



One Chief's Perspective

Roseville Police Department
7/2/2014

Did you notice the title on this version of the newsletter?

My first edition lacked a title and I received some advice that a title would be appropriate. Thanks.

I decided to go with *One Chief's Perspective* as that is what I intend on providing with the newsletters; my perspective on what is happening in the City of Roseville, MN and its police department. I truly believe our perspectives shape our reality. What a person feels in his or her heart shapes reality. *This is my version of reality.*

Please take this time to talk with your children

Last week our Department initiated a child pornography investigation when we discovered a 12 year old Roseville girl had been coerced into sending nude photographs of herself to men she met through social media. In return, several adult men sent her explicit and pornographic photographs and videos and tried to coerce her to participate in additional sexual activities. Luckily, the girl's mother stumbled across this horrible situation when the girl left her account open. The Roseville Police Department is working closely with the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and we will do everything we can to hold these men accountable for their actions. Unfortunately, these types of **predators are all too common** in our society.

This is a great opportunity to have ongoing discussions with your children about their online activities. Children can be very naïve and fall prey to criminals bent on stealing their innocence. *I am taking my own advice with my kids this week.*

Call us; we want to be bugged in the middle of the night

Recently a very nice resident of Roseville called us on a Wednesday morning after she heard suspicious noises in her neighborhood closer to midnight the previous night. She provided great detail to the daytime officer on what she heard over nine hours earlier. In this case, two males were overheard stating, "How am I supposed to carry all this stuff". Problem is, we love to get this information at the time it is occurring in order to intercept the origins of the noise.

Often, at community talks people practicing *Minnesota Nice* will say, "Well, I didn't want to bother you as I am sure you have more important things going on". Please call us; we love to get bugged about suspicious things in the middle of the night. *Really, we do.*

Connecting with our Community

On 6/23, we hosted our first *Coffee with a Cop* event at J. Arthur's Coffee, the first establishment to contact me about hosting after I dropped off the information a few weeks





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earlier at several establishments. *Coffee with a Cop* provides a forum for people to drop by and ask us anything they wish. For example, we had someone ask questions about the laws related to carrying a handgun for personal protection, to a resident from Mahtomedi asking how to get the speed limit changed on her street. It was a great event and one we plan to repeat several times each year.

To be perfectly honest, I stole the *Coffee with a Cop* label from RPD Detective Jennifer Engh who for several years has presented fraud prevention advice to Roseville residents in group forums. Now, Jen will continue with the presentations, only under a different name. *I already apologized to Jen, so don't worry about her feelings.*



Squad car tours are always a hit with the kids and the dads.

Officer Bryan Anderson stopped by a neighborhood block party on Sharondale Ave last week and made some wonderful contacts with the residents. Volunteer Reserve Officer Dan Ehnstrom was behind the camera. We attend many of these events year round. Usually officers attend alone and we aren't able to get many photographs.

Fireworks on the Fourth of July

Just a reminder, please be careful at this time of the year, especially with kids and fireworks. Minnesota law was changed a few years ago to allow the possession of less powerful fireworks. However, the skies of Roseville, and many other areas in Minnesota, have been lit up with powerful but still illegal, fireworks. Firecrackers and anything that shoots into the air and explodes is illegal in Minnesota.

If your kids want to experience neighborhood fireworks stop by your local fireworks stand in Minnesota to pick them up- this way you are not stepping into territory you may not wish to go and it's safer if there is an accident. That's what my family does and it's still fun. *Have a great Fourth of July.*

Take care,

Rick Mathwig, Chief of Police