

# **ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**



## **2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

IN MEMORY OF  
**ROBBIE DEL BUCK**  
**1962—2013**



Rob was a loving husband and father and cherished the time he spent with his family. He was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church in Lee.

He was a graduate of Rochelle Township High School, Kishwaukee Community College, the Houston Police Academy and Judson College.

It was Rob's dream to be a police officer and he devoted his life to serving his community. His career included serving on the Ogle County Sheriff's Department, Houston Police Department, and volunteer Fireman for the Rochelle Fire Department, and Rochelle Police Department retiring as Chief of Police.

Rob was active in HOPE, the 911 Board and the Rochelle Township High School Athletic Boosters Club, which he served as president.

Rob was famous for his chili, his adaptation of his father's recipe. Rob was also the "mister Fix it" of the family. He was always willing to lend out a helping hand and he will surely be missed by many.

## ADMINISTRATION



**CHIEF ERIC HIGBY**

Higby joined the department in 1996 and has spent time in both patrol and investigations divisions. He was appointed chief on September 25, 2009. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement Administration, and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the department. He is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. In 2008 he attended ten weeks of training at the 234th session of the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. Chief Higby has recently received training in Freedom of Information, School Violence, and Media Relations.

A.A. Schwartz joined the department in 2001. She is the assistant to the Chief of Police and handles department records, statistical records, annual reports, correspondence, court scheduler, website maintenance, and is the CAD & Records Management System administrator. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and served four years in the United States Air Force.



**ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE  
REN  SCHWARTZ**



# DETECTIVE DIVISION

15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



**DETECTIVE SERGEANT  
JEFF LEININGER**

Det. Sgt. Leininger joined the department in 1998. He supervises the detective division, field training program, and the evidence room. He assists with maintenance of the department's website, and serves as the department photographer. Det. Sgt. Leininger has received specialized training in sex offender registration, homicide investigations, gang crime investigations, and serves as president of the Ogle County Crime Stoppers Board. He is a graduate of Northwestern Illinois University's School of Police Staff and Command.



**DETECTIVE  
TERRY INMAN**

Detective Inman joined the department in 2001. He served in the United States Navy for eight years. He is a member of the I.L.E.A.S. Mobile Field Force team and the Attorney General's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Detective Inman has received training in homicide investigation and computer crimes including peer to peer. Detective Inman is a department FOIA officer. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement Administration and a Master of Science in Biosecurity-Disaster Preparedness.



**DETECTIVE  
JOHN KALTENBACH**

Detective Kaltenbach joined the department in 2004. He has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice, is a member of the Emergency Response Team, and is a Taser instructor, O.C. instructor, Hunter Safety instructor, and Department Armor Firearms instructor. He has received specialized training in advanced special weapons and tactics, tactical interactions, homicide investigations, and gang crime investigations.



# PATROL DIVISION



**SERGEANT  
PHIL**

## **FRANKENBERRY**

Sgt. Frankenberg joined the department in 1998. He served four years in the United States Air Force as a combat engineer. He has received training in incident command, sex offender registration, and special weapons and tactics. Sgt. Frankenberg is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. He is a truck enforcement officer.



**SERGEANT  
JASON BERGERON**

Sgt. Jason Bergeron joined the department in 2000. He served in the United States Air Force for four years. He has received training in incident command, sex offender registration, special weapons and tactics, and supervision of police personnel. Sgt. Bergeron is an O.C. and firearms instructor, and a child safety seat technician. He is a safety seat technician, holds an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice.



**SERGEANT  
BILL HAAN**

Sergeant Haan joined the department in 2003. He has received training in incident command, sex offender registration, supervision of police personnel, search and seizure, breath alcohol testing, death investigations, and special weapons and tactics. He is a certified juvenile officer.



**SERGEANT  
CHET SMITH**

Sergeant Smith joined the department in 2002. He has received training in sex offender registration, special weapons and tactics, supervision of police personnel and incident command. Sergeant Smith is a certified juvenile officer, and he is in charge of the department's fleet maintenance program.



# PATROL DIVISION



**OFFICER  
DAVE**

## **CHRISTOPHERSON**

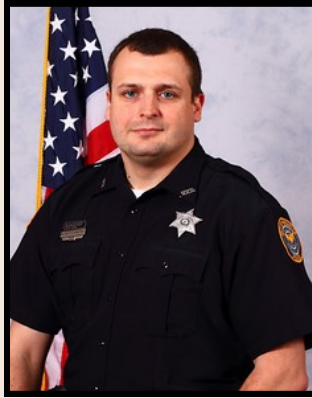
Officer Christopherson joined the department in 1987. He served in the United States Army Reserves for six years as a military police officer. He has received training in drugged/drunk driver detection, breath alcohol testing, crime scene investigation, and traffic crash investigations. Officer Christopherson is a certified juvenile officer and is a hunter safety instructor.



**OFFICER  
AARON**

## **RODABAUGH**

Officer Rodabaugh joined the department in 2001. He served four years in the United States Marine Corps as a military police officer. He has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. Officer Rodabaugh lead the department in calls for service. He has received training in breath alcohol testing and incident command. He is a certified juvenile officer.



**OFFICER  
MATT**

## **WITTENBERG**

Officer Wittenberg joined the department in 2004. He is a member of the Emergency Response Team, and is a less lethal shotgun instructor. He is a firearms instructor, assists with fleet maintenance. From 2005 – 2008 he received the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists award for having the highest number of D.U.I. arrests in the department. Officer Wittenberg holds an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice.



**OFFICER  
JASON GOODWIN**

Officer Goodwin joined the department in 2005. He served in the United States Marine Corps for four years, during which time he served as a military police officer and investigator in the Criminal Investigation Division. He is a member of the Emergency Response Team and has received training in special weapons and tactics, sniper operations, and breath alcohol testing. He is a Field Training Officer and child safety seat technician. Officer Goodwin holds an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice.



# PATROL DIVISION



**OFFICER  
JAMES GILLIAM**

Officer James Gilliam joined the department in 2005. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. He has received training in special weapons and tactics, breath alcohol testing, gang investigations, F.T.O., and incident command. Officer Gilliam is a certified juvenile officer, Taser instructor, and a member of the Emergency Response Team.



**OFFICER  
JAMES JAKYMIW**

Officer Jakymiw joined the department in 2007. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. He has received training in breath alcohol testing, patrol tactics, and incident command. He is a certified juvenile officer and bike officer.



**OFFICER  
MATT GERARD**

Officer Gerard joined the department in 2007. He is a certified juvenile officer and is a member of the Emergency Response Team. He has received training in special weapons and tactics, tactical interactions, school violence, patrol tactics, and breath alcohol testing.



**OFFICER  
ELVIS BANESKI**

Officer Baneski joined the department in March of 2008. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Management. He has received training in patrol tactics, street crimes, complete traffic stops, rapid deployment, and breath alcohol testing and is a bike officer.



## PATROL DIVISION



**OFFICER  
JOSEPH SESTER**

Officer Sester joined the department in 2011. He is a bike officer and is assigned to the Patrol Division. He has training in patrol tactics, complete traffic stops and is a truck enforcement officer.



**OFFICER  
SONNY STREIT**

Officer Streit joined the department in 2011 and is assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Streit lead the department in criminal, DUI and drug arrests. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration, and minored in Homeland Security. He has training in patrol tactics and current drug trends.



## PATROL K-9



**OFFICER  
EMILY HARDESTY**

Officer Hardesty joined the department in 2006. She has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. She has received training in Incident command, emergency vehicle operations, patrol tactics, breath alcohol testing, and Police Canine Training. She is assigned to the patrol division and assists with evidence room maintenance. Officer Hardesty is on the ILEAS Mobile Field Force Team and is a K-9 Officer.



**K-9 DON**

**K-9 Don** began his career with the department in February 2010.



**OFFICER  
BRIAN VANVICKLE**

Officer VanVickle joined the department in February of 2009. Officer VanVickle has completed training in breath alcohol testing, excited delirium and 10 weeks of Police Canine Training. He assists with fleet maintenance and is assigned to the patrol division. Officer VanVickle is also a department truck enforcement officer and K-9 Officer.



**K-9 OKAR**

**K-9 Okar** began his career with the department in July 2012.



# COMMUNICATIONS



**COMMUNICATIONS  
SUPERVISOR  
SANDY SULLIVAN**

C.S. Sullivan joined the department in 1996 and is in charge of the department's communications division. She serves on the Ogle County ETSB 911 Board and attended the IPSTA conference in 2011. She is a certified LAC LEADS operator and is also certified in the areas of legal issues, training officer, EMD, incident command, hostage negotiations, advanced law enforcement dispatch, 911 liability, fire dispatch, CPR, AED, and On-star. C.S. Sullivan maintains scheduling for both dispatchers and crossing guards, and is a FOIA Officer.



**DISPATCHER  
JULIE THRUMAN**

Dispatcher Thrumman joined the department in 1987. She is a certified LAC LEADS Operator and certified in EMD, public safety dispatch, 911 dispatch, active shooter, 911 liability, and suicide intervention. She has received specialized training in incident command, CPR, AED, On-Star, fire dispatch, domestic violence, TTY, and non-emergency call handling.



**DISPATCHER  
TONY MILBURN**

Dispatcher Milburn joined the department in 2000, and is a training officer and special needs/ child safety seat technician. He is certified in 911 dispatch, 911 liability and LEADS. He has received training in hostage negotiations, incident command, police & fire dispatch, On-Star, EMD, CPR & AED instructor, and is a Firefighter II for the Rochelle Fire Department.



**DISPATCHER  
LUISA NAMBO**

Dispatcher Nambo joined the department in 2003. She is a bilingual dispatcher who is a training officer and child safety seat technician. She is certified in LEADS, EMD and 911 dispatch. She has additional training in incident command, domestic violence, 911 liability, active shooter, suicide intervention, CPR, AED, On-Star and Homeland Security.



# COMMUNICATIONS



**DISPATCHER  
CORY BECK**

Dispatcher Beck joined the department in 2004. She is a training officer and a certified LAC LEADS operator. 911 dispatch, LEADS, incident command, active shooter, stress identification, 911-liability and domestic violence. She has additional training in CPR, AED, On-Star, fire dispatch, advanced law enforcement dispatch, EMD and TTY.



**DISPATCHER  
ROBIN  
OLSZEWSKI**

Dispatcher Olszewski joined the department in 2007. He is certified in LEADS, advanced law enforcement dispatch, advanced fire dispatch, EMD, 911 dispatch, hostage negotiations, active shooter, domestic violence and suicide intervention. He has received specialized training in CPR, AED, On-Star and TTY.



**DISPATCHER  
ROGER  
JOHANNING**

Dispatcher Johanning was a veteran officer and dispatcher with the Rochelle Police Department when he started back on a part-time basis in 2010. He is certified in 911 liability emergency medical dispatch, and fire service dispatch. Roger is currently the Asst. Fire Chief for the Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District Hillcrest Station.



**DISPATCHER  
MELINDA DAVIS**

Dispatcher Davis was a veteran dispatcher with the Rochelle Police Department when she started back on a part-time basis in 2010. Melinda is certified in emergency medical dispatch along with 911 liability and fire dispatch. She is the office manager for the NIU chemistry/biochemistry department.



# COMMUNICATIONS



**DISPATCHER  
CASSIE ROGERS**

Dispatcher Rogers joined the department in 2013 and is a part-time dispatcher. She is certified in 911 dispatch, LEADS, incident command, EMD, law enforcement dispatch, fire service dispatch, and has received severe weather spotter training.



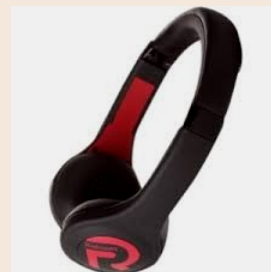
**DISPATCHER  
JAKE SIMMONS**

Dispatcher Simmons joined the department in 2012 and is a part-time dispatcher. He is certified in 911 dispatch, LEADS, incident command, EMD, law enforcement dispatch, fire service dispatch, and has received severe weather spotter training. Jake is also a full time dispatcher for Ogle County Sheriff's Department.

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# CROSSING GUARDS

## CHRIS WATSON

Ms. Watson has been with the department since 2002. She works at the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and North 9th Street.

## BOB ECKHARDT

Mr. Eckhardt has been with the department since 2009. He works at the intersection of 9th Street and 10th Avenue.

## JAMES BIRECHALL

Mr. Birechall has been with the department since 2011. He works at the intersection of 9th Street and 4th Avenue.

## JOAN BIRECHALL

Mrs. Birechall has been with the department since 2011. She works at the intersection of 8th Street and 5th Avenue.

## MONICA PAUL

Ms. Paul has been with the department since 2013. She works at the intersection of 8th Street and 4th Avenue.

## JOHN GENHARDT

Mr. Genhardt has been with the department since 2013. He works at the intersection of 10th Street and Lincoln Highway.

## KAREN LEE

Ms. Lee has been with the department since 2013. She works at the intersection of 2nd Street and School Avenue.

## ROSA QUINTO

Ms. Paul has been with the department since 2013. She is currently a substitute.



## **2013 K-9 STATS**

### **K-9 DON**

- Training hours—136 Hours
- 55 vehicle searches
- 14 positive alerts/finds
- 3 cocaine
- 1 ecstasy
- 6 cannabis
- 4 drug paraphernalia
- 5 school searches
- Deployed in two separate tracks that resulted in a suspect being apprehended in each track.
- Assisted in 2 search warrants and assisted parole officers in one search of a parolee's residence
- 8 K-9 demonstrations

### **K-9 OKAR**

- Training hours—200
- 57 vehicle searches
- 23 positive alerts/finds
- 1 cocaine
- 5 paraphernalia
- 17 cannabis
- 6 school searches
- 4 K-9 demonstrations
- 3 tracks assisting outside agencies
- 1 search warrant



# 2013 Fall Qualifying Shoot

As a means of ensuring proficiency with each weapons system, officers qualify several times per year with their duty pistols and rifles. The outdoor courses often simulate different scenarios which involve running, crawling, use of cover, etc. Specific weapons utilized by the department staff used were: Heckler Koch pistol, Rock River Arms AR-15, Taser and the shotguns with less lethal munitions.



Detective Sergeant Jeff Leininger

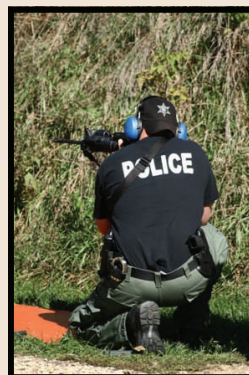


Sergeant Chet Smith

K-9 Officer Brian  
VanVickle



Detective John  
Kaltenbach



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## LINCOLN HIGHWAY HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Officers **patrolling the festival** ensure the weekend runs smoothly for festival goers and vendors. The department squads also lead and end the parade which is always held on the final day of the festival. (Below) Officers and staff can be seen interacting with the public along with sampling items from the food court.



During the **K-9 Demonstration** Officers Hardesty and VanVickle explain the role of a police K-9 and handler, their varied duties, and techniques used to locate suspects, victims and narcotics.



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **Tobacco Compliance** checks (3 times a year—fall, winter and spring)
- On October 24th, Chief Higby, Sheriff Harn, Sheriff Scott and State's Attorney Mike Rock participated in a **League of Women Voters** panel discussion about the new concealed carry law in Illinois.
- Members of the department attended numerous **school safety meetings/ intruder drills**; May 29<sup>th</sup> St. Paul Lutheran School, active shooter training. May 3<sup>rd</sup> Kings Elementary School active shooter training. February 15<sup>th</sup>, RMS Active Shooter training with RPD personnel and Rock Valley College Personnel.
- The department hosted 3 blood drives this year collecting 83 whole blood units and 8 double red cell units of blood. The number of lives saved through this initiative were 257. The **Halloween Vein Drain** event in October continues to be extremely popular with community members. Rock River Valley Blood Bank coordinator Jaclyn Thomson looks forward to donning her spooky attire each year, and comes bearing Halloween themed treats and door prizes!
- Chief Higby was a guest on the November 13<sup>th</sup> "**Let the People Know**" radio show hosted by Jeff Leon.
- The department participated in the **Drug Enforcement Agency National Take Back Initiative** (DEA-NTBI) again this year. Each year collection dates and sites are established where residents are encouraged to drop off their expired, unwanted, unneeded pharmaceuticals preventing these items from falling into the wrong hands. The department recently purchased a locked drop box which is located in the lobby 24/7 for citizens to utilize at their convenience.
- Officer Jakymiw (right), spoke at the Rochelle Child Care Center on April 15th for **National Week of the Young Child** event. The children enjoyed asking questions and telling on their parents for not wearing their seat belts.
- Several officers coach **youth sports** (baseball, basketball & football).
- Department members performed **security detail** for school functions (dances, games, graduations), parades, Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival, etc..



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- A **multi-jurisdictional full scale disaster** was conducted on May 8th in Ogle and Lee counties. The exercise included citizens, government entities at the county, state and federal levels, corporations and non-governmental organizations as well as three area hospitals, and REACT and Lifeline helicopters. (Right) Detective Inman displays a chart of the planned disaster. There were a total of 6 staged sites affected by the disaster located between Franklin Grove and Rochelle. (Below) First responders practice evaluating and taking care of patients at Ashton-Franklin Center High School—while other responders assess a scene with an overturned vehicle.



- **Champions for Children Walk** was held on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Department personnel participated in this event which is held to generate awareness of sexual and physical child abuse. The walk is organized by the Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center in Dixon.
- The department held a **Neighborhood Watch** meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, which was open to the public. It was well attended and we were able to accomplish our goals of keeping the citizens informed of our activities, along with fielding questions about law enforcement in Rochelle.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- K-9 Officer Emily Hardesty and Officer Joe Sester took area children shopping this year as part of the annual **Rochelle Area Community Foundation Children's Christmas shopping trip....**



.....while Dispatcher Tony Milburn assisted **Santa Clause** in gathering the children's Christmas wishes for the greater Rochelle area.



- Conducted **school meetings** on various topics (e.g., Halloween Safety, Juvenile Justice, etc.). Officer Joe Sester and K-9 Officer Emily Hardesty (pictured below) conduct a K-9 demonstration, along with sharing tips on



bicycle safety with local grade school children.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



- Each year the Rochelle Police Department, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, hosts a **Hunter Education Course**. The purpose of the course is to promote responsible hunter conduct, discuss the importance of wildlife management laws and regulations, and to encourage the safe handling of firearms and ammunition.



- **Board Membership:** Ogle County 911 Board Membership, HOPE Board Membership, and Shining Star Board Membership.
- The Rochelle Police Department participated in the **Special Olympics Torch Run** on June 12th. The department has taken part in this event for many years, which helps to raise funds for Special Olympics.
- **K-9 Fundraiser** held at T-Byrd Lanes.



- **CASA Golf Outing** took place on August 23, 2013. Proceeds benefit Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center. Dispatcher Cory Beck, CASA Director Trish Morrow, Detective John Kaltenbach, and Officer Jason Goodwin attended.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## MOCK ACCIDENT

The Rochelle community Hospital, along with several area agencies presented a car accident reenactment on Thursday, September 26 at Rochelle Township High School. This student assembly was used to highlight **the dangers of drinking, texting and driving** and began with a 9-1-1 call reporting the crash. Police, Fire and helicopter response was included, along with a sobriety test, and jaws of life rescue. Keynote speaker, and mother of a teenage victim, Brenda Toot, volunteers, and agency representatives remained on the field afterward where students were able to speak one on one with them while inspecting emergency vehicles and equipment.



## ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT YEAR END STATISTICS

INCIDENT	2013	2012	2011	2010
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	22371	15515	10990	10925
TOTAL 911 CALLS	2096	2415	2660	2215
*INCOMING/OUTGOING CALLS	39292	40711	43599	61192
TRAFFIC STOPS	3342	3809	2204	2082
TRAFFIC TICKETS ISSUED	1244	1373	1376	1332
WRITTEN WARNINGS ISSUED	2445	3233	1643	1464
DUI ARRESTS	55	55	79	61
ACCIDENTS	374	333	314	332
ACCIDENTS WITH INJURIES	32	12	25	19
ACCIDENTS WITH FATALITIES	1	1	0	0
CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	50	71	78	90
CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO VEHICLE	42	54	50	83
CRIMINAL TRESPASS TO LAND	14	17	8	6
BURGLARY TO BUSINESS	7	8	17	16
BURGLARY TO RESIDENCE	23	29	17	24
BURGLARY TO VEHICLE	17	72	23	26
BURGLARY OTHER	2	1	2	5
ATTEMPTED BURGLARY	14	3	0	2
STOLEN VEHICLES	9	4	7	4
ARMED ROBBERY	0	0	2	1
THEFT OVER \$500	21	28	21	29
THEFT UNDER \$500	95	123	114	81
DOMESTICS	129	131	150	192
DOMESTIC BATTERY	47	38	41	45
AGGRAVATED BATTERY	2	6	2	3
BATTERY	23	49	44	54
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	5	8	10	10
WARRANTS SERVED	198	243	126	144
WARRANTS OBTAINED	30	32	18	4
CRIMINAL ARRESTS	310	434	434	449
HOMICIDES	0	0	0	0
MALE PRISONERS	246	350	341	317
FEMALE PRISONERS	63	109	80	77
ANIMAL CALLS	222	256	234	303
ALARMS	217	205	220	217
CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT/ ABUSE	9	10	6	6
SHOOTING	0	1	5	4
ABANDONED VEHICLES	59	55	52	75
PARKING TICKETS	46	56	105	112
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY	3	1	0	3
ARSON	0	1	1	1

## ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2013 STATISTICAL TRENDS

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	2013	2012	NUMERICAL DIFFERENCE	PERCENTAGE OF CHANGE
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	22371	15515	6856	44.2%
TOTAL 911 CALLS	2096	2415	-319	-13.2%
*INCOMING/OUTGOING CALLS	39292	40711	-1419	-3.5%
TRAFFIC STOPS	3342	3809	-467	-12.3%
TRAFFIC TICKETS ISSUED	1244	1373	-129	-9.4%
WRITTEN WARNINGS ISSUED	2445	3233	-788	-24.4%
DUI ARRESTS	55	55	0	0.0%
ACCIDENTS	374	333	41	12.3%
ACCIDENTS WITH INJURIES	32	12	20	166.7%
ACCIDENTS WITH FATALITIES	1	1	0	0.0%
CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	50	71	-21	-29.6%
CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO VEHICLE	42	54	-12	-22.2%
CRIMINAL TRESPASS TO LAND	14	17	-3	-17.6%
BURGLARY TO BUSINESS	7	8	-1	-12.5%
BURGLARY TO RESIDENCE	23	29	-6	-20.7%
BURGLARY TO VEHICLE	17	72	-55	-76.4%
BURGLARY OTHER	2	1	1	100.0%
ATTEMPTED BURGLARY	14	3	11	366.7%
STOLEN VEHICLES	9	4	5	125.0%
ARMED ROBBERY	0	0	0	0.0%
THEFT OVER \$500	21	28	-7	-25.0%
THEFT UNDER \$500	95	123	-28	-22.8%
DOMESTICS	129	131	-2	-1.5%
DOMESTIC BATTERY	47	38	9	23.7%
AGGRAVATED BATTERY	2	6	-4	-66.7%
BATTERY	23	49	-26	-53.1%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	5	8	-3	-37.5%
WARRANTS SERVED	198	243	-45	-18.5%
WARRANTS OBTAINED	30	32	-2	-6.3%
CRIMINAL ARRESTS	310	434	-124	-28.6%
HOMICIDES	0	0	0	0.0%
MALE PRISONERS	246	350	-104	-29.7%
FEMALE PRISONERS	63	109	-46	-42.2%
ANIMAL CALLS	222	256	-34	-13.3%
ALARMS	217	205	12	5.9%
CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT/ ABUSE	9	10	-1	-10.0%
SHOOTING	0	1	-1	-100.0%
ABANDONED VEHICLES	59	55	4	7.3%
PARKING TICKETS	46	56	-10	-17.9%
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY	3	1	2	200.0%
ARSON	0	1	-1	-100.0%

# ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY

### TOTAL CALLS 22371 FOR 2013

OFFICER	#	TOTAL CFS	CRIMINAL ARRESTS	WARRANT ARRESTS	TRAFFIC ARRESTS	WRITTEN WARNINGS	PARKING TICKETS	ORDINANCE VIOLA- TIONS
WITTENBERG	8	1639	31	11	62	132	2	
JAKYMIW	9	909	22	12	125	176	6	3
INMAN	10	24	3			2	1	1
BANESKI	11	1558	53	34	244	540	2	4
GERARD	13	1179	5	4	39	96	3	1
VANVICKLE	14	1204	17	4	26	56	1	1
ALBERS	15	29						
RODABAUGH	16	1786	26	7	22	61	7	1
KALTENBACH	17	16	1			2		
CHRISTOPHERSON	18	982	7	1	15	21		
GOODWIN	19	1045	15	19	79	209	1	
GILLIAM	20	1242	8	10	89	31		
HARDESTY	21	1668	15	13	9	155		1
SESTER	30	1077	14	12	124	244	3	5
STREIT	31	1662	67	58	135	352	11	3
SMITH	22	427	11	1	5	29	3	
BERGERON	23	805	4	2	126	28		
FRANKENBERRY	24	1028	9	2	131	231	6	
LEININGER	25	18			2	1		
HAAN	26	596	2		11	79		
HIGBY	27	3						
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18897</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>1244</b>	<b>2445</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>20</b>

**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**SELECTED OFFICER ACTIVITY**  
**2013**

OFFICER	#	DUI	ILLEGAL POSS/CONS	MINOR POSS/CONS	DRUG	SUSP/ REVOKED	INSURANCE	SEAT BELT	SPEEDING	STOP ARM
WITTENBERG	8	2	3	5	5	3	11		33	1
JAKYMIW	9				3	6	15		118	1
INMAN	10								1	
BANESKI	11	16	1	3	21	18	39	5	211	2
GERARD	13			1		3	2		26	2
VANVICKLE	14	2			5		7		13	
ALBERS	15									
RODABAUGH	16	1		3		1	1		15	
KALTENBACH	17									
CHRISTOPHERSON	18	1			5		4			
GOODWIN	19	4		1	2	2	11		164	1
GILLIAM	20	6		2		2	4			
HARDESTY	21				8	6	5	1	81	
SESTER	30	1	2		3	13	14		86	1
STREIT	31	19	8	5	28	13	25	3	55	
SMITH	22	1			4				2	
BERGERON	23					4	6		104	
FRANKENBERRY	24	2	1		5	6	9	4	108	
LEININGER	25						1			
HAAN	26				1	2	2	5	19	
HIGBY	27									
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>55</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>8</b>

# ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## OFFICER TIME USE

**2013**

OFFICER	OFFICER #	VAC HRS	SICK HRS	TRAIN HRS	COURT HRS	O. T. / Holiday HRS
WITTENBERG	8	84.0		40.0	22.3	115.5
JAKYMIW	9	140.0	34.0	1.7	28.6	71.5
INMAN	10	179.0		129.4	40.9	24.0
BANESKI	11	44.0	12.0	27.5	91.0	112.5
GERARD	13	120.0	40.0	82.2	6.8	32.0
VANVICKLE	14	124.0	28.0	51.0	9.1	55.0
ALBERS	15	133.5	40.0	9.7		
RODABAUGH	16	172.0	36.0	10.4	0.7	107.5
KALTENBACH	17	100.0		121.7	15.0	85.0
CHRISTOPHERSON	18	140.0	608.0			89.0
GOODWIN	19	224.0	62.0	16.0	19.6	142.0
GILLIAM	20	85.0	44.0	20.8	33.6	147.0
HARDESTY	21	71.0	69.0	74.2	9.5	113.0
SESTER	30	48.0		92.8	11.6	55.0
STREIT	31	48.0		66.5	57.8	134.3
SMITH	22	172.0		14.7	19.3	102.0
BERGERON	23	180.0	86.0	16.0	7.1	93.0
FRANKENBERRY	24	196.0	80.0	37.2	10.4	46.0
LEININGER	25	168.0	24.0	16.0	6.3	23.5
HAAN	26	196.0	12.0	32.6	19.0	138.0
HIGBY	27	196.0	64.0	49.6		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2820.5</b>	<b>1239.0</b>	<b>909.9</b>	<b>408.4</b>	<b>1685.8</b>

**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**DISPATCH TIME USE**

**2013**

DISPATCHER	#	VAC HRS	SICK HRS	TRAIN HRS	COURT HRS	O.T. HRS/ Holiday HRS	CALLS DIS-PATCH	CALLS HANDLED
OLSZEWSKI	1	92.0	32.0	16.0		110.5	4345	315
NAMBO	2	140.0	12.0	25.4		178.5	3361	597
THRUMAN	3	274.0	18.0	16.0		43.5	2080	566
BECK	4	157.3	91.0	16.0		40.5	4171	207
MILBURN	5	124.0	12.0	28.3		151.5	2836	654
SULLIVAN	7	180.5	8.0	16.0		27.5	480	206
JOHANNING	28						843	217
DAVIS	29						1106	167
SIMMONS	33						1040	209
STOFFER	34						17	5
ROGERS	35						2092	331
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>967.8</b>	<b>173.0</b>	<b>117.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>552.0</b>	<b>22371</b>	<b>3474</b>

# ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## RECEIPTS FOR YEAR 2013

MONTH	CIRCUIT CLERK FINES	REPORT COPIES	PARKING TICKETS	DUI FINES	DRUG FINES	VEHICLE FUND	ALARM FEES
JANUARY	\$ 9,860.69			\$ 249.00	\$ 66.50	\$ 467.00	
FEBRUARY	\$ 11,500.76	\$ 50.00		\$ 341.00	\$ 122.50	\$ 301.00	
MARCH	\$ 14,997.36			\$ 275.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 501.00	
APRIL	\$ 15,742.99	\$ 115.00	\$ 210.00				
MAY	\$ 13,650.28			\$ 778.00	\$ 608.90	\$ 1,005.00	
JUNE	\$ 10,263.20	\$ 123.72	\$ 685.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 34.00	\$ 326.00	\$ 1,875.00
JULY	\$ 11,151.60	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 470.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 269.00	\$ 625.00
AUGUST	\$ 13,779.39	\$ 75.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 709.00	\$ 178.73	\$ 394.00	
SEPTEMBER	\$ 15,010.23			\$ 538.00	\$ 199.38	\$ 405.50	
OCTOBER	\$ 8,210.96	\$ 167.30	\$ 105.00	\$ 244.00	\$ 65.50	\$ 348.00	\$ 75.00
NOVEMBER	\$ 15,457.64	\$ 5.00					\$ 150.00
DECEMBER	\$ 7,647.82	\$ 110.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 290.00	\$ 212.50	\$ 682.73	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 147,272.92</b>	<b>\$ 691.02</b>	<b>\$ 1,175.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,919.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,908.01</b>	<b>\$ 4,699.23</b>	<b>\$ 2,725.00</b>

**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**ADDITIONAL REVENUE**

**2013 OVERWEIGHT TRUCKS**

The Rochelle Police Department implemented a truck enforcement program on January 1, 1991. The program is designed to reduce the number of overweight trucks on our bridges, but has also evolved into a comprehensive truck safety enforcement program which benefits not only the motoring public, but the truck drivers themselves.

Saving lives by keeping our bridges safe from collapse is the primary goal of the Truck Weight Limit Enforcement Program. Prolonging the life expectancy of our bridges also saves taxpayers money by reducing the number of annual bridge replacements in an age when construction dollars are limited.

- 42 Citations
- Total fines collected: **\$40,090**

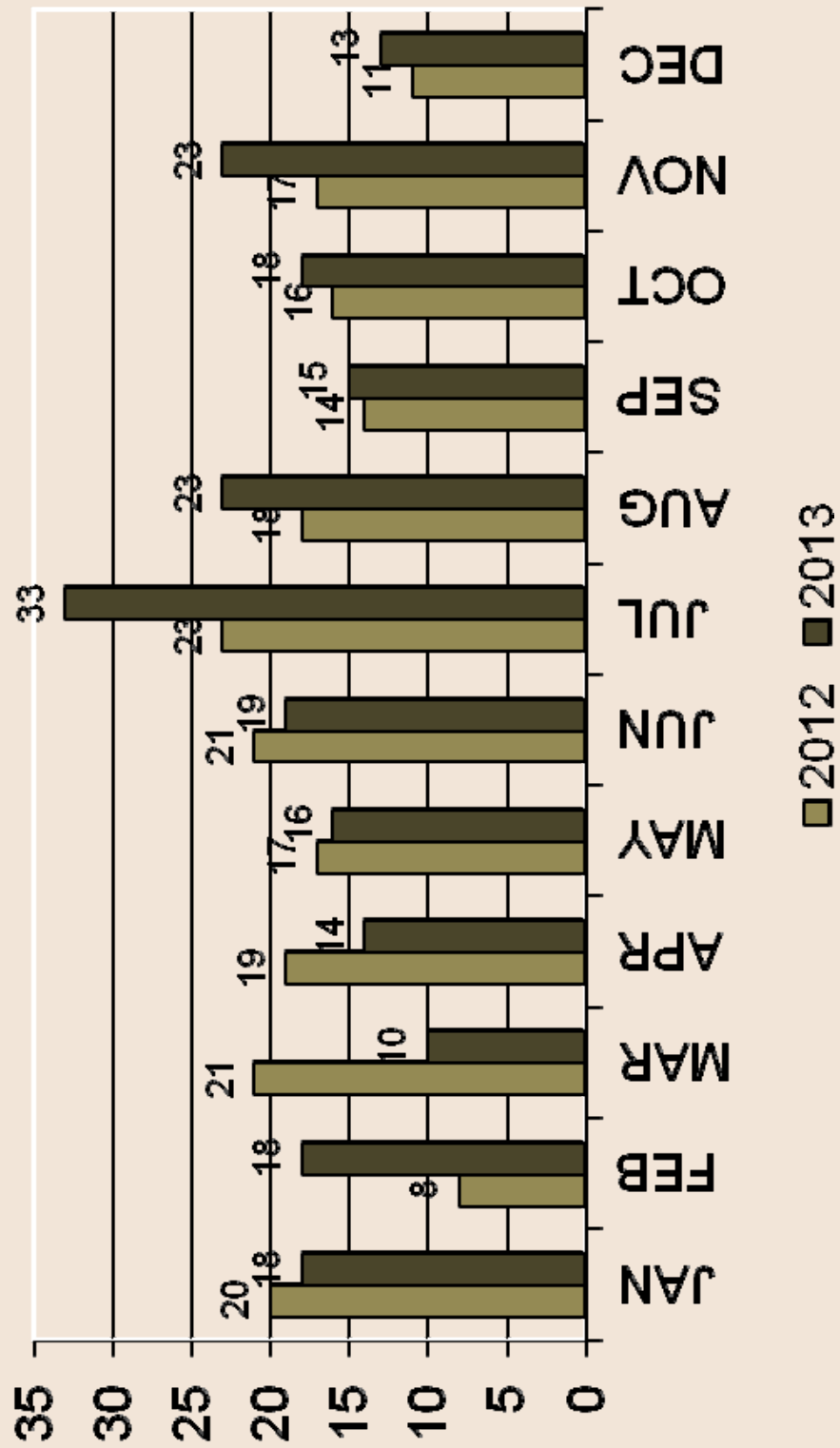
**2013 ADMINISTRATIVE TOW**

In 2012, the department, in conjunction with the City of Rochelle, enacted an ordinance that authorizes the imposition of an administrative fee when a vehicle has to be towed and impounded due to the arrest or detention of the owner or driver for violation of a particular law or ordinance.

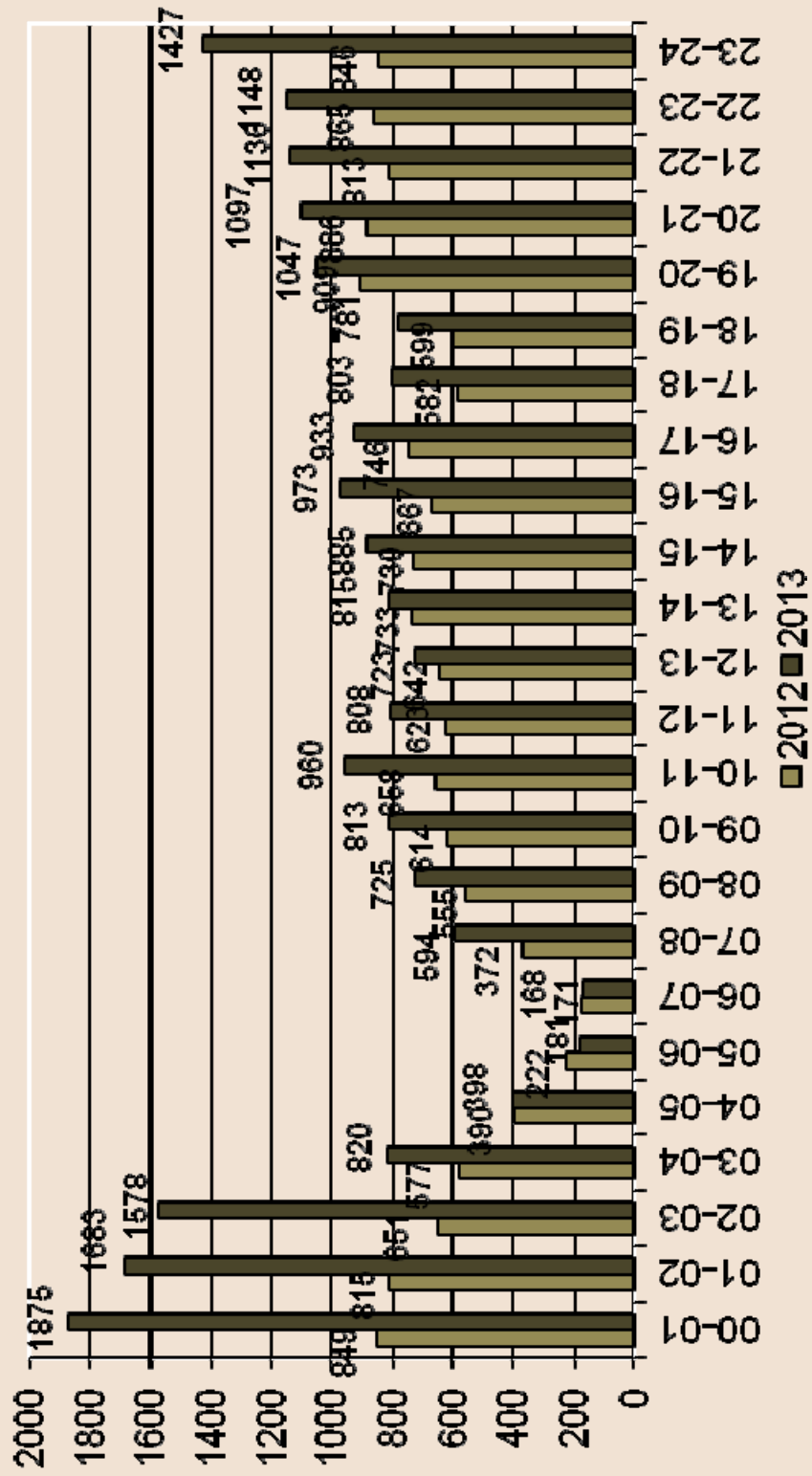
Cases are assigned a hearing date and are reviewed monthly by a City appointed attorney. Hearings are scheduled for the first Monday of the month and are held in the City of Rochelle council chambers. Involved parties are encouraged to utilize this venue to present evidence and or arguments disputing the charges they feel have been presented in error.

2013 Administrative Fee Totals: **\$76,771**

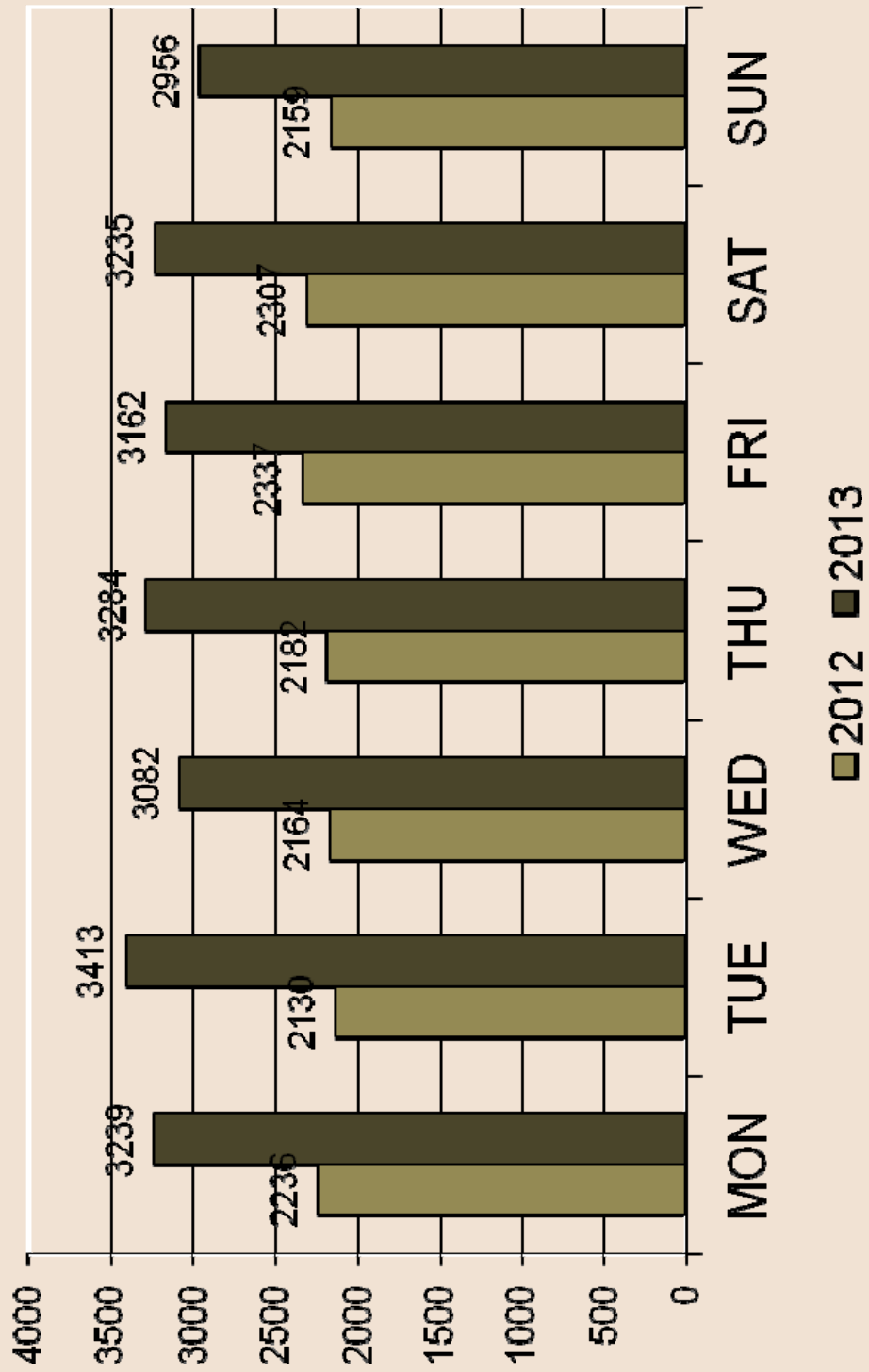
**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ALARMS RECEIVED**



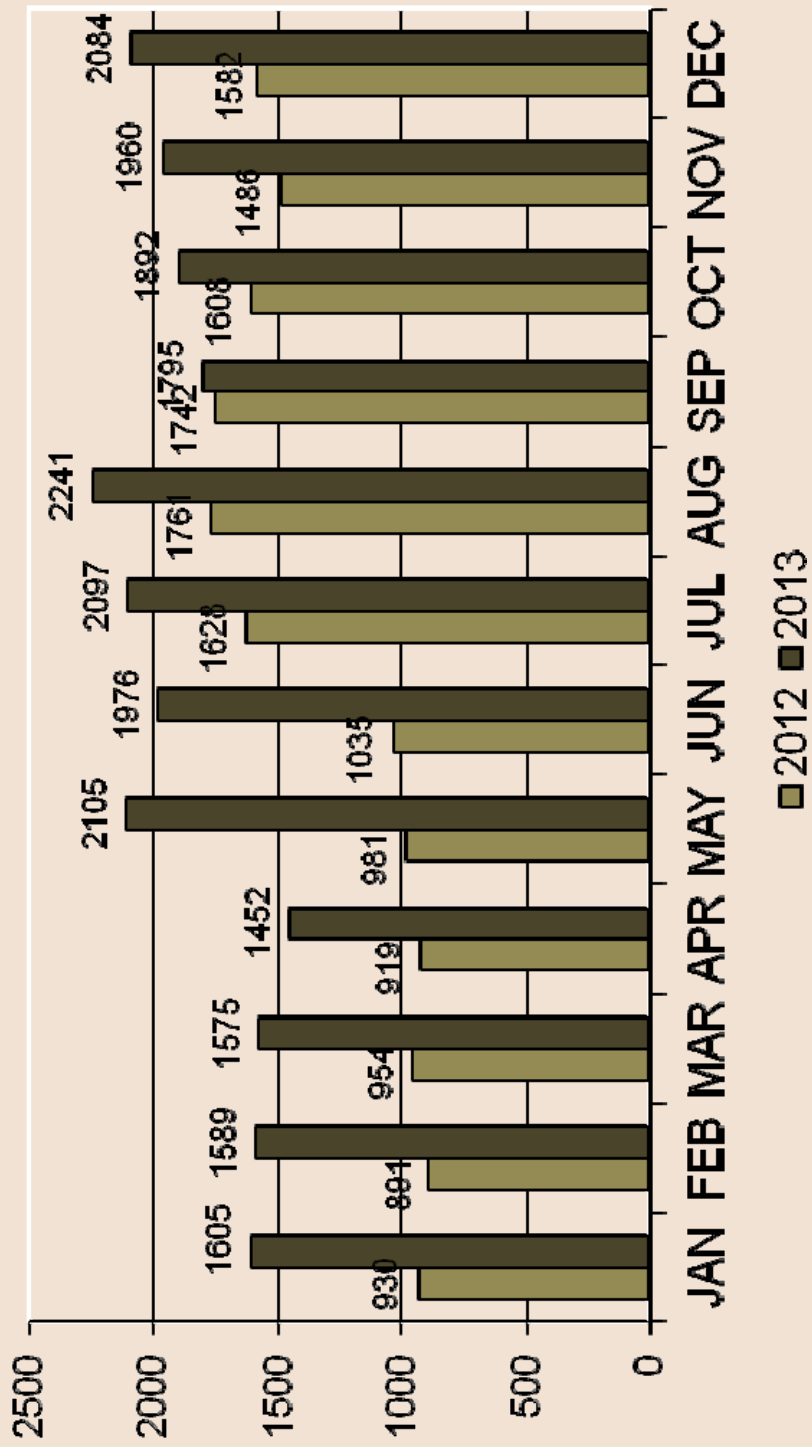
# ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR SERVICE BY HOUR OF DAY



**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CALLS FOR SERVICE BY DAY OF WEEK**

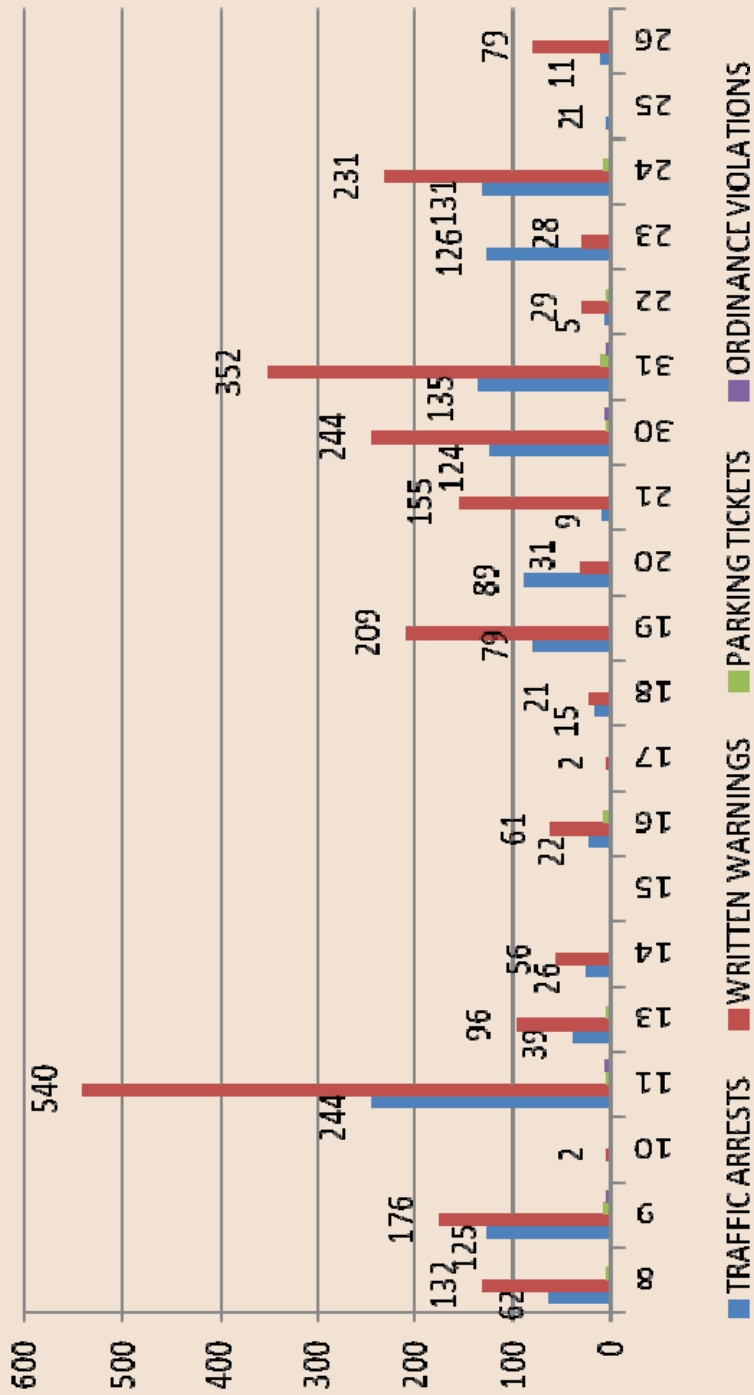


**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CALLS FOR SERVICE BY MONTH**

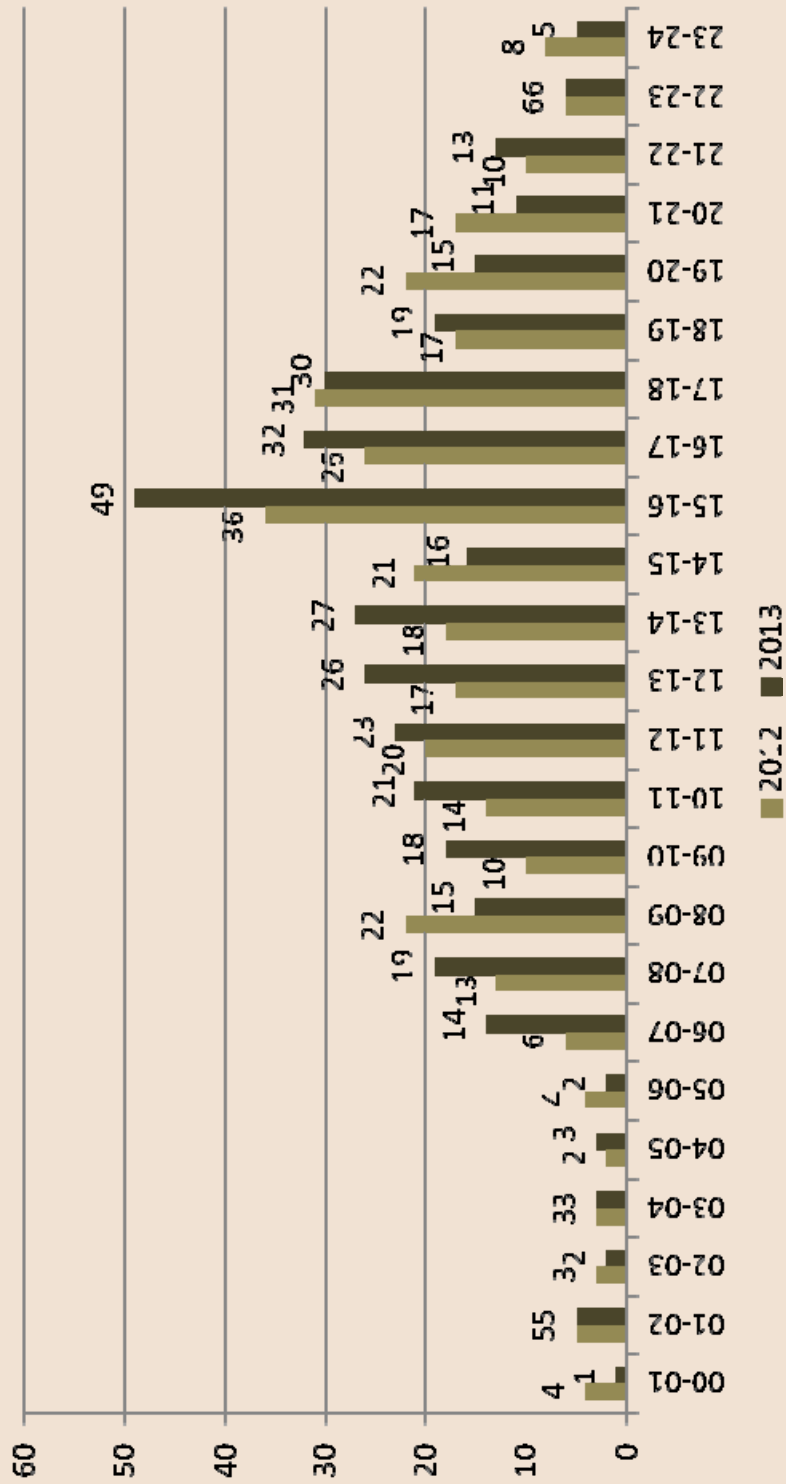




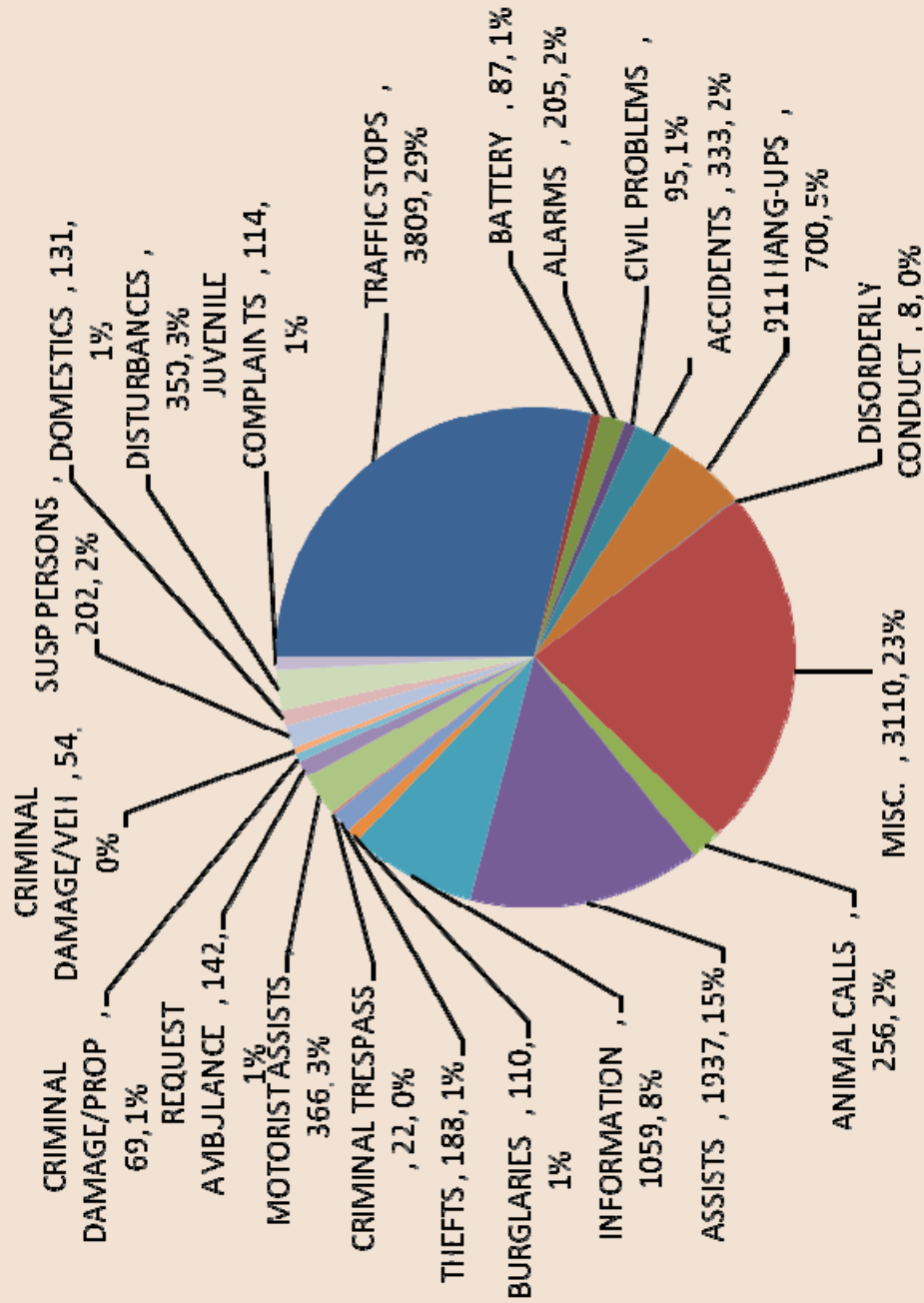
# ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC ACTIVITY 2013



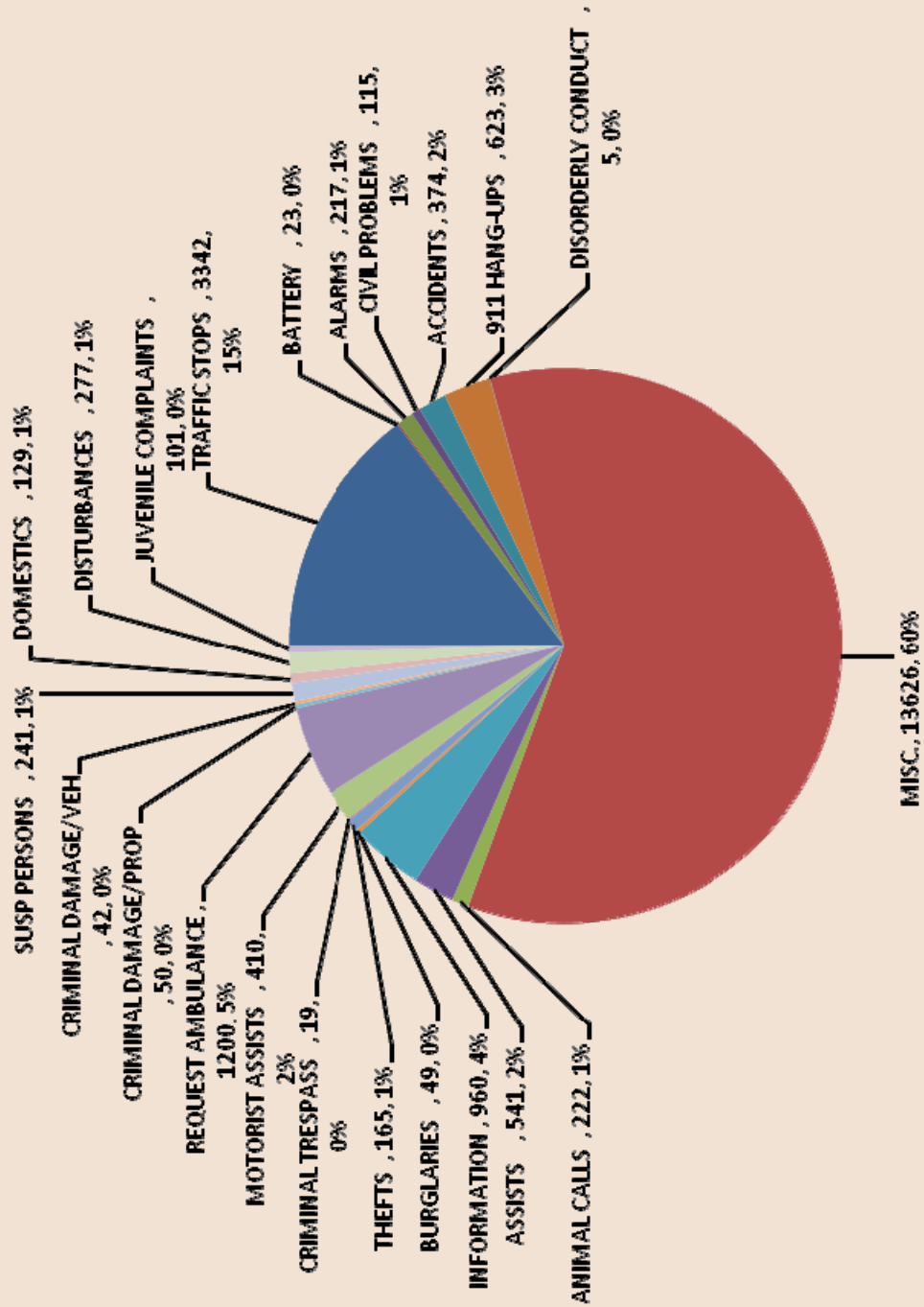
# ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCIDENTS BY HOUR OF DAY



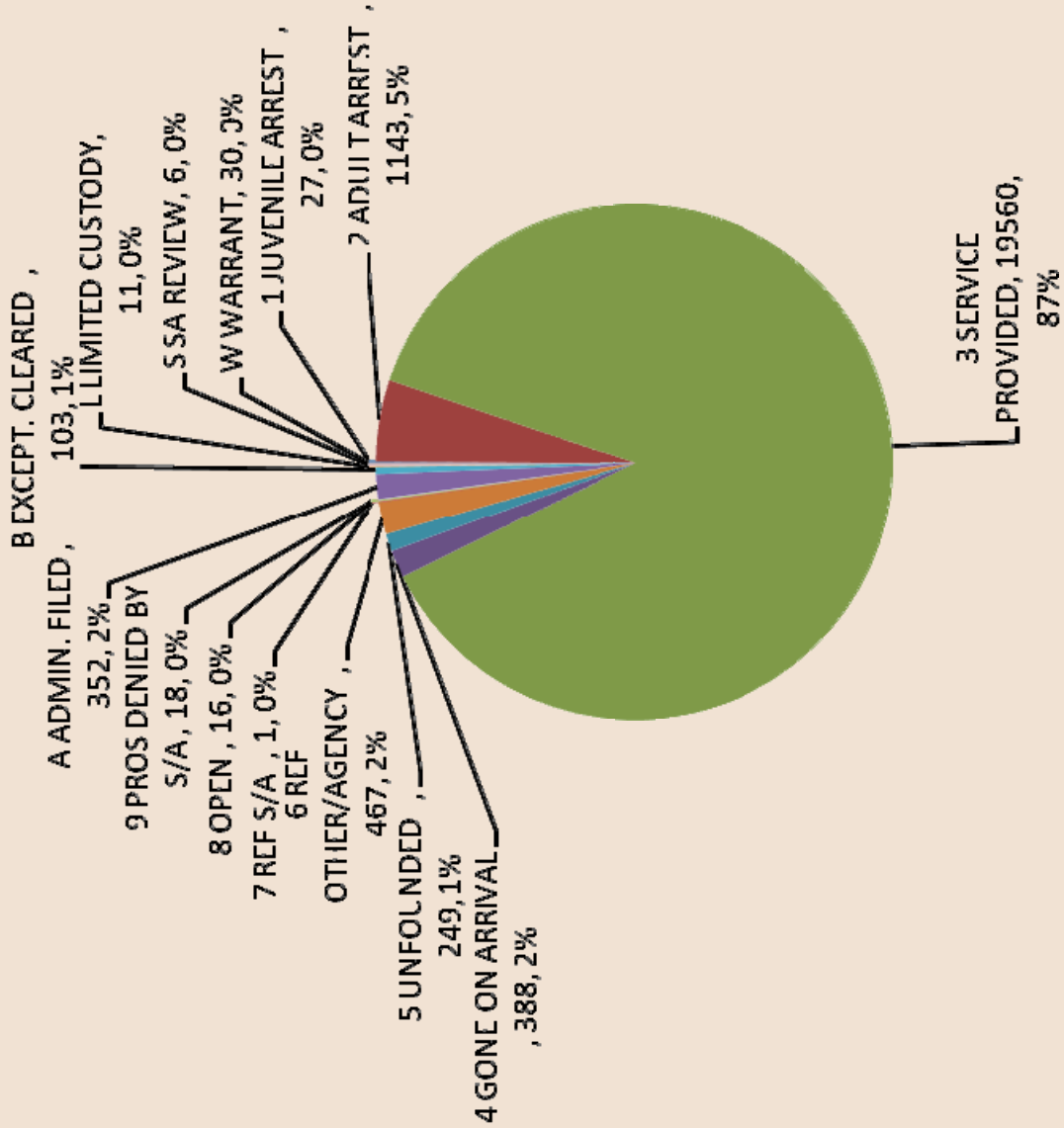
**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
BREAKDOWN CALLS FOR SERVICE 2012  
TOTAL CALLS 15515**



**ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
BREAKDOWN CALLS FOR SERVICE 2013  
TOTAL CALLS 22371**



# ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT CASE DISPOSITION 2013



## NEWS RELEASES 2013

### **RPD investigate hit and run**

January 3, 2013

Rochelle police continue to investigate a hit and run incident which took place Saturday night.

According to reports, a vehicle struck the Rochelle Rehabilitation Center, 900 North 3rd Street, at approximately 10 p.m.

No one suffered any injuries inside the building.

Reports indicate that a white van or sedan struck the Rochelle Rehabilitation Center along with a parked car and then drove away from the area. The building is owned by Petersen Healthcare in Peoria.

Police say there was extensive damage inside the building. The Rochelle Fire Department was called to the scene to inspect the structure for damage.

Anyone with information should contact the Rochelle Police Department at 815-562-2131.

### **Robbie Buck**



Robbie Del Buck, 50, passed away early Sunday morning, Jan. 13, 2013 at his home in Rochelle.

Rob was born Dec. 19, 1962 to Delbert and Marlene Buck.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Shirley (Hopwood); daughters, Kristen (engaged to Mike Worley) and Kathryn and son Matthew; his mother, Marlene (Dallas) Schuler; sister, Renee (Greg Lower); brothers, Rick (Elizabeth) and Randy Buck; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Richard and Lois Hopwood; brother-in-law, Mike Hopwood; nieces and nephews, Mark and Megan Hopwood, Greg (Melissa) and Josh Lower, Nicholas, Jessica, and Sarah Buck, a great-niece, Kiara Sanchez; and great-nephew, Jake Lower.

Rob was a loving husband and father and cherished the time he spent with his family. He was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church in Lee.

He was a graduate of Rochelle Township High School, Kishwaukee Community College, the Houston Police Academy and Judson College.

It was Rob's dream to be a police officer and he devoted his life to serving his community. His career included serving on the Ogle County Sheriff's Department, Houston Police Department, and volunteer Fireman for the Rochelle Fire Department, and Rochelle Police Department retiring as Chief of Police.

Rob was active in HOPE, the 911 Board and the Rochelle Township High School Athletic Boosters Club, which he served as president.

Rob was famous for his chili, his adaptation of his father's recipe. Rob was also the "mister Fix it" of the family. He was always willing to lend out a helping hand and he will surely be missed by many.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 16 at the Unger Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle with the graveside service to follow at Trinity Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be held from 4 - 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 15 at the Unger Horner Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to the family to provide for the children's education.

### **Suspect killed in Texas high speed police chase**

Alleged home invasion accomplice jailed in Ogle County

A high speed pursuit on I-40 near Bushland, Texas, on Wednesday morning resulted in Rochelle home invasion robbery suspect Shundale Haney, 34, being killed in a head-on collision with a semi truck.

Rochelle police officers were in the process of obtaining an arrest warrant for Haney; however, they were advised that he had

## NEWS RELEASES 2013

led Texas Department of Public Safety troopers on a pursuit where speeds reached 120 miles per hour.

According to the Amarillo Globe-News, officers attempted to stop Haney after running the Illinois license plate on the Mazda he was driving. Officers learned the vehicle had been reported stolen from Rockford. During the pursuit, Haney crossed the center median to avoid spike strips that had been placed in the road and struck a semi truck head-on.

Debris from the collision was spread more than 150 yards from the point of impact. Haney was pronounced dead at the scene.

On Thursday, an arrest was made as a result of follow up investigations conducted by the Phoenix Police Department and the Rochelle Police Department.

Melissa A. Christianson, 24, of Poplar Grove, was arrested and charged with home invasion — a Class X felony — for her alleged role in the incident that took place in Rochelle on Dec. 10.

At 6:38 p.m. on Dec. 10, the Rochelle Police Department responded to 417 Avenue D in reference to a reported home invasion. Upon arrival, officers were advised that a Caucasian female, later suspected to be Christianson, holding a

small child, had knocked on the victim's door. When the female victim answered the door the female offender asked to use the phone, as her child was sick.

The victim allowed the female suspect into the living room and put her dog in another room. As she returned to the living room, she was attacked by an African American male, suspected to be Haney, who possessed a knife.

The victim was forced into another room, tied up, gagged and sustained a cut to her throat. The offenders took a small amount of cash and left the residence.

Physical evidence of the crime was recovered during the investigation by Rochelle police.

Christianson was transported to the Ogle County Jail on Thursday. Bond was set at \$250,000 on Friday.

Christianson

Rochelle home invasion robbery suspect Shundale Haney was killed in a high speed pursuit on I-40 west of Bushland, Texas, Wednesday morning.

According to the Amarillo Globe-News, officers attempted to stop Haney after running the Illinois license plate on the Mazda he was driving. Officers learned the vehicle had been reported stolen in Illinois. Haney led Texas Department of Public

Safety troopers on a high speed chase with speeds exceeding 120 mph. Haney crossed the center median to avoid spike strips that had been placed in the road and struck a semi truck head-on. Debris from the collision was spread more than 150 yards from the point of impact. Haney was pronounced dead at the scene

### **Calls for service up 41 percent for RPD**

February 24, 2013

While the Rochelle Police Department saw an increase in the number of calls for service in 2012, other crimes saw a decrease.

According to police Chief Eric Higby, who spoke to the Rochelle Rotary Club Tuesday about the department's recently released 2012 annual report statistics are looked at to see what areas officers should focus on.

"Burglaries are an area to focus on in 2013 as most, but not all, of those categories saw increases," he said. "Some of our procedures have changed with regard to burglary detection so we are hopeful that we can see a decrease for this year."

In the annual report, burglaries are subdivided to burglary to a business (8 — 17), burglary to a residence (29 — 17), burglary to a vehicle (72 — 23), burglary other (1 — 2) and attempted burglary (3

## NEWS RELEASES 2013

— 0). The first number listed represents the 2012 figure and the second the 2011 figure.

“The statistics that impress for the 2012 calendar year included our total calls for service, traffic stops, fire radio traffic and our numbers for armed robberies and shootings,” Higby said. “Our calls for service were up over 41 percent (15,515 from 10,990), and traffic stops were up over 72 percent (3,809 from 2,204). Fire radio traffic showed a marked increase over 2011, changing from 4,864 to 18,070.”

Higby also discussed shootings and robberies in the “Hub City.”

“Our shootings went from five in 2011 to one single incident in 2012 — an 80 percent reduction, and we had no armed robberies in 2012 as opposed to 2011 where we had two,” Higby said. “Warrants served was another category that saw a sharp upswing in 2012 at over 92 percent (243 from 126).”

The annual report was also broken down to show activity by each individual officer.

While officers Elvis Baneski and Sonny Streit led for most number of calls for service (1,102 and 1,406, respectively), Baneski and officer Joseph Sester led the department with the most criminal arrests (93 and 61, respectively). The

individual activity numbers were broken down into categories of total calls for service, criminal arrests, warrant arrests, traffic arrests, written warnings, parking tickets and ordinance violations.

### **Domestic abuse survivor to speak at event**

February 24, 2013

For the past year, many issues of the News-Leader have listed reports of domestic abuse in its arrest section. Local resident Maya Bergeron is an example of a survivor who was a target of a brutal

ex-husband in 2009.

Although her physical wounds from the attack healed a long time ago, residual scars in the form of nightmares and court cases have haunted Bergeron and her family for much longer. The attack took place publicly at Cooper Park while Bergeron’s three young children played nearby. Bergeron was stabbed in the face, knee and received deep wounds in her chest that were close enough to her heart that her ex-husband was sentenced for attempted murder in November. She said that upon coming home from her 10-day recovery in the hospital, her three young children were shaken by the experience.

On Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at Abraham’s deVine Wine Bar,

Bergeron has agreed to share her story with members of the public at the Pump Club organized event. The talk will be geared toward women and how they can learn more about domestic abuse, but anyone is invited to hear the story of how she overcame trauma and moved on with life.

“I think locals can benefit from this story because a lot of people feel a false sense of safety living in a small community. Women especially need to be more aware of their surroundings and learn the warning signs of domestic abuse. There are ways to limit your chances of getting involved with danger by being smart. Pump club is about women inspiring and helping each other. Women need to be aware of protecting themselves and this story is a reminder that things can go wrong unexpectedly,” said Robin Gounaris, owner of Abraham’s Lounge and Pump Club founder.

Bergeron also said that one of her goals is to inspire women to not tolerate an abusive relationship of any form.

“I want other women to know that it is their choice to either stay and be a human punching bag or leave and find happiness. Domestic abuse erases who you are and you become a living dead anyways. You will be

## NEWS RELEASES 2013

surprised at how much strength you have when you leave," said Bergeron.

Bergeron also said in the case with her ex-husband, with whom she was married for 16 years and had three children, she was abused throughout the entire relationship. She also said that he felt like a stranger in her house, as he would frequently leave the family for extended trips to his native country of Palestine.

After a long period of enduring physical and emotional abuse and a degrading self-esteem, Bergeron said she reached a breaking point after he threw a tantrum and broke furniture in their home before leaving on another trip without telling his family.

Following that trip overseas, Bergeron carried on with life and moved on, supporting her three children with virtually no work experience. In that period of evolution, she also enrolled herself in college courses for computer administration and worked tirelessly to get a divorce from her abuser. In order to do so, Bergeron had to finalize the divorce through both the American legal system and a Sheikh to satisfy Muslim custom.

"At the time I thought, there is no way I could get out there with three kids. I didn't have a savings account, any work experience and it had

been 10 years since my last job. There's no way I'd make it out there in the real world," she said. "Once I did though, I realized it was easier than dealing with the abuse. I didn't want to just keep getting older and than eventually have my kids take care of me, so I decided to get to work."

In addition to helping other women gain strength to remove themselves from a violent household, she also has a message of hope.

"Every woman deserves a good man and they are out there. You just have to find the right one like I did."

She also said that her faith in God helped inspire her to stay strong throughout the hard times.

Bergeron will share more details at the Feb. 28 meeting. Her husband, Jason Bergeron, a Rochelle Police Department officer, will also accompany his wife and provide tips for women on how they can be more aware of their environment and therefore reduce their chances of being caught in an unexpected dangerous situation.

The program will be free to the public and questions, concerns or arrangements can be relayed to Robin Gounaris at 847-322-0366.

### City sidewalk project approved

May 14th, 2013



Several Rochelle Police Department officers were on hand Monday night at the Rochelle City Council meeting to be recognized by Rochelle Mayor Chet Olson, front left, during Police Week. Pictured, back row left to right, are officers James Gilliam, Matthew Wittenberg, Aaron Rodabaugh and Sgt. Phil Frankenberry. Pictured in front are Olson, Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby and Officer Emily Hardesty with K9 Don

Rochelle City Council members met in regular session Monday night and covered several agenda items.

Rochelle Mayor Chet Olson then presented Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby, as well as several other officers on hand, with a plaque commemorating the recognition.

### Police seeking information on recent theft



## NEWS RELEASES 2013

*May 16, 2013*

On Saturday , May 4, the Rochelle Police Department responded to Super Walmart reference a retail theft.

A male white, wearing a blue ball cap, a black t-shirt with a red white and blue design on the front, black shorts with blue stripes, and white shoes with black laces, was seen taking a fiat screen television wall mount, without paying for said item.

The Rochelle Police Department obtained surveillance footage of the suspect and is asking for the public's help in identifying the suspect.

If you have any information about this incident you are urged to contact Detective Sgt. Jeff Leininger at 815-562-2131 , or call the Ogle-Lee Crime Stoppers at 1-888-CAUGHT U (1-888-228-4488 ).

### **Police investigating church burglary**

***May 28, 2013***

Money, computer stolen Rochelle police are investigating a burglary that took place at St. Paul Lutheran Church late Saturday or early Sunday morning.

Stolen from the church were some money and a laptop computer. There appears to be no forced entry; however, several offices doors were pried opened.

No arrest has been

made at this time. Illinois State Police are assisting in the investigation.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Rochelle Police Department at 815-562-2131.

### **Don the Dog steals the show**

RPD Officers visit HUB students for safety tips and police dog demonstration



*May 29, 2013*

Rochelle Officers from the Rochelle Police Department visited HUB program students on Thursday after school and did not disappoint with their safety tips, visual aids and police dog demonstration with "Don" the dog.

The officers began the presentation with safety tips and guest speaker Officer Joe Sester spoke about the department's relatively new way of catching criminals on bicycles. He showed students the necessary gear, answered questions and talked about how bicycles are a helpful tool, in addition to squad cars.

He said that although the bikes can only go as

fast as the peddler can take them, they are great for assisting squad cars because of their ability to cover more territory. Following Sester's demonstration, Officer Emily Hardesty introduced her fellow officer and partner in crime, Don to the students.

The middle-school students had many questions for Hardesty. She explained to them that Don was an investment for the department, as she had to go through 10 weeks of training in Springfield before bringing him back to Rochelle. Don is four years old and is by law labeled "Don is formally trained to find drugs, stop criminals, protect himself and to protect me," said Hardesty. "He is trained to bite and attack on command."



Although Don is capable of being a furry weapon on command, he has a softer side, as well.

"Don is serious when he's on the job but when he's home with me, he's a pet," said Hardesty. "He's a family member

## NEWS RELEASES 2013

and likes to play like any other dog."

After answering a line of questions, officer Hardesty, Don and Officer John Kaltenbach demonstrated a "criminal apprehension exercise," in which Kaltenbach prepared for by putting on a protective arm-length glove. Hardesty instructed Don to attack accordingly. The demonstration only lasted a few minutes but judging by the students' expressions, the show was well received. The officers answered further questions from the students and retired for the day.

### **Identity theft: What can be done now**

*June 2, 2013*

Many Rochelle residents were notified or discovered within the last two weeks that problems were occurring with debit/credit cards. Several local banks began contacting customers about a security breach at a local retailer, leaving customers no choice but to cancel current cards and wait for a new one.

"Our identity theft and unlawful use of credit cards calls have increased over the years, and these types of activities don't show any signs of slowing down," said Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby. The issue of identity theft gained national attention in

late March when Schnuck's grocer was scammed for card numbers. The store later contained the issue and released a public apology.

Because of a similar breach here in town, a rising number of residents have become victims of identity theft.

"From the information we have received, it appears that this particular breach occurred sometime after December 15, 2012 and continued for several months. In cases like these, hackers typically gain access to a merchant's data processing systems," said Executive Vice President of Stillman Bank Tom Hughes. "Anyone who used their debit card or credit card at this particular merchant is at risk. This not only affected some of Stillman Bank's cardholders, but many others at other institutions as well." What consumers can do Despite the wide range of risk, there is a silver lining in the form of damage control. "Most card networks offer zero liability programs for consumers who report fraudulent activity in a reasonable timeframe," said Hughes. "The most important thing you can do is be diligent about monitoring your accounts and reviewing the transactions in your monthly account statements and online. It's very important to contact

your bank or credit card provider immediately if you suspect fraudulent activity on your account. It's also important to be diligent about monitoring your accounts. Stillman Bank offers several ways to monitor your account, including free mobile banking and text alerts."

Hughes also noted that it is common practice for banks, including Stillman, to replace "at risk" cards.

"Unfortunately, there are individuals out there who are always trying to steal information for Financial gain and everyone has to be diligent about protecting their information . At Stillman Bank, we have many safeguards in place to protect our customers' information and we are always updating our technology to keep up with the latest threats," said Hughes.

Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock also weighed in on the issue. Many times, sharing information can be a good first step, whether it is identity theft or the latest rip-off scam, creating awareness within our community goes a long way," said Rock. "The issue of identity theft is a pressing one in the legal community, including the police, sheriff and state's attorney. I make it a point to keep up to speed on the latest trends and issues, as does the county's Victim Witness Assistant. Local citizens can protect

## NEWS RELEASES 2013

themselves first by being aware that identity theft is a problem, right here where we live. As far as more specific ways they can protect themselves."

### Security tips

Rock advises residents who notice any strange activity on their credit card statements or with their financial accounts and think they have been a victim of identity theft, to contact law enforcement to make a report. The Ogle County State's Attorney's Office prosecutes those that have been charged with identity theft. Also, the Ogle County SA's Office has a Victim Witness Assistant who can provide a referral to the Illinois Attorney General's Office.

This office provides a hotline to assist you with reclaiming your credit. You can contact the Ogle County State's Attorney's Office at 815-732-1170.

Rock offers the following tips for protecting credit account and identity theft:

- Use a paper shredder to destroy Financial documents or other documents with personal information

- Don't carry your social security card with you or write it on a check. Place the card in a safe place, only give it out when absolutely necessary and ask to use another identifier for accounts

- Change your passwords every 60 days and make them "strong" (more diffi-

cult to "crack") by using a combination of uppercase, lower case, numbers and symbols. Avoid using your birthdate, mother's maiden name, last four digits of your social security number or other obvious identifying words or numbers

- Order a free copy of your credit report from each of the three credit bureaus each year: Experian, Transunion and Equifax. Visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call toll-free 877-322-8228. It contains information about what credit accounts have been opened in your name, as well as where you live and work, how you pay your bills, if you've been sued, arrested or filed for bankruptcy. You are entitled to one free report each year from each of the three major bureaus

- Watch your billing cycles closely. If a bill is late, check with your creditors to see why it has not arrived; and watch for any unauthorized charges or unexpected account statements

- Have your mail sent to a post office box or get a locking mailbox. Also take outgoing mail to the post office

- Only use a secure connection on the Internet when sending credit card numbers or other personal information. The site should begin with "https" with "s" meaning "secure"

- Use virus protection

and a Firewall program to prevent your computer from being accessed by others, and keep them up to date.

- Don't download files or click on links from unknown sources; instead type in a web address you know. Also, unplug your Internet when you're not using it

- Keep your personal information in a secure place at home, especially if you have roommates, employ outside help or are having work done at your house

- Opt out of pre-approved credit card offers and receive fewer solicitations at home by calling 888-567-8688 or visiting [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com).

Rochelle police chief Higby and Detective Terry Inman offer ways to stay secure online:

- If you use a wireless network, make sure it is password protected with a significant strength password (not 1234 etc).

- If you don't know the sender of an email, don't open it as it may be designed to harvest your passwords, account numbers or other critical information. Even if you know the sender, sometimes their computer has been compromised and the email is sent via the contacts in the email group. A phishing program may be attached to this email.

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- Practice safe Internet activities by avoiding websites and downloads until you know they are legitimate.

Our identity theft and unlawful use of credit cards calls have increased over the years, and these types of activities don't show any signs of slowing down.

Additional tips

- Don't have all of your monies in one account so that if it is compromised, you don't lose most of your earnings.

- Pull your credit reports two to three times per year to help identify any unusual activity.

- Practice safe Internet activities by avoiding websites and downloads until you know they are legitimate.

### Running for a cause



*June 13, 2013*

Officers from the Rochelle Police Department, along with friends and family members, ran in the annual Special Olympics Torch Run Wednesday. The department has participated in the run for many years to help raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics. This

year, the run began on the bridge between Hillcrest and Rochelle on IL Route 251 and proceeded south to the Rochelle Municipal Airport. Funds can still be donated. Stop in at the Rochelle Police Department at 416 N. Sixth Street.

### Drug arrest made at gas station



*June 30, 2013*

On Friday, June 28, detectives from the Rochelle Police Department and the Ogle County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at the Clark Gas Station located at 1180 N. Seventh Street, which resulted in the arrest of the station owner.

Detectives located a large amount of synthetic cannabinoids, commonly referred to as K2, Spice, Mr. Happy, Over The Top, Funky Monkey, Kryp2nite and Black Mamba, just to name a few. The street value of the cannabinoids is believed to be more than \$10,000. Detectives also seized more than \$5,000 cash.

Aadi Patel, 34, was taken into custody at the scene and transported to the Ogle County Jail, without bond, on the Class

2 Felony charge of possession of a controlled substance with the intent to deliver. Additional arrests are pending.

Synthetic cannabinoids are often sold as plant food, or herbal incense or even herbal smoking blends. Synthetic cannabinoids are made by spraying synthetic chemicals on natural herbs, dried leaves, or other such plant material.

### Man dies in Rochelle Jail

Sheriff's office investigating apparent suicide

*July 9, 2013*

An autopsy was scheduled for Monday in the death of a 33-year-old Rochelle man found dead Saturday night in a cell at the Rochelle Police Department.

According to Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby, officers responded to a domestic disturbance call Saturday night. The call came into the police department at 7:34 p.m., according to station call logs.

Higby added that officers reported to the scene to take witness statements and then returned to the station, placing the 33-year-old man under arrest. The subject was then placed in a holding cell at the Rochelle department.

Officers noticed the man unconscious in his cell a short time after 8 p.m. and began CPR on him. Ambulance personnel

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arrived on scene and continued CPR efforts. The man was transported to Rochelle Community Hospital where he was pronounced dead. According to Higby, the Rochelle Ambulance was called at 8:06 p.m.

Higby added the Ogle County Sheriff's Department is investigating the incident, and it appears the subject took his own life while in custody.

Part of the investigation to be conducted by the Ogle County Sheriff's office includes interviewing police officers involved in the arrest along with checking video surveillance of the jail cell as well as information on the time the prisoner was placed in the cell and when he needed medical treatment.

State guidelines indicate officers are to check an adult prisoner every half hour under normal circumstances. The Rochelle jail is only a holding facility as the prisoner is normally transported to the Ogle County Jail in Oregon after a short period of time.

As of Tuesday morning, the name of the man had not been officially released.

### **Event in Oregon demonstrates K-9 's abilities**

*July 28, 2013*

*Rochelle Police K-9 officer Brian VanVickle spoke to*

*the crowd with his canine, Okar. VanVickle demonstrated the various techniques used when training the canine.*



### **Man arrested**

*July 28, 2013*

ROCHELLE A Rochelle man was arrested Friday by Rochelle Police following an incident of disorderly conduct.

On Monday, July 8, the Rochelle Police Department responded to a call of a male subject allegedly attempting to lure a 6-year-old female into his residence. According to police, the man reportedly used his dog as a way to try and entice the child to go with him to his residence, but was unsuccessful in his efforts.

Upon arrival of the police, the man could not be located.

On July 26, detectives went to 1108 Carrie Avenue and arrested the suspect, Gary L. Chamness, 69, without incident, for the misdemeanor offense of disorderly conduct. Chamness posted \$150 cash bond and was released with an Ogle County Court date of Aug. 21.

### **Police seeking suspects in recent retail theft**



*August 1, 2013*

On Monday, July 29, the Rochelle Police Department responded to Walmart, in reference to a retail theft which occurred on July 25.

A female suspect, accompanied by a male subject, concealed a DVD player and a Blu-Ray player and left the store without paying for the items. The suspects left the area in a black vehicle, which appears to be a Lincoln Town Car. The suspects left the area traveling eastbound.

The Rochelle Police Department is asking for assistance in identifying the two suspects. Anyone with information in this case is asked to call the Rochelle Police Department at 815-652-2131 or the Ogle-Lee Crime Stoppers at 1-888-CAUGHT U (1-888-228-4488).

### **Man given three years for theft**

*August 29, 2013*

An Aurora man will spend time in prison following a retail theft arrest last year.

Jesus Garcia, 34, of Aurora, was arrested last September after two retail

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theft incidents at the Rochelle Walmart. The thefts occurred on Sept. 12 and 26 last year. Garcia's sister, Diana Garcia, 28, and Melissa Lazcano, 21, both of Aurora, were also arrested. Both women pled guilty to the theft charges earlier this year.

On Tuesday, Garcia was sentenced to three years in the Illinois Department of Corrections after pleading guilty in Ogle County Court to two counts of the Class 3 felony offense of retail theft.

Garcia must also pay fines that totaling \$700. The total restitution in the case was just under \$1,900, according to court records.

### **Chana man due in court Wednesday**

*October 1, 2013*

A Chana man involved in an alcohol related crash with a school bus on Sept. 19 posted bond Friday and is expected back in Ogle County Court on Wednesday, Oct. 2. Hanke posted 10 percent of the \$100,000 bond.

Neel Hanke, 66, of Chana, is being charged in Ogle County Court with a Class 2 felony offense of aggravated DUI. The accident involving a Rochelle school bus took place at the intersection of Hemstock and Center Roads around 4 p.m. on Sept. 19.

According to Illinois State Police reports that, the sports utility vehicle driven by Hanke was traveling westbound on Hemstock Road and failed to stop. The Rochelle school bus was traveling northbound on Center Road.

A total of nine students along with the driver were on the bus. Two of the students received treatment for minor injuries at Rochelle Community Hospital. Hanke was treated at RCH before being transferred to a Rockford hospital for his injuries.

Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock said Hanke does have two prior DUI convictions on his record.

### **Man arrested on child pornography charges**

*October 6, 2013*

A rural Rochelle man is in jail following an arrest Thursday on charges of distributing child pornography.

On Oct. 3, Ogle County Sheriff's deputies and an officer from the Sycamore Police Department executed a search warrant at a residence in rural Rochelle as a result of an ongoing investigation by both agencies.

As a result of the search warrant, Matthew K. Plumley, 30, of Rochelle, was arrested and charged with distribution of child pornography, a Class X

Felony, and possession of child pornography, a Class 2 Felony.

Plumley was taken to the Ogle County Jail where he appeared in court and his bond was set at \$250,000.

Police said the child pornography seized had been obtained and disseminated to various sites on the Internet.

### **Residents give back: Rochelle Police Department holds second annual Vein Drain Blood Drive**

*October 13, 2013*

Rochelle Police Department held their second annual vein drain blood drive on Thursday afternoon in conjunction with the Rock River Valley Blood Center.

Donor recruiter Jaclyn Thomson stated the Rochelle Halloween - themed blood drive went very well. Within the First hour the group had 18 donors visit the blood mobile.

She credited the police department for the influx in donors.

"Rochelle Police Department does a lot of recruiting leading up to the drive," said Thomson. "They played a big role in calling repeat donors and reminding them to donate on Thursday. By hosting a blood drive, the Rochelle Police Department is helping to save lives in our community."

Where does the blood go?

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All blood donated to the center is used within 24 to 48 hours at a local hospital. The Rock River Valley Blood Center, a National Marrow Donor Program Center, is the sole supplier of blood and related services to OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center, Swedish American Medical Center—Belvidere, Rockford Memorial Hospital, Swedish American Hospital, Beloit Memorial Hospital, Edgerton Hospital and Health Services, FHN, and Rochelle Community Hospitals. Community-minded volunteers donate virtually all of this country's supply of blood for transfusion.

As a thank you to donors, Aldo's Pizzeria and Italian Restaurant donated pizza and Flight Deck Bar and Grill supplied wings, sliders and cheesecake for all donors.

Administrative aide at RPD Rene Schwartz explained vein drain is usually the biggest blood drive the police department hosts.

Donor Reva Richards donated on Thursday because she had previously gotten a phone call from the police department asking her to donate.

"Somebody's got to do it," Richards said.

RRVBC is in need of negative blood type, especially O negative, explained Thomson, O

negative is universal and can be used with any blood type for donation.

RRVBC mobile center will be back in Rochelle on Nov. 5 at Ryder from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Giving blood only takes about one hour and a donation can be used in up to three recipients.

### **Concealed Carry discussion**

*October 17, 2013*

Concealed carry has become legal in Illinois, but the law has left many citizens wondering what they can and cannot do and how concealed carry will affect citizens.

The League of Women Voters is hosting a round table discussion with local law enforcement officers to answer community members questions on Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. in the Via room at First National Bank.

"We are not there to discuss views, our intent is to educate the public attending about the new Illinois conceal carry law that goes in effect January 2014. We understand this is a new law itself and we are all just learning about the law itself and its effects on the citizens of Illinois," League of Women Voters board member Jim May explained. "Our meeting is not to promote either side of this controversial law, but to find out together how we are to live with it."

Participants in the round table discussion are

Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby, State's Attorney Mike Rock, Ogle County Sheriff Mike Harn and DeKalb County Sheriff Roger Scott. May will serve as moderator.

State's Attorney Rock will begin the discussion with a brief history on America's gun laws and the current law.

Community members are invited to attend the discussion and ask questions to the panel concealed firearms. Illinois State Police will begin accepting applications in January for concealed carry and permits will not be issued until spring.

In order to obtain a permit anyone with a Firearm Owner's Identification card will need to pay \$150, pass a background check and complete 16 hours of gun safety training.

Guns will not be allowed in schools, libraries, parks, mass transit buses, trains or establishments where liquor compromises as 50 percent or more of sales.

May explained the discussion will be a time residents can ask questions and get answers to how the law will affect them.

The discussion will help answer what restrictions counties and business can set on their own, what does it take to get a concealed carry permit, what is considered concealed.

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“Many times people have been provided with misinformation about guns in general. I would encourage citizens to read up on the subject and familiarize themselves with the law,” stated Chief Higby.

The League of Women Voters is holding the discussion to educate citizens and inform the community on the law before it takes effect.

He encourages community members to attend to get enlightened about the law and specific regulations.

members on the law. The Firearm concealed carry act passed legislation on July 9 making Illinois the 50th state to allow people to carry “The evening will be a good healthy discussion, citizens

should walk away with a better understanding,” May added.

### **Get rid of old pills: Police accepting expired prescription drugs during Take Back Day on Saturday**

*October 22, 2013*

On Oct. 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Rochelle Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration will give the public its seventh opportunity in three years to prevent prescription pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired,

unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

Bring your medications for disposal to the Rochelle Police Department at 416 N. Sixth Street. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last April, Americans nationwide turned in 371 tons (over 742,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at more than 5,800 sites operated by the DEA and its thousands of state and local law enforcement partners. In its six previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners took in over 2.8 million pounds — more than 1,400 tons — of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines — flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash — both pose potential safety and health hazards.

DEA is in the process of approving new regulations that implement the Safe and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow an “ultimate user” (that is, a patient or pet or their family member or owner) of controlled substance medications to dispose of them by delivering them to entities authorized by the Attorney General to accept them. The Act also allows the Attorney General to authorize long term care facilities to dispose of their residents’ controlled substances in certain instances.

Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby also reminds residents the police department will accept prescription medications for disposal any day.

### **Man arrested for child pornography: Joint investigation results in 13 felony charges**

*October 22, 2013*

A nearly month-long investigation by police officers led to the arrest of a Rochelle man Saturday on charges of child pornography.

On Thursday, Sept. 26, members of the Rochelle and Sycamore police departments executed a search warrant for child pornography at 5153 S. Wendell Drive. After analyzing numerous items, including computers and digital media, an arrest

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warrant was obtained for a resident of the aforementioned address.

On Saturday, Oct. 19, officers located Vincent R. Swope at his address and arrested him. The warrant was for 13 counts of possession of child pornography, all Class X felonies.

Swope was transported to the Ogle County Jail in lieu of posting the \$250,000 bond.

### **This is only a drill**

*October 24, 2013*

The Ogle County Emergency Response Team held a training practice Wednesday afternoon at the Rochelle bus garage. The team used a Rochelle school bus to carry out training drills that might occur on a school bus. The training was county wide and practiced different scenarios the response team might encounter.



The Ogle County Emergency Response team is composed of emergency responders from different Ogle County organizations.

### **Concealed carry: What it means**

*October 26, 2013*

The Second Amendment reads "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to

keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Framers of the constitution thought the personal right to bear arms is a paramount right and the right of self-defense was considered a fundamental right, explained Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock, at a public forum on concealed carry laws.

"In the state of Illinois you do not have to show up to a gun fight with a knife, you are allowed to use as much force as necessary to defend yourself against the type of force that is coming toward you," stated Rock.

A standing room only crowd packed the Via Room at First National Bank Thursday night to attend the League of Women Voters panel discussion on the concealed carry law that goes into effect Jan. 1 in Illinois.



Panel speakers included Rock, Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby, DeKalb County Sheriff Roger Scott and Ogle County Sheriff Michael Harn. With the law being new and not currently in effect, the discussion was also a learning opportunity for the guest speakers. The Illinois State Police department will be responsible for distributing a concealed carry license.

In order to obtain a handgun legally in the state individuals need to have a Firearm Owner Identification (FOID) card, prior to applying for a concealed carry license.

According to the Illinois State Police website, to apply for a concealed carry license applicants must:

- \* Be at least 21 years of age

- \* Have a valid FOID card (if an Illinois resident)

- \* Have not been convicted or found guilty in Illinois or any other state of a misdemeanor involving the use or threat of physical force or violence to any person within the last 5 years and not have two or more violations related to driving while under the influence of alcohol, other drug or drugs, intoxicating compound or compounds, or any combination thereof, within the last 5 years

- \* Not be the subject of a pending arrest warrant, prosecution, or proceeding for an offense or action that could lead to disqualification

- \* Not have been in residential or court-ordered treatment for alcoholism, alcohol detoxification, or drug treatment within the last 5 years

- \* Submit a completed Concealed Carry License application

- \* Successfully complete 16 hours of Firearms

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training, including classroom and range instruction.

The website also explains applications will be available to the public starting Jan. 5, 2014 on the state police webpage.

Sheriff Harn explained the process to obtain a FOID card has been backed up as the state is receiving more applications. In September, 61,000 new FOID cards were issued in Illinois.

On the state police website is a list of approved training from other states that Illinois will accept toward the completion of the required 16 hours of training.

"There are currently are 15 trained instructors in Ogle County, including three in Rochelle. Local departments will not offer concealed carry training, but individual officers may," Higby explained.

Sheriff Scott explained that legislation indicates that within a few years Illinois State Police will combine the FOID card application with the concealed carry application.

Currently a FOID card reads, "this card does not permit bearer to unlawfully carry or use Firearms. This does not authorize the carrying of a concealed weapon."

Illinois is the only state to issue FOID cards and the 50th state to pass concealed carry laws. A

FOID card is valid for 10 years and a concealed carry license will be valid for five years.

"Concealed carry means you can't see the handgun on the person," Higby said.

What is concealed carry?

Concealed carry means a loaded or unloaded handgun carried on or about a person completely or mostly concealed from view of the public or on or about a person in a vehicle.

Currently, individuals with a FOID card are legally allowed to carry a weapon in an automobile if the weapon is cased and unloaded.

Concealed carry is only applicable to handguns and not rifles or assault weapons. "Handgun" is defined as any device which is designed to expel a projectile or projectiles by the action of an explosion, expansion of gas, or escape of gas that is designed to be held and Fired by the use of a single hand.

There will be 23 locations where a gun cannot be carried into in Illinois. Locations include government buildings, schools, parks, a restaurant where majority of revenue is alcohol, prisons, airports, museums, zoos and sporting arenas. Businesses will be allowed to post a sign informing people that handguns will

not be allowed in the privately owned building.

The speakers all agreed they think concealed carry will have a positive impact on the crime rate and the possibility of concealed carry may deter person-to-person crimes.

Advice

As the law is still evolving there is currently no set way to inform a police officer you have concealed carry permit.

"The best advice currently is to inform the police officer you have a concealed carry weapon when he or she first approaches you," Harn said.

"When we ask for driver's license and registration we are now going to add a third question — do you have a concealed weapon , " Sheriff Scott explained.

One concerned citizen asked the guest speakers how closely would the local departments enforce concealed carry, "if a little gun shows will you arrest me?"

"That would not be my intent, I would not encourage our officers to make an arrest if you happen to move and the butt of your weapon is visible. You have to have to intent to conceal it," Higby answered.

State's attorney Rock explained that the states attorney for each county will set guidelines.

"I will meet with local police chiefs and Sheriff

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Harn to discuss the regulations. We are not the boots on the ground, the guy walking up the car at 2:00 in the morning going to make the call. It's one thing to make a guideline, but we are not going to know how it's defined until the first person gets charged with mostly concealed, is found guilty and appeals it. That's where you rely on having a good working relationship with your law enforcement," Rock said. "If we disagree we will make sure we all get on the same page. Everyone will be looking at intent."

Another citizen asked, "At what point is a guy liable when you see something going on that's not right and you pull out your gun not defending yourself but some other activity?"

"[Concealed carry] training will cover when do you and when don't you pull that weapon. When you do and you shouldn't you will be in trouble and unfortunately maybe you should and you might be in trouble then too. It is definitely double sided," Harn explained.

"Be the best witness you can, call 911, until the very last moment when you have to intervene because it's a matter of life or death," stated Chief Higby.

"You don't shoot to kill anybody, you shoot to defend, but you don't shoot to kill," Harn added. A concealed carry

individual will have to prove their life or someone else's life was in danger upon discharge of the weapon.

"It will boil down to how a reasonable person in that situation will react," explained Rock.

"You have to live with whatever decision you make," stated Harn. "What happens if I have to pull my weapon? Those are some of the questions you have to ask yourself before you put that gun on you and conceal it. It is a terrible decision you have to think about, I have thought it every day."

"Since we have had concealed carry in the other 49 states, you think if there was a problem with it we would be hearing about it," said event organizer Jim May after the panel answered concerned citizens questions.

### **30 Men Who Cook Participants**



*September 3, 2013*  
Jeff Tilton & Brian VanVickle

The Rochelle Township High School Education Foundation will host its

Seventh annual fundraiser , 30 Men Who Cook, on Sept. 7 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Rochelle Municipal Airport, located on Gurler Road. The JD Brown Band will perform this year as well from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Tickets for this event are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. For more information, visit the foundation's website at [www.rthsef.org](http://www.rthsef.org) or on Facebook. The RTHS Education Foundation is an independent not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation organized as a method of providing a long term, self-sustaining financial program to enrich, enhance and supplement educational opportunities beyond limits of normal tax support for all students.

The proceeds from this event, along with gifts, memorials and bequests from individuals, groups, or businesses to support the facilities enhancement of RTHS.

### **Second arrest in drug case made**

*September 8, 2013*

The wife of a Rochelle business owner was arrested by Rochelle Police Thursday morning in connection with a previous drug investigation at the business.

Yamini Patel, 33, of Rochelle, was arrested after a warrant was obtained following the investigation of she and

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her husband's store, the Clark gas station at IL Route 251 and Carrie Avenue.

Patel's husband, 34-year old Aadi Patel, was arrested on June 28 on the Class 2 felony offense of unlawful possession with the intent to deliver a controlled substance. Rochelle Police and Ogle County Sheriff's deputies reportedly seized synthetic cannabinoid at the Clark Gas Station. The synthetic drug is known on the street as K2, Spice, along with "over the top" and black mamba. The street value of what was recovered is believed to be more than \$10,000. Authorities also seized \$5,000 in cash at the business during Aadi Patel's arrest in June. Yamini Patel was charged Thursday with unlawful criminal drug conspiracy and unlawful possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a public park. On Thursday, Patel was transported to the Ogle County Jail and bond was set at \$200,000. During a court appearance Friday, Ogle County Circuit Court Associate Judge John Redington lowered Patel's bond to \$30,000, but also remanded her passport. Redington also ordered Patel not to leave the State of Illinois. Patel posted 10 percent of the bond and is scheduled to appear in court Oct. 15 for

a pre-trial conference in Oregon.

### **Teen arrested in threat case at Rochelle Township High School**

*September 19, 2013*

One arrest has been made in connection with a threatening letter discovered at Rochelle Township High School Tuesday. According to Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby, two juvenile suspects were brought in for questioning on Wednesday afternoon.

A 16-year-old boy is being charged by police on a Class 4 felony disorderly conduct charge in connection with the case and was transported to the Mary Davis Juvenile Detention Center, while a 15-year-old boy was also questioned but later released.

Parents of RTHS students were notified by the district's phone alert system Tuesday evening of the incident that occurred at the school that afternoon. According to information released by RTHS superintendent Jamie Craven Wednesday morning, on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at approximately 2:37 p.m., a threatening note was found in the building and taken to the high school office, at which time the Rochelle Police Department was notified immediately.

According to Craven, officers met with school personnel who advised

they had discovered a threatening letter on the premises. After a preliminary investigation, it was determined that the school would not be evacuated.

"This was a difficult situation due to the lack of time [before the end of the school day]," Higby said earlier Wednesday morning.

Craven said that the school's emergency plan was immediately put into place and K-9 units were dispatched quickly to sweep the school. No after school activities had to be cancelled. "School personnel did an excellent job of looking into this incident and bringing it to a swift resolution," Higby said.

### **New cameras to be installed in police cars**

*September 26, 2013*

New video recording equipment will soon be installed in City of Rochelle Police squad cars following approval by Rochelle City Council members Monday night.

The council voted 6-0, with council member Dennis Berg absent, to approve a proposal by police chief Eric Higby to purchase new in-car video systems to replace the previous systems installed in 2007.

The Panasonic Arbitrator video system will be purchased through the National Joint Powers Alliance in the amount of

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\$47,618 plus an addition \$570 for installation without competitive bidding. "The in-car video systems have become an essential tool for police departments. Having audio and video recordings of routine traffic stops and emergency response activities provides credibility to the criminal court system and discourages unjustified accusations against the officers," Higby said. "The department's current video system was purchased in early 2007 and the server is no longer operational. The audio and video capability in several of the squad cars is no longer dependable."

Two police department sergeants evaluated several video system models and brands and selected the Panasonic Arbitrator as the best option. The system records via two high definition cameras mounted on the squad car, an internal audio microphone and an external microphone worn by the officer. The recordings will automatically download to the server when a squad car is within 100 feet of the wireless points that can be mounted on the Rochelle City Hall building. The system allows for a 30, 60 or 90 second pre-event recording and the audio/video can be initiated either manually, when the squad lights are

activated or when the crash sensor goes off. In addition, several Illinois agencies utilize this system including Rockford, DeKalb, Champaign and the Illinois State Toll Authority.

The 2013-14 Police Department Capital Outlay Budget includes \$59,000 for the purchase of new video recording systems for the squad cars and the related server. The Panasonic Arbitrator is available via the National Joint Power Alliance, through CDS Office Technologies in Itasca, at the cost of \$47,618. The quote includes the required server, all hardware, officer training, and the wireless points. Installation, which is not included in the quote, is available through Buss Boyz Customs at a cost of \$570.

"I will order it in the next few days but I'm not sure what the delivery time is and we would need to schedule installs too," Higby said. "I would hope to have it in four to six weeks at the most."

### Texting and Driving Statistics

September 29, 2013



TEXTING while driving is a growing trend, and a

national epidemic, quickly becoming one of the country's top killers. Drivers assume they can handle texting while driving and remain safe, but the numbers don't lie. Texting While Driving Causes: • 1,600,000 accidents per year - National Safety Council • 330,000 injuries per year - Harvard Center for Risk Analysis Study • 11 teen deaths EVERY DAY - Insurance Institute for Highway Safety Fatality Facts • Nearly 25 percent of ALL car accidents Texting While Driving is: • About six times more likely to cause an accident than driving intoxicated • The same as driving after four beers according to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration • The Number one driving distraction reported by teen drivers.

### Accident sends several to hospital

November 7, 2013



On Nov. 5, at noon, Stephanie L. White, 36, of Rochelle, was ticketed for disobeying stop sign and no insurance following an accident at the intersection of north Third Street and Fifth Avenue. White was traveling northbound in a 2000 Oldsmobile Alero on north Second Street when she failed to yield at the

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intersection. She was struck by Bruce W. McKinney, driving a 1991 GMC Sierra. McKinney was traveling eastbound on Fifth Avenue. White and two passengers in her vehicle were transported to Rochelle Community Hospital as was McKinney. White posted an I-bond and is scheduled to appear in court Dec. 13, at 1 p.m. in Rochelle.

### **Man charged in traffic fatality**

*November 12, 2013*

Police say driver of car failed to slow down and had marijuana in system; could face up to three years in prison

Rochelle Police made an arrest Friday afternoon involving the traffic accident that took the life of Caleb Holder, 21, of Rochelle, on June 19.

Police arrested Erik Steffins, 41, on a Class 4 felony aggravated reckless driving charge as well as several other traffic violations. Steffins was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he posted 10 percent of a \$50,000 bond.

State toxicology tests revealed Steffins had marijuana in his system at the time of the crash. Police also say his fast speed and failure to slow down to avoid the accident was a factor in the arrest.

The aggravated reckless driving charge was reached based on

evidence in the case. Aggravated reckless driving can carry a possible sentence of up to 3 years in a state penitentiary and/or a fine of up to \$25,000.

Holder was driving a motorcycle near Lakeview Drive on IL Route 251. He was rear-ended by Steffins' vehicle and thrown from the motorcycle. He died of blunt force trauma, according to the Ogle County Coroner.

### **Accident with injuries**

*December 8, 2013*



Rochelle Police and Rochelle Fire Department responded to an accident at approximately 3:30 p.m. on Lincoln Highway at Seventh Avenue.

According to police, one vehicle, a minivan pictured above, was hit and the impact caused the van to tip on its side before uprighting. At least two people were taken by ambulance for treatment of injuries to Rochelle Community Hospital.

### **Shopping with purpose**

*December 8, 2013*

Thursday night the aisles at Big R and Walmart were filled with shoppers and excited kids as volunteers took children shopping for clothes and a

toy during CAN's annual Christmas Shopping Trip.

After collecting money all year, CAN was able to fund shopping trips for 225 children. Each child was given a \$75 gift card for either Big R or Walmart to purchase clothes, winter attire, boots and shoes, and a toy.



*Officer Joe Sester picks out toys with two young girls.*

In the stores, children were excited to pick out clothes and enjoyed the shopping experience with the volunteers.



*K-9 Officer Emily Anderson picks out socks with a young boy.*

While the store aisles were filled with shoppers and children, Hicks Hall was bustling with parents dropping off children and

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volunteers waiting to go shopping. Students from numerous Rochelle Township High School groups and Kishwaukee College volunteered to take kids shopping and pick out items for students who were too young to shop. A few volunteers were not able to take children shopping due to the amount of students who showed up to help.

Many volunteers echoed each other stating the evening is a rewarding experience for both them and the child.