

POLICING IN THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE



As we move forward in 2012, I look forward to building on the philosophy of Policing in the Spirit of Service. I know that many of you give of yourselves and your personal time generously in terms of community outreach and engagement efforts. It is my intent to begin to emphasize and highlight these tremendous interactions that our people engage in on a daily basis without expectation of reward.

I would like to quote Sgt. Michael Horn, a guest speaker at the most recent promotional ceremony who stated, "Throughout the past several months there is a renewed air of excitement in the Rochester Police Department. There are now more department sponsored community programs than ever as we strive to further strengthen our relationship with the community."

Ladies and gentleman, let us continue to make 2012 be our finest hour and I know that our greatest accomplishments are yet to come.

-Chief James M. Sheppard

RPD MEMBERS MEET WITH "RISE UP ROCHESTER" SUPPORT GROUP

It was a pleasure to attend a recent "Rise Up Rochester" meeting. Moderated by Pastor Eddie Blanding Jr., the attendees were all family members who lost loved ones to homicides.

The agenda of the meeting was to ask people how they were dealing with the holidays without their loved ones. Everyone shared their circumstances, and I have to admit I think I kind of dominated the conversations with my experiences as a police officer. It was nice to sit down and talk to people outside of when they call 9-1-1.

One attendee that night was a man named Robert Forbes. He was shot on Monroe Ave this past summer. We spent a lot of time talking, as the shooting was a wake-up call for him. He is no longer "on the street" and seems to really be trying to live his life right. Pastor Blanding and I tried to tell him he was given a second chance for a reason—he can now talk to troubled young kids and show them how the life they are leading is wrong. He can share his story and let kids know there is so much more to life than just that corner they "hang out" on.

This night was a welcome change to what we normally deal with on a daily basis. Held monthly, the next meeting will be held on the third Thursday in January.

Lt. Scott Peters



PATROL DIVISION WEST OFFICERS DONATED BOOTS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

In November, during a Patrol Division West locker room cleaning project, 70 pairs of lightly used boots and other shoes were located. The boots and shoes belonged to various Patrol Division West officers. After a week or so, the boots were left primarily unclaimed. Officer Steven Kovacic from West 2nd platoon spear-headed an effort to donate the boots to be used by those less fortunate. Officer Kovacic volunteered his own time to clean and shin every boot. He then transported the boots to the 103.9 WDKX clothing drive.



As a result of his hard work, Officer Kovacic was asked by Patrol Division West Command Staff to represent the division at the clothing drive. When Officer Kovacic was asked about the event, he said, "I am honored to be a part of the team that was able to help out those less fortunate." He went on to say, "that is what being a Patrol Division West Officer is all about, giving back to the community." Special thank you to Officer Kovacic and all Patrol Division Officers for making a difference.

CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY #20 GRADUATES

The 20th Rochester Police Department Citizen's Police Academy (C.P.A.) graduation was held on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at the Public Safety Training Facility at 1190 Scottsville Road.

The C.P.A. program was established by the Rochester Police Department in 1992 to provide a better understanding of police policies and procedures for members of the community who in turn, can educate other citizens. The C.P.A. provides a broad based look at the policies, procedures and operations of the Rochester Police Department. Attendees are now more familiar with law enforcement in our city neighborhoods and also with the training currently being provided to police officers.

Congratulations to Citizen's Police Academy #20 graduates Lawrence Ansini, Dawn Bird-Belmonte, Shirley M. Boone, John Boutet, Marian Boutet, Gwen Campbell, Wilma Campbell, Kristin Chajka, Paul Gongloff, Thomas Hasman, Diane Jackson, Angel Lebron, Tim Lewandowski, Sammy Lewis, Betty Ann Manganello, Corwin Marsh, Vincent McIntyre, Cindy Meyer, William Nichthouser, Minerva Padilla, Pedro D. Quinones Jr., Roger Ramsey, Jennifer Rivera, Lynette Robinson, Dennis Sadler, Lawrence Spicola, Felipe Torres, William Vahue, Sonya Van Alstyne, Frank van Deusen, Alexander Vega, and Jennifer Wolfey.

The next Citizen's Police Academy is scheduled for July 2012.



CITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REFLECT ON RECENT VISIT TO RPD

The following essays were written by city high school students enrolled in alternative high school programs. All three students have proven themselves by excelling in both their schooling and personal lives, earning them "Student of the Month" awards. They were rewarded with a luncheon visit to the RPD and a special tour with Chief Sheppard.

"Chief Sheppard and His Officers are Role Models in Our Community"

My name is Shanice Crews and I am 18 years old. I am a student at the "RCSD Re-Engagement Program". I was placed here in the fall because at that time I was not coming to school. I had very bad attendance, and I had really given up on school. My education dropped off after the birth of my son. The RCSD Re-Engagement Program has put me back on track and given me a chance to achieve my goals. In other words, it gave me hope. My education is important to me because it can help me accomplish my dreams. I am also a role model for my family and my son. During my education here I have had the opportunity to meet Chief Sheppard and his officers on a monthly basis, and I also received an award for Student of the Month.

Student of the Month is an award that a student can receive at the RCSD Re-Engagement Program. Two students are selected each month to receive this award, and I was extremely honored to be selected the first month that this program was up and running. The award is based on classroom participation, student attendance, educational leadership, responsibility, respect, productivity and appropriate attire. I was chosen because I showed positive behavior and respect to all of my peers. I also stayed focused and did all that I had to do. As a result of working hard, I have been receiving good grades. I was very proud to receive this award.

As a result of this Student of the Month Award, I was taken for a visit to the Rochester Police Department. I was very impressed with my visit to the Rochester Police Department. We had good conversations and learned a lot about each other. The Police Department is a very interesting place. I saw investigations going on, the Chief's office and the camera room. The camera room is where they look at several screens that are connected to city streets, and they know what is happening at all times. There are several different careers to pursue in the police department. Police officers, secretaries, camera room coordinators, detectives, sergeants and Chief of Police are just a few.

Chief Sheppard welcomed us and gave us a wonderful tour. He has been a welcoming face at our school each month. Chief Sheppard and his officers talk to us about having goals and committing ourselves to doing the right thing. They are very polite and answer all of our questions. The "I'm Ready" Community Program and the RCSD Re-Engagement Program have benefitted tremendously from both Chief Sheppard and his fellow officers' visits. Chief Sheppard and his officers have made a difference in many students' lives. The officers teach us that doing the right thing pays off big time as we grow older.

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**CITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REFLECT ON RECENT VISIT TO RPD (CONT'D.)****“A Visit to the Department”**

My name is Quamaine Robinson. I am 15 years old and I attend Dr. Freddie Thomas High School. I am enrolled in the “I’m Ready” Community Program because of fighting, and for that I will remain here for 72 days. I became Student of the Month by coming to school every day and doing my work, and for behaving and not letting others distract me.

After becoming Student of the Month I was invited to a luncheon at the Public Safety Building. My visit with Chief Sheppard was fun and very interesting. Chief Sheppard and Officer Piano are very nice men. I enjoyed lunch with them and learning things about what police officers do that no one would ever have known. I was very appreciative of Chief Sheppard taking his time out to eat lunch with us at the PSB. We took a tour and I found it very interesting. The Chief’s office is so big it even has a shower in it! He has many awards and things that he can look at. He must be very proud of himself. Now I know what some of the medals on an officer’s shirt mean.

While at the luncheon we all made promises to Chief Sheppard, and my promise was to stop fighting. I know that as I get older that I am getting nothing out of fighting. I am going to try very hard to keep my promise. I want to be a teacher when I get older. That has always been my dream since I was eight years old. However, after my visit, a career in the police department sounds very interesting too!

“A Visit to the Department”

My name is Jonathan Thomas. I am 17 years old. I am from Wilson Commencement High School. I’ve lived in Rochester my whole life.

I made a bad choice while I was at Wilson. I regret doing what I did. But I have learned from my mistakes and I realize it only makes me wiser. I am now a student at the “I’m Ready” Community Program.

I am a good student. I am smart, focused and hardworking That’s how I became Student of the Month.

One part of the “I’m Ready” program involves visits from Chief Sheppard and his officers every month. After being chosen for Student of the Month, I was given the opportunity to visit the Rochester Police Department. When we went with Chief Sheppard to his Department I was impressed with what I saw. It was an interesting experience. I think the best part about it was the camera room, which shows everybody and anything that is going on. I enjoyed the field trip and I wouldn’t mind doing it again. Chief Sheppard and his officers are role models for our community.



A CALL FOR BIG BROTHERS AND SISTERS

During this season of giving I have a request for your consideration. I don't want your money, but something far more valuable, your time. Not for myself, but for my son and, for what I now know, are the numerous boys and girls in Rochester who are waiting for a big brother or a big sister.



Officer Laurie Robinson and son Danny

Every family has a story. Our family was created through adoption. I met my son when he was nine years old and living in a group home in another state. He had been waiting 3 years for a forever family. As a parent, I want the best for my child. Of all that I can give him, I can not provide this one thing. I can teach my child to be a good person, to be responsible, kind, generous and to give back to people in need. I can not teach him "how to be a man". I need to have a positive male role model for my son.

As the mother of an African American child I dream of a "big brother" to be an example for him. Coaches and teachers are great but I want him to have a one on one relationship with someone whom he can identify with. Am I asking too much? My son has been on the waiting list for almost a year. The first couple months he asked every week. It's been so long since he asked I thought he'd forgotten; then he asked the other day 'have they found me a "big brother" yet?' He broke my heart. The cop in me asked 'how do I fix this?' I know the generosity we have in the police department as I see examples from you everyday. So many of you give back and have recently stepped up for the video game challenge that I'm hoping a few of you would be interested in keeping that spirit going with another commitment to kids. A few hours a month could make such a difference.

Officer Laurie Robinson, Patrol Division West

FROM THE BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS WEB PAGE:

"Why do we need Big Brothers?"

More than 70% of our children waiting for a "Big" are boys, but only 3 out of every 10 inquiries to volunteer come from men. Research shows that having the positive influence of a Big Brother makes a real difference in a boy's life. So join the hundreds of thousands of volunteers that give a young person someone to look up to. And learn why so many are now saying, "I get back so much more than I give."

A call to men of color.

Disproportionately the children we serve and those ready and waiting to be matched are African-American and Hispanic boys. Their parents seek our support, knowing a Big Brother can recognize their son's potential and model positive choices that put him on the path for success in and out of school."

For more information, call (585) 442-2250, email: info@bbbsr.org or visit: <http://www.BeABig.com>



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.



LIEUTENANT GERALD LONTHAIR, (RETIRED)

Gerald retired as a lieutenant from the RPD in 1999. His nearly 30-year career in the Department allowed him many opportunities to work in a variety of assignments and in different ranks. He started in what was then known as the "4th District" in 1970, patrolled in Genesee and Goodman Sections, served as both officer and sergeant in SCIS–Narcotics, was a recruit class supervisor, participated in the FTO program, and was the commanding officer of sections including: Tactical, NET Sector 9, and SWAT/ETF.

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

Gerald believes he was very fortunate during his career with the RPD, being afforded the opportunity to work on many high-profile assignments, both as a street cop and supervisor. Watching raw recruits develop into well-trained police officers was very fulfilling as he knew he played an important role in their success. The role of Recruit Counselor put him into a position that was very much like a sergeant. As a result of that experience he was motivated to study for, pass, and be promoted to the rank of sergeant. He then remained motivated to become a lieutenant. There is no question in Gerald Lonthair's mind that the experience as a class counselor shaped his future within the Rochester Police Department.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE YOUR RETIREMENT:

Appointed Director of Security for the East Irondequoit School District in 2001, Gerald's duties include the enforcement of school and district policies and ensuring students comply with the school's code of conduct. He is also tasked with the development of the District's emergency response plan, and is District Liaison to local emergency service providers.

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

"Challenge yourself to be the best you can be. Do not allow yourself to become stagnant in any one assignment. Pay attention to the positive and dismiss the negative—nothing good will come from negative influences, but great things will come from the positive. Despite what some might say, you are a member of a great police department. Do your job, do it well and be proud of who you are and what you have and will accomplish during your career."



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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|-------------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|-------------------------------|------|
| Jordan N. Bracey..... | 1/1 | James Hughes | 1/11 | David J. Williams | 1/26 |
| Parris J. Bryant | 1/1 | Kevin D. Moore..... | 1/11 | Jason J. Hess | 1/27 |
| Thomas J. Frye..... | 1/2 | Bryan J. Munson | 1/11 | Stephen J. Heylek | 1/27 |
| Oi Oeun | 1/2 | Anne M. Powless..... | 1/13 | Louis J. Mastrangelo II | 1/28 |
| Joan E. Oliveri-Broccuto..... | 1/2 | Debra G. Krosinski | 1/14 | David L. Smith | 1/28 |
| Richard J. Schill..... | 1/3 | Samuel J. Muratore | 1/14 | Gustavo D. Venosa | 1/28 |
| Terence E. Tydings | 1/3 | Randall K. Benjamin..... | 1/15 | Kyron J. Graham | 1/29 |
| Todd R. Wassinger | 1/3 | Lisa M. Lyons | 1/16 | Dion M. Miglioratti..... | 1/29 |
| Terrance Coleman | 1/4 | Thomas J. Minurka | 1/16 | William R. Nash | 1/29 |
| Michael A. Melson | 1/4 | Thomas J. Shannon | 1/17 | Neil L. O'Brien | 1/29 |
| Darrel R. Schultz | 1/4 | Carlton A. Turner | 1/17 | Kyle A. Eisenhower..... | 1/30 |
| Arnetta Powell | 1/5 | Benjamin R. Caruso | 1/18 | David T. Seitz..... | 1/30 |
| Eliud Rodriguez Jr. | 1/5 | Gerardo Vazquez..... | 1/19 | Jennifer L. Tarbell | 1/30 |
| Geoffrey P. Wicher..... | 1/5 | Katie L. Drouin..... | 1/20 | Chantriss O. King | 1/31 |
| Melvin A. Williams..... | 1/5 | Michael J. Murphy | 1/20 | Andrew T. Klein..... | 1/31 |
| Jennifer L. Morales | 1/6 | Michael A. Giancursio..... | 1/22 | | |
| Reynaldo Rivera..... | 1/6 | Paul Helfer..... | 1/22 | | |
| Stephen J. Ward..... | 1/6 | Ronald L. Bryant..... | 1/23 | | |
| Erice S. Cotton Sr. | 1/7 | Melanie R. Rivera | 1/23 | | |
| Francis L. Archetko..... | 1/8 | Augustin Gonzalez | 1/24 | | |
| Mary Barnes | 1/8 | Alex M. Jimenez | 1/24 | | |
| Andrew V. Demarco III..... | 1/8 | Jeremy Robinson | 1/24 | | |
| Thomas Kelly..... | 1/8 | Robert J. Osipovitch | 1/25 | | |
| Cheryl Tillet..... | 1/8 | Mary Ann Papaleo | 1/25 | | |
| William J. Mason | 1/9 | Christopher Secash | 1/25 | | |
| Brandon W. Carmo..... | 1/10 | Michael J. Sippel | 1/25 | | |
| Brian E. Cala | 1/11 | Joseph J. Trovato Jr. | 1/25 | | |

JANUARY SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Catherine Cummings..... | 5 |
| Robert J. Brady | 20 |

