

JUNE 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF:



Ladies & Gentlemen,

Through the first six months of 2013, the City of Rochester has incurred a significant increase in the number of shooting incidents. We must remain steadfast in our approach and make it crystal clear to those who choose to engage in violent behaviors, that such violence will not be tolerated.

Our response will be three pronged: Geographically-based, People-based and Community engagement; with all three approaches complementing each other for a holistic approach. We must also remain consistently proactive and aggressive.

I have asked for your input, and I am pleased by the number of responses that I have received from members of the department outlining ideas on how to reduce firearm violence. We will incorporate some of these ideas in the very near future.

Thank you for all of the hard work you put in day after day to make our city safe. While it may not always be evident, I can assure you that your efforts are appreciated by me, your command, and the multitude of good, law-abiding citizens in this city. I am excited to see the positive impact of your efforts in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

Chief James M. Sheppard

Policing in the Spirit of Service



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FOUNDATION BACKS "SHOP WITH A COP

During the June meeting of the Rochester Police Foundation's Board of Directors, the Board unanimously voted in favor of a \$2,500 donation to the police department to fund a special back to school initiative.

Called "Shop with A Cop," this program is aimed at helping to offset the costs of back to school supplies for 25 city students. The program is modeled after the Department's successful holiday season "Shop With A Cop" event held this past December.

"We are pleased to support this community outreach effort," said Foundation President Dennis Kessler. "In addition to helping defray school supply expenses, students of all ages will have the opportunity to meet and interact with a police officer. This is a great opportunity for RPD to foster strong relationships with youth and their families."

NEW PATROL RIFLE TESTING IN PROGRESS

Chief Sheppard has authorized the testing and evaluation of a patrol rifle: the Colt Law Enforcement version of the M4. The field testing began on June 6th. While this is not a commitment to outfit the entire Department with a patrol rifle, it is the first step in understanding the value of having this strategic weapon in the hands of our first responders.

Officers from each Division, 1st, 2nd and 3rd platoons, were trained and qualified. These members are authorized to deploy the patrol rifle based on the training they have received. We are also exploring a three-to-five year cost and training analysis, should the decision be made to deploy the rifle across all Patrol units.

The Professional Development Section has created a Powerpoint presentation that will familiarize everyone with the nomenclature of the rifle; please take the time to review it. The Powerpoint training will be supported by roll call awareness training from the six trained members:

1st Platoon: Off. Steven Mitchell, Off. Timothy Luety; 2nd Platoon: Off. Adam Harden, Off. Steven Kovacic; 3rd Platoon: Off. Patrick Steiner, Off. Ed Frantangelo.

While the rifle is being field tested, and absent of extreme exigent circumstances, only members who have been trained and successfully qualified on the rifle should be handling the M4.

PSB 6TH FLOOR PHOTO EXHIBIT

A new photographic exhibit has been placed in the elevator lobby of the 6th floor of the PSB. The exhibit contains the award-winning work of Paolo Pellegrin, a world-renowned photojournalist who spent several weeks in Rochester in 2012. Mr. Pellegrin documented the work of our police officers and donated some of his work for public display.

Congratulations to the following officers for being subjects in what turned out to be internationally recognized photography:

Left Picture: Nick Gulla, Steven Mitchell, Jeremy Robinson, Jason Rudolph; Middle Picture: Geoffrey Quinn, Bernard McDonald, Thomas Lisle, Thomas Vanacker; Right Picture: Josh Kelly, James Gashlin, Evan Lang, Steven Mitchell.

More information about the photographer can be found at: http://www.worldpressphoto.org/people/paolo-pellegrin.



PALACTIVITY UPDATE

PAL'S FIRST-EVER "BUILD A BIKE/BIKE SAFETY DAY"

On Saturday, May 11th, Rochester Police Officers Steve Kovacic, Tom Lisle, Chris Muscato, and Mark and Andrea Rine teamed up with youth for PAL's first-ever "Build A Bike/Bike Safety Day." The event, held at 275 Upper Falls Blvd., had officers engaging with youngsters, ages six to nine years old, teaching them the basics of bike safety.



PAL TEAMS WITH U.S. COAST GUARD FOR WATER SAFETY EVENT



On Saturday, May 18th, Rochester Police Department members Lt. Jeremy Lindauer, Officers Erin Rogers, William Nash and Mike Feldman volunteered for the United States Coast Guard's U.S.C.G. Water Safety event. At this event, officers engaged with youngsters, ages four to 13 years old, on water safety, as well as boating safety and personal boating experiences. The water safety event was held in Charlotte, north of the Port of Rochester.

RPD

NEWS

JUNE 2013

SUMMER/FALL CHIEF ADVISORY COUNCIL

CHIEF SHEPPARD "LOCKED UP"

Members for the Summer/Fall 2013 Chief Advisory Council have been selected. The Chief's Advisory Council consists of 11 members currently assigned to the Patrol Divisions and Tactical Unit. The Advisory Council will include one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, one Investigator and one Officer from both the PDE and PDW, and one officer from the Tactical and Administration Unit. Each representative to the Advisory Council will be a cornerstone in the effort to infuse a "Culture of Excellence" mentality throughout the Department.

The Summer/Fall 2013 Chief's Advisory Council Members include:

Patrol Division West: Lt. Jeremy Anzalone, Sgt. Kara

Anglin, Inv. Charles Burgoon, Off. Amy Bauer

Patrol Division East: Lt. Joseph Hayes, Sgt. Marvin Stepherson, Inv. Steven Savitcheff, Off. Tomesha

Angelo, Off. Eric Majewicz

Tactical Unit: Off. Dennis Cole

Administration Unit: Off. Roy Adams



On May 22nd, for the 3rd year in a row, Chief Sheppard was locked up for a good cause. This year he raised over \$1,500 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Chief Sheppard was grateful to all those who bailed him out.

RPD RECEIVES SPECIAL GIFT



On Thursday, May 30th, Chief Sheppard met with Retired Sgt Paul Boccacino and his granddaughter Kaylee.

Kaylee gifted the RPD with a drawing that illustrates the important role police officers play in our community.

The drawing will be on display in the PSB lobby through the end of June.

RPD AWARDED AS MEDIA FRIENDLY DEPT.



The Rochester Police Department received national recognition for its social media efforts. The RPD was named by mphprogramslist. com as one of the 50 Most Social Media Friendly Police Departments in America's

Largest Cities. The RPD currently has a Facebook page, and Youtube and Twitter accounts. Once a week, Chief Sheppard engages the community in a Twitter Town Hall event. The Department is also planning to increase the use of social media platforms to share crime photos with the public.

LEADERSHIP

The following is an excerpt of the speech given by Sergeant Darin Maxwell at the promotions ceremony on May 23, 2013.



I have been a proud member of the RPD for 19 years. I grew up in the town of Hamlin and attended school in the Hilton district. While growing up, several times a year my family would travel to a small town in Pennsylvania where my

grandparents lived. My grandfather was a man of profound character whom I admired greatly. Many of the things I love to do today, we did together back then. While fishing, he would patiently untangle my line and unhook my snags. He taught me how to safely handle a firearm, took me hunting, and on hikes through the woods. I was always impressed by his vast knowledge and unending patience. But what also made a profound impression on me was the respect and appreciation that his community had for him. You see, my grandfather was a lieutenant in the Greenville, PA Police Dept.

As a child, he would take my brothers and me down to the station and show us the inside of a police car, the tear gas guns, riot equipment, and, if we were really good, he would lock us up in a jail cell. However, what amazed me the most, was that wherever we went, people in his town not only knew him by name, but genuinely respected and appreciated him—while in uniform, and out.

I hope we can all take a few moments and look at ourselves in both the past and present, and think of those who have influenced our lives for the better. I would be willing to wager at least one of those people would be a police officer. For me, it was my grandfather. But there have been others as well. I look back to my first day out of the academy, when assigned to Goodman Section, Sgt. Flynn took a couple of us recruits to an elementary school. We were greeted by throngs of children who scrambled for pencils and paper, seeking our autographs. I remember how Sgt. Flynn assured us that we were going to make it through field training. Unfortunately. Sgt. Flynn passed away long before his time, as did Sgt. Bill Mahoney, whom I also admired greatly. I also think of the late Virginia Sawdey, for whom a street was recently named. She was the sweetest, most dedicated woman whose fervent cause was improving her neighborhood, rather than abandoning it.

There are many officers in the RPD who may not know it, but they exemplify on a daily basis what it means to be a Rochester Police officer. A few whom I personally admire include: Ret. Lt. Al Joseph, Joe McMahon, Bonnie Powell, Jennifer Morales, Charlie Burgoon, Eliud Rodriguez, Brian Cala and Timothy Gourlay–(the last two having recently been recognized by their peers and voted Officers of the Year). These officers, and many others have helped shape who I am, and who I hope to become, as I transition into this new stage of my career. I would like to ask each of you to examine yourselves closely, and to be thankful for those who have helped you be of stronger character, and proud members of the RPD. I would like to challenge all of you to be that person for someone else.

KUDOS TO THE RPD

The following kudos are excerpts from calls received by the Chief's Office, RPD's Facebook page and letters commending officers on courtesies that were greatly appreciated:

I live in the area of Driving Park and Lakeview Park where we had an incident on Friday, May 10th at 9:27 AM. I had a call from the police alerting me of that fact —what a great idea! He explained everything clearly and concisely as to what was expected of me — stay inside, etc. and that I would receive another call when it was resolved. About two hours later that call came —everything was resolved.

Thank goodness no gunshots were fired. I could go about my business. I know you get many complaints so I just had to say thank you to the crew of men and women on that detail for a job well done! The calls before and after were very much appreciated.

Teresa Hannan

To commend Police Officer Susan Koehn for a kindness done for a senior citizen: A few years ago Officer Susan responded to about three 911 calls, two from my neighbors and one from me. (Stolen car left across street, motor running).

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My neighbors and I got to know her as a competent, caring and friendly officer. In talking to her one day, I mentioned I had to go to Social Security in Greece and did she know how to get there. Her reply was "Mary, I'll come over to your house on my day off and take you there." She did, was right on time and on occasions still stops over.

That a cooperative stranger, at that time, and busy officer took time for me on her day off is very commendable and caring.

Mary A. Heroux

Coolest thing happened yesterday...went to a call for a little old lady that fell down while crossing the street, downtown. The poor woman's knee was swollen as can be and she had a good bump on her head as well.. She did NOT want to go to the hospital however, because she really needed to get to the jewelers to get her watch repaired! The RPD officer on scene, Jeffrey Holmes, offered to bring her watch to the jewelers for her! He wrote down all of her info, brought the watch to the jewelers down the street and plans on bringing her repaired watch to her once she is out of the hospital! Made my DAY, as well as the little old lady's.

Jennifer Cusack Urbanek

Ms. Lisa Jackson called the Chief's office to commend the service Officers Feldman, Kester and Jason Vaughn gave her family. The caller's son was jumped and robbed by four males and her son was hospitalized. Caller said the Officers worked very hard to solve the case and they found one of the suspects and brought him up to her son's hospital room so he could identify him. Ms. Jackson said that Officer Feldman helped her son in a previous incident also; she said she knows that a lot of people out there have the perception that the police don't do anything about black on black crime, but she said she knows for a fact that is not true.

Ms. Joan Arena called the Chief's Office with a compliment for Officer Matt Klein. Ms. Arena said that she was at the opening of the new Wegmans and Officer Klein was directing traffic. He had just directed her around a corner when a father and his son ran across the street against the officer's directions. Ms. Arena said Officer Klein immediately jumped in front of her car so that the child wouldn't get hit. (Luckily, the caller was driving slowly, so she was able to stop and no-one got hurt). Ms. Arena said that you see that sort of thing on television, where someone is willing to lay down their life for someone else, but she didn't think she would ever see it in real life. She said this incident made her realize how necessary it is to have a police department and just how much they do for the public.







Deputy Chief Henry Jensen and kids, 1967.

Upon Deputy Chief Jensen's passing, he bequeathed a gift to the Rochester Rotary Charitable Trusts, Inc. in memory of his wife, Dorothy. He designated that an appropriate award be presented annually to one of Rochester Police Department's "unsung heroes."