



Integrity Service Excellence

RPD Happenings

Issue 9

September - October 2012

Riverside Police Department

Message from the Chief

Recently I had the pleasure of promoting Edward Blevins to the rank of Captain, Valmont Graham to the rank of Lieutenant, Matt Cash to the rank of Sergeant, and Chris Carnahan to the rank of Detective. I am confident in their abilities and believe they will do an outstanding job in their new positions.

I also want to wish Captain Meredyth "Charlie" Meredith and Lieutenant Bob Williams the very best as they enter into the next chapter of their life - retirement. Bob and Charlie will be missed by all of us who had the pleasure to know and work with them.

In previous newsletters I have discussed the Riverside Police Foundation. It is our Foundation. The Foundation was created as a way to help fund community outreach programs, especially programs that provide a service to our youth.



Chief Sergio Diaz

In September and October the Riverside Police Foundation will host two **Con't pg 2**

RPD Invites Community to *Golden Badge Awards*

BY: Supv. Karen Haverkamp

The Riverside Police Department and the Riverside Police Foundation invite community members to the Golden Badge Awards for a formal evening of dinner, dancing, silent and live auctions. This is your opportunity to help support the Foundation and it's *Service to Youth*. The Foundation's inaugural Golden Badge Awards fundraiser is being held at the Riverside Municipal Auditorium and the proceeds will help sponsor **Con't pg 3**

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Tip of the Month: School is Starting...watch out for children!

- Take extra caution around schools.
- Plan on extra time in the morning and after school, don't drive to fast.
- Have a phone plan with your child, know when they get home.

Chief's Message Cont...

fundraising events. The first is the Golden Badge Awards. Three members from our community will be recognized for their contributions to our City as a leader and champion for youth. The three recipients are Mayor Ron Loveridge, Dale Roberts, and Courtney Blatchford. I hope that all of you will show them, and the Foundation, your support by joining us Saturday, September 29, 2012, at the Riverside Municipal Auditorium. The evening will also include dining, dancing, silent and live auctions. The theme of the Golden Badge Awards, in keeping with the purpose of the Police Foundation, is "Service to Youth".

The careers and lives of Mayor Loveridge and Mr. Roberts, as many of you know, exemplify the concept of service to youth. Ms. Blatchford is a recent graduate of North High School and we are confident in her potential as a future leader in our community. There is more information in this newsletter about the Awards Ceremony. You are all welcome to support the young people of our community by attending our awards ceremony on the 29th.

I would personally like to thank Fritts Ford for being the Title Sponsor for the Golden Badge Awards. Marie Fritts has been an ongoing supporter of the Riverside Police Department and is now extending her support to the Police Foundation. Thank you Marie!

The second event the Foundation is sponsoring is the Riverside Triathlon. The Triathlon will be held on Sunday, October 21, 2012, at the Bobby Bonds facility. This is a sprint distance triathlon, which is great for both the beginning and advanced triathlete. I hope that you challenge yourselves and each other to get out there and show your support to this worthy cause.

Both of these events can be found on the Foundation's website. For more information please visit www.riversidepolicefoundation.org.

I hope to see all of you at these events!

Warmest Regards,

Sergio

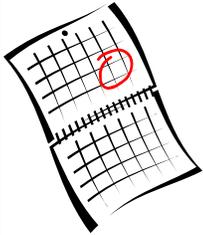
Have a question? ASK RPD

Do you have a question you would like answered about policing? Not sure why the police do things a certain way? Ask RPD.

Send your questions to newsletter@riversideca.gov and we will review, answer and print as many questions and answers as possible.



Community Event Calendar



September 29, 2012, 10am—2pm

DEA National Drug Take Back Initiative Kaiser Permanente

September 29, 2012, Riverside Municipal Auditorium @ 6pm

Riverside Police Foundation Golden Badge Awards

October 6, 2012, Castle Park 10am—3pm

15th Annual Safety Fair

October 21, 2012, Bobby Bonds Facility

Riverside Triathlon - www.riversidetriathlon.com



numerous programs for the youth in our community. Rob McMillan, ABC7 Eyewitness News Inland Empire Bureau Chief, will be the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Mayor Ron Loveridge will be recognized as the first recipient of the “Distinguished Leader Award” and Mr. Dell Roberts will be honored with the first “Chief’s Award.” The third award, our “Future Leader Award”, will be presented to Courtney Blatchford for the leadership skills she demonstrated in our Teen 2 Teen program. The Future Leader Award also includes a scholarship. Foundation board members will highlight the Foundation’s activities within the community.

The newly formed Riverside Police Foundation is a charitable organization created to fund youth programs within the police department. The goal of the Police Foundation is “Service to Youth” and to promote public safety, improve quality of life in our community, and strengthen the partnership between Riverside youth, parents, community members, and the Police Department. Timely intervention is a key component in redirecting young people toward a more promising future.

For information on sponsorship opportunities, contact Karen Haverkamp at 951-826-5644. Tickets are limited, please RSVP soon. To register on-line or for registration forms visit the Foundation website. We thank you in advance for your support!

www.RiversidePoliceFoundation.org

Support Services Division



**Captain
John Wallace**

In July and August 2012 several members of the Department were reassigned to the Support Services Division. All of the transfers will offer these employees with an opportunity to expand their overall job knowledge by serving the Department in administrative capacity.

Lieutenant Bruce Loftus, Sergeants Frank Assumma and Charlie Payne are assigned to the Personnel Bureau, Lieutenant Melissa Bartholomew and Sergeant Kendall Banks are assigned to Internal Affairs, and Lieutenant Jaybee Brennan and Officer Robert Olsen are assigned to the Training Bureau.

The Personnel Bureau is in the process of completing backgrounds for vacancies in the following positions: Police Officer, Public Safety Dispatch Trainee, Police Cadets, and Senior Office Specialist. In addition, Personnel Bureau is working closely with the Training Bureau to get the background process started for the Reserve Police Officer.

Training- The RPD in conjunction with Riverside Unified School District and Alvord Unified School District, presented its inaugural **Con't pg 7**

Investigations Division



**Captain
John Carpenter**

The Centralized Investigation's Bureau would like to welcome Sr. Evidence Technician Liane Velin as our newest addition to the the Riverside Police Department's Forensic Unit. After an extensive selection process, the Riverside Police Department has added Liane Velin to our ranks among the finest Forensic Evidence Technicians in the industry.

Liane, who is originally from Fountain Valley California, is a graduate of Fountain Valley High School and she went on to receive her BA in Criminology from U.C. Irvine. Liane brings to the RPD previous experience as a Crime Scene Investigator with the City of Newport Beach as well as experience as a Public Safety Assistant with the City of Irvine Police Department.

Liane said she chose the Riverside Police Department because of the positive reputation the RPD has and the experience that she can receive here. She is very excited about her new position and we are proud to have her represent the Riverside Police Department. Please join us in welcoming her to the RPD Family.



Special Operations Division

The start of another school year is just around the corner, and safety is a priority now more than ever. The Riverside Police department would like you to consider a few of the safety tips listed below. At the start of every school year, traffic in our schools zones double and traffic safety becomes a major concern. As parents you trust that your kids should be safe at school for most of the day, but what about after school? Statistically, your child is most vulnerable to crime during after-school hours. You can beat those statistics with some safety tips below.

We would also like to take this time to introduce the School Resource Officers for the 2012-2013 school year. **Officer Stacie Tedesco-Ontko** at Poly High School, **Officer Karla Corbett** at Martin Luther King High School, **Officer Brian Haskell** at North High School, **Officer Richard McDonald** at Ramona High School, **Officer Felix Medina** at Arlington High School, **Officer Dave Bartlone** at Arlington Regional Learning Center, **Officer Christopher Tonetti** at La Sierra High School, and **Officer Jesus Castro** at Norte Vista High School.

Scheduling for Safety—Ensure your child has a set schedule for after-school activities. For example, have your children call you **Con't pg 7**



**Captain
Mike Perea**

Field Operations Division

This edition of the newsletter brings some new leadership to Field Operations Division. I am excited to assume command of Field Operations after my recent promotion to Captain. It has been my pleasure to have worked with Captain Mike Perea the last several months and I wish him the best in his new assignment to Special Operations. I would like to congratulate Val Graham on his promotion from Sergeant to Lieutenant and Matt Cash on his promotion to Sergeant. Val will be staying in Field Operations but changing work space to the Watch Commanders' office. Matt is still wondering where he will land but that decision will have been made by the time this goes to print. Lt. Leon Phillips will assume the role of Administrative Lieutenant.

RSO Basic Academy Class #187 (yes, 187) graduated on August 23, 2012. Police Officer Trainees Charles Jones, Daniel Mowrey and Spencer Weddle distinguished themselves in the class and were promoted to the rank of Police Officer. They are scheduled to commence Field Training very shortly. We are excited to see new officers entering a great career and look forward to their eventual release from training.

Con't pg 8



**Captain
Ed Blevins**

Management Services Division



**Admin. Svs. Manager
Karen Aquino**

On June 7, 2012, RPD PROPERTY ROOM personnel performed a major operation to transport and destroy items that were no longer needed as evidence for hundreds of cases that have been closed by this Department. On that day, the transport was coordinated by the expertise of our METRO Team who took charge of security and safety of all involved. The transport of the items required two Penske trucks filled with: 6,000 (300 boxes) containing narcotic paraphernalia and dominion, 2,800 lbs of marijuana packaged in 130 burlap bags & 3 pallets of sealed pkgs, 850 lbs of narcotics sealed in crate containers, 2,000 lbs of bags/boxes contained miscellaneous items (old uniforms, graffiti-tagged evidence items, cassette tapes & paperwork no longer needed as evidence.)



This was an extremely labor intensive operation. The team worked tirelessly unloading the trucks, loading and unloading the carts and transporting them in cargo elevators up 6 stories to the destruction warehouse. METRO Team members were staged at every station to maintain the security and integrity of the destruction. As seen in the photo above, staff was suited up with gloves, masks, back braces, helmets, and safety glasses.

Special thanks to the following personnel: bottom L to R – Supervisor Scott King, Cadets Stanley Hua & Eddie Vazquez; 2nd row sitting – Cadets Brittany Reimer & Wendy Ruiz and hiding in the back Police Property Specialist Stacey Robinson; standing – Police Property Specialists Phillip Trapp, Nori Jaggar and Robbie Anzelde.



Support Services, cont...

School Resource Officer training symposium on August 09, 2012, at the Department's Magnolia Avenue Station. Under the direction of Police Chief Sergio Diaz, this symposium included members of the Riverside Police Department's School Resource Officer and Problem Oriented Policing units as well as representatives from the Riverside Unified and Alford Unified School Districts. It was designed to be an informational venue, while also providing the opportunity for both police department and school district representatives to present helpful information and answer questions. Presenters from the Riverside Police Department included Chief Diaz, along with personnel from Special Investigations - Gangs, Narcotics, and VICE, General Investigations, METRO, and the Training Bureau. The training focused on: Department and district needs and expectations, changes in CPS law and procedure, narcotics and criminal street gangs in schools, prostitution and human trafficking, on and off campus property crimes, and active shooter response tactics.

The goal was to provide attendees with a better understanding of the procedures and expectations of a Riverside Police School Resource Officer in addition to enhancing the working relationship between the Riverside Police Department and both school districts.

Special Operations, cont...

from your home phone every day at a set time. This way, even when you're at work, you know they've arrived home safely.

Teaching Trust—You've taught your children not to speak to strangers, but that may not be enough. It is just as important to teach your children who they can trust, especially in times of need. Identify personal contacts your children can trust, such as close friends and neighbors. Remind them that reputable safety professionals like police officers, firemen, and teachers can help if needed. In case of an emergency you should have a simple code word for your child especially when someone other than you will be picking them up from school. This way your child knows if someone does not say the correct code word they are not to go with them.

Protecting Personal Information—Teach your child important phone numbers: your cell phone number, the cell phone number of a trusted friend, and your home address. Remind them to closely guard personal information, and not to disclose anything private to people who call on the phone or reach out via email.

Traffic Safety - Make sure your children know where they can cross the street. Tell them to use the cross walks where crossing guards are located. It's always best to have your children walk home in groups. If your child rides his or her bicycle to school, make sure they wear a helmet and obey all traffic laws. Advise them to not ride on the wrong side of the street and to walk their bikes across busy streets. Don't forget to have them lock their bikes at school to prevent thefts.

Field Operations, cont...

Canine handler Officer Brad Smith's partner, Rocco, suffered progressive medical conditions that made his retirement necessary. Brad is currently in the Basic K-9 Academy with a new partner, Roy, a Belgian Malinois. They are scheduled to graduate on September 14, 2012. They will be assigned to Field Operations Watch-C.

The Riverside Police Department recently participated in the annual California Law Enforcement Challenge (CLEC). This event is a competition between similar sized and types of law enforcement agencies. It recognizes and rewards the best overall traffic safety programs in California. The areas of concentration include efforts to enforce laws and educate the public about specialized traffic safety programs, impaired driving, and speeding. The winning safety programs are those that combine officer training, public information and enforcement to reduce crashes and injuries within its jurisdiction.

Police Service Representative Dawn Reynolds took the lead on this year's submission, which was a substantial undertaking. PSR Reynolds researched training records, enforcement statistics, policies and special project completion reports to highlight the traffic safety efforts of the RPD.

Once compiled, PSR Reynolds enlisted the assistance of Officer Greg Matthews to professionalize the presentation of the material. Greg utilized his expert photography skills to capture state of the art images of the RPD's efforts to improve traffic safety.

Upon submission, a panel of traffic safety experts from across the country reviewed each application and assigned points based upon the established program criteria. Based upon their efforts to showcase a dedication to traffic safety, PSR Reynolds and Officer Matthews earned the RPD an overall second place finish!

There has also been a noticeable increase in our efforts to combat DUI driving. One of the most notable individual efforts is Officer Genaro Escobedo. Officer Escobedo was recently honored at the 14th Annual MADD California Statewide Law Enforcement & Community Recognition Awards, in Sacramento. This event recognizes law enforcement officers throughout California, for their efforts to stop driving while under the influence and the prevention of underage drinking.

Officer Escobedo was selected for his outstanding contributions in these areas and received the prestigious 2012 MADD California Hero Award. Officer Escobedo attended the ceremony with members of his family and graciously accepted his distinguished award.

Please take the opportunity to congratulate these employees for their outstanding work and keep up the spirit of competition to make our streets safer and prevent DUI driving.

Calling all Golfers!

The Riverside Police Foundation has been chosen as a 2012 beneficiary for the Premier Service Bank Golf Tournament being held at Victoria Country Club on Monday, October 1, 2012.

Visit www.premierservicebank.com/golf for more information.

Play Golf for a Cause



PREMIER SERVICE BANK
Charitable Golf Outing

Victoria Club | October 1, 2012

2012 BENEFICIARIES:



Sponsorship Still Available

Please sign me up for:

SPONSORSHIP	Qty	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Ace	\$10,000	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle	\$5,000	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration	\$2,000	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Cart	\$2,000	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Scorecard	\$2,000	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bag Tag	\$1,000	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tee Sign	\$250	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Tee Signs	\$350	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bus. Package	\$1,500	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Foursome	\$1,200	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$325	_____
Total \$		_____

I am unable to attend, but please accept my gift in the amount of \$_____

Opportunity Drawing 1 Week in Hawaii



\$6000 Value

8 days/7 nights stay at a private beach front house located on the west coast of Oahu

\$100 Per Entry | Maximum 100 Entries

Airfare and transportation not included. Arrangements to be made through Tropical Properties, subject to availability.

Submit Entry and Payment to:

Premier Service Bank
Attn: Shelly Seebold
3637 Arlington Ave, Suite B
Riverside, CA 92506
(951) 274-2400 x214

Register Today

For sponsorship opportunities or if you need additional information, please contact one of the following:

Kerry L. Pendergast (Event Chair)
President/Chief Executive Officer

Shelly Seebold (Event Co-Chair)
Assistant Vice President/Executive Assistant

(951) 274-2400

For more information please go to:
www.premierservicebank.com/golf

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The Countdown Is On: Switch Now to Electronic Federal Benefit Payments

Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service

Do you get Social Security or other federal benefit payments by paper checks? If so, you are required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to switch to an electronic payment method. By making the switch, you will help save taxpayers \$1 billion over 10 years.

The deadline is March 1, 2013. That's only five short months from now! Don't wait. Switch now to one of the two electronic payment options recommended by the Treasury Department:

- ◆ **Direct deposit.** If you have a checking or savings account, sign up to get your money by **direct deposit**. Your federal benefit payment will go straight into your account on payment day each month. On time, every time.
- ◆ **Direct Express[®]** Debit MasterCard[®] card. If you don't have a bank account or prefer a prepaid debit card, switch to the **Direct Express[®]** card. Your money will be posted to the card account on payment day each month. You can make purchases and get cash back with purchases at no charge anywhere Debit MasterCard[®] is accepted. There are no sign-up fees, overdraft fees or monthly fees. Some fees for optional services may apply. For information on card fees and features, visit www.GoDirect.org.

It's fast, easy and free to make the switch. You can switch at your local federal benefit agency office, online at www.GoDirect.org or by calling the U.S. Treasury Electronic Payment Solution Center at (800) 333-1795. For direct deposit, you can also switch at your bank or credit union.

If you do not switch by the deadline, you will receive your benefit payments via the **Direct Express[®]** card, so you will not experience any interruption in payment.

Safer and More Reliable

By making the switch now to electronic payments, you will immediately start enjoying the many advantages electronic payments have to offer, including:

Safety – No risk of lost or stolen checks.

Reliability – No delays caused by severe weather or other unforeseen events.

Ease – No need to make a trip to cash or deposit a check.

Fast Access – You will have access to your money sooner.



53 Neighborhoods Participated in National Night Out - August 7, 2012



THANK YOU ALL FOR PARTICIPATING!

Being proactive for our community!

Riverside Police Department

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SAVE THE DATE

15th Annual Safety Fair

OCTOBER 6, 2012

10am-1pm

**COME & CELEBRATE OUR
15TH YEAR**

As we honor Police and Fire

ALSO...COME AND SEE

**Helicopter display, Fire Safety House, K-9 Unit
display and much more!**

