



Integrity Service Excellence

RPD Happenings

Issue 6

March - April 2012

Riverside Police Department

Message from the Chief

On behalf of the Riverside Police Department I am pleased to announce the formation of the Riverside Police Foundation, a non-profit organization, dedicated to providing "Service to Youth" and assisting the Riverside Police Department with furthering community outreach. The Foundation shares RPD's vision of taking a leadership role in preventing crime and improving the quality of life of its residents.

The Riverside Police Foundation is committed to enhancing the health, safety, and education of the children in Riverside. The Foundation believes that through positive interaction with police personnel our young people can learn life skills that will assist them in their transition to adulthood.

The Foundation's mission is to foster visible and direct community support,



Chief Sergio Diaz

while promoting public safety through programs that enhance services to our youth. Some of the programs the Riverside Police Foundation **Con't PG 7**

RPD Supports "Bob's 80 Bikes"

BY: Supv. Karen Haverkamp

For nearly 20 years Bob Bahnsen, Senior CMSGT Air National Guard (Ret.), has championed and chaired the Riverside Optimist Youth

Club's bicycle safety program. Each spring, Bob buys bikes at the military BX, hand-assembles them with Optimist volunteers, and partners with the Riverside Police Department

to teach bicycle safety at local grade schools. At the end of each safety program, brand-new bikes are raffled off to lucky kids. Many times this is a child's first bike. **Con't PG 3**

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Tip of the Month:

- Buckle up every time you ride
- Kids should enter/exit from the passenger side of the vehicle
- Check your child's car seat regularly to ensure it is always installed tightly

Chief's Message Cont...

will support include: El Protector, Youth Court, Police Explorers, Teen to Teen, Police Activities League, O.W.E. (Opportunities With Education), and Santa's Christmas visit.

The initial board of directors for the Riverside Police Foundation is comprised of prominent business professionals and civic minded residents:

Gordon Bourns, Chairman

Jack Clark, Secretary

Richard Roth, Chief Financial Officer

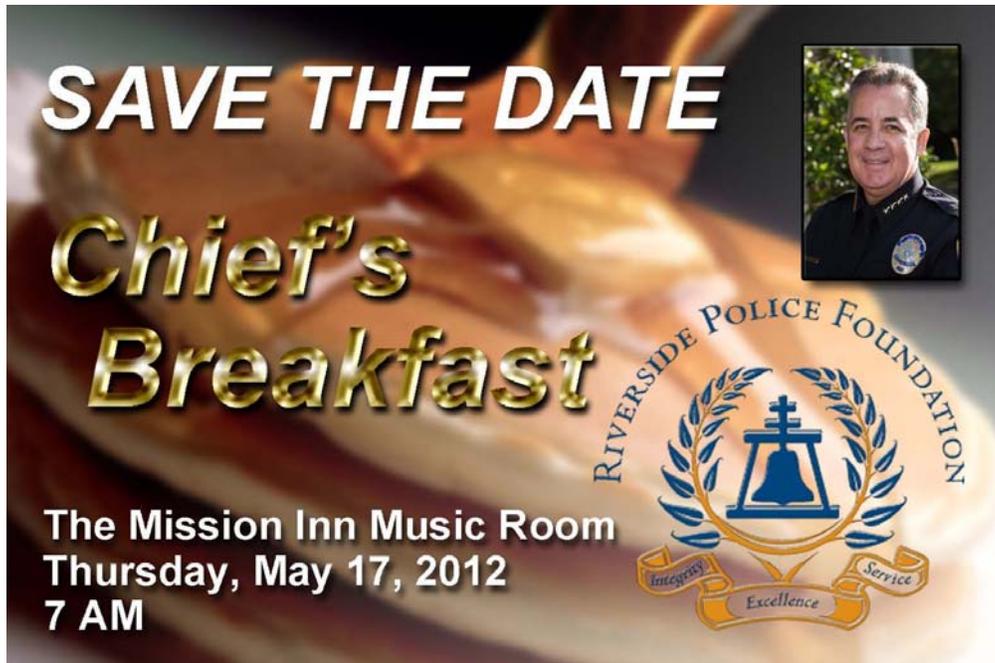
Ramon Alvarez and Virginia Blumenthal, Members-at-Large

Chief of Police Sergio G. Diaz, ex officio

Some of the events that are coming up include: Spring Celebration - Easter Egg Hunt in White Park on April 7, 2012, Breakfast with the Chief at the Mission Inn on May 17, 2012, and the Golden Badge Award coming in September 2012.

Your support of the Riverside Police Foundation will have an enormous impact on the youth of our community. Donations are tax deductible and most important your monetary support will **Help Cops Give Kids Hope**. Your generous donation will go directly to programs that support and foster the youth of our community.

If you have any questions pertaining to the Foundation, you may contact Supervisor Karen Haverkamp directly at 951-826-5644 or email her at khaver@riversideca.gov. In the near future you will be able to view us online at [Riverside Police Foundation.com](http://RiversidePoliceFoundation.com).



SAVE THE DATE

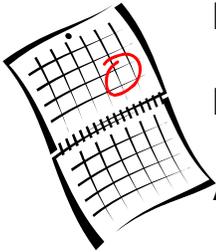
**Chief's
Breakfast**

The Mission Inn Music Room
Thursday, May 17, 2012
7 AM

RIVERSIDE POLICE FOUNDATION



Community Event Calendar



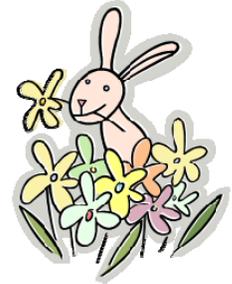
March 28, 2012 - 9th Annual Senior Conference
Janet Goeske Center 9 am - 2 pm

March 31, 2012 - Riverside Air Show
Riverside Airport 9 am - 4 pm

April 7, 2012 - Spring Celebration/Easter Egg Hunt
White Park - 3936 Chestnut

April 8, 2012 - Happy Easter

April 17, 2012 - Kaiser Children's Awareness Day
Kaiser Hospital 8:30 - 2 pm



Bob's 80 Bikes Cont...

To celebrate Bob's 80th birthday, *Bob's 80 Bikes* was created. Bob's family and friends wanted a special and ongoing way to commemorate Bob's lifetime of service to his community.

Riverside Police Department personnel have had the pleasure of working with Bob for the past 12 years through our partnership with the Optimist Club "Friends of Youth" program. In addition, Bob has facilitated the donation of bicycles to our annual Traffic Safety Fair and donation of funds for several other teen programs.

We appreciate and recognize that Bob's time and efforts have been an essential part in the success of our programs. His actions and unselfishness are a reflection of the many wonderful qualities Bob possesses. We appreciate his devotion to the Riverside Police Department, the Optimist Club, his family, his friends, and our community.

For nearly 20 years, Bob has championed and chaired the Riverside Optimist Club's "Friends of Youth" program. We are inspired by the community spirit of this truly generous man, who has humbly gone through his 80 years having a tremendous impact ... one small act at a time.

Think it's hard to make a difference? It's not. Many folks acting together make tremendous things happen. Like joining *Bob's 80 Bikes* fundraising campaign and donating.

So go ahead. Be optimistic. And give a little help. It's as easy as ... riding a bike.

For more information log on at <http://bobs80bikes.com/>



Support Services Division



**Captain
John Wallace**

The Support Services Division underwent some changes at the recent shift change, not only with personnel changes, but also with the structure of the Division. The Division is now comprised of four Bureaus that include Training, Personnel, Internal Affairs and Communications.

Internal Affairs - The Office of Internal Affairs is comprised of a lieutenant, three sergeants, and two administrative clerks. Although sergeants assigned to Internal Affairs are supervisors, their primary role is that of investigator.

When one thinks of the Office of Internal Affairs, often the first thought to come to mind is officer misconduct. While this is a component, the Office of Internal Affairs' responsibilities are much broader and include the review of policies, procedures, protocols, use of force incidents, pursuits, property damage, and traffic collisions involving department employees.

The Office of Internal Affairs does not investigate criminal complaints. Criminal accusations are handled first by the appropriate investigative bureau. Once completed, Internal Affairs investigates for potential violations of department policy. Internal Affairs investigations are **Con't PG 7**

Investigations Division

Forensic Evidence Unit



**Captain
Meredyth Meredith**

The Forensic Evidence Unit has developed into a highly technical and diverse support unit for the Riverside Police Department. The unit is staffed by one supervisor, three evidence technicians, and two volunteers. The multi-functional unit is housed at the Riverside Police Department's Magnolia Avenue Station and serves as a photo lab, fingerprint lab, latent-print repository, evidence collection unit, photography unit, digital imaging and video enhancement unit, photographic negative repository, and other related forensic processes.

This unit responds to major incidents such as officer involved shootings, homicides, child death investigations, robberies, fatal traffic collisions, and any other investigation resulting in suspicious circumstances related to death or kidnappings.

When the Forensic Evidence Unit is called to respond to major incidents, evidence technicians may be required to document scenes with photography, collect any physical evidence, create and reproduce computerized crime scene drawings and process physical evidence for fingerprints. Unlike their Hollywood counterparts on shows like **Con't PG 7**

Special Operations Division

The Special Operations Central NPC Community Policing Coordinator, PSR Irma Ochoa was honored on Friday, March 16, 2012, at the Latino Network's 15th Annual Celebración de la Mujer Awards Luncheon. This event commemorates the contribution and accomplishments of Chicana/Latinas throughout the Inland Empire. During the event, the Latino Network honored outstanding women who have demonstrated the spirit of commitment to their communities. PSR Irma Ochoa was selected as the honoree in the Public Safety category.

Irma has demonstrated leadership in promoting community safety through education, crime prevention and mentorship. Irma serves as the Community Policing Coordinator for Central Neighborhood Policing Center. Irma specializes in reaching out to the Spanish speaking and deaf communities, both the elderly and students (preschool through high school), businesses and service organizations such as the YMCA. Irma provides presentations on personal safety, creating partnerships between the community and police department, educating students and parents on bullying, fraud, identity theft, neighborhood watch, business watch and crime prevention. Irma's ability to effectively communicate in **Con't PG 6**



**Captain
John Carpenter**

Uniformed Services Division

FIELD OPERATIONS – This edition of the newsletter brings some new leadership to Field Operations. I am very excited to assume command of Field Operations and wish Captain John Wallace the best in his new assignment to Support Services. Lieutenant Ed Blevins has taken over the Executive Lieutenant's position previously held by Lieutenant Gary Leach, who has assumed command of the West Neighborhood Policing Center. Ed and I look forward to working together to meet the needs of the community and all of our Field Operations staff. Both Ed and I have been with the RPD for many years and are happy to be back where we started several years ago. We share an open door philosophy and look forward to creating a collaborative team that provides quality service.

I would like to congratulate Russ Shubert on his promotion to Lieutenant and Debbie Foy on her promotion to Sergeant, both of them have been assigned to Watch A. Our most recent graduate of our Field Training Program, Officer Tim MacNeil, has also been assigned to Watch A.

The Field Operations Division currently has fifteen trainees in the Field Training Officer program. We anxiously await their completion of the program as they will be added to our overall patrol deployment.



**Captain
Mike Perea**

For those who have not had the opportunity to meet Durees **Con't PG 7**

Special Operations Cont.

both English and Spanish have been instrumental in reaching and further developing the goal of inclusiveness with community policing in Riverside.

Irma has introduced neighborhood watch groups to nearby businesses. She recently formed the first combination Neighborhood/Business Watch network for the shopping center located at Lincoln Avenue and Van Buren Blvd. This partnership will be instrumental in providing crime prevention information to the businesses and surrounding neighborhoods through electronic (e-mail) communication.

Irma actively participates with the El Protector soccer clinic program at Villegas Park. She is continually called upon to provide community updates and participate in Spanish speaking community events. Recently, Irma helped coordinate a community safety forum after a tragic fatal collision involving a Casa Blanca resident and a passing rail road train. Irma did so, by reaching out to the community through her El Protector contacts and the Casa Blanca Community Action Group. She coordinated a meeting for Casa Blanca residents and personnel from the rail roads and the police department. The meeting was formed to educate the residents about train safety and was provided in both English and Spanish.

ast year, Irma was instrumental in forming a stronger partnership with the California School for the Deaf (CSDR). Irma developed a, "COPS vs. Deaf Sports Academy." She also volunteered to participate with the school's annual "Silent Sleigh" event. She routinely provides presentations to the CSDR students regarding bullying and safety. She provides handout materials and works with a Sign Language interpreter during these events.

PSR Irma Ochoa has successfully introduced the "Neighborhood Watch" (NW) program to many different groups in the City. She has inspired community members to participate in NW and actually formed four (4) new NW groups. Irma has utilized her newly formed NW groups along with her thirty-two (32) established groups, to gather and disseminate important and useful intelligence. The communication between law enforcement and the community is crucial to respond to calls for service, identify crime trends, and successfully fight crime.



Support Services Cont...

thorough, impartial, and conducted in a manner so as to protect the rights of the employee and maintain the Department's high level of professionalism, integrity, and transparency.

The Office of Internal Affairs accepts complaints in person, by phone, in written form, or electronic media. Police facilities are required to have complaint forms readily available for public access. Each complaint is first reviewed by the Office of Internal Affairs then assigned to the appropriate investigative unit. Once a complaint has been investigated and completed, the complaining party is notified of the findings. Findings do not include discipline, if any, that may or may not have been imposed on the subject employee. Employee privacy regarding discipline is strictly protected by California labor law.

The goal of the Office of Internal Affairs is to encourage professional conduct, maximize public confidence, minimize liability, and reduce risk.

Investigations Division Cont...

C.S.I. whose day ends after the thirty-minute show concludes, the RPD Forensic Evidence Unit personnel usually work very long hours, often under adverse conditions and in dangerous places, providing support to the entire Riverside Police Department.

The Forensic Evidence Unit has received numerous grant awards which have been used to obtain new technologically advanced forensic equipment such as a sophisticated Digital Imaging Management Systems (DIMS) which reduces the time it takes to process photos and physical evidence. These acquisitions have enhanced the Department's Forensic Evidence Unit's ability to be a key component to the Riverside Police Department's commitment to working with the community in new ways to solve the problems of crime in our community.

Uniformed Services Division Cont...

Newell, she has taken over the front desk at the Lincoln Station and would be delighted if you stopped by to say hello and introduce yourself.

The challenge of identifying subjects in the field who have no identification is still a problem among law enforcement. Many among the criminal element in society tend to provide false names in an effort to escape the law. In an effort to overcome this obstacle, our department has been using mobile IBIS units that capture a person's thumbprint and in a matter of minutes can identify the person through the Cal I.D. system. The Department has recently acquired seven new IBIS units that have been installed in six patrol units, and one traffic unit. This will significantly reduce the response time when requesting an available IBIS device. I would like to thank I.T. Technician Reuel Hinojales for coordinating the installation of the IBIS units into the patrol cars and setting up training for officers.

Every 15 Minutes at Arlington High School



Every 15 Minutes someone dies due to an alcohol related traffic collision.

The Choice is Yours!

RPD In The Community



**CSDR Car Show Event
March 10, 2012**



**The Village Program honored at
City Council March 20, 2012**



**Kids with Officer McGruff and
the Volunteer Mounted Unit at
the Fairmount Park 5K Run
February 25, 2012**

Being proactive for our community!

Riverside Police Department

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SPRING CELEBRATION

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Riverside Police Foundation,

Riverside Police Officers Association, & Sam's Club

Events include Easter Egg Hunt, Photos with Easter Bunny,
Face Painting, Police Mounted Posse, and More.

Children 12 and under

Saturday, April 7, 2012 9 am - 12 pm

White Park 3936 Chestnut Street, Riverside