



## **PORTAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2015 ANNUAL REPORT**



**Department photo taken on January 5<sup>th</sup>  
(This was taken just before Ass't Chief O'Neill's retirement party)**

**Assistant Police Chief Kevin O'Neill's Retirement:**

On January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Ass't Police Chief Kevin O'Neill retired from the Portage Police Department. Kevin dedicated his entire career to law enforcement where he served a total of 42 years. Prior to coming to Portage PD, Kevin worked for the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad Police Department, the Romeoville Police Department, the Hickory Hills Police Department and the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation Controlled Substance Enforcement Division. He received many letters of commendations while working for the above listed agencies.

Kevin also served his country by serving with the Army National Guard, the Air National Guard and the United States Coast Guard. He continues to serve with the Civil Air Patrol and the Portage VFW honor detail.

Kevin's last 24 years were with Portage P.D. Kevin worked his way up the ranks after starting for us on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1991. In January of 1996, he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. In January of 2000, he was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant. In 2002, he became my Administrative Lieutenant and in 2005, he was promoted to Assistant Police Chief. Kevin was of great assistance to me with the running of the department and I appreciated his wisdom, experience and advice. Some of his duties included:

- Deputy Director of Emergency Management, City of Portage. Served as back up and assists the Fire Chief in all phases of Emergency Management mitigation, planning, response and recovery operations. (Kevin went through all four phases and eventually achieved full certification in Wisconsin Emergency Management)
- Citizen Police Academy Program Administrator
- Volunteers in Police Service Program Administrator/Coordinator
- Municipal Court Officer
- Clothing/equipment allowance coordinator/quartermaster
- Threat Liaison Officer

During his time with Portage PD, Kevin received many letters of commendation and thanks:

Letter of commendation for recovery of a stolen safe from a burglary on 7-24-91

Letter of commendation for suicidal man armed with a knife on 4-21-92

Letter of commendation for entering a burning home to remove a victim on 11-16-93

Letter of commendation for assisting in arresting a burglary suspect on 5-06-94

Letter of commendation for being the Project Coordinator for "Cops in Shops" (aimed at reducing the purchase of alcohol by underage persons) on 6-19-95

Letter of commendation for making three arrests on a burglary and getting confessions and the recovery/return of stolen property on 6-19-95

Letter of commendation for saving a person's life by doing CPR on 2-04-96

Letter of commendation for running several special events on 6-03-96

Letter of commendation for "Walk & Talk for Safety" where Kevin wrote the grant allowing officers to focus on promoting safety for bicyclists and pedestrians on 9-05-96

Letter of commendation for his work on changing the K-Mart and Wal\*Mart intersection on New Pinery Road to prevent future accidents on 5-01-97

Letter of commendation for assisting other officers in taking two armed robbery suspects into custody on 12-23-98

Letter of thanks for helping a person trapped in an elevator after the power went down at the Phoenix on 5-16-99

Letter of thanks for helping a stranded motorist on 6-21-99

Achievement Certificate for his dedication and commitment to help our department achieve State Accreditation on 1-21-00

Letter of thanks for helping with the Defibrillator Fundraiser Gourmet Meal on 5-14-02

Letter of thanks from a family for assisting their son with depression issues on 5-27-02

Two letter of thanks from Baraboo PD for sitting on interview panel for Administrative Lt. on 7-11-01 and for Patrol Lt. on 9-10-02

Letter of commendation for coordination of railroad disaster drill on 10-02-02

Letter of thanks from citizens involved in a car crash on 2-20-03

Letter of thanks from a woman whose husband had died and Kevin assisted with the death notification

Letter of thanks for Kevin's participation in "Family Day" for the U.S. Air Force

Job well done memo for dealing with a man threatening others with a knife and firearms on 5-30-04

Letter of thanks for Kevin talking to a suicidal woman on the phone and convincing her to seek immediate help on 11-22-04

Job well done memo for assisting other officers with a violent domestic arrest on 7-17-07

Letter of thanks from Baraboo PD for assisting them with an internal issue on 3-04-08

Letter of thanks from Sheriff Richards and Emergency Management Director Pat Beghin for Kevin's assistance in the Emergency Operations Center during the flooding of 2008

Letter of commendation for Kevin's handling of the flooding in 2010 and a 9-1-1

"Swatting Call" that came in the same weekend of 9-25-2010

Letters of commendation for Kevin coordinating our Citizen Police Academy from 2010 through 2014

### **Assistant Police Chief Kevin O'Neill's retirement:**



Kevin receiving retirement plaque from Chief Manthey



Kevin being congratulated by his wife, Diana (retired Police Officer)



Kevin & Diana with their children and grandchildren and Kevin's mom



We had a great turn-out; photo above shows COSO Sheriff Richards visiting with MASO Sheriff Kim Gaffney & COSO Chief Deputy Mike Babcock



Cake made by Lt. Penny Kiefer



Kevin and PFC President Tom Drury

**Det. Lt. Mark Hahn's Retirement:**

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Det. Lt. Mark Hahn retired from the Portage Police Department. Mark dedicated his entire career to law enforcement service. In 1977, Mark entered the United States Army after graduating from Madison East High School in May of that year. He served in the Army Military Police until November 1980. After returning home from the Army, Mark served as a Columbia County Deputy Sheriff from April 1981 to March 1990. During his time at the Sheriff's Office, Mark also served several years as a canine handler working with a K-9 partner. From March 1990 to March 1991, Mark was an instructor at the Shelton State Police Community College working in the K-9 Division.

Mark joined the Portage Police Department on July 29, 1991 as a road officer, bringing with him his K-9 partner, Greif. On September 7, 1993, he was promoted to Special Operations Officer handling DARE, school liaison and juvenile investigations. On January 1, 1999, he was promoted to Detective/School Liaison Officer. On August 15, 2005, he was promoted to Detective Lieutenant

During these 24 years on Portage PD, Mark performed far above and beyond the call of duty and received many letters of commendation:

Letter of commendation for the Subway Restaurant Homicide on 9-05-13

Letter of commendation for his work on our RMS system on 8-20-10 (Mark, in addition to all his other duties, he had been Portage PD's inside IT guy for years)

Letter of commendation for the Oneida Street homicide/torture case (he has presented this case at several homicide investigators' conferences)

Letter of commendation for three death/drug overdose investigations; arrests were made in all three cases; letter dated 11-08-06

Letter of commendation for a sexual assault investigation where Mark was called out on New Year's Day of 2006

Letter of commendation for making arrests of two male adults who sexually assaulted two 14 year old girls; letter dated 8-01-05

Letter of Commendation for three different investigations (multiple car thefts, domestic homicide & several arson cases) letter dated 12-14-04

Letter of Commendation for making an arrest on a delivery of a controlled substance & reckless homicide; letter dated 10-21-04

Letter of commendation for assisting with bomb threat on Amtrak on 7-06-04 where 300 passengers had to be evacuated; suspect was arrested two days later

Letter of commendation for arresting three adults in connection with the liquid methadone overdose of an 18 year young lady; letter dated 11-06-03

Letter of commendation for arresting three adults in connection with 77 counts of criminal damage totaling over \$20,000; letter dated 5-09-03

Letter of commendation for making an arrest for a sexual assault of a juvenile; he also charged the mother with "failure to protect"; letter dated 2-13-03

Letter of commendation for making arrests of five suspects where two victims had been stabbed; four knives were recovered; letter dated 10-03-02

Letter of commendation for four different events; letter dated 11-14-01

- \* Drug presentation to school staff
- \* Arrest on a sexual assault
- \* String of thefts

\* Ran a CVSA (Computer Voice Stress Analyzer) on a suspect in an attempted homicide

Letter of commendation for arresting 8 adults and 5 juveniles in connection with gang activity/gang initiation/graffiti; he spent two solid weeks on this investigation and the arrests prevented more gang activity; letter dated 9-20-99

Of particular note –

Lead investigator in the Subway Restaurant homicide (September 5, 2013) – coordinated the investigation and manhunt which resulted in the very quick apprehension of the shooter. This quick action probably prevented additional homicides or suicide since the shooter was heavily armed, mobile and volatile. Mark's skill in putting together all the interviews, dealing with physical evidence and compassionately dealing with the victim's family all contributed to the shooter pleading to 1<sup>st</sup> degree intentional homicide without the necessity of putting the victim's family through a gruesome jury trial.

Lead investigator in the Oneida Street homicide/concealing corpse/child torture/abuse case. This case, because of its notoriety and unique factors, gained national attention. Mark, as the lead investigator put in countless hours following all leads, amassing and organizing huge amounts of interviews, recordings, pictures, videos, and physical evidence. This led to the conviction and sentencing of all three adult defendants.

Even more impressive than the police work in this matter was and continues to be Mark's dedication to the primary juvenile victim in this case. This young boy (ACG - 11 years old at the time of the crimes) suffered through horrendous prolonged torture of himself and his mother, the death of mother at the hands of the defendants and then the concealing of his mother's corpse. Mark, in addition to the "customary" police work involved of interviewing this young victim, provided moral support to ACG while the cases were pending. Mark regularly visited ACG while ACG was at Children's Hospital. Mark took ACG to sports events. Mark was and continues to be this young man's friend and ally. All this is done above and beyond the duties of his job – Mark does this because he truly cares about people.



Mark receiving his retirement plaque from Chief Manthey



Mark with parents, wife & sisters



Mark & Dr. Barbara Knox (Oneida Street Torture Case; attending physician)



Mark with Jen & Denise – PD Secretaries



Mark & District Attorney's Staff



One last surprise and one last case to solve...

New Police Officers sworn in:



Officer Derek Anderson was sworn in on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015. He came to us from Appleton where he graduated from Appleton East High School and then earned his Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from the Fox Valley Technical College which included the 520 hour police academy. He worked one year for the Washington County Sheriff's Office as an undercover drug investigator prior to coming to us.



Officer Charles Welbourn was sworn in on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. He came to us from Chippewa Falls where he graduated from Chippewa Falls Senior High School. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from UW Eau Claire in 2013 and graduated from the Police Academy at the Chippewa Valley Technical College in 2014. He worked part-time for the Cornell Police Department and the Somerset Police Department prior to coming to us.



Officer Pete Warning was sworn in on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015. He came to us from Oshkosh where he graduated from Oshkosh West High School. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from UW-Oshkosh in 2013 and graduated from the Police Academy at the Fox Valley Technical College in 2013. He worked in the private sector full-time and worked part-time for the Wrightstown Police Department prior to coming to us.

New Detective Lieutenant Sworn In:



Det. Lt. Dan Garrigan was sworn in on June 1<sup>st</sup>. He replaced Det. Lt. Mark Hahn who retired on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Dan came to us from the Columbia County Sheriff's Department with a vast amount of experience in criminal investigations. He had a total of 18 years law enforcement experience; 15 of them as a Detective Sgt.

In 2015, the department members voted for a new look for our squads.



**New Supervisor's Squad**



**New K-9 Unit**

## K-9 Program

In 2015, we started up a new K-9 program. (we had not had one since the 1990's) The community response was overwhelming and we were able to raise over \$30,000 to pay for Ares and the equipment needed for the new K-9 vehicle. Ben and Ares were sworn in on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015.



Sgt. Ben Neumann & Ares



Sgt. Ben Neumann & Ares & new K-9 Vehicle

**K-9 FUNDRAISER AT CULVER'S  
MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**



L-R Police Secretary Denise Vater, Police Secretary Jen Mecum, Public Works Secretary & Deputy Treasurer & Citizen Police Academy Graduate Tammy O'Leary, Sgt. Ben Neumann & wife; Monica Neumann, Lt. Keith Klafke, Officer Sarah Rueth, Officer Dennis Pomeroy

**Car Wash & Brat Sale**



Alexis Brauner (Officer AJ Brauner's daughter) and other high school students (along with Portage PD staff) did a car wash & brat fundraiser @ Aspen Family Counseling

## ***COMMUNITY RELATIONS:***

### ***CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY #6***

In January of 2015, we started up our 6th Citizen Police Academy Citizen Police Academy. We had another great group of citizens attend. Lt. Keith Klafke and Officer Sarah Rueth 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, surveillance equipment, 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 2017 class, please contact me. (You need to be at least 18 years old and have some direct connection to the City of Portage)



L-R Jesse Gray “Garon”, Judy Henrich, Chief Manthey, Officer Sarah Rueth, Kelly Yatkus, Steve Kobleski, Kimberly Haug, Jayne Krall, Pamela Johnson, Betty Telvick, Billie Evert, Wilma Evert, Emily Powers, Krista Moore, Brittany Ballard, Jon Denk, Bob Redelings, Lt. Keith Klafke, Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy

## **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. When he retired in 2015, Administrative Lt. Keith Klafke took the group over. The VIPS are 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. 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. Here are the calls for service in 2015:

- Two of our VIPS assisted with the Citizen Police Academy training
- Two of our VIPS assisted with the selection process for new officers
- Seven VIPS assisted with the Memorial Day Parade on May 25<sup>th</sup> and seven more assisted with the Canal Days Parade on May 30<sup>th</sup>
- Seven VIPS assisted with the Sharing Supper held on May 18<sup>th</sup>
- Five VIPS assisted us with Concert in the Park & the fireworks on July 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Eight VIPS assisted us with the Big Top Circus on August 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Six VIPS assisted us with the Silver Lake Triathlon on August 15<sup>th</sup>
- Four VIPS assisted us with the Taste of Portage on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Three VIPS assisted us with the Skateboard Park Levee Cruise on September 5<sup>th</sup>
- Three VIPS assisted us with the Alzheimer’s Walk on September 13<sup>th</sup>
- Two VIPS assisted us with the John Muir “Color Run” on September 19<sup>th</sup>
- Five VIPS assisted us with the Homecoming Parade on September 25<sup>th</sup>
- One VIPS assisted us with the Homecoming football game and two other games
- Two VIPS assisted us with the “Walk for Hope” on September 27<sup>th</sup>
- Three VIPS assisted us with the costume parade downtown on October 24<sup>th</sup>
- Eight VIPS assisted us with Trick or Treating on October 31<sup>st</sup>
- Two VIPS assisted us with courthouse security training on November 6<sup>th</sup>
- Three VIPS assisted us with the Santa Fly-In on November 27<sup>th</sup>
- Seven VIPS assisted us with the Holiday Train on December 5<sup>th</sup>
- Four VIPS assisted us with the Living Windows on December 12<sup>th</sup>
- Five VIPS & Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy assisted with the large funeral at the Portage High School for Endeavor Firefighter Larry Millard on December 20<sup>th</sup>

## 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. We would like to thank owners Chad Stevenson and Jeff Liegel from Culver's for their continued generosity by providing meals and treats for all the participants.



Front row kneeling: Ben Neumann & Ares & Sienna Fehd

L-R standing: Charles Welbourn, Peter Warning, Ken Manthey, Denise Vater, Olympian Steve Harvestine, Sarah Rueth, Bret Manke (former PD Intern/State Trooper), Mike Schutz, COSO Ben Oetzman, COSO Leda Wagner, Klaude Thompson, COSO Nicky Oetzman, Ayden Klafke, Culver's Owner Chad Stevenson, Megan Thompson, Keith Klafke, Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy, DA Jane Kohlwey

### **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. 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.



**DARE Graduation @ St. Mary's School on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

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 2015 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. Detective Bob Bagnall, Det. Lt. Dan Garrigan and I attended the new teacher program held in August.
- 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.



**PORTAGE UNITED METHODIST FALL RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**  
K-9 Sgt. Ben Neumann & Ares, Fire Inspector Craig Ratz & Officer Charles Welbourn



Lt. Keith Klafke gave a tour of Portage PD to students from St. John's Lutheran School

- We had our annual bike rodeo on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



Kiwanis



DSH EMT's



Officer AJ Brauner and Community Service Officer Kevin Todryk assisted Lt. Penny Kiefer with annual Bike Rodeo in 2015



- We work with seven adult crossing guards and they do an outstanding job for us. Warren Taylor, Jayne Krall, Marie Hoffer, Virgil Chance, Wally Roderick, Bob Griepentrog & Jim Stafford help protect our kids as they cross the streets before and after school. (Jim was hired after this photo was taken in early 2015)



**L-R Wally Roderick, Warren Taylor, Jayne Krall, Robert Griepentrog, Marie Hoffer and Virgil Chance**

**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.



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



They had a nice turn-out for the Triad Christmas Party and training presentation on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### **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. Garrigan 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. Garrigan is the liaison for our department
- Crimestoppers continues to help our department solve crimes in and around Portage

## **Portage Police Chaplains' Program**

In 2015, we added two Police Chaplains to our group. They are Pastor Alan Boeck (retired from St. John's Lutheran Church) and Pastor Scott Dadam-River of Life Church. (Scott is also a military chaplain) They joined our two current Police Chaplains who are Pastor Scott Schultz of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy (trained specifically to be a Police Chaplain)



**L-R Pastor Scott Schultz, Pastor Alan Boeck, Community Representative & Funeral Director Bob Mendrala, Pastor Scott Dadam, Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy**



**Lt. Klafke & Lt. Kiefer presented Police Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy a high visibility winter coat in appreciation for all the gifts has made for PPD**

### **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:**

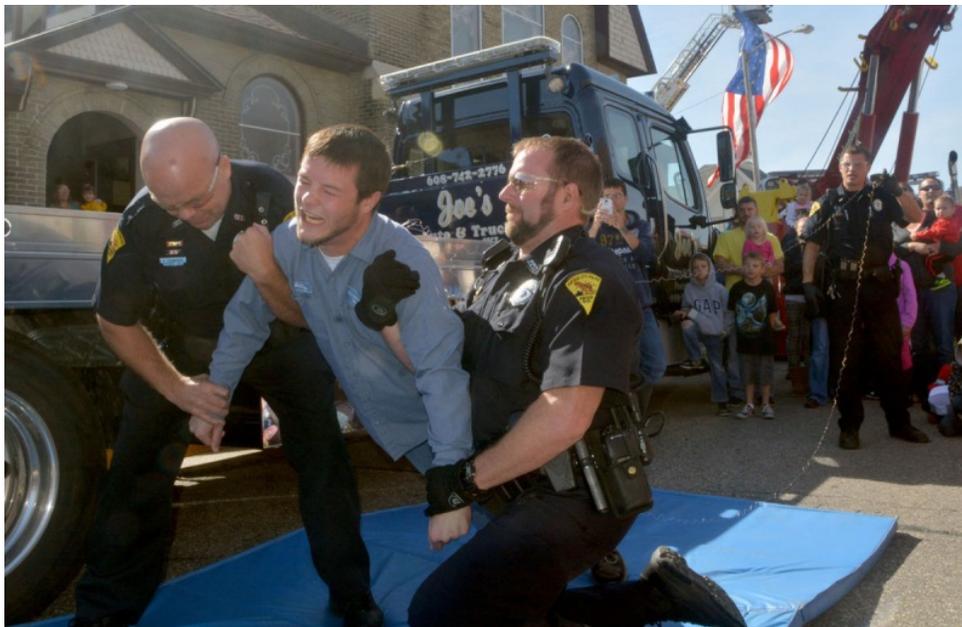
- We assist in all kinds of special events such as Memorial Day Parade, Canal Day Parade, Labor Day Parade, Taste of Portage, Living Windows, the Holiday Parade and the Holiday Train. Portage can be very proud of all the great activities they offer to the greater Portage area.

### **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 10th, 2015, 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. Matt Gaffney, who works for his dad at Joe's Auto & Truck, agreed to be Tasered for the Taser demonstration. In the photo below, he is lowered to the mat by Officers Klaude Thompson and AJ Brauner after being Tasered by Lt. Keith Klafke.



## More Photos from 2015 Open House



It was great to see Sheriff's Dept. & State Patrol & Portage PD side by side



State Patrol Trooper Tim Larson



Det. Sgt. Jason Kocovsky



Officer Pete Warning showing the K-9 vehicle



Community Service Officer Kevin Todryk giving away free bike helmets

**Ambulance Calls:**

- Our officers attempt to respond to every ambulance call when possible (with the exception of routine transfers). We responded to **892** ambulance calls in 2015.
- 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 three “saves” in 2015:**

***SAVE #1***



Kelly Grotzke and Officer AJ Brauner receive their lifesaving award on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 for their actions in saving a woman's life who was choking on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

***SAVE #2***



Life-saving awards presented on 8-13-15 from a save on 6-20-15  
L-R Sgt. Ben Neumann, Officer Klaude Thompson, Officer  
Derek Anderson, Officer Dennis Pomeroy & Jude Elliot (victim)

***SAVE #3***



Life-saving awards presented to Officer Mike Schutz and  
Officer Pete Warning on 9-23-15 from a save on 8-31-15

***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 2015 for in-service training and we will be together again in 2016.

**Functional Exercise Drill on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015:**

On Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, we had an exercise drill for a train derailment involving several oil tanker cars. We had a great turn-out with the different agencies including the Portage Police Department, Portage Fire Department, Columbia County Sheriff's Department, Columbia County Emergency Management, Columbia County Highway, Divine Savior EMS, WI DNR, CP Railroad and Mayor Tierney.

***POLICE FAMILY:***

Law Enforcement Memorial Service in Madison on May 8<sup>th</sup>



**Lt. Penny Kiefer, Chief Ken Manthey, Lt. Keith Klafke  
& Police Chaplain Mark Goldsworthy**

## **TRAINING:**

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:

- Lt. 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.
- Lt. 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 2015**

### **Heroin Epidemic:**

The heroin epidemic hit Portage just like it has hit most communities throughout our country. This is a very dangerous and deadly drug. For example, we had four overdoses in just eight days in late September and early October. Fortunately Divine Savior EMS carries Narcan and they were able to revive all four patients. We had another incident where a man shot up heroin at Kwik Trip Central and then drove out onto the roadway and passed out; fortunately no one got hurt. Chief Manthey joined the group PARCC (Prevention And Response Columbia County) in February of 2015 and spoke four times to the Columbia County Board of Supervisors or to various sub-committees about the need for a Medication Assisted Recovery Coordinator.

**Armed suicidal/homicidal man:**

On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, officers and deputies responded to the 200 block of West Burns Street for a suicidal/homicidal man. He was armed with a loaded .45 pistol. The officers and deputies were able to get four women safely from the home and later talk the man into coming outside without the weapon. He was charged with Felony Recklessly Endangering Safety and Intoxicated Use of a Firearm. He was taken to a hospital for evaluation and then to jail. The officers and deputies were given letters of commendation for their actions.

**Sexual Assaults:**

Two Portage men, both aged 28, were arrested for sexually assaulting a 27 year old woman in the 600 block of East Howard Street on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Both men were held in the Columbia County Jail on high cash bonds.

A 37 year old Portage man was arrested on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015, after he sexually assaulted a juvenile on the east side of Portage. He was also charged with drug violations.

A 32 year old Portage man was arrested on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, after he sexually assaulted a 15 year old girl on the east side of Portage.

A 30 year old Portage man was arrested on February 11<sup>th</sup> after he sexually assaulted a 10 year old girl on the east side of Portage.

**Stolen Vehicle:**

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, two suspects from Milwaukee stole a vehicle from the north side of Portage and then led officers on a chase. They were later apprehended and the vehicle was located. Inside their personal vehicle, police recovered numerous items that had been taken from different car entries around the city.

	<b>2015 Statistics comparison</b>						
<b>Incident Type</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Accident	372	450	451	386	442	412	420
Agency Assist	402	375	355	410	412	402	390
Ambulance Calls	562	656	717	788	789	788	892
Alarm Calls	167	173	144	151	194	156	157
Animal Complaints	435	369	344	359	382	408	398
Burglaries	18	19	14	17	18	36	47
Citations (Traffic & Ordinance)	2142	2044	1975	2514	2642	2131	2224
Criminal Damage/Property	100	88	58	54	68	59	80
De-Tox	20	18	17	23	11	15	9
Disturbance	329	289	218	201	160	143	115
Found Property	266	225	205	220	215	201	207
Lost Property	52	44	37	53	47	42	52
Mental Commitment	72	51	36	42	28	25	44
Motorist Assists	49	71	50	87	149	154	140
OWI Arrests	130	134	109	114	72	60	81
Probation/Parole Arrests	130	195	134	147	119	132	169
Suspicious Activity	378	341	290	361	347	343	329
Suspicious Person	121	89	92	105	99	83	115
Suspicious Vehicle	64	61	71	43	75	74	94
Telephone Harassment	62	38	77	28	26	25	29
Theft – Bicycle	28	18	24	14	18	21	9
Theft – From Motor Vehicle	48	40	20	26	47	45	86
Theft – Motor Vehicle	8	7	4	5	6	10	13
Truancy – Habitual	116	72	49	41	43	18	102
Warnings	2946	2353	1822	1426	962	1388	2666
Warrant Arrests	88	124	127	153	183	178	223
Welfare Checks	370	397	404	502	470	523	611

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 3-08-16