



# Wausau Police Department

## The Informer

November, 2019

### Inside this issue:

Acknowledgements and Other News	3
Department Appreciation	6
Community Partner Spotlight	7
Officer Spotlight	9

### THANKSGIVING

As the year begins to wind down with Thanksgiving upon us, I'd like to take a few moments to express gratitude. Admittedly, though, it might be a selfish gesture because the research on gratitude indicates the following health benefits for regularly expressing gratitude:

1. Increased happiness and positive mood
2. Less likely to experience burnout
3. Better sleep
4. Less fatigue
5. Greater resiliency
6. Encourages the development of patience, humility and wisdom

In addition, there are benefits to groups who regularly express gratitude:

1. Strengthens relationships
2. Increases job satisfaction
3. Helps employee effectiveness

Let's make no mistake, we could all use more sleep and less burnout. Am I right? That might be more than what you were hoping for when starting to read this article. The bottom line, though, is regularly taking a few moments to recognize things you appreciate and expressing that to others is a good thing for both you and the recipient. So, it's important to do so more than just on Thanksgiving!

First and foremost, I am grateful for family. Like each of you, I am fortunate to have many people who are supportive of me and my career choice. I am grateful not just for my family, but also for your



families. They help to shoulder the burdens and stressors that come with being in law enforcement. Your families support the police officers of our community and that is a key part of our success.

I am grateful for a supportive community and elected officials. While much of the support is a result of the great work and trust built by each member of our department, the regular show of support reminds each employee at Wausau PD the importance of striving for excellence each day. Our elected officials regularly authorize funding and policy that help us do our jobs to the best of our ability... and that funding allows us to have some of the best safety training and equipment. I'm very grateful for that. I've heard Mayor Mielke say dozens of times that he believes we are the best department in the country. If that's not support, I'm not sure what is!

Of course, there are many things to be grateful for this Thanksgiving. Mostly, I'm thankful to work at Wausau PD because the people here, in our building, have tremendous hearts, minds and souls. You are excellent individuals with a call to make our part of the world better. And you deliver on that call every day. Thank you for your hearts. Thank you for your efforts. Thank you for your commitment.

Thank you.



"Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."  
*Melody Beattie*

"Gratitude turns what we have into enough." *Aesop*

"Gratitude is the healthiest of all human emotions." *Zig Ziglar*

"Gratitude is riches. Complaint is poverty." *Doris Day*

"Gratitude is wine for the soul. Go on. Get Drunk!" *Rumi*

# Acknowledgements & Other News

## Chief's Chat #11



This edition of the Chief's Chat talks about some of the technology we are using here at the police department and why and how we are utilizing it. From the digital platforms of cell phones, computers and tablets, to the new license plate recognition software and equipment, to our body worn cameras, Chief Bliven discusses why technology is a strong ally for us.

You can see the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUWgxv7UkiA>

## Halloween TweetAlong

October 31st seemed a great time for another TweetAlong. Special guest, Captain Todd Baeten took this one... some of the things he highlighted for the public... patrol officers handing out trick or treat candy, K9 Max out in the field getting used to being in the squad and riding around, a call for possible drug activity resulting in a warrant arrest, being too tall in a low ceilinged basement, intoxicated male on the 400 Block and someone sleeping on the floor of a shelter at Marathon Park.

The details and pictures can be seen on our Twitter feed at: <https://tinyurl.com/vmgfys5>



# Acknowledgements & Other News

## WPBA Annual Donation



The Wausau Police Benefit Association was proud to make a donation of 84 turkeys to The Neighbors' Place to be distributed to families in our community this Thanksgiving. Any time of year is a great time to look for ways to serve others, but the holiday season offers some really cool opportunities!

## Save the date!

Mark your calendar for the next Paws & Protect - a great, inexpensive opportunity to have your cat or dog vaccinated for rabies, and microchipped! You can also take care of your pet license at the same time!

February 8, 2020, 8 am-12 pm

March 7, 2020, 8 am-12 pm

Location to be determined.



# PAWS & PROTECT

- ◆ **Free**– Rabies vaccines
- ◆ **\$10**– Microchips implanted
- ◆ 2020 Licensing for cats & dogs must be paid for

**Animals MUST be on a leash or in a crate**



# Acknowledgements & Other News

## K-9's Max & Astor



The Wausau Police Department is happy to introduce the two most recent additions to our K-9 team! Officer Jason Pacey (left) is now partnered with K-9 Astor and Officer Dennis Peterson (right) is now partnered with K-9 Max. The K-9's were acquired with the support of an endowment from Norman Bradfish. In addition, we received a \$1,000 donation from Kwik Trip on Stewart Avenue and K-9s Astor and Max were able to be present to accept the donation.



The K-9's and their handlers are currently in Indiana in training and should be back in Wausau and on patrol the week of December 16th. Both will be on the overnight shift.



# Department Appreciation

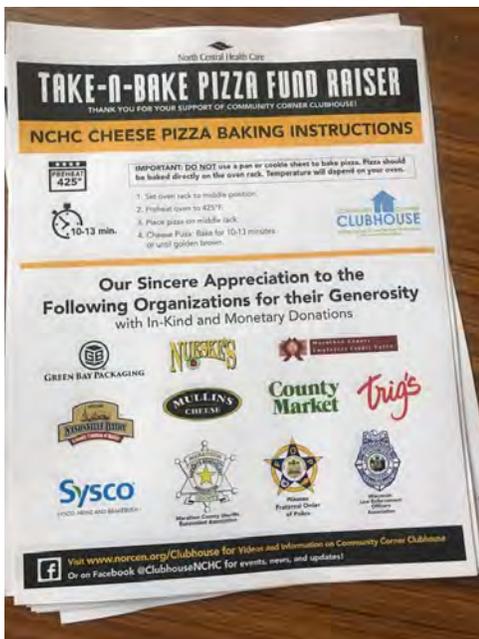
## From Wake Up Wisconsin



We were the happy recipients of a cheese creation! Wake Up Wisconsin did a segment on Wisconsin cheese appetizers and they brought one of their creations to us! It's hard to decide which part was the coolest... the spider or the ghosts or the finger!

Thanks for thinking of us!

## WPBA Support for Community Corner Clubhouse



Community Corner Clubhouse, part of North Central Health Care and one of our community partners. The Wausau Police Benefit Association was a donor for their Take-N-Bake Pizza Fund Raiser, which supports their programming.

Clubhouse is a program using an international model to assist people with mental illness to lead fulfilling, successful lives.



# Community Partner Spotlight

## Marathon County Humane Society



The most recent session of Adopt With A Cop features Officer Matt Grover and Albert. Albert is a terrier mix, approximately 4 years old who came in as a stray. He is friendly with other

pets and a great lap dog!

For more information on adopting him, contact the Marathon County Humane Society.



# Community Partner Spotlight

## Lights of Christmas 89Q Radio



89Q is sponsoring the Lights of Christmas Drive this year. It is a two-fold program. Part one was on Thursday, October 23 at area Culver's. Officers and staff from local law enforcement departments were at the local Culver's from 10 am - 10 pm, serving customers. Over \$3600 was raised from the 10% Culver's donated and tips that customers gave. This money will be used to purchase gift cards that the police officers are able to hand out to those in need during December.



The second part of the program was the collection of hats, mittens, and socks to be handed out as necessary.



# Officer Spotlight

## Officer Scott Peterson

I grew up in Schofield, WI and I am a DC Everest graduate. After high school, I attended Augustana University in South Dakota where I met my wife, who is a registered nurse. We have 3 children - 2 high schoolers and 1 in elementary school. For the past 22 years, we have lived in the St Louis, Missouri area. For 19 of those years, I was a police officer working in the suburbs of St Louis, 8 years as patrol and 11 years in investigations. I worked as an evidence custodian, crime scene processor, and had the opportunity to work within a drug unit at the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in St Louis. In December 2018, my family and I moved back to the Wausau area and started with the Wausau Police Department in January 2019.

I enjoy playing and watching sports, working out, hiking, and competing in obstacle course race competitions. Technology interests me and I enjoy building gaming PC's for my kids and myself. I also enjoy watching my 3 children compete in sports that vary from football, basketball, volleyball, track and field and wrestling. We are a busy sports family!

Law enforcement has been a great career for me, and I have been blessed to have done so many different things within the field. I am always looking for fresh challenges and new things to learn about. Coming to Wausau has offered me new challenges compared to where I came from. The transition has been challenging and sometimes overwhelming, but has been a positive experience. I hope to bring some experience and insight to this department. My new co-workers have made me feel very welcome and have taught me so much about policing in Wisconsin.

Officer Scott Peterson #191

