



WPD Newsletter

Commitment to Service ♦ Leadership ♦ Justice ♦ Compassion ♦ Partnership ♦ Pride

Volume 77

Spring 2014

Upcoming Events:

April 20

Easter Sunday

May 11

Mother's Day

May 14

WPD Police Day Ceremony

May 15

National Peace Officer Memorial Day

May 1

WPD Police Day

May 17

UW-Whitewater Commencement

May 26

Memorial Day

June 8

WPD K9 5K/10K Walk/Run

June 13

Last Day of WUSD Schools

June 15

Father's Day

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Leading with No Reputation

by: Chief Lisa Otterbacher

"Becoming a Leader of No Reputation" by R. Scott Rodin was recently shared with me by a close friend. The article has a Christian foundation as Mr. Rodin was the former president of Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. However, as I read the article I found that I could seamlessly transpose pastor with leader with no change in intent and meaning because the founding principal was to lead without concern for maintaining a reputation.

Leading without a reputation, at first blush would cause one to pause, wondering how anyone would seek to lead without regard for their reputation. Sound leaders are often judged on their reputation specific to honor, integrity, justice, pride, honesty and fairness; seeking to ensure that their actions mirror their reputation. But there is a reputation, one that doesn't represent the leadership we value and seek to maintain. Difficult decisions can sometimes create a negative reputation; a reputation of being soft, uncaring, wavering,

or unpredictable. This can occur because the one making the decision is focusing on their reputation rather than a sound, fair and just decision. When making really difficult and unpopular decisions a leader must lead without a reputation; specifically without regard to how the decision, real or perceived, may impact their family, friendships, political status, popularity, or the status that may be associated with their reputation.

The article focuses on leadership and many of our pre-determined beliefs and expectations of what leadership should be or more importantly what it should not be. Leadership can easily become about reputation, image, prestige, prominence and/or power, when in reality each of these traits should be dismissed and devalued because they provide no solid leadership direction. Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher reminds us that "if you just set out to be liked, you would be prepared to compromise on anything at any time and would achieve nothing." You must be selected

for a leadership position for your ability to make the difficult decisions over the popular ones. When popular decisions are made they have the potential to eliminate some of the most important voices in the decision making process; the community we serve. In many distinguished leadership positions salary, title, prestige, priority, power, and influence are sought, but true leaders must resist fame and fortune because this narrow road traveled will not provide a foundation for integrity, honor and genuine leadership.

As the formal leader of the department this was a challenging, difficult, inspiring and motivating article to read. The article allowed me to appreciate my strengths and embrace my challenges as a leader while recognizing that change is within my reach. Power and influence are perhaps the hardest traits to manage; falling into the trap of providing too much leadership that we produce learned helplessness.

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Whitwater Police Personnel Updates



> Patrol Officer Jacob Hintz has been assigned to the position of School Resource Officer (formally the Juvenile Officer position) starting June 2nd. Our current SRO, Officer Saul Valadez, will train with Officer Hintz then transition back to enjoy his patrol duties.



> Dispatcher Sabrina Ojibway is the new Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Whitwater. The position will be an additional assignment so Sabrina will continue providing her valued dispatching duties.

WPD's K9 Unit is a Reality

by: Capt. Brian Uhl

The Whitewater Police Department is proud to announce that we have successfully reached our financial goal to officially implement our department's first K9 Unit. On behalf of the members of the police department, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere appreciation to our supporters for their assistance. Without them, this project would not have become a reality in just over a year's time.



generous support that was given by so many dedicated partners!

We have selected Steinig Tal Kennels out of Campbellsport, WI to purchase and train our canine. As we await the arrival of our canine, five sworn personnel applicants will answer a series of essay questions, participate in two separate interviews processes, and an in-home visit for the honor to serve as the department's first Canine Handler. Once the handler and canine are selected, they will participate in a rigorous training course at Steinig Tal Kennels. The specially designed K9 squad has been ordered and should arrive shortly after the canine and handler have returned from training.

This program remains a "BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY" initiative. We intend to have a formal introduction of the canine and handler to our community of supporters once they have completed their training.

The Whitewater Police Department would also like to remind everyone that the sustainability of our program will continue to rely on annual fundraisers and public contributions. We hope that you will continue to help support our

annual expenses for training and equipment with your generous support through t-shirt sales, our annual K9 5K/10K run, and other fundraising opportunities. See our website link <http://www.whitewater-wi.gov/departments/police> for information. We welcome donations from the community and businesses at any time and they can be mailed to the Whitewater Police Department, Attn: K-9 Unit, P. O. Box 117, Whitewater WI 53190.

We would also like to remind everyone of our 2nd Annual K9 Run/ Walk that will take place on Sunday morning, June 8th. There are still opportunities open for individuals and businesses to sponsor this year's event with sponsorship levels of \$250, \$500, \$750, and \$1000+. We are anticipating approximately 300 runners this year! Please visit the race website at www.wwk9run.com.

Any questions about the race or the K9 unit can be directed to Captain Brian Uhl either by email at buhl@whitewater-wi.gov or by phone at (262) 473-1371.

Please "like" us on Facebook at the Whitewater Police K9 page at www.facebook.com/whitewaterk9. ♦

TipSoft Program

by: Det. Dan Meyer

The Whitewater Police Department is partnering with Walworth County Crime Stoppers to bring an anonymous tip system called TipSoft to Whitewater. WPD is working directly with the Law Enforcement Coordinator for Walworth County Crime Stoppers, Deputy Dan Nelson of the Walworth County Sheriff's Office, to get TipSoft up and running in Whitewater. TipSoft will allow community members to anonymously provide tips to the Whitewater Police Department either online or by text message.

Deputy Nelson remarked that TipSoft is very beneficial due to its ease of use

and the fact that it ensures that those who wish to be anonymous stay anonymous. Another great benefit of TipSoft is that if desired, it allows the tip provider to have a "back and forth" dialogue with the designated Officer receiving the tips, while still remaining completely anonymous.

Those wishing to provide a tip by text message will be able to do so by sending a text to "Tip4wc" with an attached message. Tips will also be able to be sent online by clicking on the "Submit a Tip" TipSoft link that will be found on both the City of Whitewater webpage as well as the Whitewater Police Department Facebook page.

After clicking the link, the tip provider will simply fill out the applicable text fields and submit the tip. Once the tip is submitted it will be sent to the Walworth County Sheriff's Office where it will be sorted and then directed to the Whitewater Police Department.

We look forward to receiving your tips, but remember if there is an emergency, always dial 9-1-1 so that Police and Emergency Services can respond as quickly as possible! ♦

Whitewater Police Personnel Updates (continued from page 1)

➤ We'd like to welcome our newest Community Service Officer, Kyle Hathorn. Kyle started with our department on Friday, March 28th and will be in training



with various department employees for the next three weeks. Kyle is a long time resident of Janesville and currently a UW-Whitewater student enrolled in the Sociology program. In addition to his interest in law enforcement, Kyle has sought additional training in the area of Emergency Management. Kyle has been an Assistant Manager for Culvers since 2006 and dedicates his time assisting the Bethel House and interacting with families who are faced with homelessness.

➤ Our current intern, Lindsey Elser, is a senior at UW-Whitewater working towards a degree in Sociology with an Emphasis in Criminal Justice and a minor in Forensic Science. Lindsey is assisting the department with compiling accreditation proofs into



electronic files, creating templates to be used for search warrants and subpoenas, preparation for the department's Police Day ceremony in May, and many other miscellaneous tasks. ♦



➤ Kevin Alvarado of LaBelle Studios recently finished creating an updated photograph of our personnel (see above). Our previous department photograph was taken in 2000.

WPD Anniversaries & Birthdays

April

Justin Stuppy, 1 year on 4/15
 Lisa Otterbacher, 24 yrs on 4/24
 Marsha Peterson, birthday
 Ben Lindsey, birthday



May

Michele Martin, 18 years on 5/3
 Bill Oliver, 23 years on 5/13
 Sabrina Ojibway, 16 yrs on 5/14
 Tim Swartz, 13 years on 5/23
 Jennifer Ludlum, birthday
 Cathy Swartz, birthday
 Lisa Otterbacher, birthday

June

Bill Becker, 4 years on 6/1
 John Kleinfeldt, 5 years on 6/8
 Tina Winger, 21 years on 6/28
 Derrick Schleis, 4 years on 6/28
 Jennifer Ludlum, 11 yrs on 6/30
 Kathy Boyd, birthday
 Kathy Hogue, birthday
 Saul Valadez, birthday ♦

Leading with No Reputation

Continued from page 1

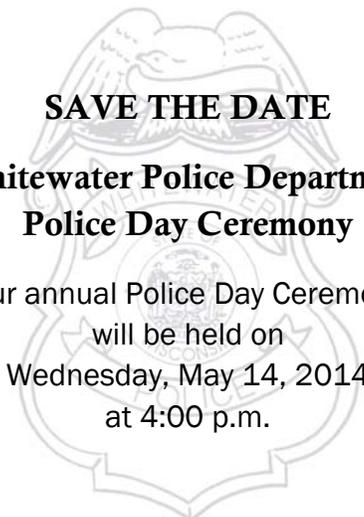
Believing in our own worth and abilities, can cause others under our leadership to become too dependent on us. Sadly this creates just the opposite response and only expands a leader's own reputation and resume while leaving personnel uninvolved and under-developed. Often, words such as leadership can be used to disguise a need to over manage and control in lieu of growing those to serve the community.

In a well run organization there are many formal and informal leaders. I

encourage each of our employees to personally reflect on their leadership skills, asking themselves what drives them to lead and how they make those difficult choices that are so unpopular yet critical in maintaining honor, integrity and commitment to personal excellence? How do you make the conscious choice to walk away from gossip and not judge while motivating others? Leadership is truly all about character; never forget that each and every member of our department represents the character of professional public safety. ♦

SAVE THE DATE Whitewater Police Department Police Day Ceremony

Our annual Police Day Ceremony
 will be held on
 Wednesday, May 14, 2014
 at 4:00 p.m.



Notes of Appreciation

While many of the Whitewater Police Department employee's efforts are commendable and deserve thanks, here are a few letters and comments that have been recently brought to the attention of the Chief of Police.

- "I wanted to send you a quick note to acknowledge Mike's contribution to the AODA Coalition. We greatly appreciated his invaluable feedback and the opportunity to have effective two-way communication between the city and the university. His service was definitely valued by our group." ~ Whitney Henley, Wellness Coordinator, University of Wisconsin - Whitewater
- "Thank you so much and your Whitewater Dept for all you guys have done through out this terrible situation...a big thank you to Sergeant Bradford and both detectives. ~ Lisa Schultz"
- "Today (Sunday) we had an EMS call where we were initially paged for an unresponsive female and prior to the truck going in service Kathy [Hogue] did a 2nd page advising the officer's on scene claimed the person was PNB. She did this without calling Rescue base or anybody currently enroute to the station or the scene. This worked out great for us. It brought another 3 EMTs to the scene to assist and the help was needed... That little effort from Kathy in 'just doing' the second page without trying to get in contact with someone on the radio to relay information from the officers on scene helped us as EMTs better perform our job. Thank you to you and your staff!" ~ Todd Lindert, WW Rescue Squad Captain
- "Good morning Lisa. I wanted to send you a note and thank you for the wonderfully-trained, sensitive staff you have. Det. Adam Vander Steeg came over to talk about a case. He was kind, caring and professional. I know this is the kind of work you and your staff experience every day ... I am thankful for your leadership and the people who are protecting those in our community... Forever grateful." ~ Kim Simes
- Michele, Neal and Ellen, ... stopped by today to express his gratitude for your contact with his sister yesterday (Michele, the primary officer and Neal, the backup officer, Ellen, the dispatcher on duty). He mentioned that if you hadn't intervened she possibly wouldn't be alive. ... I included Ellen in this email because after looking at the call for service I noted how quickly she took the information and dispatched you to the call. It's always refreshing to have someone come to our window and compliment the good work done by our officers and dispatchers. Thank you. ~ Kathy Boyd, Support Services Manager ♦

Presentations and Speeches given by WPD Personnel



★ On 01/10/14 School Resource Officer (SRO) Saul Valadez, Officer Joe Matteson, Officer Ryan Weston, and Community Service Officer Stuppy presented Response to an Active Threat to Whitewater High School students.

- ★ On 01/14/14 SRO Valadez presented Response to an Active Threat to Washington Elementary School parents.
- ★ On 01/15/14 SRO Valadez and Det. Meyer presented Response to an Active Threat to Whitewater Middle School students,
- ★ On 01/16/14 SRO Valadez and Det. Meyer presented Response to an Active Threat to LINCS Elementary School parents.
- ★ On 01/27/14 SRO Valadez and Walworth Co Deputy Brauer presented Response to an Active Threat to Lakeview Elementary School students.
- ★ On 01/29/14 SRO Valadez and Det. Vander Steeg presented Response to an Active Threat to LINCS Elementary School students.
- ★ On 01/30/14 SRO Valadez and Det. Vander Steeg presented Response to an Active Threat to Washington Elementary School students.
- ★ On 02/04/14 SRO Valadez presented Response to an Active Threat Concept to the Whitewater Optimist Club members.
- ★ On 03/15/14 Ofc. Oliver presented Identity Theft to the First United Methodist Church congregation and individual from the public.
- ★ On 03/30/14 Ofc. Matteson presented Response to an Active Threat to the UW-Whitewater Zeta Kappa Chapter and Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity students. ♦



Trivia Question for WPD Employees

"What part of the WPD Mission Statement does Chief Otterbacher like the most and why?"

Answers must be emailed to Chief Otterbacher by April 10th, 2014. The employees with the correct answer win a candy bar of their choice.

Community Connection



Freeze Fest 2014

The Freeze Fest Committee and the Whitewater Parks & Recreation Department would like to give a huge thank you to Chief Lisa Otterbacher, Officer Jacob Hintz, and Neighborhood Services Officer Brody Fiedler for helping with this year's Freeze Fest and Polar Plunge. With their dedication and sense of humor, this event became spectacular! ~ Michelle Dujardin, City of Whitewater Recreation and Community Events Programmer

"The wonderful basket of gifts and goodies was given to the members of the Whitewater PD by the students at Washington School. The students were asked to contribute items to several different baskets to be delivered to those the children felt may not be appreciated and/or remembered during the holiday season. Several children felt that the members of the Whitewater Police Department may not be remembered or appreciated and wanted to extend their appreciation to all of you. The items in the basket were collected by the children. There is a number of red "cards" that were written by the children describing why they felt the members of the Whitewater PD should be remembered during the holiday season. The cards are a wonderful tribute to what each and every one of you do in your support of public safety. Please take a minute to read over the cards, granddaughter Madeline wrote a particularly heartwarming card, the words and feelings represent their appreciation for what each of you do for the community of Whitewater. I would also like to thank you for the hours you dedicated away from your families in order to serve and protect the community of Whitewater." ~ Chief Lisa Otterbacher



WHITEWATER

5K/10K

1mi kiddie run
5k run/walk
10k run/walk

June 8th, 2014

START

All benefits go to:

BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY

Race Day Schedule and fees

Registration: 7:30a-8:30a
Kiddie 1-mile Sprint: 8:30a, Cost \$10
5k/10k Race: 9:00a, Cost \$20/\$25
Dog/Owner Team 5k/10k: 9:10a, Cost \$20/\$25
Silent Auction ending at 10:20a

Register at www.active.com! Save \$5 by registering before March 31st!

For more information visit our website, www.wvk9run.com, or contact Jim Elder at elder@whitewater-wi.gov or Heidi Gempler at (262) 903-5410

The K9 committee is looking for donations of silent auction items for the 5K/10K Run. If you would like to donate items that you think would be a great addition to our silent auction, please contact Kathy Boyd at (262) 473-1373.

Also consider being a race sponsor by making a monetary donation!

Thank you!

Whitewater Police Department

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La Belle Studios