

The Sheriff's

STAR



Office of the Sheriff County of Monroe

SHERIFF PATRICK M. O'FLYNN

Winter Edition 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

We have a lot to be thankful for as we enter 2014. I'm proud of all of our achievements and the relentless pursuit of excellence that our staff has displayed. In 2013, I had the pleasure of serving as President of the New York State Sheriff's Association. I have been fortunate to partner with colleagues across the state and evaluate the services provided in other communities within the state. I am extremely proud of what we do and how we compare to the services provided by

It's gratifying to realize our staff and programs continue to be used as the benchmark for others statewide.

other sheriff's offices. It is gratifying to realize our staff and programs continue to be used as the benchmark for others statewide.

We have a unique opportunity to touch our diverse population in so many ways. We not only provide service in all of the areas we patrol, the deputies ensure public safety by working with inmates in the

jail. The court security deputies protect crime victims, witnesses, judges, lawyers, and anyone accessing the Hall of Justice. The deputies from the Civil Bureau assist by enforcing the civil statutes while working alongside all of the local police agencies throughout the city and county.



We will remain committed to providing the best quality of service while remaining true to our core values of: Respect, Integrity, Teamwork, and Excellence (R.I.T.E.). Each and every one of you is critical to achieving success. Your commitment and dedication to our mission is truly appreciated.

I am well aware of the sacrifices that you and your families have made to ensure the safety of our community. Please know that you have the support of the Sheriff's Office to continue the excellent service you provide every day.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

For more than 30 years the Sheriff's Office has taken pride in helping needy families in Monroe County. This year is no different, and several volunteers from senior centers helped with Christmas baskets that were distributed as part of a holiday gift and food program. The project, under the direction of the Sheriff, was headed by Sergeant Klein, Cindy Chislett, Lisa Gerritse, Barb Fellows, Mary Delella, and the crime prevention officers from each zone; Deputy Hildreth, Deputy Tantalo, and Deputy McKinney. To help in this effort the Sheriff's Office reached

out to senior centers in our community. This year individuals from Chili, Ogden, Henrietta, East Rochester, and Perinton assisted. High school students from the New Vision Program also lent a helping hand. Aramark and Wegmans have both been generous donors to the project. Food baskets were distributed to the needy right before Christmas. The Sheriff's Office would also like to thank the Sheriff's Foundation for their generous donation to purchase several of the toys, and they also provided t-shirts for the seniors to wear when they wrapped presents and boxes.





HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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SHERIFF'S WEEK

The week of September 15th through the 21st was Sheriff's Week not only in Monroe County but across the entire state. In 2013 the Sheriff served as the President of the New York State Sheriffs' Association, and he was busy drawing attention to the Office of Sheriff, its unique role in the criminal justice system, and its significant contributions to

the protection of life and property. The Sheriff started the week with an editorial that appeared in the Democrat and Chronicle. Part of that editorial read: "The modern Office of Sheriff, despite its rich history, is ever-evolving, changing with the times yet remaining true to its fundamental purpose-protector of the public good."

The Sheriff also spoke on WBEE radio with Jeremy Neumann and Steve Hausman. Commander Phelps and recently promoted Sergeant Sam Bell also spoke on 13 WHAM News and News 10 NBC about recruitment efforts for the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.



Sgt. Sam Bell, Commander Phelps, 13 WHAM's Norma Holland



Sgt. Bell, Commander Phelps, News 10 NBC's Amanda Ciavarrri



WBEE's Steve Hausman and Sheriff O'Flynn

AWARDS CEREMONY

A MESSAGE FROM COMMANDER PHELPS

By the end of the year I will have completed my first year as Commander of Staff Services. Like the other bureaus of our agency, this year has been fast paced and filled with a lot of tremendous work in able to provide support to the police, jail, court, and civil bureaus. We always look to improve and diversify our workforce and I personally took that message to the public earlier this year with some recruitment efforts that were highlighted on both local television and radio stations. I also understand the importance of re-energizing our workforce and highlighting all the good that's done both inside and outside of our agency. Some of these achievements were noted at our annual awards luncheon in September at the R.I.T. Inn and Conference Center.



Undersheriff Sanborn, Sheriff O'Flynn, Deputy Karen Vargo and her son Trevor, former Sheriff Andrew Meloni



Undersheriff Sanborn, Dave Merrick, John Darcy, Rich Funke, Sgt. Dean Tuthill, Sheriff O'Flynn,

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Jail Bureau

- Sergeant Jeffrey Conklin
- Sergeant Sean Merchant
- Sergeant Christopher Shellard
- Deputy Scott Haug
- Deputy Michael Kearns
- Deputy Justin Linton
- Deputy Eric Thomsen
- Deputy David Wickum

Police Bureau

- Deputy Michael Anderson
- Deputy Matthew Bottone
- Deputy Christopher Brock
- Deputy Brian Dyjak
- Deputy John Fenton
- Deputy Daniel Luffman
- Deputy Bryan McCarthy
- Deputy Thomas Meisch
- Deputy Michael Mumm
- Deputy Christopher Reynolds
- Deputy Richard Tantalo

SHERIFF'S COMMENDATION

- Investigator C.J. Zimmerman, Police Bureau
- Deputy John Skripnik, Police Bureau
- Deputy Daniel Woodward, Court Security Bureau
- Quartermaster Todd Allen, Staff Services
- Ms. Catherine Smith, Civil Bureau

CIVILIAN SERVICE AWARD

- Ms. Samantha Elliott
- Ms. Barbara Langdon

ANDREW P. MELONI AWARD

- Deputy Karen Vargo, Court Security Bureau
- Core Values Award
- Deputy Mark Nevelezer, Police Bureau

CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR

- Ms. Ann Kennedy, Jail Bureau

DEPUTY OF THE YEAR

- Sergeant Dean Tuthill, Police Bureau

BADGE OF HONOR CEREMONY

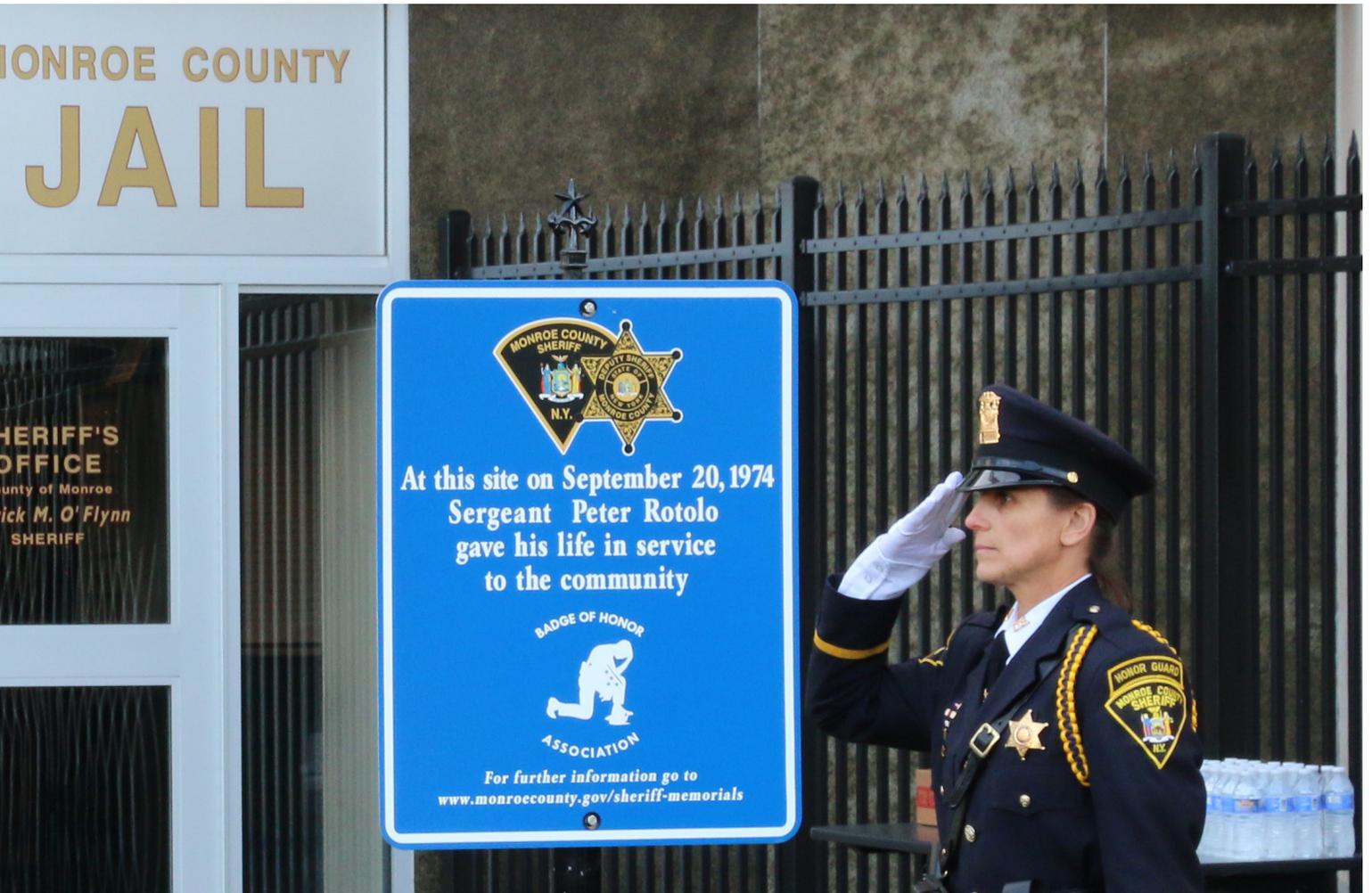
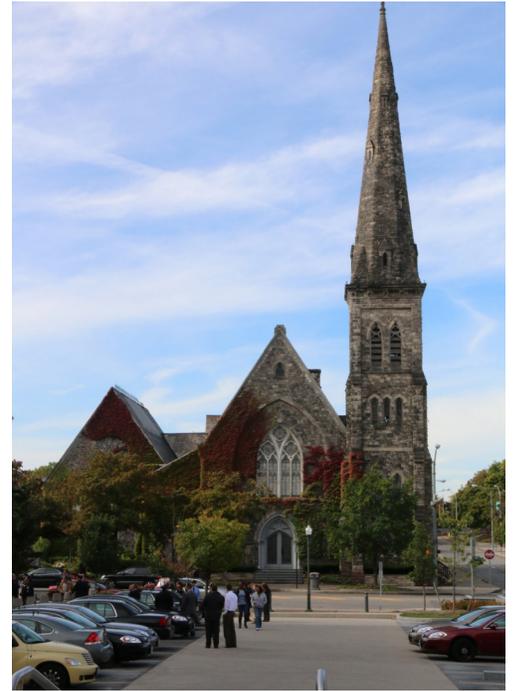
The Monroe County Sheriff's Office was pleased to host the Badge of Honor Association and the Sheriff's Office Association of Retirees (S.O.A.R.) at an event October 10th that honored fallen deputies.

The Badge of Honor and S.O.A.R. have generously donated money so that road signs could be constructed and hung where 11 Monroe County deputies paid the ultimate sacrifice.

A ceremony outside the Monroe County Jail honored two jail deputies who were killed while on the job; Corporal Catherine Crawford and Sergeant Peter Rotolo.

This ceremony included remarks from Sheriff Patrick O'Flynn, and Badge of Honor Association President Justin Collins who is also a Sergeant with the Rochester Police Department. Several people have been working diligently behind this project including S.O.A.R. President Ed Ramsperger, and Deputy Re.





RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office is pleased to assist the United Way with its Red Kettle Campaign. For the past several years the Sheriff and several deputies have braved the cold temperatures in order to do bell ringing for the Salvation Army. This year was no different as the Sheriff and others were stationed along Main and State Streets in Downtown Rochester to solicit donations. The Salvation Army says its red kettle campaign has long been an American tradition since 1891. Monies raised give financial support to Salvation Army programs and services. That includes; providing toys for children, coats for the homeless, and food for the hungry.



Salvation Army Majors Doug & Judy Hart, Deputy Scott Bevilacqua, Deputy Robert Piano, Deputy William Story

PIRATE TOY FUND

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office continues to build partnerships in order to serve and give back to the community. This effort continued in 2013 with a new "team." The Pirate Toy Fund provides toys to children in need. The people behind this project approached the Sheriff's Office this year in order to get deputies involved. Children visiting the jail have been provided with a toy throughout the year thanks to the generosity of the Pirate Toy Fund. This effort also expanded to all three substations where toys have been given to children. Sergeant Jennifer Fichter worked in jail visits earlier this year and she is very appreciative of the

opportunity to interact with children. She said, "it has had such a positive impact on, not only the children that we see, but the staff here as well. The toy box allows the staff here to perform a random act of kindness and make an uncomfortable situation more tolerable for the children that we see."

Sergeant Jeff Klein has also been closely involved with the Pirate Toy Fund and he's been to several events where the program was highlighted. Those include the Lilac Parade and a trip to Eastview Mall where deputies handed out stickers and explained the drive to people who stopped by. Sergeant Klein just recently returned from a trip to New Rochelle,



Gary the Happy Pirate, Sheriff O'Flynn, Otto Harnischfeger, RPD

New York where more than 400 toys were donated to former New York Yankee Mariano Rivera's foundation called the "Refuge of Hope."

The Sheriff's Office would also like to thank the Badge of Honor Association for its involvement in the Pirate Toy Fund.

C.O.P.S. RECOGNIZED

In September Sheriff O'Flynn and Undersheriff Sanborn recognized the efforts of a partner in law enforcement. Ellen Guerdat is the President of C.O.P.S. (Concerns of Police Survivors). For several months the Sheriff's Office wanted to recognize her for all of the efforts she puts forth to support our agency and several others in Monroe County. The Undersheriff said that he was confident when picking up the phone on Christmas Eve 2012 to rely on Guerdat's leadership

to help several police agencies through a tragic event. Officers and deputies were left with the unimaginable horror of losing two firefighters who were killed by a gunman. Ellen worked at a command post that day and in the days to follow, providing comfort and exchanging hugs with law enforcement officers who were feeling a sense of loss and grieving in very different ways. Ellen's work goes beyond the boundaries of Monroe County, she has done work in several other counties across



Ellen Guerdat, Sheriff O'Flynn,

New York, and she traveled with several police agencies as part of a bike ride in Washington D.C. in May.

JAIL RECRUIT CLASS

A new class of recruits has officially gone through the academy and they are now working as deputies in the Monroe County Jail. Recruit class number 42 includes 25 individuals who graduated the academy and they had that occasion marked during a ceremony in October at Monroe Community College. The newest employees of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office officially started in April, but not before they went through rigorous training. Family and friends were part of this ceremony at MCC. Some of the new deputies come from families associated with law enforcement. Retired MCSO Captain Steve Paternico

was on stage when his son Nicholas received a certificate from Sheriff O'Flynn. Retired MCSO Deputy Bruce Winter was on stage when his nephew, Deputy Cowey, received a certificate from the Sheriff. Commander Dave Phelps served as the Master of Ceremonies. Sheriff O'Flynn was joined on stage with Undersheriff Sanborn, Superintendent Harling, and Major Krenzer. Jail recruit class number 42 was led by class counselor, Deputy Nathan Clarke.



K - 9 TRAINING

Police bureau recruits with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office have always received thorough training on a wide variety of skills necessary to perform their jobs safely. Recently, however, Sheriff O'Flynn oversaw an update of the training program that included comprehensive information regarding dog bite prevention and tactics that can be utilized during encounters with aggressive or non-aggressive animals. This initiative was started between the Sheriff's Office, the Humane Society at Lollypop Farm, and various canine partners in Monroe County. The goal of the program is not only to eliminate dog related injuries to deputies, but to reduce the chances that an animal will be harmed or killed during an encounter with law enforcement. Through this training, deputies learn to be vigilant for certain signs and scenarios when dealing with potentially dangerous dogs. Law enforcement



Deputy Chris Vossler and his K-9 "Monti"

officers also gain familiarity with all available alternatives when confronted with aggressive animals, including steps that limit the possibility of lethal force. This includes bite sticks, batons, flash lights, or requesting assistance from the Humane Society Officers. Every day, law enforcement officers make quick decisions in chaotic and often hostile environments. This new training equips them to better handle dealings with canines and is already being touted as a model for New York State.

THE WAY WE WERE

by Quartermaster Todd C. Allen
AGENCY HISTORIAN

DONATIONS HELP KIDS "BEAR" WITH TROUBLED TIMES

Just over a year ago, the Sheriff's Office received two packages marked for the Sheriff's Office. When opened, it was discovered that the packages contained two stuffed teddy bears along with a letter stating that they were a donation in support of the Teddy Bears for Cop Program. The donors have since donated another eight Build-A-Bear Teddy Bears for a total of ten!

These bears are designated to be given out by our Deputies to children who really need a friend.

The first was given out on Christmas Eve last year to a small child whose Mother

was a victim of domestic violence. The Teddy Bear was promptly named "Santa Claus".

On Black Friday, our generous benefactors, Mr. Hershaw Brewer and Ms. Laura MacLemle visited the Sheriff's QM Office with the latest donation of six bears, four of which were immediately deployed to children who lost all they owned in a house fire.

Thank you Hershaw and Laura for this generous donation and please know that these Teddy Bears will find a good home with a new friend.



AS WE WELCOME THE YEAR 2014; LET'S TAKE A BRIEF LOOK BACK AT HISTORICAL MILESTONES:

50 Years Ago: 1964

On July 24th, RPD attempts to arrest an intoxicated 19 year old African-American. After rumors of excessive force being used, crowds gather and ignore orders to disburse. The rioting and looting begins. The Sheriff calls in deputies at 0300 hours on 7/25 to assist in quelling the unrest. The aftermath totals were staggering with millions of dollars in property loss; four deaths (3 of which perish in a helicopter crash); 350 injured; 1,000 arrested, and for the first time ever in the North, the National Guard is called in to assist in restoring order.

100 Years Ago: 1914

Former Commissioner of Public Safety for the City of Rochester, Charles Owen begins his single term as Sheriff on January 1st. His first act as Sheriff is to recall all the Special Deputy Badges issued by his predecessor which, back then was a form of political patronage.

150 Years Ago: 1864

In 1863, with the Civil War raging, the fairly new Republican Party (founded just 10 years earlier), nominate Alonzo Chapman who takes office as Sheriff on January 1st 1864. Chapman was a former Alderman from the 10th Ward. After his term, he would move to Vermont and died on October 18th, 1868.

200 Years Ago: 1814

There was no Monroe County until 1821. Back in 1814; the now Monroe County was part of Ontario County (founded 1789) and Genesee County (founded 1803). Rochesterville was divided by the Genesee River (as it is today) with Ontario County to the East and Genesee County to the West. The Sheriff of these counties would lament the problem of criminals escaping justice by simply crossing the river.

For a complete list of upcoming events or additional news and information go to:

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