



# Wausau Police Department

## The Informer

August, 2019

### HELPING EACH OTHER

The law enforcement profession is one of honor and valor. It is also one that requires sacrifice, perseverance, and mental strength. We have front row seats to the horrors and atrocities that occur in our community. And we are impacted by these events. The simple truth is that every one of us is changed as a result of our chosen profession.

According to Blue Help, at least 139 law enforcement suicides have occurred in 2019. Blue Help is an organization dedicated to care for families after a law enforcement suicide and they also strive for mental health awareness before a suicide. 139 is a staggering number. There have been way too many law enforcement deaths in the line of duty in 2019; but that number stands at 81 currently.

So what? It's a tough job and that's just the way it is, right? No, that isn't right at all. First, it's important to realize we aren't superhuman; we are human. This just means that over the course of our lives and career, some of the events we experience will have an impact on us. It's normal and ok to be affected. What is NOT ok is to bury the emotions you carry and not do anything proactive to get help. We all need help sometimes. I've been to a counselor before and probably will again in the future. I hope you do too.

Have you been irritable, pessimistic, felt like you really don't care about much, had significant mood swings, lack of motivation or productivity, lack of interest in activities/hobbies, or had trouble sleeping? These could be indications that you may be depressed. Has a family member, co-worker or supervisor mentioned that you are

exhibiting one or more of these symptoms? Don't just blow them off; give it the consideration it deserves.

I know how hard it can be to tell someone you have noticed they don't seem to be doing well. But it's important we look out for each other. We spend a lot of time together and a co-worker might be the first person to notice you aren't doing well. It's important we speak up to help one another. Our job is not easy, but it's easier to get through it when we care enough to confront each other when there are signs a friend, family member, or co-worker are struggling.

Below are some resources available for you:

- EAP – 800-540-3758 (24 hour hotline) / <https://ascensionwieap.org>
- Peer Support – Contact Captain Ben Graham or Lt Jill Kurtzhals
- Wausau Police Chaplain - <O:\WAUSAU POLICE DEPT\Daysheets\Home Phone Numbers\Home Phone 2019>
- Crisis Text Line – Text BLUE to 741741
- Copline – 1-800-267-5463
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Of course, you're always able to reach out to a supervisor, including me, at any time to ask for some help. My cell phone rings 24/7 and I'll do whatever I can to help you. I am grateful for each of you for the incredible service and protection you provide to our community. Your commitment and sacrifice is extraordinary. You deserve to be well. You deserve the best care available. Let's live our best life!

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# Awards & Promotions

## Detective Kindlarski Gets Award A Second Time!



For the second year in a row, Detective Jon Kindlarski was recognized by the Wisconsin Woodchucks as a "Hometown Hero." Jon was able to attend the August 1st game with his family and enjoyed a fine evening of baseball.

## Happy Retirement Ken!

**PARKING CITATION**

CITY OF WAUSAU  
407 GRANT STREET  
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN 54403

THIS IS NOT A RECEIPT UNTIL OFFICIALLY STAMPED SHOWING DATE OF PAYMENT IF PAID BY CHECK RECEIPT WILL NOT BE VALID UNTIL CHECK IS PAID AND CLEARED THE BANK, EVEN IF STAMPED. REMITTANCE BY CHECK IS AS OF DATE RECEIVED, REGARDLESS OF DATE MAILED.

TICKET NUMBER

**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT KEN!!**

LICENSE NO	COLOR
THNX KEN	
PLATE TYPE	REG. STATE
	REG. YR
VEHICLE MAKE	VEHICLE STYLE
	PERMIT #
	N/A
LOCATION	METER NO.
	N/A
DATE	TIME
VIOLATION NUMBER	FORFEITURE
02	\$00.00
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (SERIAL NUMBER)	
FROM YOUR FRIENDS (AKA - PARKING OFFENDERS!) AT BECHER-HOPPE.	
BADGE #	
3099	

Parking Control Specialist Ken Block retired this month. He started with our department in May of 2016 and his outgoing, cheerful personality has endeared him to many. The ticket to the left was created by some employees who had frequent contact with him - they signed the back of the ticket with well wishes, their names, and their car descriptions!



Enjoy yourself Ken! We will miss you, too!

# Awards & Promotions

## New Lieutenant

We would like to congratulate Officer Luis Lopes-Serrao on his promotion to lieutenant.

Great job Luis! You deserve it!



## Back To School



Our awesome crew of School Resource Officers - School is starting - beware of kids as you are driving around town!

# Acknowledgements & Other News

## Community Thank You Picnic



Our 4th Annual Community Picnic was held on August 19th this year. We were blessed with a beautiful sunny day and contact with about 1200 citizens. Everyone was able to enjoy a free lunch, interact with officers and staff from the Wausau Police Department, and new this year, the Wausau Fire Department, as well as check out a sampling of our work vehicles.

Thank you Wausau for being so supportive of our departments and our efforts!



# Acknowledgements & Other News

More Pictures!



# Acknowledgements & Other News

## Birthday Treats



The kids at the Boys & Girls Club practiced their baking skills by making a cake for K9 Theo's birthday this month. He was distracted in this photo, but really did love his cake!

## Cop On A Rooftop



Several of our officers volunteered to hang out at Dunkin' Donuts for the annual fundraiser for Special Olympics. Officers were found at both the Rib Mountain and Weston locations.



When you examine the picture to the left, remember - there is a reason we are cops and not fire fighters...



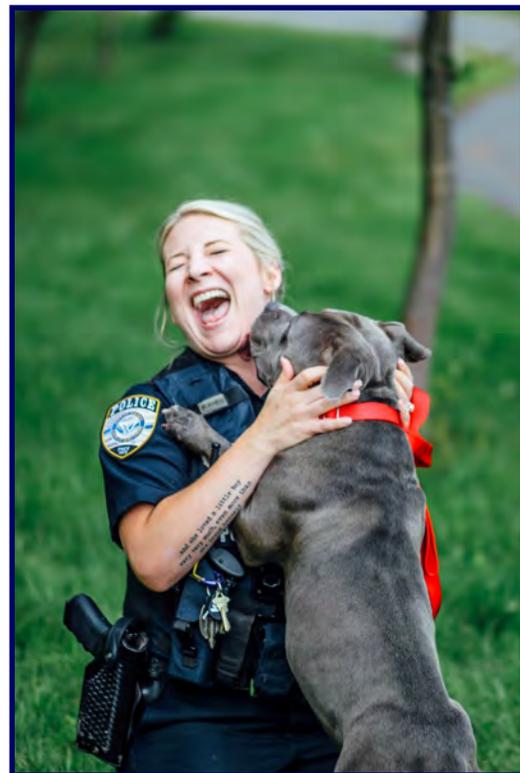
# Community Partner Spotlight

## Marathon County Humane Society



It's no secret that we have a lot of dealings with the Marathon County Humane Society. Now, we are going to take it one step further. We have partnered with them to feature adoptable pets with our men and women in uniform. The Humane Society finds value in highlighting the individuality of the four legged shelter guests and the two legged members of the community who are protecting and serving them each day.

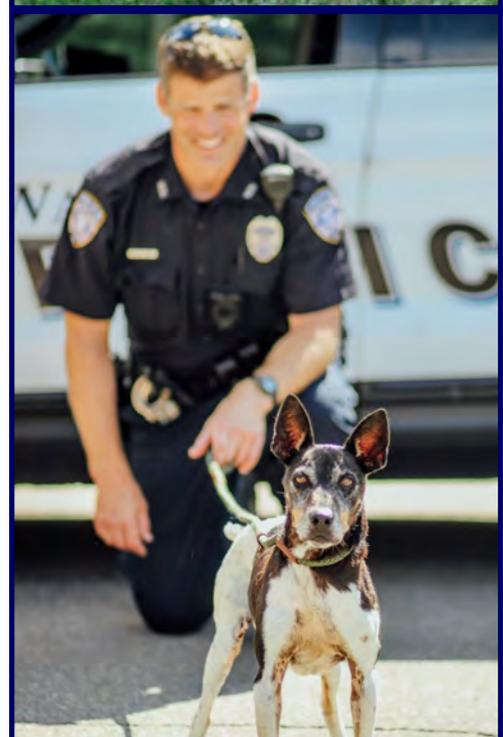
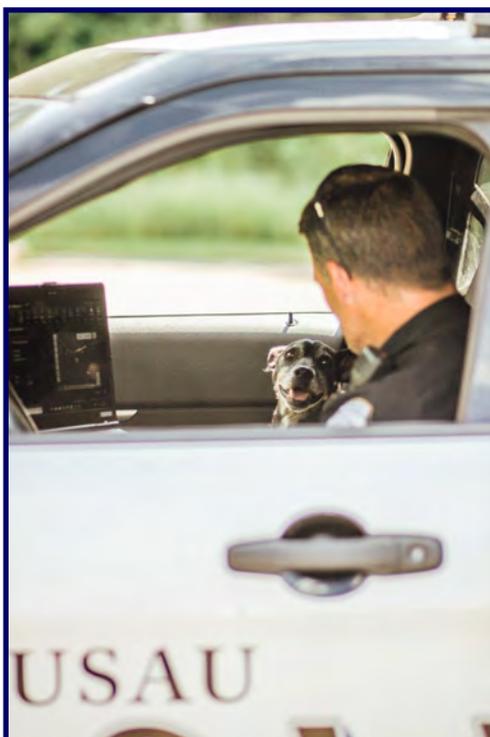
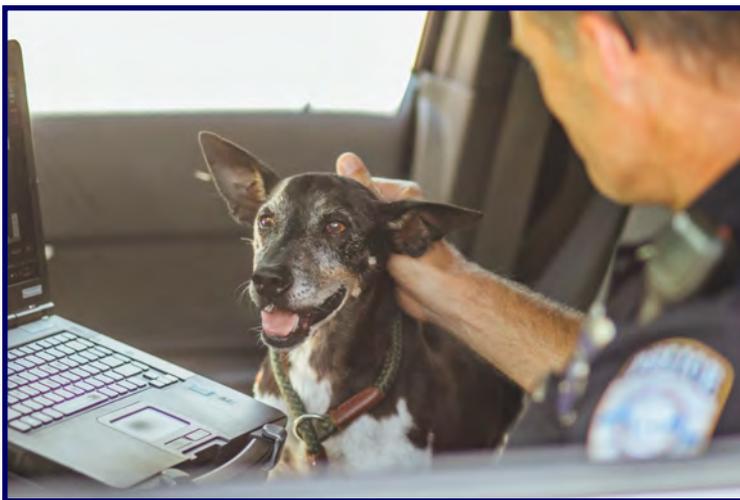
The first session was with Watson and Officer Sarah D'Acquisto. Neither one was very photogenic (not!), but they got it done.



# Community Partner Spotlight

## Marathon County Humane Society

The second session features Officer Kevin Cornell and Buddy... Buddy seems perfectly content in the car... now if we could just teach him to type...



# Community Partner Spotlight

## Wausau School District

For the third summer, The Wausau Police Benefit Association has sponsored the Wausau School District Wilderness Connections trip. This is a partnership that provides direct police mentorship while on an overnight canoe trip for at-risk youth within the community. This year, two trips were completed with a total of 13 youth. They canoed 21 miles down the Flambeau River. Officer Price and SRO Stetzer look forward to next year's trip.

