

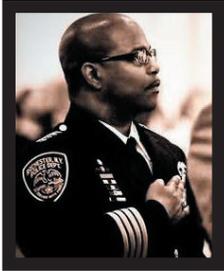
# RPD NEWS



JANUARY 2013

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF:

Ladies & Gentlemen,



Let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year, with the hope that for each of you, 2013 proves to be a better year than the one before. With the recent tragedy in West Webster still fresh in our minds, I extend my heartfelt condolences to the families of Webster Police Lieutenant/Volunteer Firefighter Mike Chiapperini and 19-year old Firefighter Thomas Kaczowka, as well as to all members of the Webster Police Department, the West Webster Fire Department, and the Emergency Communications Department.

Their senseless murders by an individual with a criminal and mental health history, should serve as notice that something is very wrong with our system today. This tragedy, as well other similar events around the country, has forced our nation to take a closer look at the issues of mental illness and gun violence. Recently, New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo unveiled his objectives in regards to addressing gun violence, with the stated goal of making New York the toughest state in the nation on gun violence, and the safest state in the nation to live.

Another notice that came out of this horrific incident is a clear message to the public reinforcing the difficult job that police, fire and medical first responders willingly deal with at a moment's notice. As first responders, it is our duty to run towards situations that common sense dictates others to run from. We risk our lives every time we put on our uniform and go out on the streets. Chiapperini and Kaczowka, and all the men involved in the West Webster tragedy, are heroes and shining examples of what it means to be involved in ensuring public safety for our community.

Thank you for all you do. Stay safe.

***Policing in the Spirit of Service***

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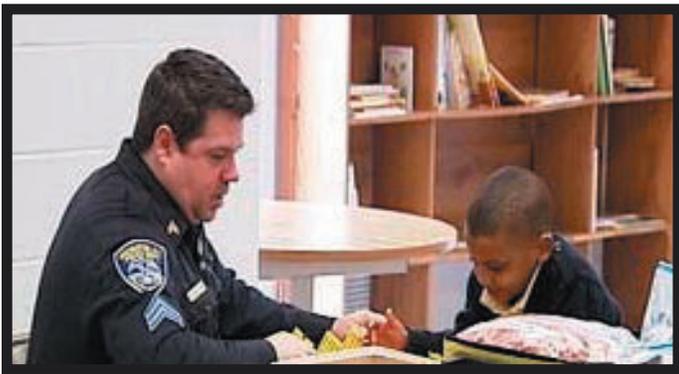
# RPD NEWS



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## PLAYTIME HELPS BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY

Some Rochester police are trading their police radios and handcuffs for crayons and Play-Doh. For the first time, police are teaming up with a program that promotes adults playing with grade schoolers.



'Generation Two' is a decade old program that pairs adults with kids in schools in and around Rochester. Supporters say the program cuts down on disciplinary problems and boosts attendance.

RPD hopes that by sending 13 officers to be volunteers it will also boost police and community relations. "We're human beings ourselves and we're here to help," volunteer officer Sgt. Daniel Zimmerman said. "Taking people to jail isn't our only job." The twist with the RPD version of G2 is that the officers spent weeks playing with the children while wearing civilian clothes. It was several weeks into the program before the officers wore their uniforms to the school. Pictured above is the day Sgt. Zimmerman showed up for the first time in his uniform, to kindergartner Jayvion's surprise.

"I like it," said Jayvion. His family had a positive experience with police. Officers helped them on a very scary night. "My house was on fire," he said. "I like police officers. (My parents) say they like police officers. And they like them when they save us." That's

not the case for other city kids. Some only see police when something bad happens; for example, when a family member is under arrest. That is why Zimmerman showed up in plain clothes the first few weeks he worked with the G2 program. Now that the kids know him, he hopes the uniform doesn't matter.

In the long run, he hopes it makes it easier for the kids to stay out of trouble and approach police when they grow up. "Hopefully that one person goes out and talks to his friends and lets them know, "Hey the police aren't bad," Zimmerman said. "Maybe he can talk his friends out of being in trouble. You know, a little pyramid effect."

Rochester police and Generation Two also visit Schools No. 4 and 36 in the City of Rochester. Volunteers spend 30 minutes a week with kids in kindergarten through second grade.

*A portion of this article and photograph were taken from News Channel 8.*

## CHIEF SHEPPARD ADDRESSES GUN VIOLENCE AT "STATE OF THE STATE"



On January 9th, Chief Sheppard was invited by Governor Andrew Cuomo to speak during the State of the State address.

Sheppard emphasized the need for more to be done about gun violence. "In our community, recent tragic events forever changed families. This has got to stop. To truly make a difference, we must do something. We can no longer continue to watch from the sidelines."

# RPD NEWS



JANUARY 2013

## PAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



### SHOP WITH A COP: OFFICERS TAKE KIDS SHOPPING

When you're a kid, riding with a cop to the mall for a shopping spree doesn't happen every day. It was "lights and sirens" for a different reason Monday, thanks to the Police Activities League's first "Shop With A Cop" event. About two dozen city kids, ages 6 to 14, were each given \$100, told they could buy what they want at the Eastview Mall, and were given round-trip transportation in the front seat of a police car.

"That was different. Nice." said Andrea Smith, a mother of three, as the caravan of police cars departed. "I give thumbs up to the Rochester Police Department. They did a great job this Christmas". The 25 kids chosen for the gifts were based on recommendations from city recreation center staff. Sgt. Justin Collins said he has been impressed by other "Shop With A Cop" programs around the country. "We're always trying to do new things and engage the kids," Collins said. "We know realistically that ... this is not going to change the relationship with cops, this one event," he said. "But, sustaining it long term ... if we continue at this pace to build these relationships, at some point we are going to impact our relationship with youth, and that's our goal."

Yara Velazquez, whose children Keyara, 7, and Tyler, 10, were among those taking part, said city residents need "the police department to get involved with our youth to keep them informed and to let them know that they are OK and they are our friends." Two of the 25 Rochester police officers PAL recruited to volunteer for the event were Officers Cindy Muratore and Willo Glynn. Glynn, who recently delivered a baby while on duty, said he's pleased to be able to help area youths. "It gets them to be able to see us in a different light than what they sometimes see. It's a good experience for them and us. We get to hang out with the wonderful kids that we do have in our city."

*Taken from the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*

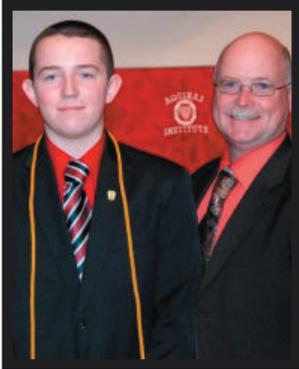


# RPD NEWS



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## SON OF RPD INV. EARNS RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT WHILE HELPING CITY SCHOOL KIDS



James Brennan, 16  
Aquinas High School  
Boy Scout Troop 197

James decided to conduct a school supply drive for City School #42, located on Lake Avenue, for his Boy Scout Eagle project. He made this decision after hearing of the

many students in the Rochester City School system that start the school year without being able to afford school supplies, and of how the teachers spend their own money to assist the students.

The project involved setting up collection boxes during the months of August and September at several locations in the community, including the Public Safety Building, Westside Division, Eastside Division and Regional Training Center. James was also given assistance from the Badge of Honor Association, which allowed him and fellow Boy Scouts to set up a table to collect cash donations for the purchasing of supplies during the Cop-a-Polooza event, held in August 2012. James also conducted a door to door drive in his neighborhood in Greece.

The Eagle project resulted in James being able to supply every teacher and student in School # 42 with school supplies for the 2012-2013 school year. James was also able to purchase books for the school library. James received his Eagle Rank in December 2012, and was recognized along with other Eagle Scouts at the 62nd Annual Eagle Scout Mentor dinner on January 3rd, 2013.

## LETTERS FROM THE COMMUNITY

*(A letter to Chief Sheppard):*

Many thanks for your West side officers attending our 30th annual NYS Silver Gloves Boxing Tournament, held on December 1st at Wilson Commencement High School, and for giving out medals to boxers from Rochester and all over New York State.

Officers Secash, Kelly, Lewis and Baker demonstrated interest in the youth and their coaches (especially PAL coaches), parents and all attendees were impressed. Interaction with youth outside normal duties creates trust and portrays officers as the human beings they are. I found my boxing efforts invaluable in my 44 years as a probation officer.

We continue in a collaborative relationship with U-Prep Charter School, and we are always willing to work with your people in any youth efforts. Thanks again.

Don Simkin  
Rochester St. Martin Boxing Club, Inc.



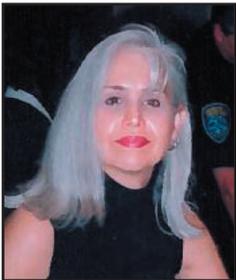
# RPD NEWS



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## “MEET THE RPD”

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



**PATTY COLON**  
PATROL DIVISION EAST

### **My Career:**

I began my career with the RPD in April, 1988, working for the office of the Commissioner of Public Safety. While in this position, I familiarized myself with police, fire, and 911 policies, and soon learned how all of those entities impacted our community. Later that same year, Commissioner Paul Bringewatt left office, and I was recommended by Chief Roy Irving for a clerical position open in the Highland Section. I still hold the same position; however, it encompasses what is now the Eastside Division. During my tenure, I have interacted with many community groups and organizations, and other law enforcement entities such as the DA's office, probation, parole, juvenile detention, and the Sheriff's Department, just to name a few.

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

When you take a civil service test, you never know where you're going to end up. It so happens I had interviewed for a position in the Rush Henrietta School District when I got the call for the Commissioners position. So if it weren't for that call, I would have had a career in the school system. And with that said, I think I made the right choice. It has been a very interesting, sometimes stressful, but rewarding journey, for sure. Given the opportunity, I would do it all over again.

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

I believe I was the most proud when I saw my sister, retired police officer Margarita Perez-Dunham, shake the hand of Chief Urlacher and receive her police badge. I knew the sacrifices she had to make to get through the academy and saw the feeling of accomplishment on her face. I also take pride in seeing many of the officers I have worked with go on to bigger and better things, not only within the Department, but the community as well.

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

I spend my off duty time mostly with my family. I have two sons who have grown up in this department and, during my career, have attended police award ceremonies and events with me, as well as being involved in the Teens on Patrol Program and Citizens Police Academy for youth. I enjoy exercising my dogs in Seneca Park, as I live nearby, and renovating projects on my home.

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## 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.*



### **ALYCE C. SANDERS**

**Served: November 1976–June 1997**

Alyce served as a patrol officer in the Clinton, Highland and Genesee Sections, in the first group of RPD female officers ever assigned in this capacity. She worked undercover assignments in narcotics, and in connection with the gun squad and organized crime. Alyce was the first female representative of the RPD to work with the Federal DEA under the local leadership of

Fred Gallina. Other assignments included R&E, Backgrounds, FTO, CID support, and investigations in License & Warrants.

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

The highlight of my career were the years I spent in training...training recruits in subjects such as race relations, and assertiveness training to female recruits, in a time when training was geared toward male officers.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE YOUR RETIREMENT:**

After retiring, I sold all of my worldly possessions and spent a year in Africa. After that experience, I spent time living in Cocoa Beach Florida, and then Huntsville, Alabama. I then came back to Rochester and worked as a realtor for six years, then moved back to Alabama when given a chance to build houses, instead of selling them, with Battlefield Ministries and Harvest Youth Club. After major tornadoes swept through the area in 2011, causing much devastation, I used my first responder training to help rebuild, both houses and lives. Currently, I am back in Rochester, running a sewing and clothing design business called "Sew Blessed." One of the most rewarding aspects of my work is teaching sewing to school children, and working in conjunction with "The Angels of Mercy," a group dedicated to sewing clothing for children in third world countries.

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

Always remember that you are subservient to the badge, and not the other way around. Don't get it twisted. If it starts to get twisted, get it fixed. The greatest challenge to effective policing is the "man/woman in the mirror," the personal experiences and attitudes he brings with him and how he projects them onto others. The wise ones have learned to "get over" themselves, to keep a lid on their tempers, to listen with open minds and to treat others as they would like to be treated. These are qualities of the most respected enforcers; the most highly respected, and the most content, both on and off the job.

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## DECEMBER SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

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Herbert G. Everson .....	20	Aaron M. Kraham .....	5
Ignacio A. Torres.....	20	Robert T. Rupp .....	5
Sandy J. Goldrich .....	15	Michael Lee Talbot.....	5
Anthony J. DiPonzio .....	5	Caitlin H. Toomey .....	5

## LIFE SAVING ATTEMPT, 1974



Officers J. Thyroff and Pete Pecora – West Main Street, February 3, 1974