



PORTAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Lt. Penny Kiefer, the Portage Daily Register's 2013 Anne Zimmerman Person of the Year, holds her grandchildren, Eve, 5 months, and Josie, age 4.

Nomination for the Anne Zimmerman Person of the Year 2013 Lt. Penny A. Kiefer

Nominators: Municipal Clerk Dawn Wilcox & Police Chief Ken Manthey

Penny has touched many lives in the Portage area by serving the Portage Police Department and the community of Portage for over 35 years. She started for the Police Department on 9-18-78 as a dispatcher. On 9-27-81, she became a patrol officer. On 7-15-90, she was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant. She is always willing to go the extra mile to help those who are in need of her services.

Penny has been very active in the Portage community. She was doing community policing before it became a “buzzword”. In 2003, just one month after her 25 year anniversary, Penny was awarded the Mary Rita Ostrander Leadership Award which is the highest award a female officer can receive in Wisconsin. (It’s even greater than “Woman Police Officer of the Year” because it recognizes outstanding service for many years, not just one.)

We would like to share with you some of the things that Penny does to help our department stay involved with the community:

1. Lt. Penny Kiefer has one of the most active TRIAD/SALT (Seniors & Law Enforcement working Together) groups in the State of Wisconsin.
2. The senior citizens receive annual training including receiving information on identity theft and other types of fraud.
3. They have the annual Senior Safe Night Out where officers will escort the seniors out to their vehicles after having a fun night together.
4. Penny & her family & friends donated their own time to paint and install new cabinets and decorate the downstairs nutrition site kitchen at city hall.
5. They have made blankets (Blanket Patrol) as well as hats/mittens which are donated to law enforcement and Human Services to give to victims of child abuse/sexual abuse.
6. Penny and volunteers collect and then hand out numerous 9-1-1 cell phones; many to senior citizens who don’t own one
7. Penny has maintained a supply of pepper spray containers and body alarms that she provides to the public at cost to help keep them safe

Penny is in charge of our annual Police Department Open House and helps recruit other officers to participate; her Triad members also help us out with this.

Penny is our Liaison with the Salvation Army – she’s able to secure vouchers so that we can help people needing assistance. They provide fans to people during heat waves & they assist needy people especially during the holidays.

- *Penny is our Liaison with the Columbia County Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse Coalition; they look at ways to reduce domestic violence.
- *Penny is in charge of our teddy bear program where we keep teddy bears, blankets & children's books in our squads and give them to children who have suffered or witnessed different forms of trauma
- *Penny gives safety demonstrations to women's groups when requested
- *Penny is in charge of our annual bike rodeo and auction where children get free bike helmets, safety tips and their bikes serviced for free
- *She works closely with ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center) and ABC Connections in helping senior citizens get the care they need
- *Penny is a member of the Columbia County Highway Safety Committee; they look at different ways to make our roads/streets safer
- *Penny has been very active with the Kiwanis; she has served as President, Vice President and held other offices. She helps out with numerous fundraisers. She was also active with the Portage High School Key Club. They are also helping with the fundraising efforts for the Portage Skatepark Project.
- *Penny has served on the Portage Elks Club as a secretary.
- *Penny has been a team leader for the Girl Scouts of America.
- *Penny has helped out with fundraising for Santa's Workshop.
- *When she is off-duty, she is very busy helping to take care of her two grandchildren. (She's also known for making the best cakes/cupcakes in town!)

Dawn Wilcox – Municipal Clerk

Ken Manthey – Police Chief



Lt. Penny Kiefer celebrated her 35 year anniversary with Portage PD on September 18th, 2013. (Penny didn't want to have a big party to recognize her special milestone so we just had a gathering for those working)

New full-time Police Officer:

On April 8th, 2013, Officer Mike Schutz became a full-time officer for us. (He had been working for us part-time since the fall of 2012) He is now badge #10.



New Police Secretary:

On March 11th, 2013, Denise (Alwin) Vater started for us as our new Police Secretary. She came to us highly recommended from Columbia County Human Services. She replaced Secretary Judy Banks who retired in late 2012.



(COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY #4

In January of 2013, we started up our 4th Citizen Police Academy Citizen Police Academy. We had another great group of citizens attend. Ass't Chief Kevin O'Neill and Sgt. Keith Klafke were our main coordinators but many of our officers gave presentations on fields that they have specialized training in. This is a 10 week program (which runs from January through March) to show citizens the different kinds of training that we go through so that we can perform our duties to the best of our abilities. Topics included firearms & Tasers, traffic stops, drug investigations, emergency management, CVSA, surveillance equipment, VARDA's, cameras, legal issues, sex offenders, Triad, domestic abuse, fingerprinting & DNA, DARE/School Liaison, Amber Alert/ A Child is Missing/ Project Lifesaver, Defense and Arrest Techniques/ Handcuffing & OMVWI & SFST (Standard Field Sobriety Testing) If you would like to join the 2015 class, please contact me. (You need to be at least 18 years old and have some direct connection to the City of Portage)



1st Row: Steve Aldridge, Heather Stenberg, Jeynell Boeck, Shannon Schultz, Louise Hunter, Jen McCoy
2nd Row: Ass't Chief O'Neill, Erika Mueller, Denise Alwin, Melissa Schneiter, Jamie Hill, Jenny Johnson
3rd Row: Chief Manthey, Don Schultz, Norm Bartnick, Officer Dennis Pomeroy, Sgt. Keith Klafke

V.I.P.S. (Volunteers In Police Services) Program

In 2010, we started a “Volunteers in Policing” unit under the direction and coordination of Ass’t Police Chief Kevin O’Neill. This is made up of unpaid citizens who have completed ten weeks of training with the Citizen’s Police Academy and expressed a willingness to stay affiliated with our department. Future membership will require the person to be either a Citizens Police Academy graduate, a student presently enrolled full-time in a college-level Law Enforcement program, or formal Police Academy graduate not yet employed by an agency. A potential member may also be a former law enforcement officer, either retired or a former police officer who chose to go into another career field. Any prior law enforcement person *must* have left their previous department under favorable/honorable terms.

None of the volunteers are armed and they do not have police arrest powers. They may wear a pull-over or shirt with “Volunteer” on it. Safety vests worn will either be plain or state “volunteer”. Any identification card issued to them shall clearly show “volunteer”.

The volunteers have trained one evening per month with the primary focus on emergency management. In 2013, the volunteers assisted us with numerous parades, Halloween Trick or Treating, the Holiday Train, Santa Claus at the Airport & Living Windows.

Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run

Every year, our police department, along with other agencies, participate in the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. This is held the first Thursday in June every year. Below is a photo and list of the participants.



L-R Sgt. Keith Klafke, Megan Thompson (former youth apprentice), Officer Klaude Thompson, Officer David Clark, Chief Manthey, ADA Chris Genda, ADA Crystal Long, DA Jane Kohlwey, COSO Lt. Jim Stilson & Probation & Parole Agent Tim Jordan

DARE/School Liaison Officer/School functions

Starting in January of 2013, our department began daily visits to our schools because of the Sandy Hook shootings. Below is a photo of Officer Ben Neumann visiting with a nine year old student while he was doing a walk-through of John Muir School.



This has been a very positive experience for the officers, the teachers and the students. Officers have been greeted with friendly waves, questions by students, and a few high-fives. Police are not there to interrupt classes, but are walking the hallways and greeting staff and students to let them know that they are there and available when they are needed. In the past, police visited only when there was trouble; the new practice will allow students and staff to get to know the officers in a more relaxed and pleasant way.

The policy also will help officers get to know where classrooms are located. “It gives each of the officer’s better knowledge (of the schools) so if there is an emergency, they will know the layout.

For other school activities:

- We continue to support the DARE training in all of the schools in the City of Portage not only for the educational value but for the bonding that takes place between the officer and the students.
- Chief Manthey attended the 2013 Heroes Program at Rusch Elementary School
- When needed, we supply an officer at dances, football games, basketball games, or other community events.

- We also assist the schools with their Homecoming Parade, the High School graduation and the Project Graduation lock-in. Officer Bob Bagnall and I attended the new teacher program held in August.
- Officer Pete Bartaczewicz was the chaperone for the school safety patrol trip from May 13th through May 17th
- We are happy to give talks or presentations in the schools on just about any law enforcement related topic. We also give tours of the police department and have students “job-shadow” with police officers.
- We help the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts in Portage by assisting them in earning their badges. We have fingerprinted them, given them tours of the Police Department and Safety Talks and attending their ceremonies.
- We had our annual bike rodeo on May 4th; approximately 100 bike helmets were given away; these were donated by the Salvation Army, two bikes were donated by Kiwanis (given away through a drawing) and Divine Savior Hospital/EMS staff helped out with the fitting of the helmets. Children were taught how to ride their bikes safely and we had another great turn-out. Officer AJ Brauner and Community Service Officer Jerilyn Jerome assisted Lt. Penny Kiefer with this event.
- We work with five full-time adult crossing guards and one substitute and they do an outstanding job for us. Warren Taylor, Jayne Krall, Marie Hoffer, Virgil Chance & Wally Roderick are the regulars and Don Picha is our substitute.



Front Row: Mayor Bill Tierney
Second Row: Jayne Krall, Wally Roderick, Marie Hoffer
Back Row: Chief Manthey, Warren Taylor, Virgil Chance, Don Picha, Lt. Hahn

Triad/S.A.L.T. (Seniors And Law enforcement working Together.

- We continue to work with TRIAD/SALT. Lt. Penny Kiefer is the lead person on these programs.
- Numerous 9-1-1 cell phones have been distributed this past year through the direction of Lt. Kiefer and with the help of citizen volunteers & CSO's
- Every spring, a training day is held in the Senior Center below City Hall
- Medication collection has taken place due to the partnership formed between TRIAD, Walgreen's, Portage PD & Divine Savior Healthcare; we also have a drug safe in our lobby where people can drop off prescription medication that is no longer being used
- In October, they had a Senior Safe Night where they get together in the basement of city hall for a nice meal and entertainment.



The spring training session was well attended and K-9 Handler Darrel Ward and his dog, Maverick, were very well received!



Community Service Officers Jerilyn Jerome and Kevin Todryk were very helpful in assisting Lt. Penny Kiefer with the Senior Citizen Spring Training.



Barb and Lee Chenoweth are very faithful Triad members who helped out with the Spring training; they are also members of Volunteers In Police Services (VIPS)

Regional Sex Offender Notification Team

- Our Sex Offender Notification Team meets monthly and strives to keep the public informed, as soon as possible, of any new released offenders moving into our area. Det. Lt. Hahn is now our department Liaison and he is assisting Det. Lt. Roger Brander of the Columbia County Sheriff's Department in running this team. Besides Portage PD and the Columbia County Sheriff's Department, the State of WI Probation & Parole, the Department of Corrections, the District Attorney's Office and the Victim-Witness Office make up this team. We also invite Police Chiefs from other communities to attend our meetings if a sex offender is moving into their jurisdiction.

Business Security Checks

- Our patrol officers continue to perform security checks on businesses at night. They will occasionally leave a card informing the business owner that we were checking their business.

Columbia County Crimestoppers:

- We continue to work with Columbia County Crimestoppers. Det. Lt. Hahn is the liaison for our department
- Crimestoppers continues to help our department solve crimes in and around Portage

Portage Police Chaplains' Program

Our three current Police Chaplains are:

- Pastor Dick Inglett of Bethlehem Lutheran Church
- Pastor Scott Schultz of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
- Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy (trained specifically to be a Police Chaplain)

We had our annual Police Chaplain meeting in December of 2013 and the three chaplains signed up for the on-call list to cover the year of 2014.



L-R Police Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy, Community Representative Bob Mendrala, Pastor Scott Schultz and Pastor Dick Inglett



Father Jim Murphy was a Police Chaplain for us since 2005. Here he receives a plaque thanking him for his eight years of service to our department. He moved to another parish in southwest Wisconsin in 2013. (L-R Ass't Chief O'Neill, Chief Manthey, Sgt. Klafke and Officer David Clark)

Fire Calls

- Our officers respond to fire calls and help with traffic control and assist the Portage Fire Department in any way we can. We have a very good working relationship with the fire department.

Special Events:

- We assist in all kinds of special events such as Memorial Day Parade, Canal Day Parade, Labor Day Parade, Taste of Portage, Pumpkin Fest, Living Windows, the Christmas Parade and the Christmas Train. Portage can be very proud of all the great activities they offer to the greater Portage area.

Ride-Along Program:

- We offer citizens the opportunity to ride with a police officer. We will first do a brief background check on the person and they must sign a waiver of liability form. This gives the general public a better idea what our police officers do and it especially provides them with some insight in the event they're contemplating becoming a police officer.

Open House

- We had our annual open house on October 12^h, 2013, in conjunction with the Fire Department's open house. Lt. Penny Kiefer is in charge of organizing this from the police department's standpoint. The turn-out from the public was excellent and it was a beautiful day. Steve Aldridge, a graduate of our Citizen Police Academy, agreed to be Tasered for the Taser demonstration.



Sgt. Keith Klafke in background with Taser; Steve Aldridge being helped to the mat by Officers Jason Stenberg and Tom Moore

More Photos from 2013 Open House



Triad Members Mary Grossman & Joan Maxwell helping out in the Police Lobby



Kids enjoying the back seat of a squad car



Perhaps a Portage Police Officer in 10 years?



Officers Mike Schutz and David Clark handing out bike helmets and answering questions



Kids enjoyed throwing balls at a net and seeing how fast they registered on our speed board; Community Service Officer Kevin Todryk assisted with this event

Ambulance Calls:

- Our officers attempt to respond to every ambulance call when possible (with the exception of routine transfers). We responded to 789 ambulance calls in 2013.
- If necessary, we will call out a Police Chaplain or assist family members in any way we can when they're dealing with the medical issues of a loved one.

We had a “save” in 2013 with the use of the defibrillator. On August 10th, Greg Tessmann, age 51, had a heart attack and quit breathing. Sgt. Eric Walters, Officer Ben Neumann and Officer Mike Schutz quickly responded to the call. They hooked up the defibrillator and shocked him twice and took turns doing chest compressions. Divine Savior EMT's/Paramedics arrived on scene and took over his care. Officer Neumann drove the ambulance to the hospital. Mr. Tessmann was in a coma for approximately a week but later had a full recovery. Below is a photo of the three officers with Mr. Tessmann after they received letters of commendation at a Common Council meeting for saving Mr. Tessmann's life.



L-R Sgt. Walters, Officer Neumann, Officer Schutz & Greg Tessmann

INTERGOVERNMENTAL/INTERAGENCY:

Our department continues to have solid working relationships with all of the agencies that we associate with. The Columbia County Chiefs of Police Association (representing the Chiefs, Sheriff, DA, Probation & Parole, State Patrol, DNR) have been rotating our monthly meetings around the county and these have been well attended. We work closely with Probation and Parole, the District Attorney's Office, the City Attorney and Human Services. As noted previously, we have a good relationship with all of the schools.

We have assisted other agencies by sitting in on interview panels and vice versa. We have assisted numerous law enforcement agencies at the local hospital with drunk drivers, emergency commitments or potentially violent persons.

We have a particularly strong working relationship with the Columbia County Sheriff's Department. They assist us when we execute search warrants; especially when its drug related. We share our range with them for qualifications. We assist each other with accidents and other serious calls in or near the city limits. We trained together in the spring of 2013 for in-service training and we will be together again in 2014.

Community Service Officers Jerilyn Jerome & Kevin Todryk

The Community Service Officer duties include:

- Ordinance enforcement including animal complaints & junk vehicles & other quality of life issues
- Assist in special events including parades, bike rodeos, crowd control, open house, senior safe night out, kids' day, etc.
- Parking enforcement & record keeping
- Coordinates crossing guards and fill in as substitute when needed
- Motorist assists and funeral escorts (when officers are busy on priority calls)
- Provide visibility with foot patrol & bike patrol including during special events
- Assist with Project Lifesaver monthly checks
- Performs secretarial and receptionist duties: types police reports; prepares, sorts, files and maintains reports and case materials such as incident and accident reports; takes complainant statements; handles incoming and outgoing mail.
- Assist with squad, garage & property room maintenance
- Performs other duties as required.



Kevin & Jerilyn loading up old car seats turned in at the open house



Sgt. Fehd instructing Jerilyn & Kevin on the use of Capstun (pepper spray)

POLICE FAMILY:



Sgt. Brian Fehd and his wife, Tracy, and their two girls; Kennedy & Sienna, at the Police & Fire Open House



Officer Ben Neumann and his wife, Monica, were blessed with a healthy baby boy, Connor, on June 6th



Our department was asked to put a team together for the St. Mary's Best Fest Bed Race on May 18th; from L-R, Officer AJ Brauner, Sgt. Keith Klafke, Officer Mike Schutz, Officer David Clark and Police Secretary Jen Mecum (they took 2nd place)

Sgt. Adam Malchow was given a plaque for his 25 years of service with Portage PD; he started with our department on February 22nd, 1988.

Officer Bill Charlebois was selected by the Wisconsin Professional Police Association to receive their 2013 Certificate of Merit on May 19th for saving the life of a young boy from a house fire in December of 2012. He also received a Red Cross Good Samaritan award on May 30th.

Officer Ben Neumann successfully completed his 18 month probationary period with our department on March 12, 2013.

Secretary Denise Alwin was married to Scott Vater on June 29th; she is now Denise Vater.

Ass't Chief Kevin O'Neill and his wife, Diana, celebrated their 35 year wedding anniversary on 10-21-13

TRAINING:



Sgt. Keith Klafke graduated from the 10 week Northwestern Police Staff & Command School on November 22nd, 2013

We continue to train our officers by either sending them to training courses or by providing the training in-house. By LESB (Law Enforcement Standard Board) standards, our officers have to receive a minimum of 24 hours of training every year to remain certified as law enforcement officers.

No matter what training we have, we do our best to make sure that it's good training not only for the officer but for the department as well. We also try to select training that is in our area to prevent additional costs such as motel room bills. We were able to access a lot of good training at no cost from Volk field through federal funds. (They absorb all training costs including meals and housing)

We are also very fortunate to have our in-house trainers:

- Sgt. Klafke continues to be our Taser instructor. This has helped our department in reducing liability, injuries and even saving lives. This is a good working tool to help combat violent individuals.
- Sgt. Brian Fehd continues to be our EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operation Course) Instructors. He teaches our officers how to maneuver our squads as safely as possible to keep the officers safe and avoid accidents. He is also our DAAT (Defense And Arrest Tactics) instructor and he teaches the officers how to use verbal commands properly, how to handcuff people properly, the use of pepper spray, batons, etc. He went to a three-week training course to become qualified to teach at this level. He is also our Vehicle Contact Instructor.
- Sgt. Keith Klafke and Officer Jason Stenberg continue to be our Range Officers. They run officers through the range on a quarterly basis to make sure the officers are proficient with their service weapons and to make sure the weapons are cleaned thoroughly.

KEY EVENTS IN 2013

Sexual Assaults

On 1-09-13, a 33 year old Montello man was taken into custody after he confessed to having sexual intercourse with a 12 year old female; several of the offenses happened in Portage and other offenses happened in Montello. He is being held in the Columbia County Jail on a \$50,000 cash bond. He has pled guilty to one count and the other counts were dismissed but read in for sentencing purposes. A pre-sentence investigation is being conducted and he will be sentenced sometime in 2014.

On 7-15-13, a 36 year old Portage man was taken into custody for having sexual contact with 16 year old female. He later posted a \$2,000 cash bond and the matter is still working its way through the court system.

Bank Robbery

On 7-17-13, the US Bank in downtown Portage was robbed by a lone person. The female handed the teller a note that she had a firearm and that she would shoot or kill people. With the help of good photos of the suspect, the suspect was quickly identified and taken into custody as she was preparing to flee the state. The majority of the stolen money was recovered. Ka Zuag Vang was convicted of the crime in the fall of 2103 and was sentenced to 2 years in prison and 8 years extended supervision on January 31st, 2014.

Armed Robbery

On 12-03-13, a Portage man advised that he had been robbed at gunpoint in the 100 block of East Conant Street. Two Portage men were identified as the suspects. One was located and is being held in jail on a \$5,000 cash bond. The other fled the area and there is an active warrant for his arrest. A semi-auto pistol and ammunition were recovered.

Homicide

On September 5th, officers responded to a report of a man being shot in the parking lot at the Subway Restaurant on New Pinery Road. Upon our arrival, we found David Johnson, age 22, mortally wounded; he had been shot numerous times. Divine Savior EMT's & Paramedics did all they could to save him but were unable to do so. An attempt to locate was put out for a suspect and the suspect's vehicle and in less than one hour, an alert Columbus Police Officer observed the vehicle and stopped it. The suspect, Jordan Scott, age 19, was taken into custody without incident and the murder weapon was recovered. Mr. Scott admitted that he intentionally shot Mr. Johnson because of an earlier argument at Subway; where they both were employed. Mr. Scott is being held in the Columbia County Jail on a first degree intentional homicide charge. Bond was set at one million dollars. The jury trial has been scheduled to start on June 2nd, 2014 and it's anticipated to last one week. We were assisted by the Columbia County Sheriff's Department, the Columbia County Medical Examiner's Office, the Columbia County District Attorney's Office, the WI State Patrol, the Columbus Police Department and Divine Savior. Police Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy was doing a ride along that day and was invaluable to us.

2013 Statistics comparison						
Incident Type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Accident	498	372	450	451	386	442
Agency Assist	402	402	375	355	410	412
Ambulance Calls	548	562	656	717	788	789
Alarm Calls	147	167	173	144	151	194
Animal Complaints	402	435	369	344	359	382
Burglaries	19	18	19	14	17	18
Citations (Traffic & Ordinance)	2213	2142	2044	1975	2514	2642
Criminal Damage/Property	120	100	88	58	54	68
De-Tox	32	20	18	17	23	11
Disturbance	282	329	289	218	201	160
Found Property	318	266	225	205	220	215
Lost Property	61	52	44	37	53	47
Mental Commitment	60	72	51	36	42	28
Motorist Assists	115	49	71	50	87	149
OWI Arrests	137	130	134	109	114	72
Probation/Parole Arrests	179	130	195	134	147	119
Suspicious Activity	468	378	341	290	361	347
Suspicious Person	134	121	89	92	105	99
Suspicious Vehicle	56	64	61	71	43	75
Telephone Harassment	78	62	38	77	28	26
Theft – Bicycle	41	28	18	24	14	18
Theft – From Motor Vehicle	51	48	40	20	26	47
Theft – Motor Vehicle	9	8	7	4	5	6
Truancy – Habitual	144	116	72	49	41	43
Warnings	2994	2946	2353	1822	1426	962
Warrant Arrests	116	88	124	127	153	183
Welfare Checks	389	370	397	404	502	470

In summary, we once again had a very busy year. I am very proud of our department. We have a very dedicated staff that does their best to protect and serve our community every day.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Manthey
Chief of Police 2-19-14