



Integrity Service Excellence

Issue 13

October—December 2014

RPD Happenings

Riverside Police Department

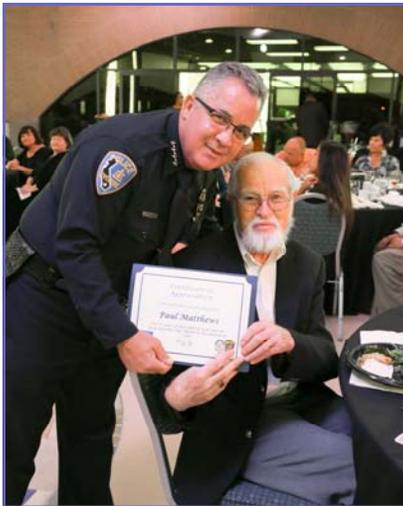
RPD 2014 Volunteer of the Year

By: Volunteer Coordinator Hilda Gonzalez

On Thursday, November 6, 2014, the Riverside Police Department held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner honoring the service and dedication of the 60 volunteers who give of their time in various assignments throughout the Department. This year the dinner was held in the Grier Pavilion at City Hall. Volunteers were recognized for their hours of service and one received the honor of the 2014 Volunteer of the Year. Upon their arrival to the event, each volunteer received a complimentary photo and then walked down a red carpet into the

Grier Pavilion. Community Services Bureau Lt. Mike Cook welcomed the attendees and Volunteer Chaplain Jim Gilbreth gave the invocation. While guests dined, the volunteer dinner committee raffled gifts donated by shops and restaurants from the Galleria at Tyler and plants donated by Paradise Nursery.

The award ceremony began with Police Chief Sergio Diaz acknowledging and thanking the volunteers for their hours of service to the Riverside Police Department. The first award of the evening was the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). The PVSA recognizes those who have achieved the required number of hours of service over a 12-month time period or cumulative hours over the course of a lifetime. Chief Diaz gave a special recognition to volunteer Paul Matthews, who for the last 11 years dedicated his service as a *Con't: pg 2* volunteer



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Act of Kindness Elates Young Girl

By: Lieutenant Jaybee Brennan

While a family member was being interviewed by a SACA Detective, two young girls were entertaining themselves in the SACA Child Interview Room. No one knew that one of the girls had secreted her pet hamster in her jacket. She did not have a hamster cage for *Con't: pg 3*



Volunteer Continued...

mall walker at Galleria at Tyler. Mr. Matthews has trained many new volunteers on how to provide great customer service with a friendly positive attitude. Mr. Matthews's contribution to the volunteer program will be missed as he moves on to the next chapter of his life.



The last award recognized the Volunteer of the Year. This year's recipient was Chaplain Annetti Bullock. Chaplain "Netti" as she is known throughout the Department has been a volunteer since 2008. In addition to her chaplain duties, Netti volunteers with the Department's Cop & Clergy Partnership program, the You Are Not Alone Program and serves on the Volunteer Steering Committee. Netti has been described as someone willing to make herself available for anyone that has a need. She has a strong desire to serve the

community and proud to serve as a Riverside Police Department Chaplain.

Assistant Police Chief Chris Vicino provided the closing remarks by expressing a thank you to each volunteer for the over 10,300 hours of service over the last year. He also shared that since 1994, the police department volunteers have contributed over 100,000 hours of service. This has filled a need for the department due to budget constraints and staffing shortages.

For more information on the Riverside Police Department volunteer program, visit RPDonline.org or email Hilda Gonzalez, Police Program Coordinator at volunteer@riversideca.gov



Community Event Calendar Winter 2014

December - 22nd Annual Festival of Lights - Downtown Riverside
www.RiversideFestivalofLights.com

December 17, 2014 - Tree of Life Presentation - North High School

December 18, 2014 - Citizen Academy & OWE Graduation - City Hall 6pm

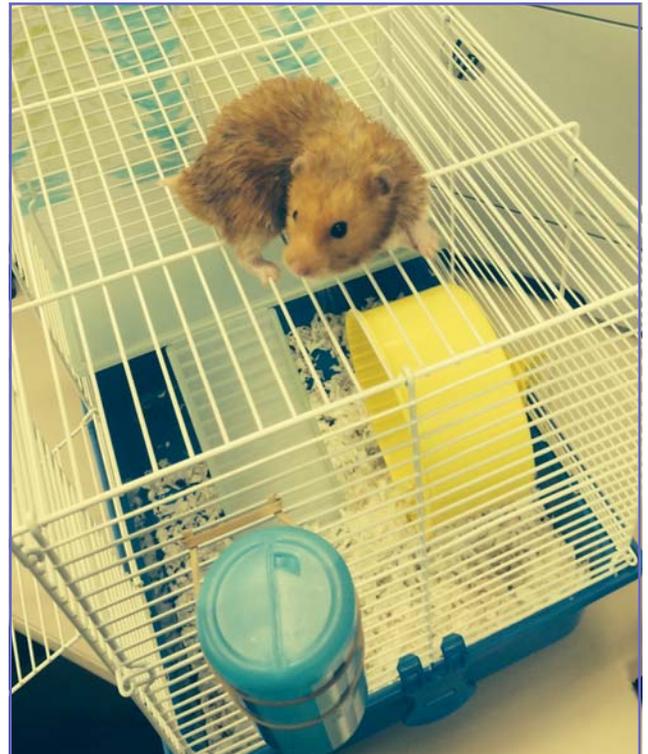
December 25, 2014 - Merry Christmas

December 31, 2014 - New Year's Eve



Kindness Continued...

her cherished pet. While the girls were playing, the hamster escaped; much to the chagrin of Detective Melendrez! Attempts to locate the hamster were futile. Five days later, an RPD employee at the other side of the building heard a rustling noise in her desk. She opened a desk drawer and found the plump hamster happily munching on popcorn! Elated that the hamster had been found, Detective Melendrez initiated an "emergency hamster response" with the RPOA Assistance Fund being the benefactor for this young girl. Due to the family's financial situation, the family was ecstatic that not only was the hamster found, but that the hamster now had a new cage and hamster toys.



Special Operations Division



**Captain
Mike Perea**

In September 2014, Special Operations – METRO completed its first year partnership with the United States Marshals Service. This agreement between our law enforcement agencies has afforded the Riverside Police Department (RPD) a unique opportunity to form a Regional Fugitive Task Force consisting of Federal, state and local law enforcement authorities for the purpose of locating and apprehending fugitives.

Each year several suspects involved in criminal activity flee the City of Riverside to avoid prosecution. The tracking and subsequent arrest of these fugitives is time consuming, man power intensive and presents a financial burden on the Riverside Police Department. With this innovative partnership, the RPD now has the ability to not only utilize sophisticated tracking equipment, but has increased its manpower pool by utilizing other law enforcement agencies across the nation and sometimes in other countries that are also a part of the Task Force....at no cost to the RPD.

Recently, a domestic violence suspect in Riverside stabbed his wife multiple times in an attempt to murder her; leaving her for dead in their residence. RPD detectives investigated the case extensively but were unable to gather any intelligence as to the suspect's whereabouts. METRO assisted *Con't: pg 6*

Field Operations Division



**Captain
Ed Blevins**

The Field Operations Division is closing out the year 2014, with the addition of new equipment and new officers.

During this, the last quarter of 2014, the Field Operations Division has placed into service, 20 Ford Police Explorers, for the exclusive use of our uniformed officers in patrol. For next year, Fleet Services has advised there are currently twenty (20) more Explorers on order from the Ford Motor Company. It is anticipated the additional twenty (20) will be built in January 2015 and ready for duty in Riverside by March 2015. Much appreciation is shared with Fleet Services Manager Brett Hite and our IT team for coordinating their efforts to bring about the equipping and readying of these units for our folks as efficiently as possible.

Over the course of this last year, our Field Training Officers (FTOs) have provided an excellent training experience to twenty-nine (29) police officer trainees. Currently, there are five (5) trainees in the Field Training Program. All five (5) are progressing at an acceptable rate, and it is anticipated they will have completed the program and be ready to deploy as highly competent "single unit" officers in February 2015. *Con't: pg 6*

Support Services Division

Personnel & Training: Personnel & Training recently hired, trained, and graduated six (6) recruits in the last two academy classes at the San Bernardino Sheriff's Academy. The trainees are currently in the Field Training Program. Personnel also recently hired six (6) Police Cadets bringing us to full staffing in that position.

The Personnel Bureau held a Kinkead Medal ceremony in the City Council Chambers on October 16, 2014, and recognized those employees celebrating twenty years of honorable police service. We also recognized recent promotions including Linda Fonze, who was selected as our new Principal Management Analyst (welcome back!) and Angie King, who was promoted to Senior Management Analyst. Sworn promotions include; Lieutenant Steve Bradshaw, Sergeant Mike Crawford, and Detectives Dan Olsen and George Anderson.

Communications Bureau: The CAD upgrade to Motorola's Premier One is well underway. The server hardware was received and installed during the week of September 16, 2014. There are currently Motorola engineers on site working to configure the interfaces to various *Con't: pg 7*



**Captain
Andy Flores**

Special Investigations Division

Cold Case Update

For the last several years, the Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Unit in the Centralized Investigations Bureau has been examining cold cases related to sexual assaults. An estimated 900 cases were identified that contained potential DNA evidence. Detectives began by identifying violent rape cases that had DNA evidence dating back to the 1990s. As prosecutable cases with DNA evidence were identified, they were sent to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for analysis. Since January of 2012, 57 hits have been made to DNA profiles and/or named suspects. Below are two examples of cases solved through reexamination of Cold Cases:

In 1993, a lone female hair stylist was working in a salon near Magnolia and Hole. An unknown suspect entered, demanded money, and dragged the victim into the back room. The suspect raped the victim and fled the store with money. Evidence was collected along with a SART kit. The case was investigated but went cold. In 2011, Detective Rita Cobb reopened the case and submitted the SART kit to DOJ. Modern advancements in DNA technology made it possible to produce a DNA profile that led to the identification of a named suspect currently serving a life *Con't: pg 7*



**Captain
John Carpenter**

Special Operations Division Continued...

with the tracking of this fugitive and through the Marshal's Task Force resources confirmed the suspect had fled into the Mexican city of Tijuana. Working with our Marshal's Task Force partners in Mexico, the suspect was tracked and arrested within a month of the crime. The Task Force counterparts transported the suspect to the Mexican / American border and released him to the custody of the RPD. This is an excellent example of a force multiplier that culminated in the arrest of a violent fugitive.

In 2013, members of the Air Support Unit explored alternatives to assist with funding in the operation of a critical asset in law enforcement, aviation support. One of those alternatives was to partner with a neighboring law enforcement agency to help offset operating costs.

In 2014, the Riverside Police Department Air Support Unit (RPD ASU) entered into a partnership with the Corona Police Department. With this partnership, the RPD ASU provides daily aerial support to the Corona Police Department. In return, the City of Corona provides financial compensation which helps RPD offset maintenance costs associated with the day to day operations of an aviation unit.

During the first few months of this partnership, the RPD has received rave reviews from our counterparts at the Corona Police Department. This endeavor has allowed us to assist a neighboring law enforcement agency that is home to several of our transitory criminals that see no border between our cities. The new partnership has provided the RPD with additional funding to support our efforts to continually provide our community with a resource that is critical to the overall crime suppression mission. We look forward to an excellent future for aviation at the RPD and credit our outstanding pilots for the excellent reputation of the RPD

Field Operations Division Continued...

This is in large part due to the efforts of our team of twenty-seven (27) active FTOs and their supportive supervisory team, led by Sergeant Ron Whitt.



Support Services Division Continued...

existing systems. Several major training events are scheduled for the next 4-6 weeks and the system is anticipated to go live in early February 2015.

The upgrade will not only replace the application in the dispatch center, but also update the MDC application and provide several new features. Mobile units will have a dynamic status screen for units and incidents without constantly sending incident status requests. The mapping is much more flexible and provides several great new features.

APCO Award: The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International presented Riverside Public Safety Communications Center with the 2014 Technology in Leadership Team of the Year Award. Public Safety Communications Supervisor Alissa Hughes, Public Safety Dispatcher Tanya Richardson, Public Safety Dispatcher Christopher Crow, Public Safety Dispatcher Corrie Goedhart, Public Safety Dispatcher Shannon Clinton, Public Safety Dispatcher Michele Griffiths and Public Safety Dispatcher Janene Amador were the key members on the team nomination that was submitted for this prestigious award. Two representatives of the team attended APCO International's 80th Annual Conference and Exposition held in August in New Orleans, LA and accepted the award on behalf of the team.

Public Safety Communications Supervisor Alissa Hughes is currently coordinating the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) Train the Trainer and Mobile Train the Trainer for selected communications and patrol personnel. This training was held in November, and department personnel will be scheduled to receive Premier One CAD training in January prior to the system going live.

Change in Command: Lieutenant Steve Bradshaw has been transferred to the position of Communications Manager. Steve spent three and a half of the last four years working with the Fire Department at the Emergency Operations Center. He brings a wealth of Fire and Police knowledge with him to Communications.

Special Investigations Division Continued...

sentence at Tehachapi State Prison. The case went to court and the suspect pled guilty.

Detective Roberta Hopewell examined another 1993 rape case where the unknown suspect broke into the victim's apartment, robbed her, and raped the helpless victim before fleeing the scene. The cold case was reexamined and DNA sent to DOJ. The DNA led to the identification of a named suspect and linked to him to a rape that occurred four days earlier in Riverside. The suspect is currently serving time in San Quentin on an unrelated case, but is scheduled to face trial on the 1993 rape case.

The cases highlighted above are an example of the Riverside Police Department's efforts to solve cold cases and provide closure to the victims who have been waiting years for resolution and justice on their cases.

Riverside Police Fall Safety Fair

By: PSR Nicolle DeFries

The Riverside Police and Fire Department sponsored their first Fall Safety Fair and Fundraiser Event on Saturday, October 25, 2014, at Sam's Club in Riverside.

The Fall Safety fair featured static displays and vehicles from Riverside Fire, equipment displays from Riverside Police SWAT, Bomb Squad, and RPD's helicopter, "AIR 1", as well as free fingerprinting for children and other safety related information for families. Our friends at A Foundation 4 Kids provided carnival games and Halloween candy giveaways, and Riverside Police provided the first 50 families with a free pumpkin.



As part of the safety fair, we conducted 150 test drives with our partners at Raceway Ford in Riverside. Raceway Ford brought out a dozen brand new Ford vehicles for the community to test drive as part of the "DRIVE-ONE" fundraiser. For each test drive we conducted, the Ford Motor Company donated \$20 to our Riverside Police Foundation to benefit our youth programs.

The Riverside Police Foundation provides support and funds to various youth centered programs throughout the City of Riverside. Members of the Riverside Police Foundation are a group of residents, business owners, and civic leaders committed to building a safer community in partnership with the Riverside Police Department. Programs supported by the foundation include O.W.E. – Opportunity with Education juvenile intervention, Teen 2 Teen, El Protector, Riverside Judo Club, Raincross Boxing Academy, and RPD Explorers. For more information about the foundation, go to www.riversidepolicefoundation.org.

Riverside Police Foundation Golden Badge Awards

By: Supervisor Karen Haverkamp

The third Annual Golden Badge Awards Big Success! The *Golden Badge Awards* was held at the Riverside Convention Center on September 6, 2014, and recognized community members for their commitment to youth. Rob McMillan, ABC7 Inland Empire Bureau Chief, was the Master of Ceremonies and Chris Manning acted as the auctioneer for this very successful event.



Foundation board members highlighted the Foundation's activities within the community and presented the awards. Mr. Joe Tavaglione received the "Ronald O. Loveridge Distinguished Leader Award", Mrs. Marie Fritts was honored with the "Chief's Award", and Drew Mendonca was presented with the "Future Leader Award" and a \$1000 scholarship. Diana Yeung and Anthony Carrillo were also honored with the "Future Leader Special Recognition Awards" and received \$500 scholarships.

The mission of the Riverside P o l i c e Foundation is

to provide monetary support to the Riverside Police



Department in order to enhance youth programs and community outreach. By doing this, the Foundation seeks to promote greater public safety to the City of Riverside.



Thank you to our sponsors for supporting the Riverside Police Foundation Golden Badge Awards!

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Table Wine Sponsor: Worthington's Tavern & **Photo Sponsor:** Sunshine Portrait Studio

RPD Launches "Know Your Limit" Program

The Riverside Police Department (RPD) has noticed an increase in DUI arrests and traffic collisions involving impaired drivers. The Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) provided funding to conduct DUI checkpoints and additional DUI patrols throughout the city in efforts to reduce drinking and driving. Officers have been provided additional training in DUI enforcement and investigation; however, this



has not deterred some drivers from getting behind the wheel and driving while intoxicated.

The Riverside Police Department is launching a new program called "Know Your Limit." This program deploys RPD officers on foot into Riverside's various entertainment districts where they contact club and bar patrons outside the businesses. Patrons are asked if they would like to volunteer to be checked with a breathalyzer device to see what their blood alcohol content (BAC) level is. The officers explain that it's an



educational program designed to raise awareness of how little alcohol it takes to register a 0.08 percent BAC. During the contact the volunteer is asked if they feel any of the effects of alcohol and if they think they'd be safe to drive a vehicle. The patron then blows into the breathalyzer and is shown the results. At the end of the

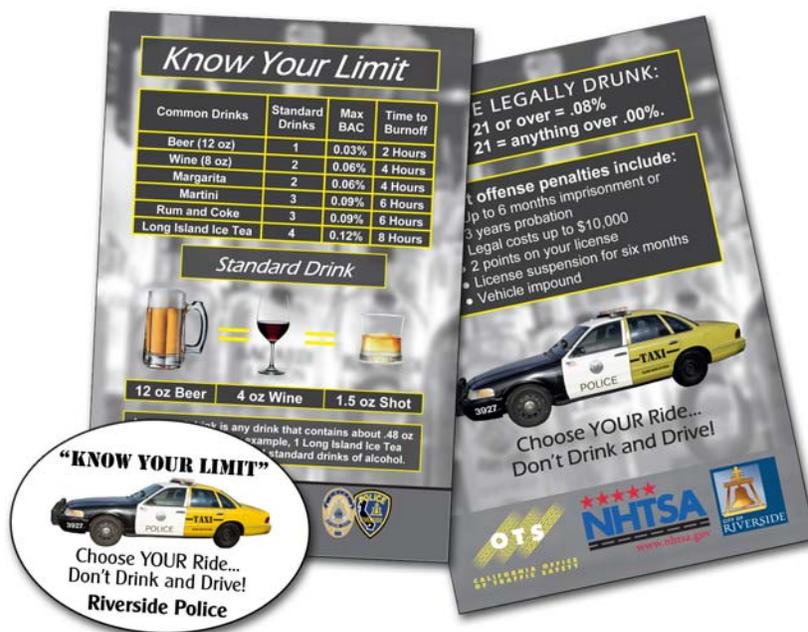


volunteer’s participation in the program, they are provided the tube from the breathalyzer as a reminder, a sticker or an educational card which provides information on alcohol consumption and burn-off times as well as the common penalties for the first time DUI driver.

“It’s surprising for most who volunteer on how high their blood alcohol content level is,” says Lieutenant Mark Rossi of the RPD Traffic bureau. “We had one volunteer who guessed his alcohol level was at .04. His actual BAC was .12.” Participants near or above .08 BAC are advised of other options besides driving to get home safely.

Subjects arrested for a first-time DUI offense in California can expect up to six months imprisonment or three years of probation, legal costs up to \$10,000, a driver’s license suspension for up to six months, and having their vehicle impounded.

“The program is not intended to be a scare tactic but instead, to provide education to the community by encouraging patrons to designate a sober driver, seek alternate transportation or stay at an area hotel/motel,” said Lieutenant Rossi. RPD is also working with the Riverside Downtown Partnership (RDP) and other business owners to make sure the program is a positive influence on their patrons. The goal of the Know Your Limit program is to prevent people from getting behind the wheel and driving intoxicated.



Riverside Police Department

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Don't Drink and Drive
this Holiday Season!**