

CELEBRATING



YEARS OF SERVICE

It has always been my firm conviction that there is no more certain barrier to crime than efficient local policing supported by an enlightened, co-operative citizenry. Community respect and assistance are so vital to the success of law enforcement are achieved only through unified police and public effort.

Glenn R. Osborn

1st Twinsburg Chief of Police

June 1963

THE TWINSBURG TOWNSHIP CONSTABLES WHO ARE THE
DIRECT PREDECESSORS OF THE MODERN TWINSBURG
POLICE DEPARTMENT (PHOTO CA. EARLY 1950s)



TOP ROW (L TO R): UNKNOWN, HOWARD LUCAS, WALTER WINKLE, LEONARD ODZIEMSKI, NORMAN VAN BOGART, CARLTON POWERS

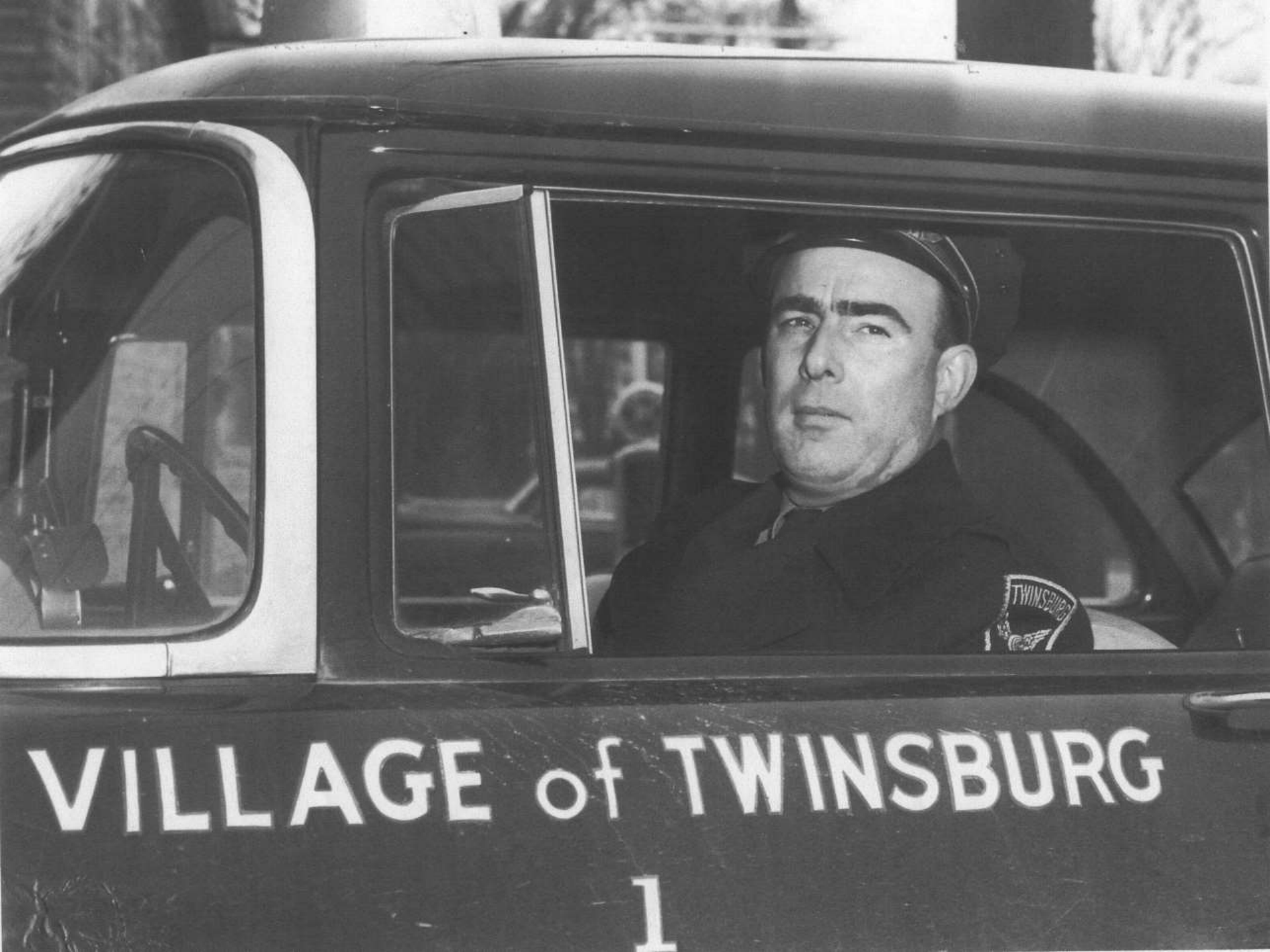
BOTTOM: UNKNOWN, OTTO CHARVAT, GLENN OSBORN, BOB DAVIES, JOHN MAROVICH, GLEN DAY



**IN 1955, GLENN R. OSBORN
ACCEPTED AN OFFER TO
BECOME THE FIRST CHIEF OF
POLICE FOR THE NEWLY
FORMED VILLAGE OF
TWINSBURG. CHIEF OSBORN
HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS
CONSTABLE FOR TWINSBURG
TOWNSHIP FROM 1948. THE
VILLAGE ALSO HIRED OTTO
CHARVAT AS A SECOND FULL
TIME OFFICER.**



**THE FIRST TWO FULL
TIMERS – (L TO R)
CHIEF GLENN OSBORN
AND PTL. OTTO
CHARVAT (late 1950s)**



VILLAGE of TWINSBURG

1



1960s



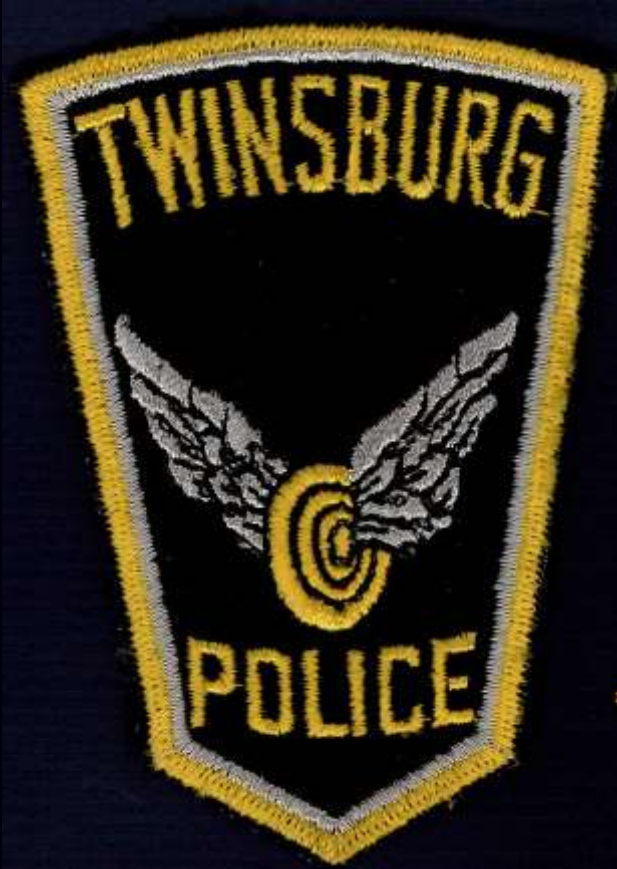
1974

TWINSBURG VILLAGE HALL - THE PD WAS HOUSED IN THE BASEMENT UNTIL 1979.





CHIEF OSBORN WITH MAYOR ALEXANDER J. DAY (L),
THE FIRST MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF TWINSBURG



THIS IS THE FIRST UNIFORM
PATCH USED UNTIL THE MID
1970s. IT IS BASED ON THE
OHIO STATE HIGHWAY
PATROL "FLYING TIRE"
DESIGN



OLD PTL. BADGE



OLD SGT. BADGE

VILLAGE OF TWINSBURG, SUMMIT COUNTY
TWINSBURG, OHIO

This Certifies That Donald J. Sasala
IS A MEMBER OF THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
Glenn R. Osborn
Chief of Police

Signature Donald J. Sasala Badge No. 10
Address 1531 Highland Rd., Twinsburg, Ohio



Date of Birth 9/15/31
72 in. 170
Hgt. Wgt.
Green Blond
Eyes Hair
Date Issued 9/11/56

		Police Department of TWINSBURG STATE OF OHIO	
HT. <u>6'</u>	SIGNATURE <u>Donald J. Sasala</u>	THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT	
WT. <u>190</u>		<u>Donald J. Sasala</u>	
HAIR <u>Blnd.</u>		IS A DULY APPOINTED MEMBER OF	
EYES <u>Green</u>		THIS DEPARTMENT.	
D.O.B. <u>9-15-31</u>		<u>Glenn R. Osborn</u> CHIEF OF POLICE	
RANK <u>Ptl.</u>			
BADGE NO. <u>10</u>			

EARLY TWINSBURG POLICE ID CARDS COURTESY OF
RETIRED PART-TIME OFFICER TONY SASALA. THE
CARD ON THE LEFT (TOP IS THE FRONT, BOTTOM IS
THE BACK) WAS ISSUED IN 1956.

TWINSBURG VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT (1961)



TOP ROW (L TO R) PTL. ROBERT C. KNAACK, PTL. JOHN P. PERCHINSKE, PTL. JAMES GRADWELL, PTL. DONALD W. PRANGE, PTL. FREDERICK F. GIEL

BOTTOM ROW (L TO R) CHIEF GLEN OSBORN, SGT. OTTO CHARVAT, SGT. RICHARD J. FETZER
ON THE LEFT (TOP TO BOTTOM), PART-TIME OFFICERS DONALD SASALA, IVAN DAVET AND
NORMAN VAN BOGART













CUYAHOGA FALLS MUNICIPAL COURT OPENED A TWINSBURG CIRCUIT IN 1963 WHEN THE VILLAGE DISSOLVED ITS MAYOR'S COURT. IN 1964, THE COURT CONVENED THREE TIMES PER MONTH IN VILLAGE HALL AND SERVED TWINSBURG VILLAGE, TWINSBURG TOWNSHIP (WHICH ORGANIZED IT'S FIRST POLICE FORCE IN 1964) AND AN OCCASIONAL HIGHWAY PATROL CASE. THIS ARRANGEMENT LASTED OVER 20 YEARS.

Falls Branch Successful

A.B.J. - 1-5-64

New Twinsburg Court Marks First Birthday

By FRANCES B. MURPHEY

Of Our Summit County Bureau

TWINSBURG—Twinsburg's Circuit Court—a New Year's baby last year—is a healthy, happy 1-year-old this month.

The first branch of Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court appears to be headed for a long life.

It started in January, 1963, as a six-month experiment, replacing the former Mayor's Court. After a half-year Twinsburg village officials and court staffers agreed to keep the project going.

JUDGE Edward J. Mahoney, who presides over the branch, says, "This has worked out quite well. We've handled quite a load of cases. There are some things to work out procedurally yet."

Twinsburg's law director, Atty. Edward C. Smolk of Cuyahoga Falls, believes the court has increased police interest and efficiency. The court cases come mostly from the village, a few from Twinsburg Twp. which recently organized its own police district and occasional ones from Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Judge Mahoney would like to see the scope of the court broadened. Individual Mayor's Courts still operate in other North Summit villages.

TWINSBURG Mayor Richard L. Lippitt voluntarily gave up his court and even recommended cutting the mayor's salary this year because of the decreased work with the court shift.

Village Manager C. W. Woollums believes the new system has its main advantage in providing a legally-trained judge with powers broader than a mayor's.

Financially, Twinsburg has not suffered from the change. In 1962, Mayor's Court took in \$32,000 in costs and fines. Last year approximately \$30,000 was returned to the vil-

lage from the Falls court. Twinsburg gets the fines while the court keeps the costs.

LAST January the court met twice a month. Now it convenes three times. Ses-

sions in Village Hall are from 9 a. m. to noon and 1 p. m. whenever the cases are concluded, usually 3 p. m.

Traffic violations account for most of the cases. Trials usually are referred to Cuyahoga Falls. In local cases some violators bring lawyers. Many plead their own case.

A Streetsboro man, accused of illegally passing a stop sign in the dark of morning en route to work, put up a good enough argument to his case. His reward: fine.

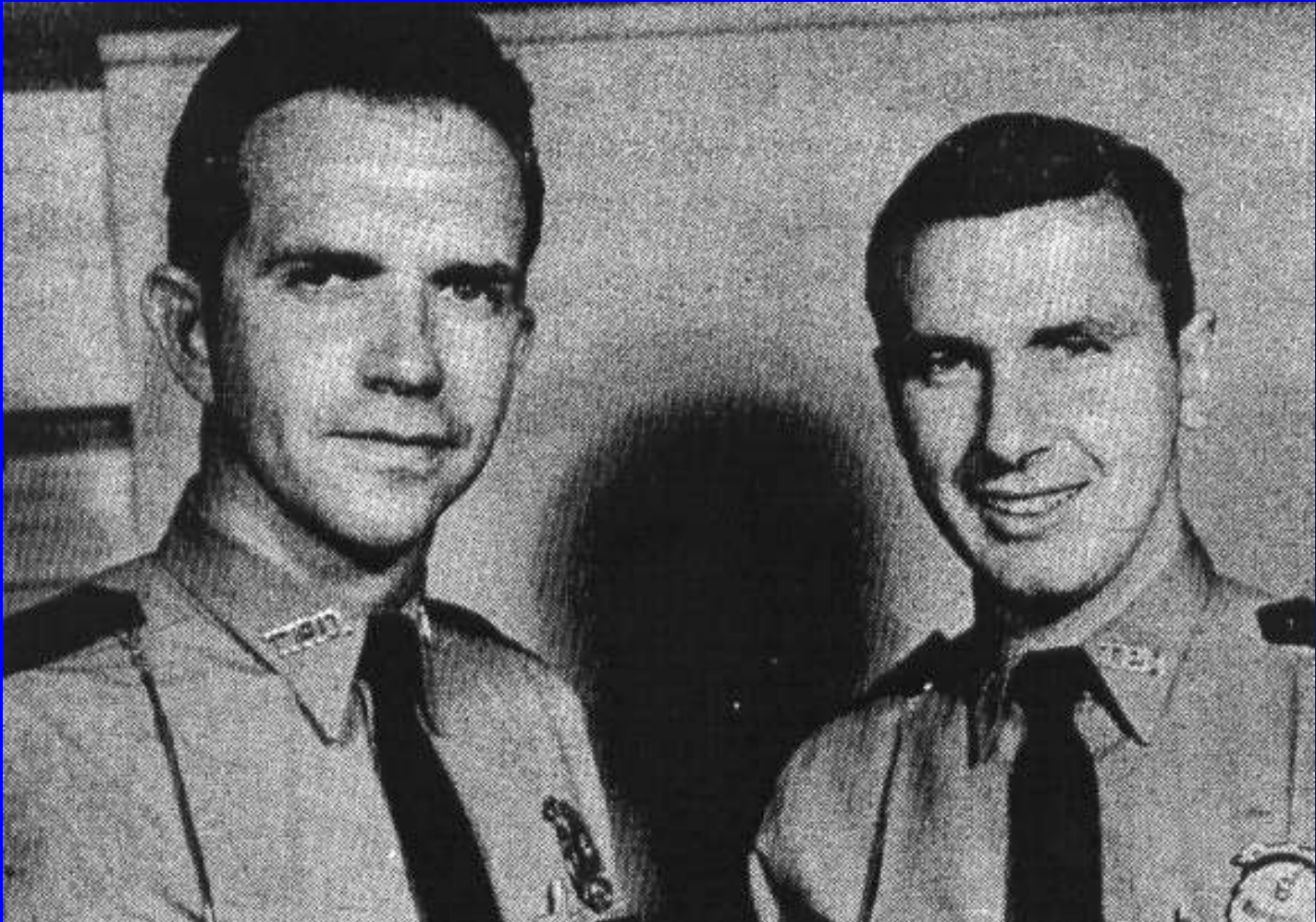


CONFERRING over cases before the 1-year-old Twinsburg Branch of Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court are (seated) Judge Edward J. Mahoney; (center) Twinsburg Law Director Edward C. Smolk and Court Bailiff E. M. Leyden.



PTL. JACK PERCHINSKE

IN MAY 1964 THE TWINSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT HELD ITS FIRST OPEN HOUSE TO SHOWCASE ITS OFFICERS AND EQUIPMENT TO THE COMMUNITY. THE OPEN HOUSE COINCIDED WITH NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL WEEK. THE OPEN HOUSE CONTINUES TODAY WHEN THE TWINSBURG SAFETY FORCES OPEN THEIR DOORS TO THE PUBLIC EACH OCTOBER.



PTL. ROBERT PAPES AND PTL. KENNETH DIERSING JOIN THE DEPARTMENT IN 1966. THEY WERE THE FIRST OFFICERS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A POLICE ACADEMY UNDER THE TRAINING REGULATIONS SET BY THE NEW OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING COUNCIL

THE MODERN TPD
UPHOLDS A TRADITION OF
ADVANCED TRAINING.
HERE SGTS. GIEL AND
PRANGE RECEIVE
TRAINING THROUGH THE
STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Twinsbur Bulletin 11/30/66
Twinsburg Police Train



Shown above with **Colonel Robert M. Chiaramonte**, Patrol Superintendent are officers from Summit County attending the school. Left to right are: **Colonel Chiaramonte**, **Sergeants Frederick F. Giel** and **Donald W. Prange** of the Twinsburg Police Department **Sergeants Donald Kirkhart** and **Bernard Zents** of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department; **Lieutenant James P. Peresta** and **Sergeant Melvin Martin** of the Barberton Police Department.

The Bulletin 11/8/67

New Twinsburg Patrolmen



PATROLMAN DALASKI



PATROLMAN BIASELLA

PTL. JOHN DALASKI AND PTL. JOSEPH
BIASELLA JOIN THE DEPARTMENT IN 1967

IN ONE OF THE MOST
MEMORABLE EVENTS OF
THE LATE 60s, TPD
(WITH THE ASSISTANCE
OF VARIOUS OTHER
DEPARTMENTS)
TANGLED WITH OVER
200 MEMBERS OF A
MOTORCYCLE GANG....
AND WON. THE
DEPARTMENT MADE
OVER 40 ARRESTS.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1967

Box 261, Twinsburg, Ohio

425-7879 or 425-7870

Police Crash "Cycle Gang" Party



Holding some of the hardware carried by the cycle gang are (l. to r.) DON PRANGE & WALT ORCUTT, Twins Police responding to a disturbance of peace call from Chamberlin Road resident; HOWARD ROWLES, SCS#3; BENNY CROSS, Twinsburg Township Policeman; JOE BIASELLA, SCS#3; and PAT DAUGHERTY, SCS#3.

WHEN the Twinsburg Village police department responded to a report of a disturbance at 9842 Chamberlin Road, an abandoned picnic spot, they were greeted with flying bottles, rocks, and screams of, "here come the cops". The initial confrontation with approximately 200 members from 5 motorcycle groups came at 2:30 A.M., Sunday.

The investigating officers made a temporary retreat and issued a 'mayday' signal to other police departments in the area. Within a few minutes 25 cars from communities surrounding Twinsburg converged at the troubled spot with over 75 men.

troubled spot with over 75 men. POLICE made 41 arrests, 9 of whom were females and confiscated 20 cases of whiskey, beer and wine. A search of those arrested found an array of weapons including a pistol, an assortment of chains, knives and a large red German swastika. Police report the 41 taken into custody included members of the 'Sun Downers', 'Roaring Twenties', 'Grim Reapers', 'Red Raiders' and the 'Misfits'.



APRIL 16, 1968 – ROBERT KNAACK AND KEITH LOWRY ARE PROMOTED TO SERGEANT AND SGT. LOWRY AND PTL. DALASKI ARE CITED FOR USING CPR IN AN ATTEMPT TO SAVE A HEART ATTACK VICTIM. L TO R – SGT. KNAACK, SGT. LOWRY AND PTL. DALASKI

Twinsburg Police Tie Into LEADS Network

Twinsburg's Police Department has become one of several Departments in this County to possess the most modern aide to effective law enforcement—a teletype-computer system which will provide the department with instantaneous communication with nearly 200 Police Departments in Ohio and thousands of other Law Enforcement Agencies in 46 other states.

This past week Twinsburg officially became connected to Ohio's Law Enforcement Automatic Data System (LEADS), and subsequently the National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

With this new system, the Police will be able to send a question to the computer bank or another Police Department, and receive a reply within seconds. For example, if an officer suspects that a certain car has been stolen, he can send the license number to the computer, and within a matter of seconds learn if it indeed has been reported—stolen. The system will also initially provide information about wanted felons, stolen identifiable property, etc.

The Hudson Police Department also is tied to the same system.



Twinsburg Police Chief Glen Osborn experimented Friday with the department's new teletype-computer system.

ONE OF THE MOST VITAL TOOLS AVAILABLE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT IS ACCESS TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTOMATED DATA SYSTEM OR LEADS. THIS COMPUTER SYSTEM ALLOWS OFFICERS TO CHECK DRIVER'S LICENSES, LICENSE PLATES, PERSONS FOR WARRANTS AS WELL AS ACCESS TO OTHER INVESTIGATIVE DATABASES. TPD RECEIVED ITS FIRST TERMINAL IN DECEMBER 1968.

Bulletin 12/18/68

PTL. JOHN DALASKI AND
DISPATCHER ROSEMARY
QUINN – DECEMBER 1970.
BOTH RECEIVED
CITATIONS FOR SERVICE
TO THE CITY, PTL.
DALASKI FOR SAVING THE
LIFE OF SGT. LOWRY AT A
DOMESTIC CALL AND
DISPATCHER QUINN FOR
HER ACTIONS WHEN AN
EMPLOYEE OF CHRYSLER
WENT ON A SHOOTING
SPREE IN MAY 1969
RESULTING IN A DOUBLE
HOMICIDE-SUICIDE



TWINSBURG PD – 1974
CHIEF GLENN OSBORN



DET. SGT. DON
PRANGE



SGT. JACK
PERCHINSKE





SGT. BOB KNAACK

SGT. BOB KNAACK

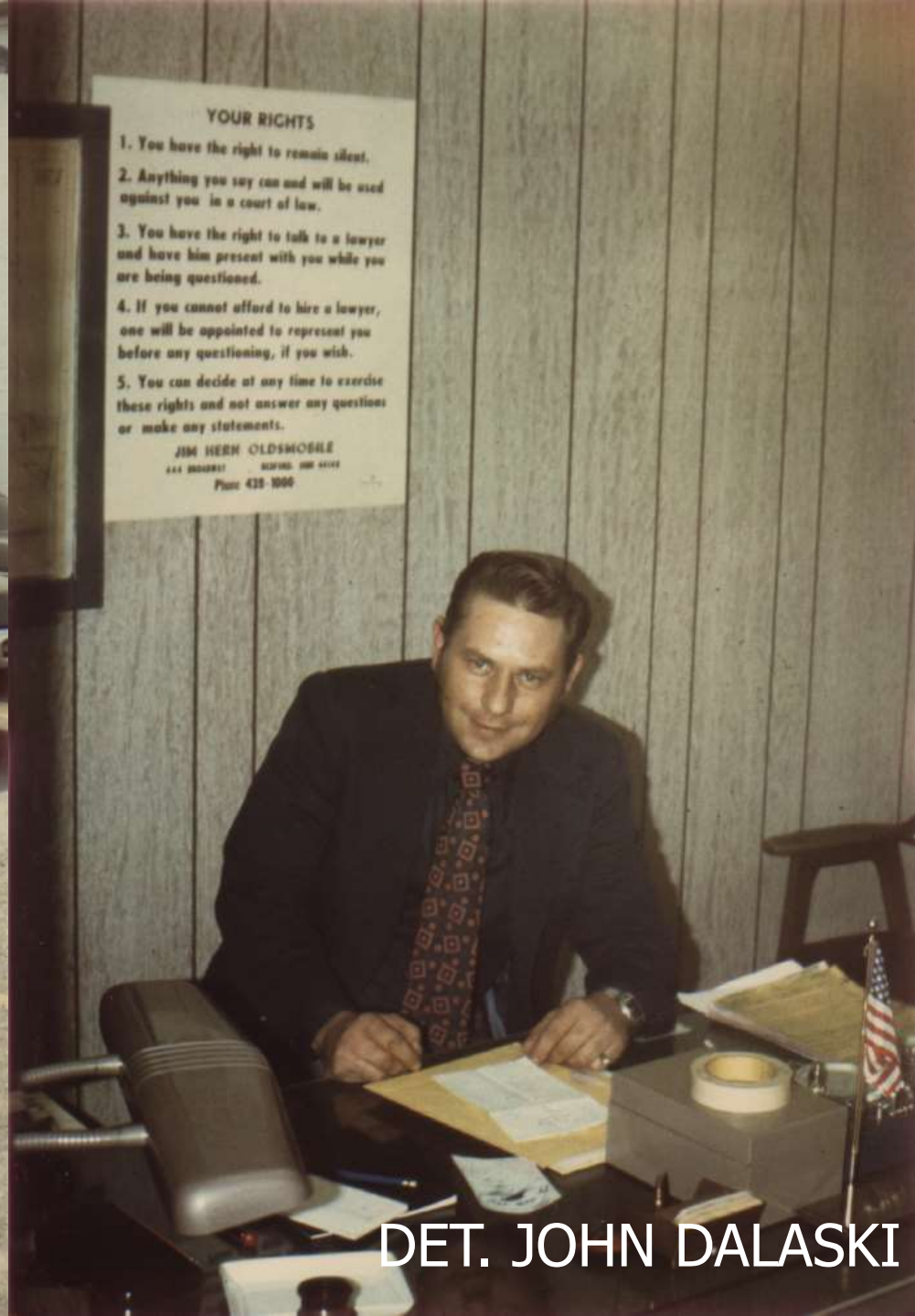
SGT. BOB KNAACK

SGT. KEITH LOWRY





PTL. WALLY ORCUTT



DET. JOHN DALASKI

PTL. BOB PAPES



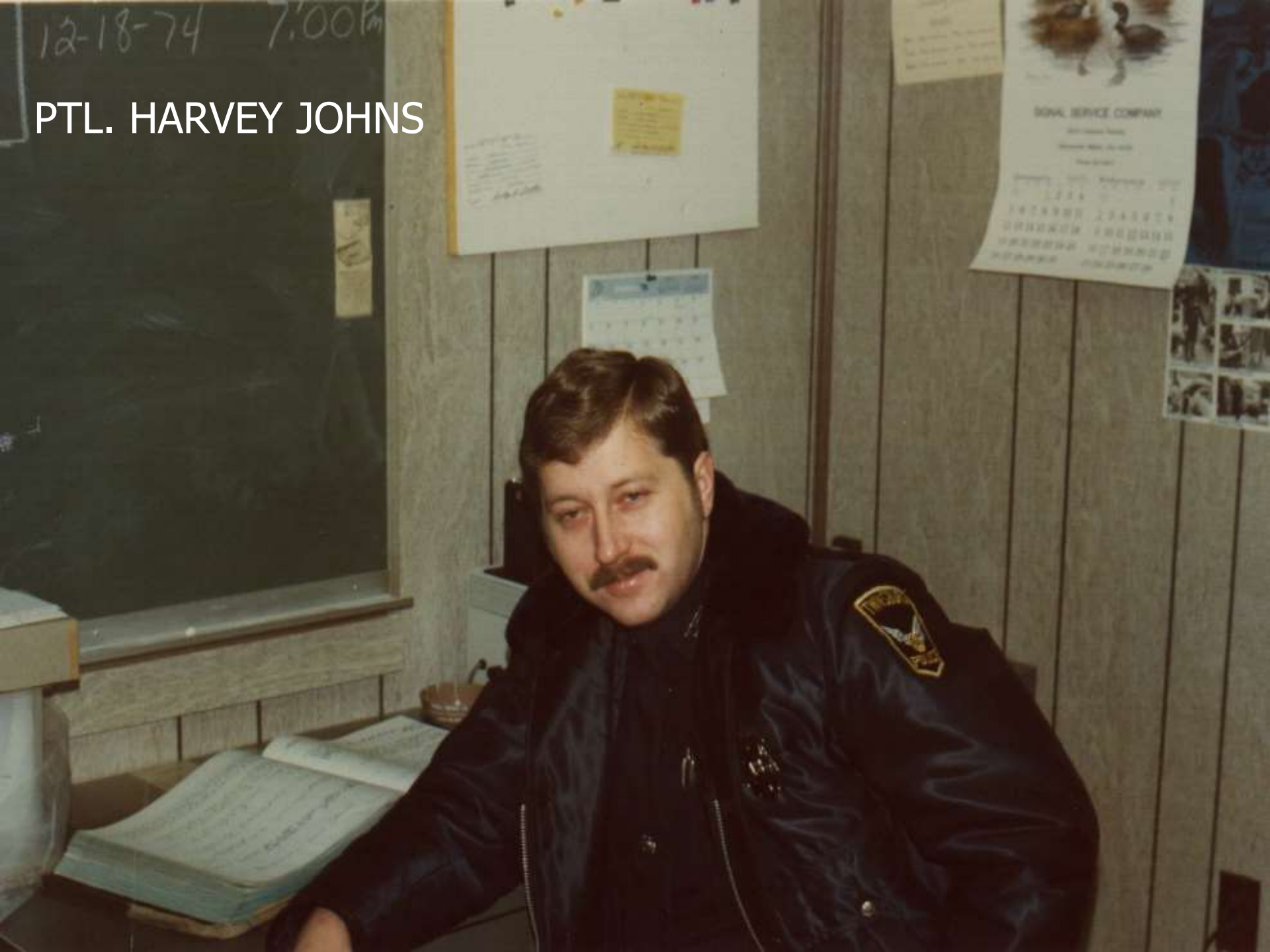
PTL. KEN DIERSING



PTL. HERB MUNN



PTL. HARVEY JOHNS





PTL. DEAN WEINHARDT

PTL. JIM KUCERA



PTL. JACK CLAIR





PTL. BOB MIANOWSKI



RUTH OSBORN



ROSEMARY QUINN



JOHN WEAGLEY



ELVA GOODWIN



FRIEDA WITTEMER



KATHLEEN RYAN

Friday at 4 p.m. marks end of era for Ruth Osborn & Twinsburg

By JOAN FORD
Twinsburg Reporter

This Friday at 4 p.m. marks the end of an era for Ruth Osborn. After 28 years of service with the Twinsburg Police and Fire Departments, Ruth will retire.

It began in 1949 when she used her home as an office for police and fire dispatches. At that time the position was only part time, but beginning in 1955 she became the full time dispatcher and records clerk.

She moved the offices from her home to the present city hall on Twinsburg Square in 1969 and has since held the same position with the city.

"It's been an interesting and for the most part an enjoyable experience," she said, reflecting on the recent history of Twinsburg as a township, village and finally a city.

The most difficult day on the job, she said, occurred in the late '60s when a small boy was hit in the head of Tinkers Creek in Glenwood Acres. The coordination of so many rescue units, civil defense, sheriff, local police units, ambulance drivers and blood banks left her with almost no voice by the end of that long day.

Since she started her services with the city, not only has the locations changed, but so has the equipment used. When the offices were located in her home in '49 she had only one phone. Then five phones were installed and finally existing to the sophisticated electronic equipment now used in the police station.

There were only two township constables back then - one of them her husband Glenn. The staff now consists of 11.

So after all these years what happens now?

Ruth says she'll clean her house, fish with her husband, and get back into some of the social and civic activities that she has been too busy to get involved with in the past.

When Glenn retires as police chief in Twinsburg

she hopes they will do some traveling, but the police chief has not yet given any indication when he might retire.

The Osborns have three children: Carolyn, Ronald, and Christine. They have four grandchildren.



Ruth Osborn



Twinsburg Police Department gave a "thank you party" for two veteran dispatchers. Honored at a retirement dinner at Fireside Restaurant were Elva Goodwin and Ruth Osborn. Mrs. Osborn had 26 years' service. Mrs. Goodwin dispatched for 12 years.



Mrs. Goodwin



Mrs. Osborn

Twinsburg Mayor Edmund Thirkel presented each with City Council citations for their work. Sharing in the festivities were Mrs. Goodwin's husband, Harold, of 9165 Ravenna rd., and Ms. Osborn's husband, Glen, 2597 Aurora rd. Osborn is Twinsburg police chief.

THE FIRST TWO DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES (BOTH DISPATCHERS) RETIRE IN 1974. RUTH OSBORN HAD SERVED SINCE HER HUSBAND, GLENN OSBORN WAS APPOINTED TWINSBURG TOWNSHIP CONSTABLE IN 1948 AND ELVA GOODWIN SERVED FOR TWELVE YEARS.

9/25/74

The Bulletin salutes Sgt. Donald W. Prange

Sgt. Donald W. Prange, 36 year old head of Twinsburg detective bureau, recently graduated from a 12 week course with the FBI at Quantico marine base in Va.

For Sgt. Prange it was somewhat like going home, he served with the marines from 1956 to 1959. The course was the FBI's "criminal investigation.

Graduating from Garfield Heights High, in Garfield, Sgt. Prange has attended a course in applied science in Chicago, the Kodak school (camera) in Rochester, and the Ohio State Patrol course for supervisors. He has also had physical training and qualified as an expert with the pistol.

Sgt. Prange and his wife

Elaine have four children, Debbie 15, Diane 13, Denise 10, and Donald Jr. 8. They reside on Darrow Rd. in Twinsburg. Prange was asked why their names started with the letter D, he said "we kept their names in the D's because it's easier to remember."

When asked about police problems in the area he said,



Sgt. Edward W. Prange

"strangely enough we have proportionately less trouble with juveniles, but crimes such as robberies and burglaries are up.

Officer Prange was obviously proud of his family, work and community. He impressed us as a quietly efficient and competent police officer.

A credit to the Twinsburg Police dept. and community we salute Sgt. Donald W. Prange.

DET. SGT. PRANGE IS THE FIRST TPD OFFICER TO GRADUATE FROM THE FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY IN 1974. SINCE THEN, ONLY TWO OTHER OFFICERS HAVE COMPLETED THE INTENSE 12 WEEK COURSE FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS. HE IS THE FIRST DET. SGT. IN THE HISTORY OF TPD.



GLENN OSBORN, THE FIRST CHIEF OF POLICE FOR TWINSBURG RETIRES IN 1976 AFTER 21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TWINSBURG AND 28 YEARS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

THIS IS A TRIBUTE..

Not everybody in America loves a policeman. As a sad matter of fact, some of our fellow citizens barely tolerate a cop on the corner or an officer in a patrol car ... especially when they're on the receiving end of a ticket.

Yet, deep down inside all of us, there lurks a healthy respect for all policemen who, because of their conscientious attention to duty, stand for us between the saneness of a rational society and the chaos of a jungle. Such a conscientious man is Chief Glenn Osborne. He is, after nearly three decades of service to Twinsburg and Twinsburg Township, retiring.

It is not easy to sum up a man's life, and the contributions to his community and society in a few choice words. Words are never adequate, and even the dinner honoring the Chief on August 21, no matter how well-executed or intended, will not recognize him as fully as perhaps his dedication to duty deserves.

But, as a community, it is our responsibility to try. So that is what this public recognition is all about; a sincere way of saying "Thank you, Chief Osborne and God bless you."



Chief Glenn Osborne

TO THIS MAN...

Glenn Russell Osborn was born February 6, 1920 to Russell and Onal Osborn of

Macedonia, Ohio. He graduated from High School and was employed by Swasey Ford.

In 1941 he married Ruth. They have three children: Carol, time; and

Glenn. He served in the Navy from 1942 to 1946. He was discharged in February 1946. He was the Vice President of the Pa. and the

Ch. of the Twinsburg stable was 1 Rd. F. radio Twins 1955, became saw grow mem

ON THIS OCCASION...

You are cordially invited to join in a salute to Glenn Russell Osborn, retiring Twinsburg Chief of Police, August 21 at 7:30 p.m.

A dinner party will be held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 9080 Shepard Rd., Macedonia. Reservations are necessary. If you will be present, please confirm by mail. Send reservations to the Glenn R. Osborn Retirement Fund, 9825 Ravenna Rd., Twinsburg, Ohio, 44097 before August 20. The



A special message from

THE TWINSBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NOV 8, 1976

This job as chief suits him just fine



Twinsburg police chief Donald Prange (left) and Sgt. Keith Lowry check out a new CB radio.

By MARK FARIS

Beacon Journal Staff Writer

TWINSBURG — It's not often that this city gets a new police chief. As a matter of fact, it averages only one every 21 years.

The first chief, Glenn Osborne, held the job from 1953, when the village was incorporated, until he retired last June.

Now it appears his successor, Donald Prange, has every intention of living up to his tradition.

Prange, 38, was appointed acting chief after Osborne's retirement and was installed permanently Sept. 21. He said the job suits him just fine and as far as he's concerned, he'll stay with it until he retires.

Prange, of 10066 Dacrow Rd., is a 16-year veteran of the force.

After graduation from Garfield Heights High School in 1966 and a hitch in the Marines as a photographer, he joined Twinsburg's four-man force in 1966.

Four years later, he was promoted to sergeant and in 1970 he was chosen to head the department's new detective division.

"I guess I became interested in police work while I was in the service," said the soft-spoken chief.

"My job was photographing the

between Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, Ga.

"Law enforcement appealed to me so I decided to give it a try when I became a civilian. I've never regretted that decision. I like everything about my job."

Prange said his appointment as chief was a great honor and had been one of his goals since he joined the force.

SINCE taking the job, Prange has had department headquarters remodeled in a modest but comfortable fashion and initiated three citywide safety programs for children.

In the first program, already in operation, police visit the three elementary schools and instruct children in bicycle safety.

The second program, "Safety Stop," is being organized in conjunction with the local PTA.

It involves placing stickers on the windows of selected homes, designating them as places where children may stop and receive help when it is needed.

THE THIRD program, "Safety Town," will begin next summer.

With the cooperation of the city recreation department, a miniature

town will be set up behind the high school.

Children will be bused there to receive training on such things as reading traffic signs, crossing streets, entering and exiting buses and so on.

PRANGE said crime in Twinsburg is about the same as in other communities of similar size (8,500).

He said speeding is by far the most common offense and that larceny and burglary are the most common serious offenses.

His new job is about what he expected, he said.

"Having been with the force 16 years, I was pretty familiar with the chief's duties," said Prange. "We have a fine staff here and they have helped me tremendously in making the adjustment."

Prange and his wife Elaine, who met in high school, have four children—Debbie, 17, Diane, 15, Denise, 13, and Donald Jr., 11.

With 16 full-time officers, the Twinsburg force is one of the largest in the area for a city its size.

"But we need all of them," said Prange. "Twinsburg's industry more than doubles the city's popu-

DON PRANGE IS PROMOTED TO CHIEF OF POLICE IN SEPTEMBER 1976. AT AGE 38, HE IS THE SECOND YOUNGEST MAN TO SERVE AS TWINSBURG'S POLICE CHIEF (CHIEF OSBORN WAS 34 WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED).

Dial 911 for all emergency calls

Emergency 911 went into effect last Friday for residents of the city of

Twinsburg. This number will be used for police, fire, and rescue squad

within the city.

All residents within the city who are presently on

the 425 exchange will dial 911 for emergency service. If you have a 467 telephone number you will still contact the police at 425-3871, and fire department at 425-3431.

Residents of the unincorporated area must use 911, and their number for the sheriff's office. Even though a township resident has a 425 exchange their calls will not be received for emergency service on 911.

Use 425-9258 or 425-9283 to get routine information. This will put a caller in touch with the office police dispatcher who will relay the information to the correct office.



"Dial 911" posters are on display throughout the city and also on police cars. That's the new emergency number for Twinsburg residents. Display-

ing them are, from left, Police Chief Don Prange, Patrolman Robert Papes, City Manager Grace Kizak, and Fire Chief Roy Watson.

**THE USE OF 911 FOR EMERGENCY CALLS
ARRIVES IN TWINSBURG IN THE 1970s.**

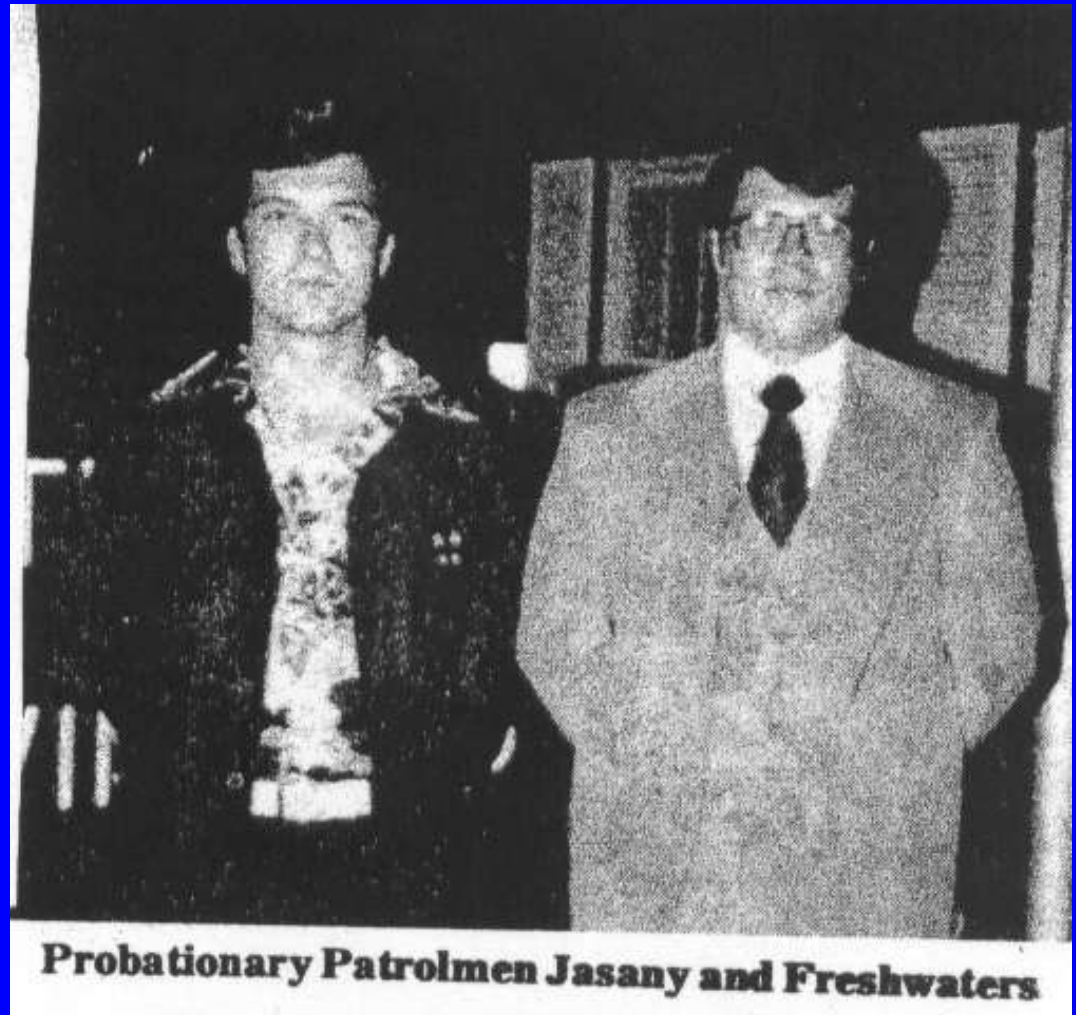
Knaak is promoted to police lieutenant



Twinsburg Mayor Anthony Perici swears in Robert Knaack as the first Lieutenant of Police in the history of the department.

1977 - ROBERT KNAACK IS SWORN IN AS THE FIRST POLICE LIEUTENANT IN THE HISTORY OF THE TWINSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT. WHEN HE WAS PROMOTED TO CHIEF IN 1982, THE LIEUTENANT POSITION WAS NOT FILLED. NO ONE WOULD HOLD THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT AGAIN UNTIL 1995.

NEW HIRES FOR
1977 INCLUDED JOE
JASANY (LEFT) WHO
IS KNOWN
THROUGHOUT
TWINSBURG CITY
SCHOOLS TODAY AS
DARE "OFFICER
JOE"



Probationary Patrolmen Jasany and Freshwaters



TPD FORMS IT'S FIRST SWAT TEAM IN 1977.
MEMBERS OF THE TEAM (L TO R): PTL. RAY
SMEE, SGT. KEN DIERSING, PTL. WALLY ORCUTT;
PTL. BOB PAPES AND LT. BOB KNAACK. THE
TEAM RECEIVED SPECIAL TRAINING FROM THE
FBI.



OUR NEW HOME UNDER CONSTRUCTION (1977-1979)

OUR NEW HOME UNDER CONSTRUCTION (1977-1979)





A NEW PATCH AND A NEW BADGE FOR A NEW HOME.

"JOCKO THE CLOWN" AKA PTL. JOE JASANY MAKES ONE OF HIS MANY APPEARANCES TO EDUCATE TWINSBURG YOUTH ON BIKE SAFETY (1978)



Twinsburg Ptl. Joseph Jasany's clown outfit captures pupils' attention *Sharon Beacon Journal* Wednesday, April 26, 1978 **Clown serious about bike safety**

By RON SHINN

Sharon Beacon Journal Staff Writer

TWINSBURG — Even though he clowns about it, bicycle safety is a serious matter to Ptl. Joseph Jasany.

Police Chief Donald Prange has combined Jasany's full-time police duties with his part-time job as a clown to help teach bicycle safety to Twinsburg youngsters.

With his big red nose, ruffled collar and giant police badge, Jasany grabs his youthful audience's attention while Twinsburg policemen dressed in their regular uniforms deliver a message of safe bicycling.

JASANY plays the part of Jocko the Safety Clown in the police department's school presentation. After his first four shows, Jasany is a big success among Twinsburg elementary school pupils, according to Prange.

"The response has been great and the kids relate well to Jocko," Prange said. "We are lucky to have a professional clown in the department."

Prange is putting emphasis on crime and accident prevention programs such as the bicycle safety show sponsored by the police department and the Twinsburg Rotary Club. Four policemen are now making the safety presentation at elementary schools.

Jasany, 29, made his first appearance as a clown six years ago to cheer up children in a hospital where his own son was seriously ill.

"MY WIFE made the costume and my sister painted my face that first time," Jasany said. "Before I knew it, I was

helping Santa Claus hand out Christmas presents and serving ice cream at birthday parties."

The Bicentennial parades and parties in 1976 provided plenty of work for part-time clowns, Jasany said. He learned professional makeup techniques, bought a wig and had two more costumes made.

Jasany joined the Twinsburg Police Department last September and had to curtail his part-time clowning while attending police academy courses. Now he is back in full swing.

At private parties, Jasany is Jo Jo the Clown. Prange named him Jocko the Safety Clown for his police-clown duties.

Part of the time Jasany spends as Jocko the Safety Clown is his off-duty time from the police department.

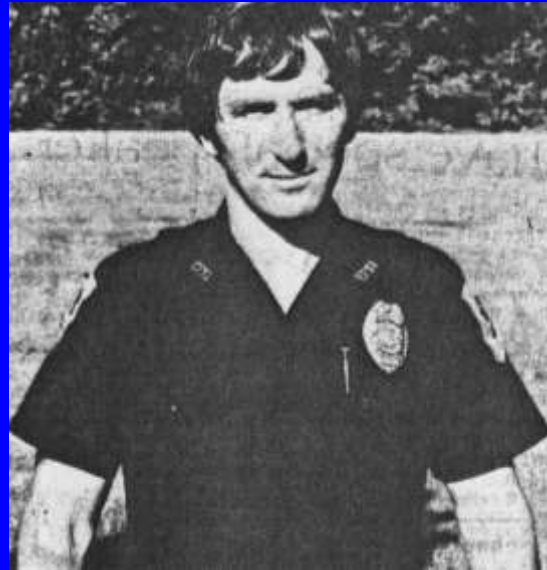
He arrives at the school in a police cruiser wearing handcuffs and brings along an old bicycle with enough unsafe features to convince the most unbelieving of the importance of good maintenance.

While the uniformed officers launch into a film and prepared test, Jocko wanders around the stage adding emphasis to what is being said and keeping the children's attention. He uses a cart, horn and a big hand puppet in some presentations.

JASANY said even first and second graders — the ages which seem to appreciate Jocko most — are recognizing him when they see him in police uniform later.

"It gives me a warm feeling to work with the kids," Jasany said. "I am partial to the younger kids because they do not try to pull my nose off."

NEW HIRES OF 1978



**RAY BOBICK –
SERGEANT (1998)**



**RON ELLIS – SERGEANT
(1996) & LIEUTENANT (1999)**

IN 1978, CHIEF
PRANGE HIRED
FOUR OFFICERS
FROM FOUR OTHER
AGENCIES. EACH OF
THESE OFFICERS
WOULD EVENTUALLY
EARN PROMOTION.



**JIM TOBAK –
SERGEANT
(2001)**



**TONY FRANK –
SERGEANT (1984) &
CHIEF (1992)**

DISPATCHER JOHN
WEAGLEY RETIRES IN
JULY 1979. HE BEGAN
HIS SERVICE TO
TWINSBURG IN 1962





AFTER SERVING ALMOST SIX
YEARS AS CHIEF AND 22
YEARS AS A TWINSBURG
POLICE OFFICER, DON
PRANGE RETIRES IN JUNE
1982

Knaack sworn-in as police chief

A 21 year veteran of the Twinsburg Police Department became its new chief during a swearing-in ceremony held last Tuesday during a special Twinsburg council meeting.

Robert Knaack, 46, filled the position vacated a month ago by Donald Prange and will be paid \$28,816 per year.

He joined the Twinsburg

Police Department in May 1961 and worked as a patrolman for eight years before becoming a sergeant. After serving eight years at that level, Knaack became a lieutenant and remained such for the past 5½ years.

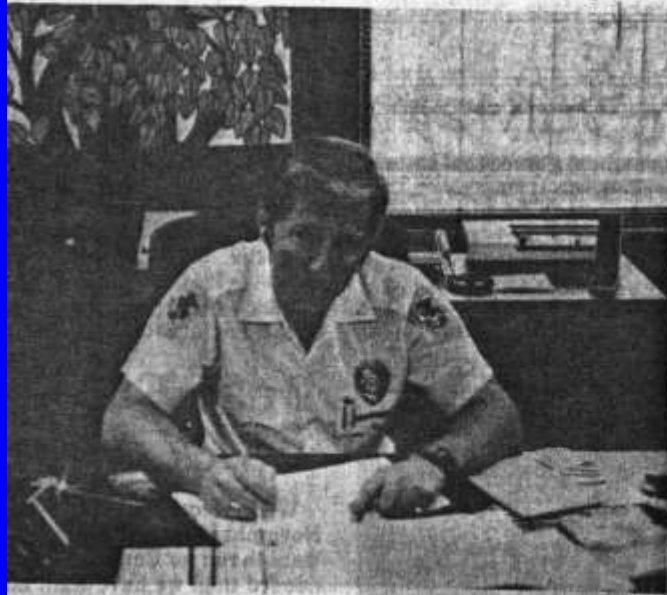
During his 21 years with the city, Knaack has received special police training in a wide

variety of areas including taking the FBI's SWAT training school, riot control school, and several supervisory schools all of which prepared him to his present position with the city of Twinsburg.

The new chief plans on meeting with the four police sergeants on a regular basis and get their input about several areas of police operations and slowly develop the type of department he would to see Twinsburg have. "I want to give the citizens of Twinsburg the type of police protection they need and deserve" commented Knaack.

Knaack is the father of three children - Jodee, age 23, Kellee, age 18 and 12 year old Robert Jr. but called Chip.

Camping, leather crafting and playing with video equipment are the new chief's favorite past times.



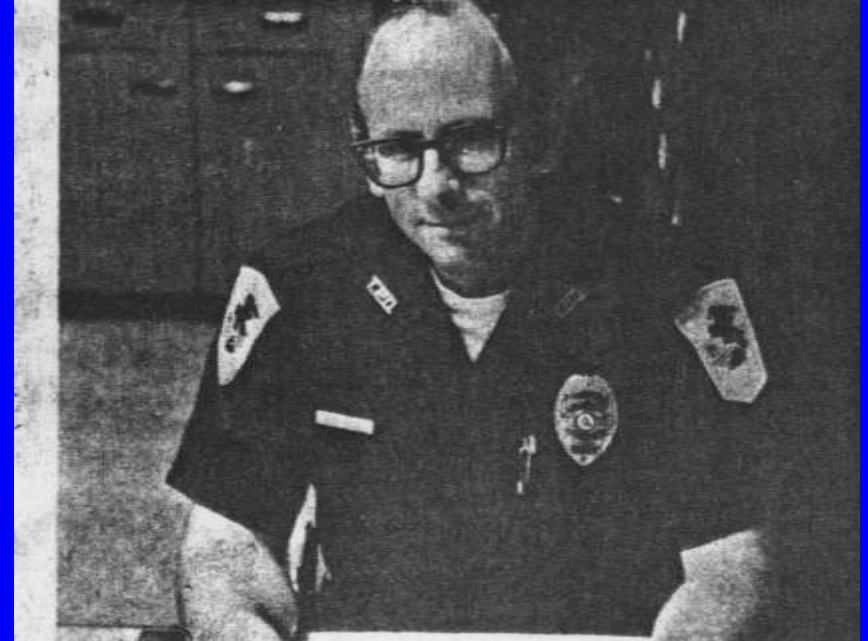
ROBERT KNAACK

IN 1982, LT. ROBERT KNAACK BECOMES THE THIRD TWINSBURG CHIEF OF POLICE.

NEW HIRES OF 1982



**GREG FEKETIK –
SERGEANT (1999)**



**RICHARD DEAL – SERGEANT
(1992) & CHIEF (2001)**

**TWO MORE OFFICERS HIRED WHO WOULD EARN
PROMOTIONS**



CHIEF KNAACK INSTITUTES VARIOUS COMMUNITY PROGRAMS INCLUDING FINGERPRINTING OF LOCAL CHILDREN. PTL. WALLY ORCUTT (ABOVE RIGHT) FINGERPRINTS A YOUNG TWINSBURG RESIDENT.

OTHER PROGRAMS INCLUDED BLOCK WATCH. L
TO R – PTL. JIM KUCERA, SGT. HERB MUNN,
MAYOR ANTHONY PERICI, CHIEF BOB KNAACK,
PTL. WALLY ORCUTT AND PTL. JIM TOBAK



IN 1984, SGT. JACK PERCHINSKI BECOMES THE THIRD
TWINSBURG POLICE OFFICER TO RETIRE. SGT.
PERCHINSKI SERVED THE CITY FOR 25 YEARS





NEW HIRES IN THE EARLY 80s INCLUDED PTL. BOB HILTON (1980) AND PTL. BRIAN STEELE (1984)



IN 1985, DEREK SIEGLE IS SWORN IN AS A TWINSBURG POLICE OFFICER. HE WOULD LATER LEAVE TPD FOR A CAREER AS A SPECIAL AGENT FOR THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

ROSE QUINN, THE LAST
OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
FOUR ORIGINAL
DISPATCHERS, RETIRES
AFTER 26 YEARS OF
SERVICE IN OCTOBER
1985.





JEFF NASH

MICHAEL NAKATA



GREG KOPNISKE

JEFF NASH AND MICHAEL NAKATA (SHOWN HERE IN 1997) WERE HIRED IN 1988. THEY BOTH CURRENTLY SERVE AS LIEUTENANTS. GREG KOPNISKE, HIRED IN 1989, IS CURRENTLY THE DEPARTMENT'S JUVENILE DETECTIVE.



Photo by Thomas Doose

(FROM LEFT) POLICE CHIEF ROBERT Knaack; Mayor James Karabec; Walter Orcutt; Debbie Orcutt; Jim Kucera, emcee; Sergeant Anthony Frank. At Orcutt's retirement party, Chief Knaack awarded "Wally" with his own service

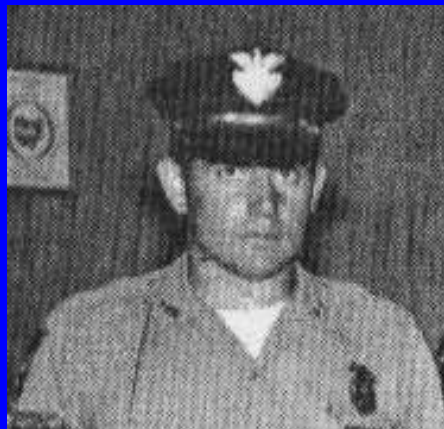
pistol; Mayor Karabec honored him with a resolution and the key to the city; Sergeant Frank, "chief roaster" presented him with an oversized badge.

PTL. WALLY ORCUTT RETIRES FROM TPD AFTER 24 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY. OUTSIDE OF THE POLICE DEPT. HE WAS WELL-KNOWN FOR COACHING CHAMPIONSHIP YOUTH BB GUN TEAMS

—Wally—



Withheld 101



Officer Jim Kucera brings DARE to Twinsburg schools

By ERIC MANSFIELD

Mrs. Olson's sixth period class gets excited each Thursday.

No, it's not because of extended recess or a day without homework.

Each Thursday, Olson and her sixth graders at Dodge Middle School get a visit from Officer Jim Kucera, the Twinsburg Police Department's DARE officer.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) is a program being tried in schools across the country. Twinsburg began the program in August, and the early results have been promising.

"These are things that every kid needs to know," Kucera said. "The program is not just about drugs, it's about life in general."

Kucera, a policeman of more than 21 years, meets weekly with children from kindergarten through sixth grade at Twinsburg, Bissel, and Wilcox elementary schools and Dodge.

The kindergarten, first, and second grade classes have four weekly sessions to talk about topics like safety, dealing with strangers, and understanding feelings.

Third and fourth graders spend five weeks with Kucera being introduced to drug education and how to say "no."

Fifth and sixth graders spend 17 weeks, or one semester, learning about the consequences of drug misuse, resistance techniques, and alternatives to drug use.

While DARE differs in approach from age to age, all of the programs function on building quality self-esteem.

Olson's class spent time talking about assertiveness, which Kucera defined for them as "a way of telling other people what your rights are, while still respecting theirs."



RPC Photo/Eric Mansfield

Officer Jim Kucera, right, and Mrs. Olson, far left, watch a sixth graders role-play during a recent DARE class at Dodge Middle School.

"Officer Kucera has a neat knack of presenting himself...so they see him as a person."

Kucera spends Fridays going from school to school just to interact with the students.

He sits in the cafeteria during lunch, spends time with students as they board school buses, and maintains high visibility.

"Some of the kids think I'm here for enforcement purposes," Kucera said. "I do not take any enforcement action unless it's on an emergency basis. I'm here as an instructor."

DARE began in Los Angeles in 1983, and long-term results showed increased grades with de-

creased drug use, Kucera said.

Twinsburg's program has only been in place nine weeks, but early parental feedback has been favorable, Kucera said.

A portion of the presentation usually involves role playing.

Students assume roles as either the victim or the drug dealer, which gives them an opportunity

to practice different resistance methods while in a controlled environment.

(See DARE, page 28)

PTL. JIM KUCERA BECOMES THE FIRST DARE OFFICER FOR THE TWINSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sgt. Munn's attitude carries him on

By CHERYL POWELL

After fighting crime for 24 years on the Twinsburg Police Force, Sgt. Herbert Munn is now facing the hardest fight of his life.

Munn was forced to retire Dec. 31 after finding out he has developed cancer. But Munn is facing his fight with optimism and a positive attitude.

"What's your choices in an attitude?" Munn said simply. "A lot has to do with your attitude. You just take it one day step at a time."

Munn is receiving aggressive treatment, which involves both chemotherapy and radiation, to fight his cancer. A small brain tumor was detected and killed through a new radiation procedure.



HERB MUNN

After 24 years
beating the doors down
men," Munn said. "You
re to be a policeman."

Munn was promoted to sergeant in 1977. He said he had a variety of responsibilities in this role.

Head of street patrol and traffic, shift supervisor, acting police chief and liaison with the school system were among the duties Munn had.

"I've done just about everything that's been done," Munn said.

Munn was also the department's hostage negotiator. He had to u
area only once.

In 1985, a hostage w
ra's Supermarket. Munn
the hostage taker face-to

"A guy took a cashi
recalled. "He eventually
weapon."

Munn was promote
charge of the Detectiv
was formed in January
his work in the burea
most enjoyed.

"I liked taking cases
all the way through to
explained.

The Detective Bureau
investigations, internal i
misdemeanors, backgrou
fire and police departm
undercover investigations

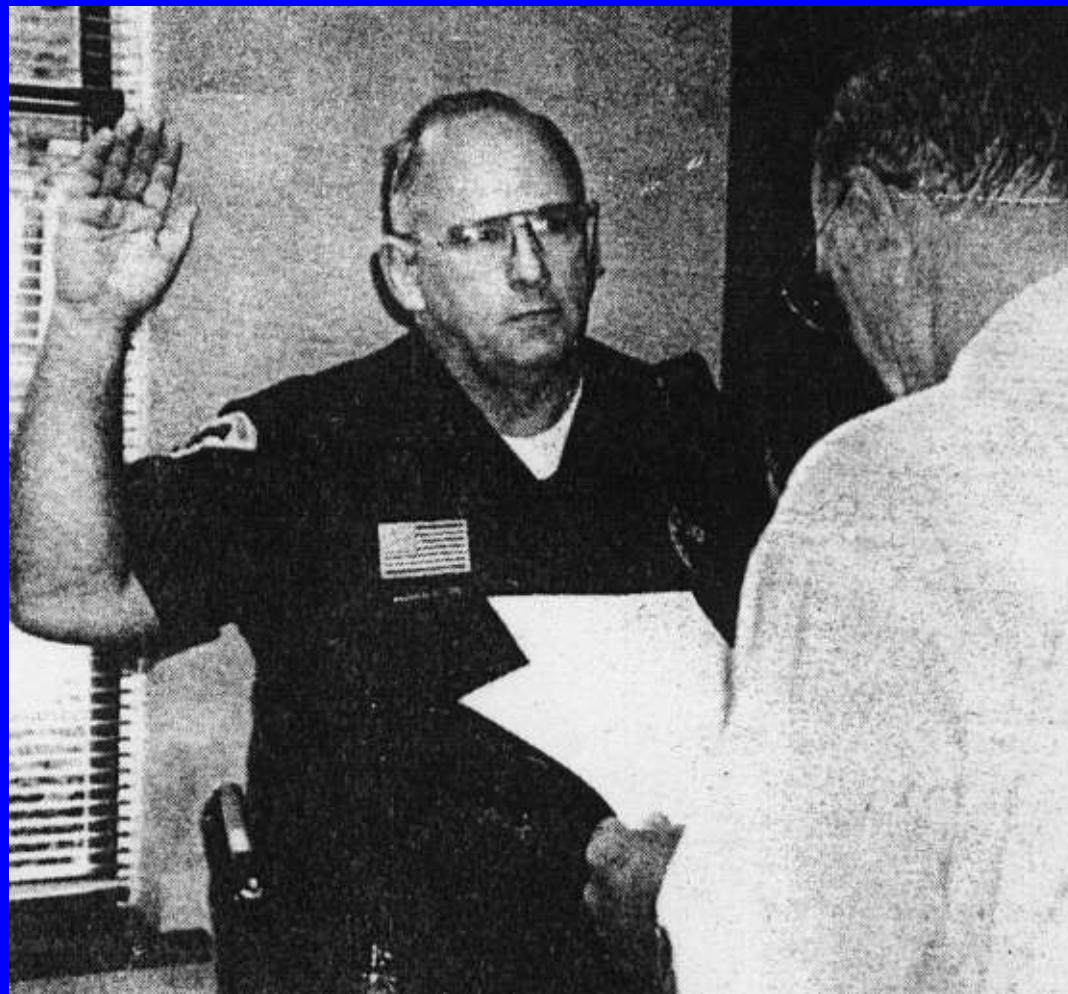
(See MUNN,



DET. SGT. HERB MUNN (1944-1992)

DET. SGT. HERB MUNN RETIRES AFTER 24 YEARS OF
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF
TWINSBURG





RICK DEAL TAKES HIS OATH AS HE IS
PROMOTED TO SERGEANT (1992)



BOB GONSIEWSKI IS HIRED IN 1990. HE WOULD SERVE AS THE DEPARTMENT'S FIRST K-9 OFFICER IN 1996



APRIL BLUBAUGH BECOMES THE DEPARTMENT'S FIRST FEMALE OFFICER IN 1992. SHE IS ALSO THE FIRST TWINSBURG DISPATCHER HIRED AS A TWINSBURG POLICE OFFICER.



CHIEF KNAACK RETIRES IN JUNE 1992

City Police Chief Knaack finishes 31 years

By EILEEN BENEDICT

Many people may not think of cute bears and colorful clowns as being what they'd see in the office of a police chief, but Twinsburg City Police Chief Robert Knaack, who is retiring May 14, has pictures and figurines of these characters in his modern office to keep him company while he works. He even has a stuffed teddy bear sitting nearby.

Police Chief as Teddy Bear?

Chief Knaack has been with the Twinsburg Police Department for 31 years—10 of which he has spent being the head honcho. He became a patrolman in 1961 and remained as one for eight years. He became sergeant and held that position for eight years, and then performed his lieutenant duties for five before he became chief.

Knaack said he did not plan on becoming chief when he started as patrolman. "It was just the natural order of things," he said, referring to his climb up the ranks. He also said he did not always know he wanted to be in the police business. "I went into the Marines out of high school," Knaack said, "and when I got out, I just thought being a police officer would be a good profession."

Knaack's worst memory as an officer was when he was doing a routine check of a local bar in Twinsburg. "I pulled behind the bar," he said. "...There were a number of cars behind the bar...You could look in the back window and see the bar, and I didn't see any patrons...I sat there for a minute because something appeared



Chief Robert C. Knaack
Retiring after 31 years

to be wrong...And suddenly, a ski mask looked at me from behind the curtain. It was being held up at the time."

Knaack said he alerted the dispatcher, and other officers were sent to the scene. Knaack said he and the assisting officers surrounded the bar, Knaack covering the rear of the building. He said one of the burglars came out the front door of the bar holding the owner as hostage by gunpoint. He said by this time, the Hudson police also responded. Knaack said the bar owner grabbed the gun, and police then succeeded at wrestling the criminal to the ground. The man was arrested that night,

but the other suspect, Knaack recalled, fled the scene during the commotion. Knaack said the other suspect was arrested later, and both went to jail.

When asked if officers ever get over their fear when in such situations, Knaack replied, "I really wouldn't call it fear because it becomes so common; (an officer's) everyday duties.

"I think that's why officers get killed," he added. "They get used to handling their jobs as normal and everyday duties. And someone out there doesn't act normal, and the next thing you know, they're dead." Knaack said police officers don't feel anything at the time of a dangerous situation; they just do what they're trained to do. "They go with their instincts."

Knaack said "times have changed" since he's joined the force. "Police officers were higher in the public's respect then," he said. "Now, the respect there." Knaack said police officers' jobs are tougher now because they used to be because of the crime we have.

He Worked His Way Up

After Knaack had been a patrolman for 20 years, he earned a degree in law from Cuyahoga Community College while attending part time. After the competitive exams he passed to rise in the ranks, he became a sergeant through the years.

(See CHIEF, p. 1)



Frank takes over police chief's post in city

August 5, 1992

By JEAN VALENTINO

"We've got to overcome the bad we've seen in the past year (about police departments) with some good," said new Twinsburg City Police Chief Tony Frank, on his second day in the post to which he has aspired throughout his 14-year career as a police officer.

"We will evaluate where we're at in terms of the needs of the community and the department before any changes are made," Frank continued. "I would like to expand the DARE program, make it more visible to the community, so that the community knows more about what the program does."

Top on the list of priorities for the new chief? "We want to provide the best service to the community in terms of keeping the community safe for the residents," Frank said. "That has always been our number one priority and will remain so."

"I would also like to make sure the



CHIEF TONY FRANK
City of Twinsburg Police Department

members of the department keep up with current training and education," Frank

added.

His enthusiasm was evident when he spoke about the new Chrysler Jeeps the city department purchased this summer. "I've driven one several times and have had nothing but rave reviews about them," Frank said. "They're fun to drive. We get a lot of inquiries from other drivers about them too."

He told about one driver pulling out across a double yellow line right in front of him while he was in a department Jeep. "When I pulled him over he acted surprised," said Frank. "He thought I was a park ranger."

When asked about the possibility of the city police department ever having a canine unit, Frank did not discount the idea. "It is an innovative tool I wouldn't close the door to," he said. He added that a canine unit requires the dedication of the police officer involved. "For the officer in

(See CHIEF — page 2)

Chief

From Page 1

the unit, it's like having another member of the family. You have to have the officer's cooperation for the unit to work."

Frank graduated from Kent State University in 1974 with a bachelor of science in criminal justice studies. "The program at Kent State was very much administrative-oriented in terms of police work and I enjoyed those classes very much," said Frank.

The 39 year-old chief served with the Streetsboro Police Department before coming to Twinsburg in July, 1978. He

graduated from high school in Columbus.

Frank and his wife have two boys ages three and six years old who have a supply of toys at 'Dad's' office to play with when they visit him in Twinsburg. Frank is also an aviation buff.

At ease in the chief's chair, he nods to his collection of police officer figurines on the shelves.

"I plan to retire as chief. I love Twinsburg. It's something special to me," said Twinsburg's new Chief of Police Tony Frank.

TONY FRANK BECOMES THE FOURTH CHIEF OF POLICE IN AUGUST 1992



OUT WITH THE OLD.....



5-18-07






...IN WITH THE NEW

By EILEEN BENEDICT

There is some-
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lice Department.
An emptied-o
Florida orange
has been clear
plaques that hu
taken down.
The corner h
when Detective
the department.
Dalaski serve
le over 25 year
ber 1967. In 19
a "meritorious s
Prior to his
Dalaski served
with the Summ
ment and 3 1/2
Becoming a
something I w

was a kid," he said.
Dalaski, now living
in Hudson, was
He said he was
s footsteps or fill-
family line of offi-
cement. He said
the Akron Police
the detective bu-
s patrolman and
years. Setting up
Dalaski's favorite
alking big money;
ting," said Dalas-
enge of his job,
he sometimes up-
be faced. He re-
time when his at-
adowed. It was a
a C

had raped a woman in Twinsburg —
along with four or five others in different
jurisdictions — leaving one dead. He said
area police departments joined forces to
catch the suspect. It took them seven
months — the longest and most challeng-
ing case Dalaski remembered working
through.
"That's all I did for seven months," he
explained.
How times have changed
Dalaski, 50, remembers a "different
world;" a time when the police department
was in the basement of where the NESCA
Senior Center is now located on Ravenna
Road, which is next to what is now the
Twinsburg Township Police Department —
the city's former fire department.
The city's police department moved to
its new facility in 1979, accordir
ice Chief Anthony Frank Dalaski

Dalaski

From Page 1

bers this as the biggest change
for the department during his ten-
ure.
He also remembers the city it-
self going through changes: popu-
lation and industrial growth. "It's
like two different cities altogether,"
he said.
Looking into the future
Stating he would choose the
same career if he could do it all
again, Dalaski said he does not
yet know if he will miss it. "It
just seems like I've been on a
vacation," he said. "I haven't had
time to settle into anything."
Dalaski has no definite plans
as of yet, but he said he hopes
to spend a lot of his free time
hunting and fishing — and a
part-time job to take care of
boredom seems likely.
And who knows, maybe his
two daughters, one living in Ari-
zona and the other in Massachu-
setts, will see him standing on
their front steps for a visit.
A retirement dinner honoring
Dalaski is scheduled for 6:30
p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18 at the
Winking Lizard, 10735 Ravenna
Road. Tickets will be on sale
through Feb. 9. Contact Kathi or
Loretta at 425-9258 if you wish
to attend.

DET. JOHN DALASKI RETIRES AFTER 25 YEARS OF
SERVICE WITH 17 OF THOSE YEARS IN THE DETECTIVE
BUREAU

TPD to increase patrol with grants

Police departments across the state receive \$14 million to hire more cops

by DINO DiSANTO
Reporter

The expansion of the Twinsburg Police Department was given a kick start Dec. 19 when

the hiring process."

The police department has 25 full-time officers and is interviewing so it can hire two more officers for next year.

The city's 1997 temporary appropriation report allocates funds for the police department to hire four officers in 1997.

Diersing said the grant will allow the department to start with hiring an early

with community policing.

"We've already had this philosophy in place," Diersing said. "This only helps our initiative. Our challenge now is to come up with

with community policing. Some of those programs include the department's bike patrol and speed trailer.

He added a new program is on the way called Juvenile Diversion. The program will allow

with community policing. Some of those programs include the department's bike patrol and speed trailer.

He added a new program is on the way called Juvenile Diversion. The program will allow



UNDER CHIEF FRANK AND THROUGH THE USE OF FEDERAL GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT GREW RAPIDLY IN THE 1990s



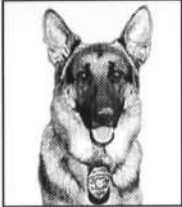


1995 – KEN DIERSING (L) IS PROMOTED TO
LIEUTENANT AND JEFF NASH RECEIVES HIS
SERGEANT'S STRIPES



PTL. JIM KUCERA (1941 – 1995)

PTL. JIM KUCERA WAS THE CITY'S FIRST DARE OFFICER. HE SERVED IN THAT POSITION FROM 1991 UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT IN 1995. JIM KUCERA INFLUENCED A GENERATION OF TWINSBURG YOUTH. THERE IS A MEMORIAL TO HIS WORK IN THE DARE PROGRAM INSTALLED AT DODGE SCHOOL.

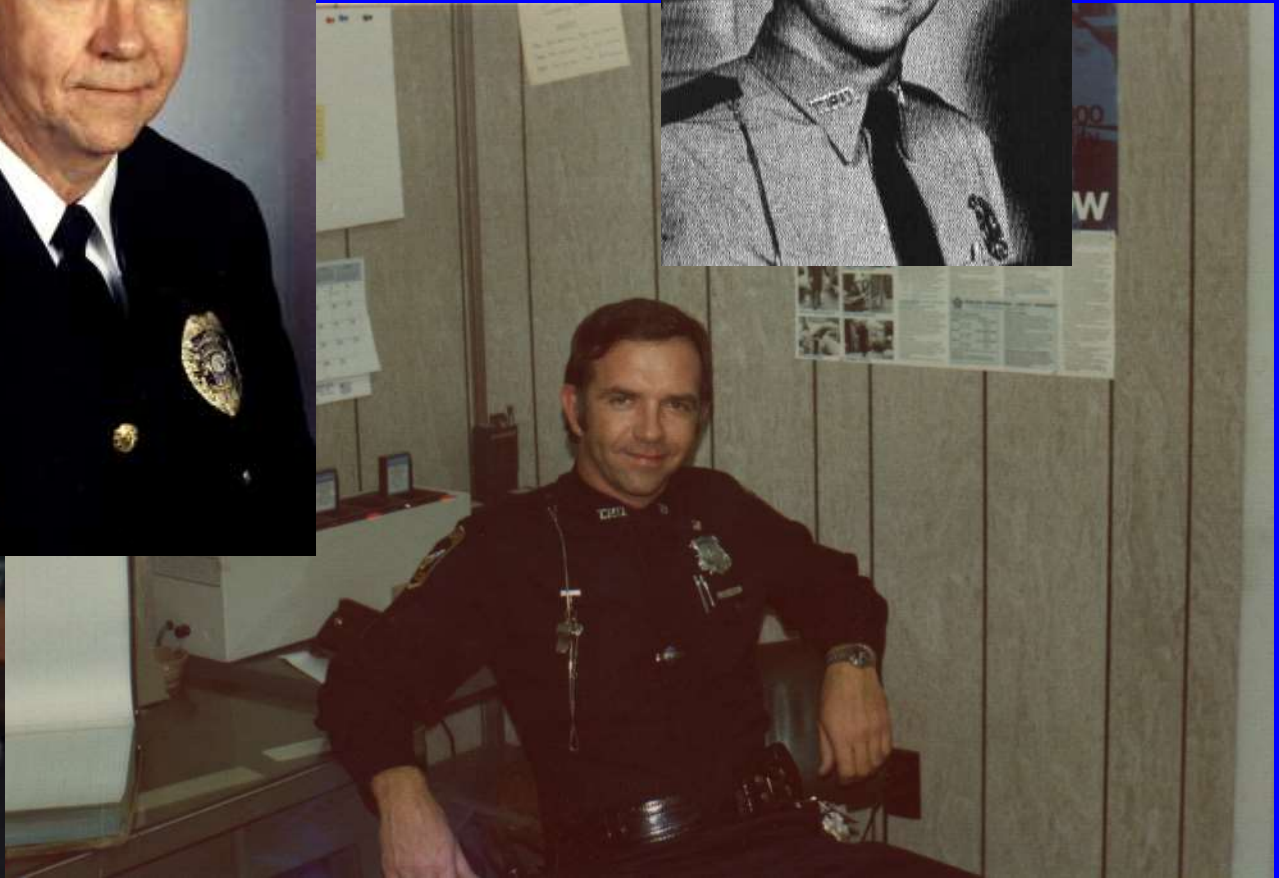
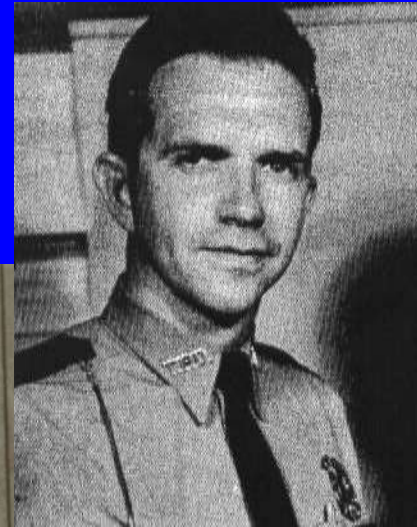


	TWINSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT	
	Emery <i>Utility & Narcotics Detection K-9</i>	
HT.: <u>29"</u>	WT.: <u>95 lbs.</u>	HAIR: <u>Black & Tan</u>
EYES: <u>Brown</u>	<u>30101</u> TATTOO	<u>11-14-94</u> DATE OF BIRTH
	<u>May 3, 1996</u> DATE OF EMPLOYMENT	 OFFICER'S SIGNATURE



EMERY JOINS THE TWINSBURG POLICE
DEPARTMENT AS OUR FIRST K-9 OFFICER IN 1996

SGT. BOB PAPES (BELOW L) RETIRES AFTER 30 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (1996).



RON ELLIS IS
SWORN IN AS
SERGEANT – 1996



MICHAEL NAKATA
IS SWORN IN AS
SERGEANT – 1997



OUR HOME GROWS- STATION EXPANSION IN 1997 ADDS GARAGE BAYS THAT HOLD EIGHT PATROL CARS, SEPARATE LOCKER ROOMS FOR MEN AND WOMEN AND ADDITIONAL STORAGE SPACE.



1998

1998



‘Arresting’ career to finish July 4 for police lieutenant

by STEPHANIE FELLEINSTEIN
Correspondent

July 4 marks the end of Lt. Ken Diersing's 32-year law enforcement career. "Independence Day," he says, pointing out the irony of his

"I'm in a position where I can interact with everyone," he says. "When you're a shift sergeant you only interact with your shift." But he also enjoyed being a patrol officer. "When I was a patrolman on



4 after 32 years with the Twinsburg Police Department.

"He was my sergeant," he said. "I learned a lot from him. I had a lot of people in Twinsburg."



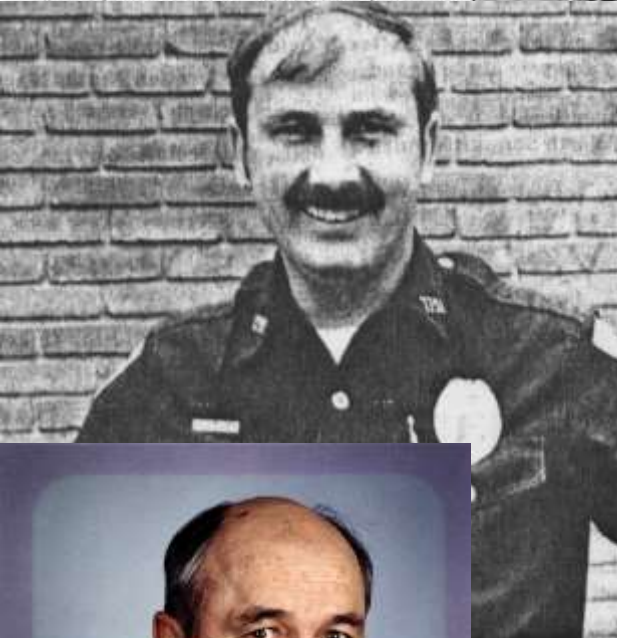
far as his outlook on the department and what the future holds," Ellis says. "I learned a lot from him. He's a good mentor."

The future

Diersing says he will miss being a police officer. "There is a certain respect

for retirement. Diersing has plans for a long time. He and his wife will travel the country on his trip. He is going to peek in the Canyon, drive down the coast and see where Elvis was. The trip also will take them to the Knights Convention in Las Vegas and several national meetings. Blue Knights are an elite law enforcement motor club. "When we come home, I want to do retirement," he adds. "I'll give officers a few words of advice. I'll be a mentor for his successor. I'll be patient and keep my sense of humor," he says. "Don't let the problem be the end of the world."

Now that retirement is here, Diersing says he has no regrets about his career choice. "I've really enjoyed myself and all the people," he says. "If I had it all to do over, I would."



JULY 1998 - LT. KEN DIERSING RETIRES AFTER 32 YEARS AS A TWINSBURG POLICE OFFICER. HE IS THE LONGEST SERVING OFFICER IN THE 50 YEAR HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT AND ONLY THE SECOND OFFICER TO SERVE AS LIEUTENANT.

MICHAEL NAKATA IS PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT — AUGUST 1998

Promotion 'good learning experience' for new Twinsburg police lieutenant

by STEPHANIE FELLESTEIN
Correspondent

Only a couple months into the job and the top of Lt. Michael Nakata's desk is already hidden by layers of paper. Nakata took over for Lt. Ken Diersing who retired earlier this summer after 32 years with the Twinsburg Police Department.

"This is a good learning experience," says the new lieutenant at the Twinsburg Police Department. "I've learned more in three weeks than since I started with the department. There's a lot of on-the-job training."

Nakata joined the department Aug. 30, 1988 with every intention of joining the FBI within three years.

"But I liked the department and the community and decided to stay," he says. "I have not regretted that decision once."

After several years as a patrolman, he served in the detective bureau before being promoted to sergeant. He then was named lieutenant in June. With each promotion, came more responsibilities.

"This is how I look at it," he says. "Besides being responsible for the citizens of Twinsburg, as a patrolman you are responsible for yourself. As a sergeant, you're responsible for yourself and your shift. As a lieutenant, you are responsible for making sure the entire department runs smoothly."

As lieutenant, Nakata takes care of the training and education of officers, dispatchers and support personnel, grant applicants, personnel issues and purchase orders.

He also assists with hiring, is the media liaison and in the police chief's absence, is the one in charge.

(See NAKATA —Page 18)

August 20, 1998 — The Bulletin — Page 17



LT. MICHAEL NAKATA

Page 18 — The Bulletin — August 20, 1998

Nakata

Nakata has several goals as lieutenant relating to both the community and the department.

"The first responsibility of our police department is to the citizens of Twinsburg," he says. "We have a good relationship now with the citizens and the business community and I want to make sure we maintain that."

Nakata also wants to continue hiring quality individuals for the police department.

"We're dynamic not static," he says. "I need to continue the proactive ideas that come from the community and

the officers."

Some ideas include organizing more training programs at the department, formally implementing a juvenile diversion program and expanding community policing programs.

Nakata says he has no regrets about his career choice.

"The job is unpredictable; there is always something new," he says.

He readily admits he misses being out on the road, but has no regrets about giving up midnight shifts.

As for the next 10 years?

"I hopefully will have adapted to my role as lieutenant," Nakata says. "If you would have asked me 10 years ago where I would see myself today, I would have said, hopefully being proficient as a patrolman."

Nakata plans to stick around Twinsburg.

"This is the first and only place I've been a police officer," he says. "I enjoy it thoroughly."



LT. MICHAEL NAKATA



SGT. RAY BOBICK

MICHAEL NAKATA IS SWORN IN AS
LIEUTENANT AND RAY BOBICK IS PROMOTED
TO SERGEANT – LATE SUMMER 1998

1999 – RON ELLIS IS PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT
AND GREG FEKETIK EARNS HIS SERGEANT'S
STRIPES





IN 1999, THE DEPARTMENT ISSUED TRADING CARDS FOR EVERY POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE. TPD SPONSORED A CONTEST FOR TWINSBURG YOUTH TO SEE WHO COULD COLLECT ALL 34 CARDS FIRST



THE FIRST CHILD TO APPEAR AT TPD WITH ONE OF EACH OF THE ISSUED CARDS WON A BICYCLE. THE CONTEST LASTED LESS THAN A WEEK BEFORE THE WINNER WAS DECLARED.





JACK WILLIAMS IS HIRED AS ANIMAL WARDEN REPLACING DAN BIADA WHO WAS HIRED AS A TWINSBURG POLICE OFFICER (2000). THE LONG TIME TWINSBURG RESIDENT AND FORMER TWINSBURG FIRE FIGHTER ALSO SERVES AS THE DEPARTMENT ARMORER.



SGT. RAY SMEE RETIRES IN 2001 AFTER 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF TWINSBURG

Good luck



Chief Anthony Frank left the Twinsburg Police Department in late March. The head of the department for nine years, Frank announced his retirement last month to accept a security position at the Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court.

"I leave a large part of my heart in Twinsburg," Frank previously told *Record Publishing Co.*

Frank was selected to fill the new CFMC position of administrator in charge of security and police/prosecutor liaison.



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Twinsburg
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AFTER
SERVING
ALMOST NINE
YEARS AS
CHIEF OF
POLICE, TONY
FRANK
RETIRES IN
JUNE 2001.



JIM TOBAK IS PROMOTED TO
SERGEANT – SUMMER 2001





IN 2001 MIKE KREJCI IS HIRED AS A TWINSBURG POLICE OFFICER FULFILLING A JOURNEY THAT BEGAN WHEN HE JOINED THE TWINSBURG POLICE EXPLORERS AS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. HE THEN SERVED AS A DISPATCHER FOR TWINSBURG PD WHILE WORKING PART-TIME AS A PATROL OFFICER FOR TWINSBURG TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF GLENWILLOW. HE IS THE ONLY TWINSBURG POLICE EXPLORER EVER HIRED AS A TWINSBURG POLICE OFFICER.

New chief to rely on experience, rapport

NOV. 2001

APRIL MCCLELLAN-
COPELAND
Plain Dealer Reporter

TWINSBURG — Richard Deal did not aspire to become the chief of the Twinsburg Police Department. He was quite content being a sergeant and planned to retire from the job.



Deal

But when Deal assumed Twinsburg's top job a few weeks ago, he immediately began to draw on 20 years of experience in the department and a strong rapport with his personnel.

Deal, 58, succeeded Police Chief Anthony Frank, who was named chief in 1992 and retired earlier this year. Lt. Ron Ellis served as the acting chief until Deal was selected.

"I used to think, 'No, I'm happy being a road dog,'" Deal said, referring to a nickname for a road sergeant. "I figured I'd end my career as a sergeant or lieutenant. I never dreamed of this."

Deal was selected out of three finalists, including Ellis and Lt. Michael Nakata.

"Deal brings a vast bank of

knowledge and experience to the job," Twinsburg Mayor Katherine A. Procop said.

Deal's first task has been to promote unity and purpose among the department's personnel. A sex discrimination lawsuit filed in federal court by dispatcher Kathryn Buck against Frank and the city has been distracting for the staff, Deal said.

Buck had claimed sex discrimination, invasion of privacy and retaliation in her lawsuit. She alleged Frank had said on several occasions that he did not like working with women and would prefer not to work with them.

In January, Buck, who had worked in the Police Department for 15 years, was awarded a \$110,000 settlement.

"When I was a sergeant, I could see the way things were going," Deal said. "We've got a good department, but we had distractions with the administration, manpower problems that got off track. I know what [Frank's] vision was, but was able to follow through on it."

"I knew that I had the experience with the military background, 20 years in the Navy, that I could bring a sense of unity and purpose to our people."

Deal started his career in law enforcement in 1981 in Grafton

in Lorain County, where he worked as a patrolman until 1992. Then he went to the Twins-

burg often," Deal said. "We'll be going back to earlier days when everyone knew the police officer and



RICHARD DEAL IS SWORN IN AS THE FIFTH CHIEF OF POLICE IN THE CITY OF TWINSBURG HISTORY (NOVEMBER 2001)



CHRIS NOGA IS PROMOTED TO SERGEANT
AND SWORN IN – NOVEMBER 2001

DISPATCH – THE HEART OF THE TWINSBURG POLICE DEPT.



Twinsburg police dispatcher credited with saving child

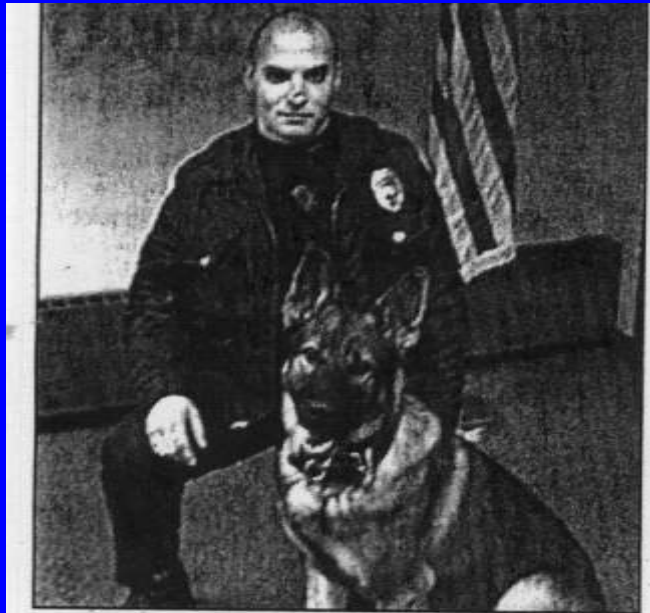
Beacon Journal staff report

Twinsburg Police Chief Anthony Frank has asked the City Council to recognize dispatcher Kathy Berline for meritorious service in helping to

and was examined by a physician. Berline, a dispatcher for 18 years, answered Varndell's call.



BAGGIO JOINS THE DEPARTMENT AS OUR SECOND K-9 IN OCTOBER 2002



RPC Photo / Julie McMillan

Officer Josh Miktarian of the Twinsburg Police Department is ready to serve, defend and protect local citizens with his new partner, Baggio. The canine joined the department at the end of October.



Police shift to 12-hour day

By LENA A. INA
Staff Writer

TWINSBURG — Police officers are trying something new to begin the year.

As of Sunday, officers switched to permanent 12-hour shifts: from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Previously, the department had scheduled two day shifts that rotate officers: from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 3-11 p.m. The overnight shift worked from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.

The decision to change wasn't a hasty one, however. Police Chief Richard Deal considered many requests for the new schedule from his staff and called other police departments before approaching Mayor Katherine Procop.

"I talked with other chiefs since I became chief (in November 2001) and even before that when I was in the detective bureau," Deal said. "The majority like it."

Part of that admiration is due to the increase in patrol cars on the road per shift. Deal was able to negotiate a fourth patrol car for each shift, an increase from the three cars on patrol per shift now. The officers didn't oppose Deal's request, according to officer Tom Austin.

"The officers want that as well for safety reasons because it's better coverage of the community," he said.

The new arrangement also will reduce the paper work and stress of creating the schedules, along with curtailing the

amount of sick time requested from patrolmen, Deal said.

"If you follow the general trail of other programs, you'll see a decrease in sick time," Deal said.

From the officers' point of view, they will realize more time off. Although they will still be working 80 hours in two weeks (three 12-hour days each week plus another four hours over the two weeks), they will gain 72 nonworking days, Austin said.

"It's a better schedule for (officers) for their home lives," Austin said.

It also will benefit the city, Austin said. "If an officer starts a case, he can follow through to the end instead of passing it off to another officer."

Additionally, the new schedule will increase visibility and accessibility in the community, especially for those officers presently on the midnight shift, Austin said.

"People will get to see them because they'll start their shifts at 7 p.m. instead of 10 p.m.," Austin said.

Because of his experience with this type of shift, Deal wasn't too excited to initiate it in Twinsburg. However, the officers provided answers to Deal's and Procop's questions and were able to nab a one-year trial. In return, Deal furnished the patrolmen with his expectations of them.

"I've worked 12-hour shifts and I don't like them," he said.

See SHIFT, page A2



THE DEPARTMENT INITIATES 12 HOUR PATROL SHIFTS IN 2003. OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO PATROL WORK 72 FEWER DAYS A YEAR AND THE CITY RECEIVES MORE PATROL COVERAGE. ABOVE – DAY SHIFT A (2003)

Ellis retires from police force

As lieutenant hangs up uniform, chief faces filling 'big shoes'

By LENA A. INA
Staff Writer

Twenty-five years ago, Twinsburg police Lt. Ronald Ellis donned his navy blue uniform and shiny new badge for his first day as a patrolman in the Twinsburg Police Department.

Today, that uniform, which includes two stripes for promotions to sergeant and lieutenant, is hanging in Ellis's closet for good. At the minimum retirement age of 48, Ellis has decided to leave the department and his career.

He said he wants to spend more time with his wife Debbie and sons Dimitry, 6, and Ivan, 4.

"As I was approaching that age, it was something I began to think about," he said. "I made the decision to be able to enjoy my family."

His said goodbye to his colleagues and

other city employees Monday at a retirement luncheon at the police department.

Chief Richard Deal is sorry to see him go.

"He's a conscientious officer," he said. "You can't ask for a more intelligent officer. He will be very much missed."

Ellis's quiet, unassuming demeanor, along with his diligence, has earned the respect of his colleagues over the years.

"He's the type of guy who doesn't come in with a lot of flash," Deal said. "He's real steady and reliable. You can count on him."

It won't be easy for Ellis to forget what he left behind, however.

"I'm sure I'll miss it because it was a way of life for a number of years," he said.

It all started in 1974 when he joined the Cleveland Metroparks, first as a dispatcher, then a park ranger. Four years later, he realized policing was his calling and decided to pursue it.

"It was very enjoyable work with a lot of variety," he said.

He joined the Twinsburg department in 1978, when the roster numbered 18 officers. The department has since grown to 35 officers.

Deal remembers how Ellis showed him the patrol routes when he was hired in 1982. He also recalls how their career paths have paralleled each other over the years.

"He and I chased each other up the ladder, I made sergeant, then he made sergeant. He made lieutenant, and then I made chief," Deal said.

Ellis moved up to sergeant in July, then lieutenant in January 1999. He served as interim chief for seven months in 2000 after former Chief Anthony Frank retired.

"I enjoyed the experience (of chief)," Ellis said. "You just realize more so that all of your employees make the department run. It's not one person."

See ELLIS, page 2



ELLIS

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LT. RON ELLIS RETIRES
FROM THE
TWINSBURG POLICE
DEPARTMENT AFTER
25 YEARS OF SERVICE



**BOB GONIEWSKI &
EMERY**



**JOSH MIKTARIAN &
BAGGIO**

**BOTH TPD K-9
UNITS AND
THEIR
HANDLERS –
OCTOBER 2003**

Jeff Nash bridges old tasks with new position

BULLETIN 10/30/03

by Kimberly Mauser

Reporter

TWINSBURG — Detective Sgt. Jeff Nash was named the Twinsburg Police Department's new lieutenant, replacing former 25-year force member Lt. Ron Ellis.

Nash was promoted to the department's second-in-charge seat last Wednesday.

"I think it's my time to step up and do new things in the police department," said Nash.

Nash said his new responsibilities include administrative work, applying for grants, overseeing the property room and working on a budget.

"It's a whole new side of police work I haven't done a lot," he said.

Nash has been with the department for 15 years, eight as patrolman and seven as sergeant, with two of those years in the detective bureau.

"I have always been interested in what police officers do and the law," said Nash. "I wanted to get into a job with that side of human interaction, like a cop or a lawyer."

Civil service commission chairman Dennis Bernaciak said a written test over the department's policies and procedures was given Sept. 4 and an assessment was administered Oct. 4, which Bernaciak said is a more direct test on how the candidates would handle specific situations.

"These tests have been very effective in predicting the rate of success someone will have in a position," he said. "Our job is to administer the test. We give the results to the chief, who is in charge of hiring a candidate."

Police Chief Richard Deal was not available for comment.



JEFF NASH



JEFF NASH IS PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT – OCTOBER 2003



MARC ELEO IS PROMOTED TO SERGEANT – DECEMBER
2003

Police K-9 Emery trades badge for life of leisure

By LENA A. INA
Staff Writer

1/5/04
SUN

TWINSBURG — The calling cards for police K-9 Emery just went up in stock.

The Czechoslovakian-bred German shepherd, who has served the Twinsburg department for 7½ years, has given up his badge to retire his tired and aching body.

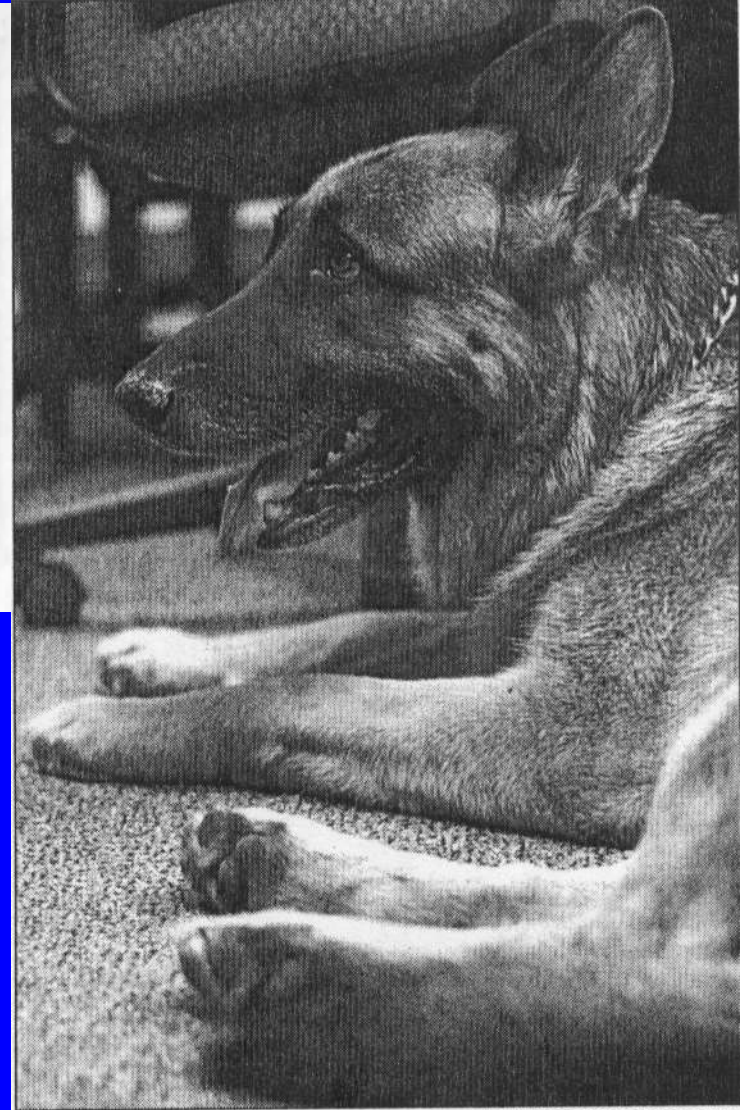
He continues to live with his handler, officer Bob Gonsiewski, and his family. Gonsiewski bought the 9-year-old dog for \$1 from the city. Gonsiewski

now is responsible for dog food and medical bills.

"He'll stay at home and sit by the fireplace and get a well-deserved rest," Gonsiewski said. "The city used to pay for everything, but that's OK. I know I've got the best-trained house pet around."

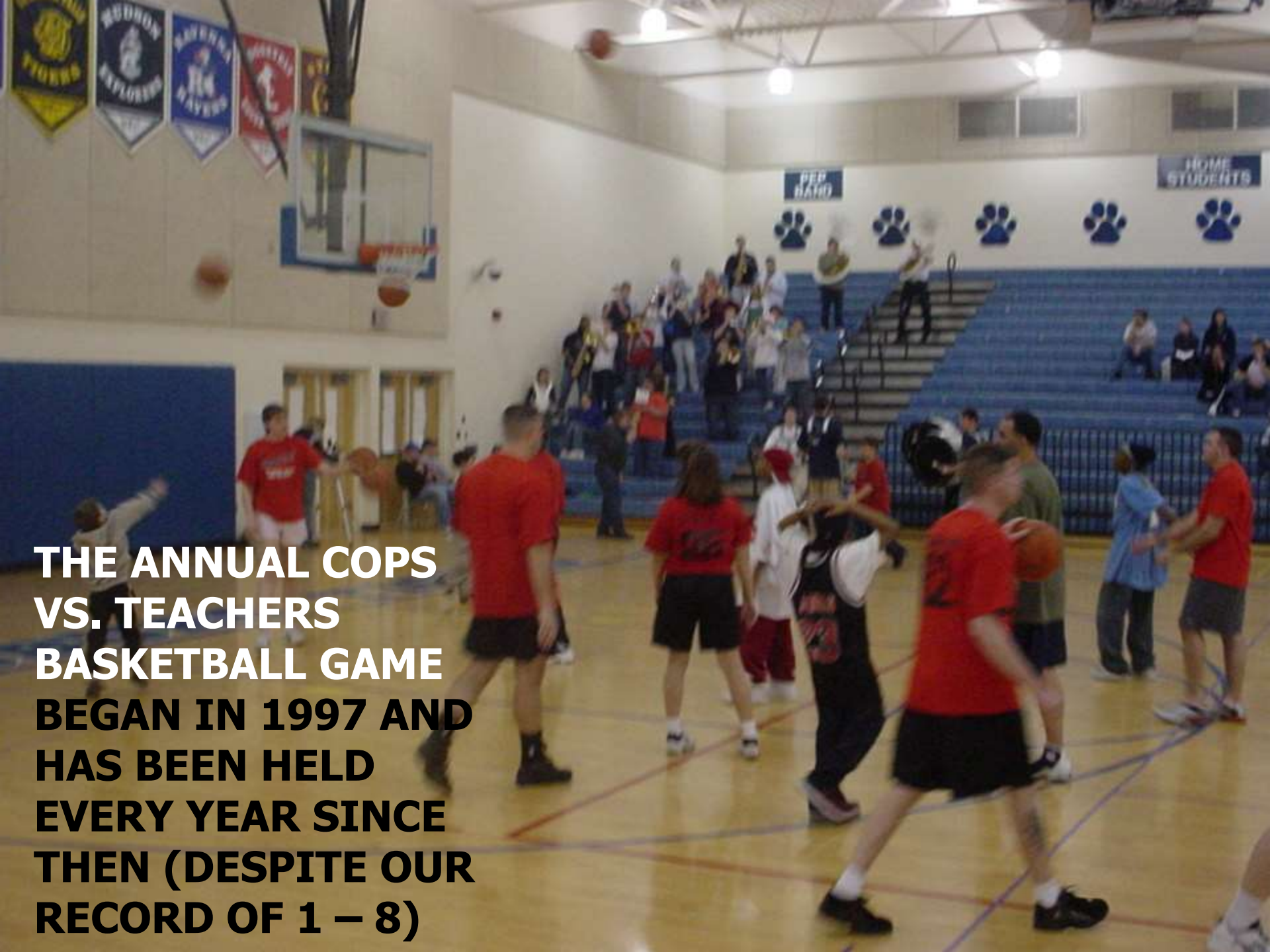
Retirement is best for Emery because of his age and declining health. Gonsiewski said he has noticed a physical change in Emery the last few years, including arthritic hips that make it difficult for him to get into

IN JANUARY 2004 EMERY RETIRES AFTER ALMOST EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE. HE CURRENTLY RESIDES WITH HIS HANDLER, PTL. BOB GONSIEWSKI.



SUN PHOTO BY BRAD RUEBENSAAL

Emery is trading in his Twinsburg police badge for a job as house pet of his handler, officer Bob Gonsiewski, and his family



**THE ANNUAL COPS
VS. TEACHERS
BASKETBALL GAME
BEGAN IN 1997 AND
HAS BEEN HELD
EVERY YEAR SINCE
THEN (DESPITE OUR
RECORD OF 1 – 8)**





2003 3 14



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TIRE

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KOPNISKE
31

KOPNISKE
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2003 3 14

IN 1998, THE DEPARTMENT RETURNED TO THE TRADITION OF HOSTING AN ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE. THE EVENT IS POPULAR WITH THE CHILDREN OF TWINSBURG AND IS HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE EVERY OCTOBER.





KEEP DOOR CLOSED











2002



2000



FORMER EXPLORERS 2000



THE EXPLORER PROGRAM RAN FOR OVER 10 YEARS. MANY OF THE YOUNG ADULTS WHO PARTICIPATED HAVE GONE ON TO SUCCESSFUL CAREERS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.

THE SECOND WEEK OF MAY IS NATIONAL PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL WEEK. EACH YEAR TWINSBURG OFFICERS PARTICIPATE IN THE CLEVELAND MEMORIAL PARADE TO HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.



DETECTIVE BUREAU - 2004





IN HONOR OF OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY, OFFICERS AND DISPATCHERS OF THE TWINSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT ARE WEARING COMMEMORATIVE BADGES IN 2005. THESE BADGES ARE BASED ON THE ORIGINAL TPD BADGES WORN FROM 1955 TO 1978.