUNDATION TO HOST INAUGURAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

On Saturday, April 27, the Rochester Police Foundation Board of Directors will host its inaugural fundraising event, with a promise to raise both awareness and funds to benefit the Rochester Police Department.

The event takes place from 6:30–9:00 p.m. at ONE Restaurant and Lounge, located at 1 Ryan Alley.

"We are pleased to host our first major fundraising event," Foundation Board President Dennis Kessler said. "Proceeds from this event—and all Foundation fundraising efforts—are used to help RPD cover expenses associated with public safety initiatives, community and youth outreach programs, and crime prevention programs."

Joining the Board of Directors for this special evening will be Chief Sheppard, Mayor Thomas Richards, and Master of Ceremonies Dan Meyers. The event will feature a live and silent auction, demonstrations by the RPD and live music.

The Rochester Police Foundation was formally established in May 2012, with a mission to foster public safety, excellence in law enforcement and a positive relationship between RPD and the community. The Foundation works closely with Chief Sheppard to help support the Department with funding for equipment and training, youth and community outreach programs, and assistance to the families of fallen officers.

For information about obtaining tickets for the April 27th event, please contact Foundation Treasurer Tim Tompkins at 271-2400. Tickets are \$150 per person.

3RD ANNUAL BHM GOSPEL CONCERT

On Saturday, March 9th, the RPD hosted the 3rd Annual BHM Gospel Concert. The event is growing each year. The concert, which is brilliantly called "Bring the Joyful Noise!" was performed to a packed house of community members and police officers at the Public Safety Building. If you were not able to attend the concert, you missed an incredible display of talent by our youth and a beautiful, multi-cultural and intergenerational gospel collaboration.

This year we heard performances from Brockport's Top Brass Stage Band; Voices of Tomorrow Youth Choir from Holy Light Church of God; Greater Harmony Missionary Baptist Church Male Chorus; New Life Fellowship Choir; and a choir from Hope Divine Church of God. The performances were masterfully coordinated by the Master of Ceremonies Reverend Doug Smith.

To watch the video, click on the link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkWlaCY9c4Y



Photo by Caurie Putnam; courtesy of the Democrat and Chronicle.

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FAMILY OF OFF. FRANK GAMBINO VISITS RPD



On Saturday, March 30th, the family of the late/retired Officer Frank Gambino met with Chief Sheppard in the Public Safety Building. Mrs. Gambino, her children and grandchildren wanted to see the historic photograph that was on display in the public safety lobby.

They reminisced about the infamous day the photograph was taken, and were presented with a mounted copy to take home.

RPD WOMEN HONORED FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



On March 21st, in honor of Women's History Month, a large group of female members of the Rochester Police Department met at the historic Susan B. Anthony House to take a group photo.

COLLECTION IN PROGRESS FOR DEPLOYED SERVICE MEMBERS

During the month of April, T/Sgt. Donald Manfredi (Headquarters-PSB) will be collecting items to ship overseas to deployed service members. A list of requested items can be picked up at the HQ desk and donated items can be dropped off (attention to T/Sgt. Manfredi) at the Public Safety Building HQ desk. The items will be shipped on April 30th. Some of the recipients will be deployed RPD members, including Officer Mark Hanson, who is currently serving in Afghanistan.

MYPD SMART PHONE APP VIDEO TUTORIAL

Chief's Office Student Intern Mia Pacuzzi produced three MyPD App video tutorials. The video tutorials can be found on the web on the Rochester Police Department You Tube Channel.

Also on the channel is the 2012 RPD Community Engagement Video. All videos can be seen by subscribing to the RPD You Tube Channel at:

http://www.youtube.com/user/RocNYPoliceDept



KUDOS TO THE RPD

The following kudos are excerpts from comments received by the Chief's Office, commending officers on courtesies that were greatly appreciated:

Last Saturday, my family and I attended the basketball games at Blue Cross Arena. I would like to compliment the City of Rochester Police Department for their courteous and friendly service. Not only did they help us cross busy streets, but they did it with a smile and pleasant conversation. This was done by several officers. Although our kids lost the game, we had a nice safe day in your city. Thank You!

Jon Baker, Olean, NY

I recently had a very positive interaction with Officer Brian Abrams. In helping me with a difficult situation, he was patient, informative and calming. His professionalism in representing the police department was outstanding. Thank you, Officer Abrams, for a job well done.

Richard Cherkis

I did a ride along Friday 3/15 with Officer J. Marsh. I would just like to inform you of the awesome officer Marsh is. As I observed him, it was clear to me that he pays great attention to details, he cares about his job and the community. He is compassionate, caring and great at taking charge. I had a fantastic time and learned a lot by observing him and he is definitely a role model for future officers. Thank you for the opportunity to observe the Department.

Eduard Visage

Ms. Mary Chandler (visiting her sister from Ohio) called the Chief's office to say: On 11/15/12, her sister, Roseanne Scheuermann, was driving and went through a red light. The caller thinks this was at Buffalo Rd. and Mt. Read Blvd. She was pulled over by Officer Hogg, who quickly realized that Ms. Scheuermann was having a stroke. He summoned medical help quickly and also parked her car somewhere where it would be safe until her children could pick it up. The caller said the stroke was very serious, but her sister is in much better health now. Ms. Chandler said the family are all amazed by Officer Hogg's actions and are very grateful for what he did.

SAVE THE DATE

The next "Do The Right Thing" awards ceremony will be held Thursday, May 11th, at 10:30 a.m. in the PSB auditorium.

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The Rochester Police Department, in conjunction with the Rochester Locust Club, Inc,. cordially invites you to attend the 32nd Annual Awards Dinner, which will be held on Wednesday, May 8th, 2013, at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center, 123 East Main Street.

This dinner gives both the community and all members of the Department a chance to come together and recognize the outstanding efforts put forth by many employees during the previous year. Everyone in the Rochester Police Department family is encouraged to attend this event in order to celebrate our accomplishments.

In this section, we will feature individual members of the Department, highlighting their careers and interests, both on and off the job.



OFFICER STEVE MITCHELL EAST DIVISION, 1ST PLATOON

My Career:

While attending Keuka College full-time in 2006, I also attended the part-time academy to become a deputy in the Monroe County Sheriff's Office. I worked in the Parks and Marine Unit during the summers until 2008, when I was hired by the Ithaca Police Department as a Police Officer. I enjoyed working in Ithaca, but my family lives in Rochester, so I made the decision

to lateral to RPD in Febuary, 2009. After FTO, I went to East First Platoon. I worked in PSA 29 for about a year, and since January 2011, have worked in PSA 23.

Why did you want a career with the Rochester Police Department?

When I was in high school, officers always came into the pizza shop where I worked. There was something about the camaraderie and brotherhood that really made me think about wanting to be a police officer. Before that, I always saw myself becoming a meteorologist, (which is about as different a career that you can have from being a police officer). I did ride alongs with officers and saw what kind of work they did every day. I always saw myself working for RPD, it just took a few departments to get here. Now living in the city myself, I take a little more pride when putting the RPD uniform on.

Tell me about a time in your career when you were most proud to be a member of the RPD?

Every officer here has had to call for more officers because a situation is getting out of hand. I have had several of these moments while working for the RPD. When you see the calvary coming to help, there is no feeling like it. It is an amazing aspect of this job. We share a bond with each other. When I take a step back and think about that part of being a Rochester Police Officer, it's what I'm most proud of.

What are some things you like to do when you're off duty?

I love to take vacations in the winter to get away from the snow and cold. I enjoy spending days on my boat with my wife during the summer. There is nothing like being on the water all day, just listening to music and relaxing. I am a huge Bills fan, so Sundays are dedicated to watching the game. I started running the Tough Mudder races two years ago and look forward to those as well. As boring as it sounds, the thing I look forward to the most is a night of watching TV on the couch with my wife and our animals. There's really nothing better than those nights.

WE PRODUCE LEADERS

Over the years, the Rochester Police Department has developed a national reputation for excellence, due in large part to the tremendous talent, commitment and innovative thinking exhibited by those who have worn the uniform of the Rochester Police Department. The "We Produce Leaders" series highlights RPD alumni who have gone on from the Department to continue serving the community in a variety of leadership roles. We hope these articles inspire current RPD members and demonstrate the many ways that the skills and professionalism gained as a RPD officer benefits the community for a lifetime.



RET. COMMANDER PETER BRUNETT Served: 1984-2007

Peter joined the RPD in 1984, and worked his way up the ranks before retiring as a Commander in 2007. Peter worked as an officer for four years before being promoted to Investigator in 1988. After his promotion to Sergeant in 1989, he was assigned to positions in Patrol, Homicide, Tactical, and Emergency Task Force (ETF). After being promoted to Lieutenant in 1997, he served in Patrol, Tactical and ETF. In 1999 he was promoted to

Captain and served in Patrol, R&E, and Chief's staff. Lastly, Peter was appointed as Commander of the East Division in 2006.

DESCRIBE A HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR CAREER IN RPD AND HOW THAT SHAPED YOUR FUTURE:

Shortly after graduating from the police academy, I was assigned to the Genesee Section, under the command of Captain Louis Campanozzi. Captain Campanozzi had been an instructor at the academy, and had earned the respect and admiration of the entire class. He made me feel special because he took time to meet and talk with me, a rookie. In our brief conversation, he provided a perspective of the area and people that made up the Genesee Section. As he explained his game plan I was inspired and motivated. By the time our talk was over, I knew that the Genesee Section is exactly where I belonged.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE YOUR RETIREMENT:

I was hired as Program Coordinator at the MCC Public Safety Training Facility in 2007. My primary assignment is to coordinate in-service training at the academy. In addition to the development and redesign of many programs, there are times when I work with the recruit officers as well.

ADVICE THAT YOU WOULD GIVE TO THE OFFICERS CURRENTLY ON THE JOB:

One of the writings that has really captured my ethos was that of the great warrior chief Tecumseh. It provides a good road map for those on the job. "So live your life so that fear of death can never enter your heart. Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view, and demand that they respect yours. Love your life, perfect your life, and beautify all things in your life. Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people. Prepare a noble death song for the day when you go over the great divide..."



