

# Richfield Police Department

## 2014 Annual Report





*RICHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT*  
4450 WEST STREETSBORO ROAD  
RICHFIELD, OHIO 44286  
(330) 659-9500  
(330) 659-0677 FAX

Keith D. Morgan  
Chief of Police

Mayor Beshara,

It is with pleasure that I submit the annual report on behalf of the Richfield Police Department.

In 2014 the department was the recipient of a Justice Assistance Grant that was used to purchase three dual band portable radios. Dual band radios are used to communicate with neighboring agencies during emergency situations. The “dual band” allows the user to communicate across different radio frequencies. The current radios that are used by the majority of the police department members are not able to communicate in this manner.

The department was also chosen to serve as a pilot program regarding the feasibility of tablet computer usage in a patrol environment. An additional JAG grant provided funding to purchase and outfit all of our patrol units with new, state-of-the art tablets.

Lieutenant Joe Davis coordinates all of the departmental grant applications. His experience and expertise are responsible for the thousands of dollars in grant money received by the police department.

The communications division assumed dispatch responsibilities for the Boston Heights Police Department. The transition was smooth and the service that is being provided by our staff is of the highest level.

A partnership with LAW Publications provided literature that will be beneficial to residents of all ages. The literature includes drug abuse information, identity theft protection, violence and bullying information just to name a few. The cost of the publications is from corporate sponsorships within the community. We offer our sincere thanks to them for the support.

The jail staff, headed by Sergeant Fister, revamped our jail policies and procedures and had a successful inspection by the State of Ohio Board of Corrections.

Respectfully Submitted

Keith D. Morgan  
Chief of Police



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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Men and Women of the Richfield Police Department are committed to being a professional and caring organization dedicated to the concepts of personal excellence, continuous improvement, integrity, teamwork, and service to our community.

We believe in the dignity of all citizens and desire to protect individual rights. We aspire to contribute to the quality of life in the community of Richfield by providing efficient Law Enforcement services. We take pride in our professional performance and image.



# Richfield's Law Enforcement History

The Richfield Police Department can trace its law enforcement tradition back to 1816. The first law enforcement official was a constable who was elected to office. Two of the first known constables were John Bigelow and Isaac Hopkins. One of the most colorful constables was Arthur Scobie who served from 1920 to 1935. Constable Scobie wore boots and a western style hat. He rode a horse in order to perform his duties.

Web Orcutt and Joseph Smith also served as constables in the 1920's, while Preston Fauble was the first motorcycle officer. In the early 1930's, Orcutt, Smith and Fauble changed careers and were each elected to the office of Justice of the Peace.

William Guthrie was the last constable of Richfield and the first to have a car with two-way radio. An auxiliary captain, Charlie Palmer, and Virgil Newton served as deputies. The constable system was replaced by the Summit County Sheriff in 1962. Three local men, Tom Fisher, Ed Peffer, and Lee Weber were sworn in as deputies. The Summit County Sheriff continued to serve in Richfield until 1970, shortly after the Village of Richfield was formed. The formation of the Village resulted in two entities: Richfield Township and Richfield Village.

In 1970 the Richfield Village Police Department was formed. Tom Fisher was chosen to be the police chief, a position that he held until 1988. The Township continued its affiliation with the Summit County Sheriff's office. Richfield Township did have a police chief, Dave Arbogast, who was appointed in 1984. Chief Arbogast worked in conjunction with the Sheriff's department. The Township formed their own department with six additional officers joining Chief Arbogast.

John Walsh was appointed as Tom Fisher's replacement in 1988. Chief Walsh served in that capacity until 2001. Chief M.D. Canter was the third police chief for the Richfield Police Department with his appointment in 2001. In that same year the Richfield Township Police Department was dissolved. Richfield Township contracted with the Richfield Village Police department for police services. In 2002 the police department moved into a new facility.

Chief Canter completed over 44 years of law enforcement service with his retirement in 2012. Keith Morgan was named as his successor.

There have been many changes since John Bigelow and Isaac Hopkins took their oaths of office in the early 1800's. The law enforcement mission remains the same, to protect and serve the citizens of Richfield.

# CHIEFS OF POLICE

John Walsh  
1988 to 2001



Dave Arbogast  
Richfield Township



Tom Fisher  
1962-1988



Dale Canter  
2001-2012



Keith Morgan  
2012-Present

# Training

Training in 2014 addressed many training topics on a department level.

All officers participated in training sessions on chemical and detergent based suicide response and awareness. Additionally officers received emergency medical training that was incorporated as part of active shooter response and building clearing techniques conducted by member of Metro SWAT in a scenario based setting conducted in cooperation with the Newark Corporation on Highlander Parkway.



Members of the jail staff coordinated and orchestrated medical screening, proper medications dispensing and suicide prevention screening for all officers in cooperation with Ahuja Medical Center staff.

All officers received specialized training through the Ohio Attorney General's Office to gain understanding, appropriate responses and the challenges in order to bridge the gap with special needs victims and interviewing crime victims who are often marginalized or overlooked.

Patrol officers and investigators attended Heroin Recognition and Investigation to address the growing heroin problem experienced locally as well as nationally.



Patrol supervisors attended an advanced training course titled Procedural Justice and Police Legitimacy to address the perceptions and misperceptions of interactions between the public and the police.



Police department A.L.I.C.E. instructors and members of Richfield Fire coordinated with our Bath Township counterparts to conduct active shooter training drills for all the staff members of the Revere Local Schools prior to the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

Diversity training also played a role as officers received training to effectively interact with Muslim and Middle Eastern populations and the cultural differences entailed.

Training for patrol division OVI enforcement activities consisted of Standardized Field Sobriety Testing instructor updates and advanced training for the prosecution of OVI cases from initial contact, evidence documentation through trial preparation and courtroom testimony.

Other specialized training topics consisted of the following topics:

- 01- Undercover Online Investigations
- 02- Crisis Communications
- 03- Electronic Surveillance
- 04- Latent Print Analysis
- 05- Impact Weapons Instructor
- 06- Organized Retail Crime Investigations
- 07- Advanced Traffic Collision Investigations
- 08- Use of Force Liability and Standards
- 09- Criminal Interview and Interrogation Techniques
- 10- Police Instructional Skills
- 11- Federal Emergency Management Agency IS-200
- 12- Federal Emergency Management Agency IS-800

# Investigations

The detective bureau is staffed by Detective Sergeant Mike Swanson and Detective Amy Ellis. Det. Ellis also serves as the Juvenile Detective and works closely with the schools, parents and children.

In 2014 the detective bureau investigated 151 cases. Among the investigations were 27-thefts/fraud/forgeries, 10-B&E/Burglaries, 8-Assaults/Domestics/Protection Order Violations, 12-Menacing/Phone Harassment, 6-Sex Crimes, 2- Child Abuse/Neglect, 2- Juvenile Rule 6, 4-Drug Overdoses, 3-Structure Fires and 6-Deaths.

2-search warrants were served, numerous subpoenas and court orders were processed, 14 Felony arrest warrants and 7 Misdemeanor arrest warrants were obtained. All but (1) suspect has been taken into custody.



Evidence documented at burglary scenes in 2014.

All of the case work involves countless hours of investigation which includes, but is not limited to, crime scene processing, victim-witness and suspect interviews, surveillance, report writing and warrant preparation. Additionally, many hours are spent coordinating efforts with The Summit County Common Pleas Court, The Akron Municipal Court, The Summit County Juvenile Court and their prosecutor's offices, as well as other state and federal agencies.



The above photographs documented deplorable living conditions, and the use of dangerous drugs to facilitate the emergency removal of (8) children from (2) homes in 2014. For their safety, the children were placed in foster care or with family members. Criminal charges were also filed in both cases.

The detective bureau also conducts background investigations for police department applicants and other Richfield employees. This is a very involved process that requires hours of research and investigation into the applicant's background. It includes interviews of the applicant, their past employers, school officials, references and neighbors of the applicant. The background investigation process is similar to any other investigation, which is why it's typically assigned to detective bureaus.

In 2015 the Detective Bureau is working with village and township residents to enact block watch programs in the area. We strongly support these groups to focus on community awareness, and crime prevention to promote public safety.

# Property Room

The property room is staffed by Det. Sgt. Mike Swanson, Det. Amy Ellis and Ptl. David Polak. There is a constant flow of property and evidence that passes through the property room each year. Each piece of property/evidence must be packaged, labeled, logged and properly stored, while maintaining a proper chain of custody. Det. Ellis typically handles the day to day operations of the property room. The property room also manages all of the digital evidence i.e.: photographs and in car camera data. Det. Amy Ellis and Ptl. Polak have also been keeping up with this task along with their other duties.



Many pieces of evidence are submitted to the crime lab every year for analysis. This process is also managed in the property room. The evidence must be prepared for submission, and after analysis it's returned to our property room. The accompanying lab reports that follow then must be filed appropriately and or forwarded to the prosecutor's office.

In 2014 the property room cataloged 610 pieces of property and evidence.

# Communication Center

Tim Baker oversees the daily operations of the dispatch center. There are currently seven full time dispatchers and four part time dispatchers. In 2014 the dispatch center processed 29,058 calls for service which is an increase from the 16,934 in 2013. The dispatch center serves Richfield Village, Richfield Twp., Peninsula and Valley Fire District, and Boston Heights Police Department.

In 2014 we hired 2 additional part time dispatchers to help complement the current staff. Part time dispatchers only work 29.5 hours a week and they generally are a second person on a shift, which is our goal to keep two on around the clock.

Also, in 2014, Dispatcher Darlene Werner retired a second time with 36 years of service to the Richfield Police Department. Dee retired full time in 2008 and worked as a part time dispatcher for 6 years. Dee will be greatly missed.

Below is a breakdown of calls for service by community:

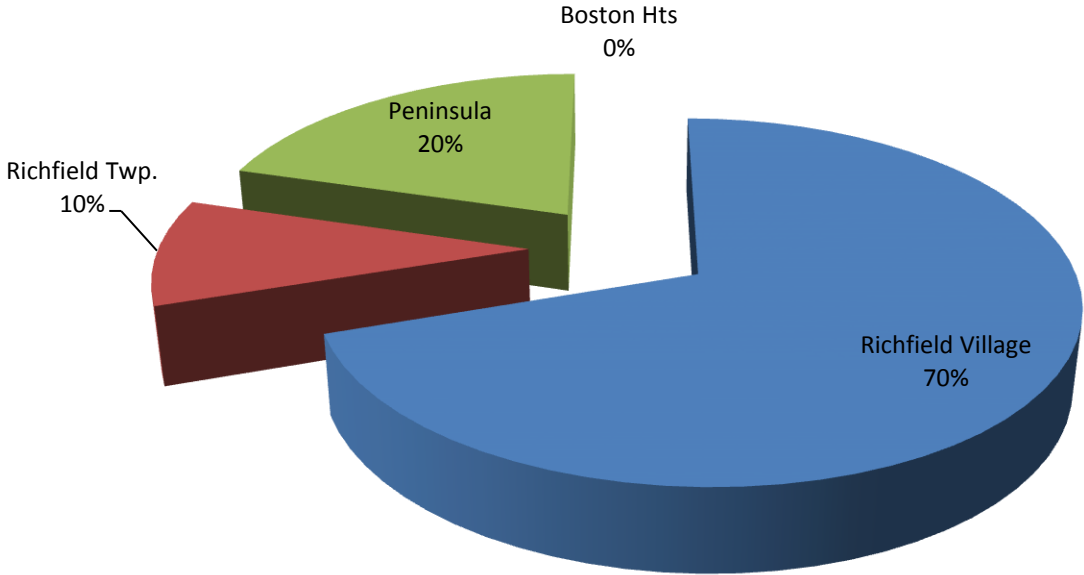
	2013	2014
Richfield Village	11,189	12,696
Richfield Township	1,553	2,411
Peninsula	3,268	4,563
Boston Hts.	0	9,388

These totals reflect all departments within the community, Police, Fire, Service.

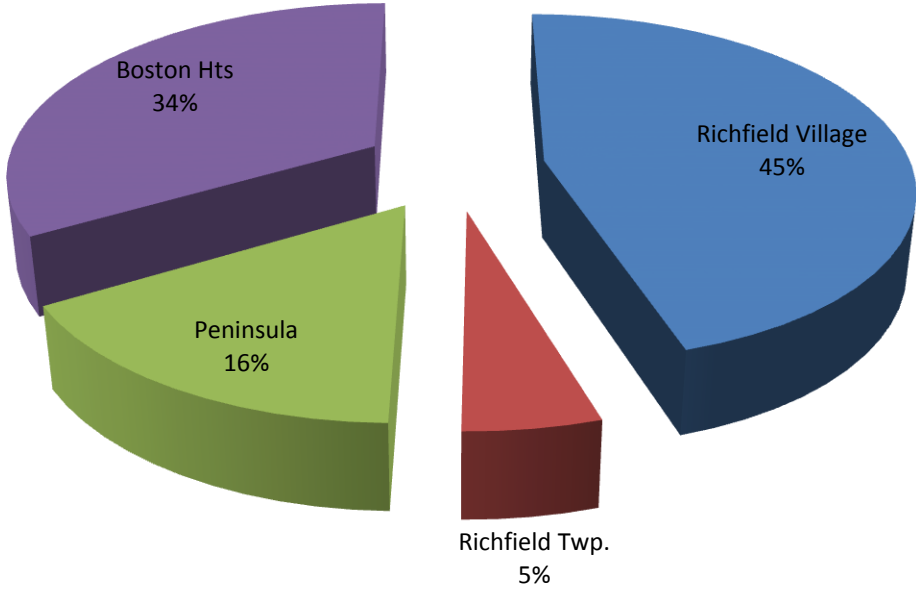
Also in 2014, the Village upgraded their phone system from an analog system to a VOIP (Voice Over IP) system. The old system was 12 years old and with the new technology today this phone system will give us better options with communications for today's needs.



### 2013 Dispatch Call For Service Breakdown



### 2014 Dispatch Call For Service Breakdown



# B.A.C. Datamaster

Sergeant Nick Kostandaras is responsible for the Breathalyzer Equipment; Officer Scott Dressler assists him.

The B.A.C. Datamaster is an Infrared Electronic Breath Alcohol Measuring Instrument used for determining the alcohol concentration in a person’s breath. The B.A.C. Datamaster is approved by the National Traffic Safety Administration and by the Ohio Courts. The B.A.C. Datamaster measures the grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath. The B.A.C. Datamaster is an essential tool used for the prosecution of impaired drivers and for the prosecution of underage drinkers. In the State of Ohio, the Prima Facie Evidence for a subject under the influence of alcohol is .08 grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath.

The B.A.C. Datamaster instrument check is required every seven days not to exceed 192 hours. The operation and instrument checks are overseen by Sgt. Kostandaras with Ptl. Dressler assisting. The instrument checks are done to insure the integrity of the tests and the instrument. A senior operator who has been certified by the Ohio Department of Health can only conduct an instrument check. The Richfield Police Department also employs twelve standard operators. The Standard Operator may only administer a test to a subject and are not authorized to conduct an instrument check. The Standard Operators have also been certified by the Ohio Department of Health.

The B.A.C. Datamaster was used 63 times from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 for DUI’s and alcohol related calls for service.

The following is a breakdown of the use of the B.A.C. Datamaster for 2014:

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<b>Richfield Arrests:</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Peninsula Police:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>OSP:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Boston Hts.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>19</b>

The following is a breakdown by months:

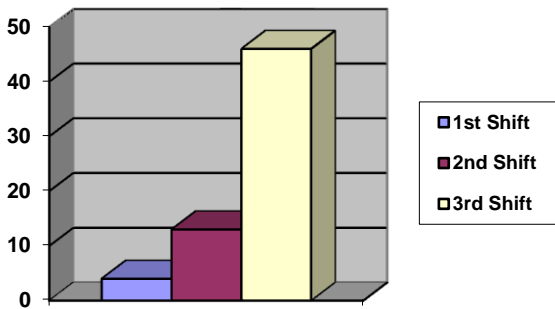
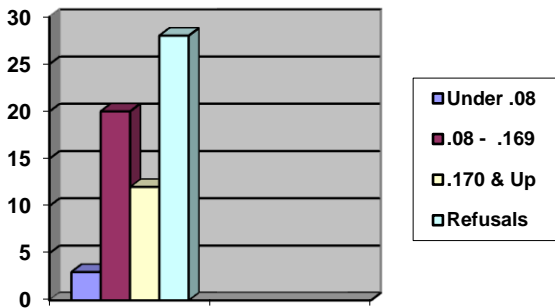
<b>January</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>1</b>

**The following is a breakdown by the test results:**

<b>Under .08</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>.08 To .169</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>.170 and up</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Refusals</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Highest test given</b>	<b>.279</b>

**The following is a breakdown by the shifts:**

<b>Day shift</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Afternoon shift</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Midnight shift</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>63</b>



The B.A.C. Datamaster and the Intoxilyzer 8000 was also used by several Police agencies in Summit County for proficiency testing of officers. Statistics nationwide reveal that drunk drivers cause a fatal accident once every fifteen minutes. The numbers listed in this report do not telhow many lives may have been saved by removing **63** DUI suspects from the roads. Fortunately we will never know because they were taken off our roads before a fatality occurred.

NO.	Date	Day	Time	Time Zone	Last Name	First Name	DOB	Age	DLN	State	Location	Test-Y/N	BAC	Report	Officer
01	01/08/14	Wed	1714	3			05/09/71	42		OH	Everett Rd	Y	.137	1400531	Petrovich # 723
02	01/14/14	Tues	0340	6			07/06/90	23		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	.148	1400787	Robinson # 748
03	02/16/14	Thurs	0122	5			08/16/82	31		OH	Brecksville S/B	Y	.213	1403322	Robinson # 748
04	03/08/14	Sat	0120	5			01/18/61	53		OH	Wheatley E/B	Y	Refusal	1404944	Fyffe # 717
05	03/09/14	Sun	0137	5			10/13/54	60		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	.160	1405018	Polak # 747
06	03/27/14	Thurs	0042	5			05/04/70	43		OH	Brecksville N/B	Y	.215	1406510	Polak # 747
07	04/01/14	Tues	0013	5			08/06/39	74		AL	Brecksville N/B	Y	Refusal	1406917	Polak # 747
08	04/05/14	Sat	0345	6			11/16/90	23		OH	I-77 N/B	Y	.179	1407285	Robinson # 748
09	04/13/14	Sun	0130	5			10/19/68	45		OH	I-77 N/B	Y	.160	1407899	Robinson # 748
10	04/19/14	Sat	2230	5			05/30/86	27		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	Refusal	1408408	Vari # 725
11	04/24/14	Thurs	0409	6			03/11/82	32		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	Refusal	1408755	Polak # 747
12	04/27/14	Sun	0831	1			01/27/88	26		OH	Kinross Lks Pkwy	Y	Refusal	1409038	Petrovich # 723
13	05/03/14	Sat	0106	5			03/01/82	32		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	.088	1409465	Polak # 747
14	05/11/14	Sun	0237	6			02/09/87	27		OH	I-77 N/B	Y	Refusal	1410151	Fister # 713
15	05/14/14	Wed	0240	6			04/26/86	28		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	.182	1410396	Polak # 747
16	05/23/14	Fri	0144	5			11/28/75	38		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	Refusal	1411191	Fister # 713
17	05/31/14	Sat	2300	5			12/19/90	23		OH	I-77 N/B	Y	.162	1412020	Davis # 702
18	06/03/14	Tues	0106	5			04/16/81	33		OH	I-77 N/B	Y	Refusal	1412188	Prhne # 746
19	06/12/14	Thurs	1602	3			12/07/56	57		VA	Brushwood w/B	Y	.298	1413107	Dobson # 745
20	06/29/14	Sun	2124	4			07/22/85	38		OH	Ira @ Riverview	Y	.080	1414807	Davis # 702
21	06/30/14	Mon	0045	5			12/09/95	18		OH	Wheatley W/B	Y	Refusal	1414829	Davis # 702
22	07/18/14	Fri	0103	5			10/23/60	53		OH	Brecksville N/B	Y	.138	1416553	Davis # 702
23	07/26/14	Sat	1918	4			08/04/55	58		OH	Broadview Rd	Y	.074	1417333	Polak # 747
24	08/01/14	Fri	0050	5			01/02/61	53		OH	Streetsboro E/B	Y	.214	1417816	Petrovich # 723
25	08/17/14	Sun	0100	5			06/22/89	25		OH	I-77 N/B	Y	.177	1419454	Thomas # 724
26	08/23/14	Sat	2341	5			08/16/96	18		OH	Streetsboro W/B	Y	.121	1420031	Davis # 702
27	08/24/14	Sun	0058	5			07/10/57	57		OH	Streetsboro W/B	Y	.015	1420197	Thomas # 724
28	08/29/14	Fri	0200	6			06/22/95	19		OH	I-77 S/B	Y	.139	1420622	Gaydosh # 715
29	08/31/14	Sun	1501	3			05/16/71	43		VA	I-271 S/B	Y	.247	1420912	Robinson # 748
30	09/10/14	Wed	2019	4			03/16/67	47		OH	Brecksville N/B	Y	Refusal	1421813	Prhne # 746
31	09/13/14	Sat	1912	4			03/23/71	42		OH	Brecksville S/B	Y	Refusal	1422088	Gilbert # 719
32	09/14/14	Sun	0013	5			07/13/78	36		OH	I-77 N/B	Y	Refusal	1422107	Robinson # 748
33	09/14/14	Sun	0253	6			10/14/76	37		OH	Streetsboro E/B	Y	Refusal	1422114	Petrovich # 723
34	09/14/14	Sun	1922	4			12/20/61	52		OH	Streetsboro W/B	Y	.151	1422165	Prhne # 746
35	09/19/14	Fri	0257	6			03/24/66	48		OH	Streetsboro E/B	Y	.273	1422524	Petrovich # 723
36	09/20/14	Sat	0830	1			06/03/71	43		OH	Brecksville N/B	Y	.279	1422598	Dressler # 720
37	09/26/14	Fri	2345	5			07/17/65	49		OH	Streetsboro W/B	Y	.127	1423152	Robinson # 748
38	10/11/14	Sat	0112	5			08/04/90	24		OH	Streetsboro W/B	Y	.115	1424385	Robinson # 748
39	10/11/14	Sat	2143	4			08/21/75	43		OH	Streetsboro W/B	Y	.150	1424469	Petrovich # 723
40	10/18/14	Sat	2345	5			01/21/61	53		OH	Brecksville N/B	Y	Refusal	1425050	Robinson # 748
41	10/26/14	Sun	0133	5			08/08/82	32		OH	Wheatley E/B	Y	Refusal	1425606	Robinson # 748
42	11/19/14	Wed	0421	6			03/10/58	56		OH	Southern Rd N/B	Y	Refusal	1427654	Lorek # 701
43	12/31/14	Wed	0516	6			12/17/90	24		OH	Brecksville N/B	Y	.153	1430685	Robinson # 748

Zone refers to time of day: 1= 0600 to 1000/2= 1000 to 1400/3= 1400 to 1600/4= 1600 to 2200/ 5= 2200 to 0200/6= 0200 to 0600

Total 2014 Richfield OVI Arrests= 43

Average BAC of OVI Arrestee in 2014= .163

BAC Tests= 27 / Refusals= 16

Average Age of OVI Arrestee in 2014= 39.2

OVI Arrests by Day of the Week:	Location of OVI Arrestees by Street in 2014:	OVI Arrests By Officer 2014:
Sunday= 12	Brecksville Road N/B= 07	#01- Robinson 11
Monday= 01	Brecksville Road S/B= 02	#02- Polak 07
Tuesday= 03	Broadview Road= 01	#03- Petrovich 06
Wednesday= 05	Brush Road= 01	#04- Davis 05
Thursday= 04	Everett Road= 01	#05- Prhne 03
Friday= 06	Kinross Lakes Pkwy= 01	#06- Fister 02
Saturday= 12	I-77 N/B= 07	#06- Thomas 02
	I-77 S/B= 08	#07- Fyffe 01
	I-271 S/B= 01	#07- Lorek 01
	Ira Road= 01	#07- Gaydosh 01
0600 to 1000 hours= 02	Southern Road N/B= 01	#07- Gilbert 01
1000 to 1400 hours= 00	Streetsboro Road E/B= 03	#07- Dressler 01
1400 to 1800 hours= 03	Streetsboro Road W/B= 06	#07- Dobson 01
1800 to 2200 hours= 06	Wheatley Road E/B= 02	#07- Vari 01
2200 to 0200 hours= 22	Wheatley Road W/B= 01	
0200 to 0600 hours= 10		

# Metro SWAT



Police Officers from Summit and Portage Counties make up the Critical Response Team known as Metro Swat. There are fifteen board members comprised of member agency police chiefs. Of this fifteen, three are chosen to serve on the board of directors. In 2014 SWAT Commander Jeff Film was promoted to Chief of the Stow Police Department. Chief Film retired from the SWAT team with twenty years of experience. Richfield is an active member of the regional unit. The team was formed in 1990

so the member communities could combine their resources to deal with unusual situations that would exceed the capabilities of individual departments. The Richfield Police Department contributes two members to the team. Officer Rudy Prhne serves as a tactical officer and Officer John Petrovich serves as a technical support officer to the team. Richfield Fire Department also contributes Paramedic Mike Lester to the team as a Swat Medic.



The team is activated when a crisis situation develops. The team is trained to cope with problems that a regular Police unit is neither equipped nor trained to handle. These situations include active shooters, snipers, barricaded suspects, hostage incidents, violent felons and high risk warrants. The team is also activated in search and rescue missions, crowd control and other circumstances that would require a department needing additional manpower. The member departments include: Aurora, Boston Twp, Copley, Fairlawn, New Franklin, Hudson, Kent, Kent State University, Macedonia, Munroe Falls, Peninsula, Ravenna, Richfield, Silver Lake, Springfield Twp, Stow, Streetsboro and Twinsburg.



Team members train a minimum of once a month in addition to attending tactical seminars and schools. There are currently 47 members that make up the Metro Swat Team.

# Summit Metro Crash Response Team (SMcRT)



The Summit Metro Crash Response Team is comprised of technical crash investigators and crash reconstructionists from member agencies within Summit County, Ohio.

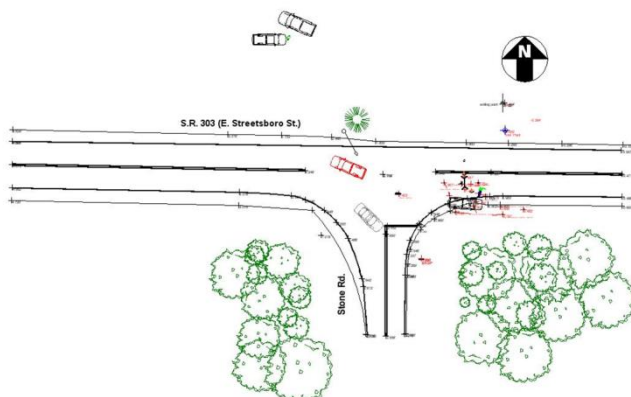
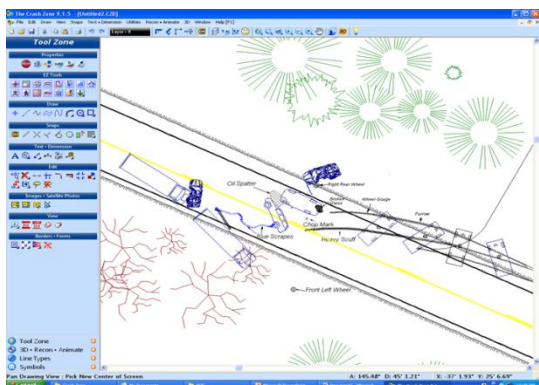
As one of the first such teams in the country, SMcRT has served as a model for investigative teams which have formed from New Jersey and Michigan to Arizona and Texas. Salt Lake City is currently establishing a team after SMcRT's model. SMcRT and our capabilities have been featured in several articles published in Law Enforcement publications.

SMcRT's investigators, consisting of Level 1, Level 2 and 3 Technical Investigators, and Level 4 and higher Crash Reconstructionists have the ability to 'look beyond' a crash and identify contributing factors, specific causes, mechanical or roadway defects, and other elements that take place in a collision.

Investigations and testimony are supported by highly trained, experienced, and certified officers from the following agencies:

Barberton  
Summit County Metro Parks  
Stow  
Twinsburg  
Cuyahoga Falls  
Hudson  
Norton

Richfield  
Silver Lake  
Tallmadge  
Copley  
Fairlawn  
Macedonia  
Peninsula



# Richfield Jail Annual Report 2013

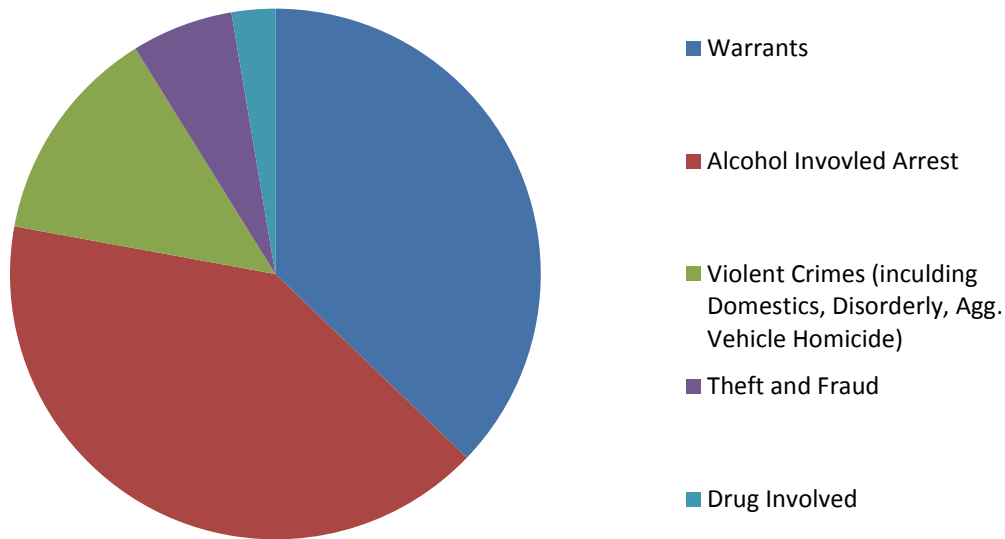
The Richfield jail is located within the police department; the facility consists of five jail cells: holding cell, detox cell and three twelve day cells. These cells can be used to detain adults for a maximum of 288 hours.

Richfield Jail Staff shall consist of following officers; Sgt. Fister, Ptl. Padula, and Ptl. Dressler.

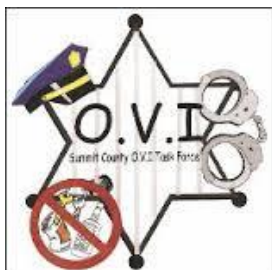
In 2014 the Richfield Jail has continued its partnership with University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center, as our Medical Control under the direction of Dr. Anthony Daher. Dr. Daher conducted a jail in-service training for our department which included Health Screening and Suicide Prevention. Also Ahuja Medical Center is providing meals for inmates under the direction of Don Baldwin, General Manager of Nutritional Services. .

In 2014 the Richfield Jail had a total of 113 prisoners, the offenses ranged from: Driving under Suspensions, OVI's, Richfield Warrants, other Department Warrants, and Assault on a peace Officer, Felony Warrants. Felony Warrants are processed through our jail and then transferred to Summit County Jail.

## 2014 Richfield Jail Activity



# Summit County OVI Task Force



2014 marked the fourteenth year of participation in the Summit County OVI Task Force by the Richfield Police Department. Summit County remains in the top ten counties in the state for alcohol-related offenses; DUI arrests, non-injury, injury and fatal traffic crashes. In 2014 the task force conducted sixteen sobriety checkpoints throughout Summit County resulting in over 65 OVI arrests.

The average blood alcohol concentration of those arrested for OVI at the checkpoint locations was .154- almost twice the legal limit of .08.

Another 121 other motorists were arrested at the checkpoints for driving under suspension and over 30 were arrested for possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages in a motor vehicle. There were numerous additional arrests for warrants and misrepresentation of identity.

All too often alcohol was accompanied by narcotics, and often in felony amounts involving firearms possession. These circumstances require task force officers be vigilant when on the checkpoint line.



*Seized at the December 20<sup>th</sup> 2014 Checkpoint*

The OVI task force provides educational literature, conducts public service announcements, newspaper; radio and television interviews to raise awareness to impaired drivers and distracted driving. The goal is to influence people to use good decision-making for alternate transportation, designated drivers, and/or public transportation prior engaging in consumption of alcoholic beverages. Some of the incidents that have occurred during checkpoints are highlighted below:

***A motorist fled the Brown Street checkpoint leading officers on a pursuit ending when the motorist rammed a police cruiser on Grant Street at Jewel Street. The driver was charged with felonious assault on a police officer, felony willful fleeing, reckless operation, driving under suspension, resisting arrest, obstructing official business, assaulting a police officer and possessing an open container of an alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle.***

***An individual arrested for felony drug possession had twenty plus Oxycontin (Schedule II narcotic), as well as drug scales, materials for packaging narcotics and a loaded handgun.***

***Two individuals were arrested for possession of Methamphetamine, Psilocybin (magic mushrooms), hashish and Valium while in route to the Halloween festivities in Kent during an October checkpoint in Stow.***

***An individual arrested for OVI actually struck another vehicle in the Checkpoint Zone and had a BAC of .185 while another individual was so impaired they hit a large battery-powered arrow board while approaching the checkpoint.***

## **Animal Control**

Cindy Clark serves as the animal control officer for the Richfield Police Department. In 2014 she answered 1093 calls for service. Animal control services include a wide range of animal related incidents including dog complaints, nuisance animals, and vicious dog reports to list a few.

In 2014 there were 81 animals taken to the Richfield Animal Kennel, of those 55 were released to the owner while 16 were turned over to the Summit County Dog Warden.



## **In Memoriam**

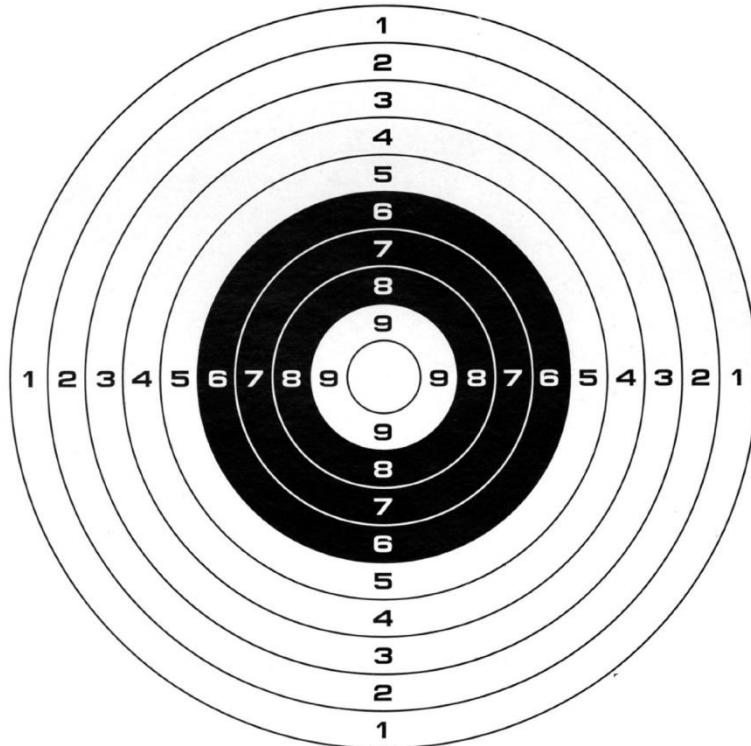
Former K-9 Officer Vuki was lost due to illness in 2014. Vuki served as Sergeant Chris Fyffe's partner for over 9 years before his retirement in 2012.

# Firearms/Range

The Richfield range and firearms program consists of four firearms instructors (Lt. Davis, Ptl. Gaydosh, Ptl. Dressler, and Ptl. Padula). The firearms program is overseen by Sgt. Fyffe with Ptl. Gaydosh being the lead instructor.

Officers must qualify at least one time a year with their pistol, rifle, shotgun and secondary backup weapon. The Richfield Police Department used approximately 6,500 pistol rounds, 4,500 rifle rounds and 200 shotguns rounds during qualifications and practice throughout the year. The pistol qualifications are currently being performed at the Richfield pistol range.

The patrol cars are all equipped with a patrol rifle and shotgun giving the officers the ability to respond to any type of call. Officers are trained in active shooter response and most have been through SWAT training. Officers are prepared to respond to any type of call including school/business active shootings



# Vehicle Fleet

The Richfield Police Department is equipped with the latest Ford Interceptor model. They are all wheel drive in order to deal with the ever changing weather conditions that the department faces.

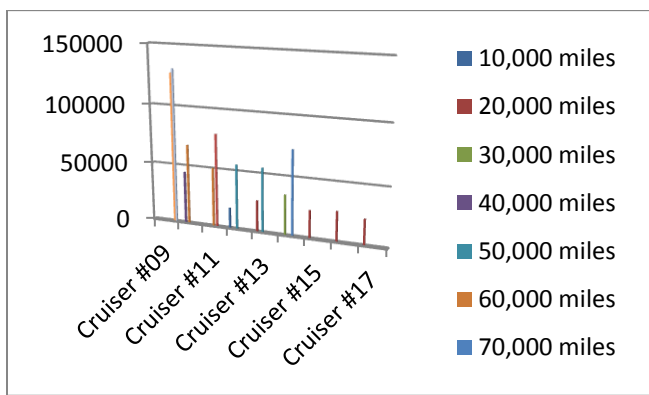
In late 2014 council approved the addition of two new vehicles; retiring the last Crown Victoria cruiser and replacing it with a Police Interceptor, retiring Detective Swanson's 2004 Ford Explorer and replacing with a new SUV Police rated Explorer, and reassigning Chief's Morgan's 2007 Ford Explorer to Animal Warden Clark which is replacing a 2003 Ford Explorer. There are nine marked patrol units and four unmarked units in use at this time.



The marked Road Patrol cruisers are equipped with, radios, emergency lighting, crash investigation equipment, Mobile Data Terminals, and Mobile Video Cameras. The marked units also are equipped with Ready Bags, which contain extra ammunition, and First Aid supplies in the event of any high risk incidents. Additional equipment includes flak jackets, helmets, low profile police uniforms, and chemical suits which include gas masks for first responders. In addition, two vehicles are assigned to the

Detective Bureau, one vehicle assigned to Chief of Police, and one vehicle assigned to Animal Warden. These vehicles are not marked, but they are equipped with police radios, and weapon retention equipment. These vehicles carry all necessary equipment for detectives' assist them at crime scenes, and to transport all evidence back to police department. The vehicle assigned to the Animal Warden is used and equipped to aid her in her duties and is marked similar to our Road Patrol

The entire fleet is on a weekly maintenance program set up through our department with Sgt. Fister and Ptl. Petrovich, and the Village's mechanics Chuck Soulek and Ken Horn. This is an effort to maintain efficient service at a minimal cost and to make every effort to provide a safe and properly working vehicle for a Richfield Police officer.



## Legend

- First Column is the year beginning mileage, Second Column is mileage at the end of 2014
- Cruiser #09 will be replaced by Cruiser #18 in 2015

# Richfield Safety Town 2014

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Richfield Safety Town Program was held at Hillcrest Elementary School. This year 50 pre-kindergarten children were assisted by 40 volunteers.

Rachel Alaimo serves as the Safety Town Coordinator for the Richfield Police Department. She is assisted by members of the police and fire departments throughout the week.



Richfield Safety Town includes instruction by guest instructors, including: Cindy Clark and Gretchen Gilbert with Animal Safety, Scott Dressler with Self-Defense Instruction and Lydia Wochna with the Bath/Copley-Fairlawn/Richfield Fire Departments.

Some external organizations included the American Red Cross, Dr. Lehky Orthodontics, the Revere Local School District, the Akron Pilot Club and Akron Children's Hospital. The Revere Local School District provided us with our space for our program at Hillcrest Elementary School, but also a bus and bus driver to introduce students to Bus Safety and Behavior. The American Red Cross introduced students to the importance of always swimming with a buddy in their Water Safety class and how to wash your hands properly with their Scrubby Bear program.

Dr. Lisa Lehky, an orthodontist and partner in Najem/Lehky Orthodontics came and shared important dental advice with our young students.

A pizza party was held for the volunteers the last day to thank them for their service. A graduation ceremony was held for parents and students in the Richfield Council Chambers where many important community members came to speak, children sang the songs they learned and they received their diplomas.



# D.A.R.E.

Officer Michael Simmons continues to operate the DARE Program in the Revere School system. The Richfield Police teamed up with the Bath Police Department to educate the students about the effects of drugs and alcohol. DARE strives in making a positive difference in the lives of children. The D.A.R.E. program teaches students good decision-making skills to help them lead safe and responsible lives. We make roughly 5000 decisions a day. From what to eat, to what to wear, to who to talk to. It is our goal to educate the children to learn how to make those decisions through role play, discussions and real life scenarios.

In 2014, Officer Simmons taught the core DARE Curriculum called “Keeping It Real”. The program has changed over the years, to keep up with modern issues dealing with more stress and the social media world we live in today.

Officer Simmons also is a member of the Ohio DARE Association. This gives DARE Officers all over Ohio an opportunity to discuss ideas and talk about how to face challenges in front of them. With the DARE Association there are several awards given out each year. There are longevity awards, DARE Officer of the year and DARE Educator of the year. This year Officer Simmons felt that there was one teacher that has gone above and beyond and deserved to be recognized. Officer Simmons nominated Sandy Kahoe for DARE Educator of the year. Here is the letter submitted to the State Office:

*I feel Sandy Kahoe should be chosen for “DARE Educator of the Year” because:*

*Mrs. Kahoe is a leader, not just to students but to the whole staff at Bath School. She has pushed for more time for DARE and thanks to her when Revere School District considered stopping DARE rallied the other staff to make sure DARE stayed. She was the educator that interviewed me for the position and took a shot on letting me teach. Every event and every idea I have, good and bad, she has supported me 100%. She takes time out of her day to ask how I am doing. I look to her for advise not just in teaching but in life. When I assign homework not only does she collect and help explain she does it along with the kids. She defiantly leads by example. She has volunteered on her own time to help me with paperwork or even just to talk. When a schedule change occurs to my schedule she always follows up with the other staff and I to make sure we stay on track. She has made my job easier while doing more work for her. I can always count every Wednesday morning when I walk into that class room to get a big smile from her. Her attitude and the way she carries herself rubs off on her students. She is a mentor, a mother, a wife, a teacher, but most importantly my friend.*

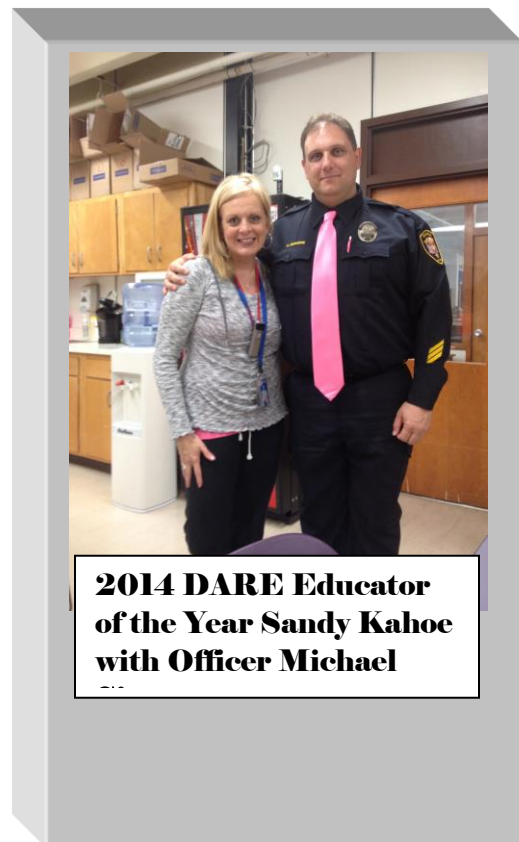
*Though Mrs. Kahoe is smiling on the outside she has been in a battle. Mrs. Kahoe recently was diagnosed with breast cancer. She has just returned to work from surgery and when I saw her, even though she was in pain, was smiling. Doctors have been happy with the surgery and feel she should make a full recovery. Mrs. Kahoe also returned to work a week early than expected. She returned early to help her students prepare for the upcoming OAA testing through the State. She sacrificed her health for her students. The last class I taught with her in the room was inspiring. She was only two days from surgery but you never would have known. I start my classes off with teaching the kids a dance move. That day she got in front of 25 kids with a big smile on her face and led our dance. I know she was under stress but cared so much about her students and DARE she pulled it together and showed what a strong person is made of.*

*Respectfully Submitted*

*Michael Simmons*

*Michael Simmons*

*DARE Officer*



On May 10<sup>th</sup> Officer Simmons was notified that Mrs. Kahoe won the award and was chosen over 100 teachers throughout the state. With friends and family in attendance, Mrs. Kahoe was informed that she would be receiving award at The DARE Graduation. She received a standing ovation from the students and parents for all of her accomplishments. Mrs. Kahoe was honored at the Ohio DARE Association Banquet on August 9<sup>th</sup> at the Columbus Crew Stadium. Mrs. Kahoe has used the award to promote Breast Cancer Awareness. She was featured on Channel 5 News, an ABC Cleveland Affiliate, along with an article in the Susan G Coleman Foundation magazine that went worldwide. Mrs. Kahoe also received recognition from Summit County Council and Mayor Bobbie Beshara from The Village of Richfield. A great recognition to a wonderful person.



The Core Elementary DARE program was taught to 227 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Bath Elementary School. The program is taught from March to May and culminates with a well-attended graduation ceremony. In March 2015 the DARE program will continue at Bath Elementary.

*DARE students trying to walk a straight line while wearing "DUI Goggles". The goggles are manufacture by a company named Fatal Vision. They are special made so that when worn they simulate what it is like to be impaired from alcohol.*

*The students wear them and are asked to do everyday things like throw and catch a ball or walk a straight line. The goggles mess with their equilibrium and cause them to stumble or fall. This way we can demonstrate to the kids what it is like to be drunk and how it can affect people.*



**Having a little fun on the playground.**

# Community Service

Wikipedia defines Community Policing as: *...a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies, which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.*

The Richfield Police uses these values as a guideline on a daily basis. It may be a smile; it may be a wave or even a snowball fight with some neighborhood kids. Every day The Richfield Police interacts with the community to educate and befriend the ones we serve. Every Officer has a story, the one time or that one place where we made a difference to someone else. We plan on continue this philosophy and expand it throughout the community.



This year the Richfield Police instituted a bicycle helmet safety program. Officers were supplied with free coupons for ice cream and distributed them to kids wearing their bike helmets. Numerous coupons were distributed throughout the community and put several smiles on the kid's faces. The Richfield Police would like to thank McDonalds and Country Maid Ice Cream for making this program possible. The program will continue in 2015 and will expand to include the distribution of helmets to those children without them. The helmets

were graciously provided by University Hospital in late Fall of 2014 after the program had ceased operation for the year.

Richfield Officers teamed up with Revere Local Schools to promote school safety. Officers met with the school administrators, attended meetings and instructed school staff members about making the schools a safe environment. As part of the program, officers were present at the schools before and after as kids were dropped off and picked up. The program allowed the



kids to talk with officers while adding a layer of security. Oftentimes the officers would stay and walk around the school and join in on some of the school activities as well.



The Battered Women's shelter continues to use the Richfield Police Department as a designated collection point. Richfield Police assists with fund raising for the shelter including the "Walk a Mile In Her Shoes" event. The event is held in Akron and is gaining in popularity. This innovative program allows men to "walk a mile in their shoes". Men don high heels shoes and walk one mile to show stand against rape, Domestic Violence and Sexualized Violence. The Richfield Police also collects cell phones to be distributed to victims of abuse and other items to be distributed to those in need.

Two members of the Richfield Police Department are members of the Summit County Child Abduction Response Team or CART. Lt Joe Davis and Sgt Nick Kostandaras are members of this association to ensure the safety of our children. They both have attended hours of meetings and have attending training seminars in New York and other parts of Ohio. The Richfield Police has these officers trained and ready to respond if need be.



In the wake of school shootings like Columbine, Virginia Tech and Sandy Hook, the Richfield Police continues to educate employees and members of the community on how to react in the event of a violent intruder. The Richfield Police has adopted The ALiCE program to inform the community. ALiCE is a program that is used by people to enhance, not replace, current crisis practices. It involves education on options in crisis and situational awareness. It is a proactive approach to a crisis. ALiCE stands for:

- A - Alert**
- L - Lockdown**
- I - Inform**
- C - Counter**
- E - Evacuate**

Currently, schools and businesses use an intruder drill which focuses on locking down the building and keeping students and employees in a locked room away from doors and windows. ALiCE training adds options for this situation. ALiCE encourages the use of real-time information with the intercom or other communications used to provide teachers and students with information throughout the situation. People can use this information to make decisions about how to react. One option is to barricade the room door making it even more difficult for the intruder to enter. Another option is evacuation if the intruder is in another part of the building. ALiCE encourages students and staff to be aware of their surroundings and possible exit routes that exist.



The goal of this training is to begin your mental preparation of recognizing, assessing, and responding to immediate threats against you. This training is not designed to scare you into thinking there is a violent situation lurking around every corner. It is designed to prepare you to be a leader should a violent situation find you. ALiCE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate) will explain response options when faced with violence. In 2014 The Richfield Police trained the teachers and the support staff at Revere Local Schools. In addition, several preschools, day cares and private businesses received training.



The Shop with a Cop program is another program headed by the Richfield Police. The program was designed for disadvantaged children to buy holiday gifts. Officers sell raffle tickets to earn money to assist youngsters around the holiday season support the program. For every \$100 raised, a child is selected from our area to attend this program. Children are selected through recommendations from local schools or youth organizations.

The day begins with the children meeting at our police station. From there the children are driven by uniformed officers in marked patrol units to meet the rest of the shoppers involved in the program. A slow moving parade procession will form at the meeting point and escort the children with emergency lights and sirens on to the Stow Wal-Mart.

The shopping spree, at Wal-Mart, entitles the youngsters to receive \$100 gift card and a ten percent discount for holiday presents. After the shopping spree the officers will return back to the meeting point where children will get to enjoy pizza and pop. The children, with their presents, are then driven to their home by the police officers.

In 2014 over 600 children took part in this program. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> year that Officer Michael Simmons has led the program and it has grown from 10 area police departments and one shopping location to over 50 departments and six different shopping locations. As of 2014 Officer Simmons has decided to step down and turn over the program to the Fairlawn Police Department. Officer Simmons will still hold a vital position to help ensure the program continues to grow.

The Giving Tree is program ran by the Richfield Police to connect families in need with companies, to assist in making a happy holiday season. The families provide list of what is needed and it is giving to local businesses to fill the list. Several companies in Richfield have participated with this program for the past 9 years. This year the giving tree was able to help 6 local families. Several companies including Arslin Mittel Steel, OE Connections, Pilot Travel Center, and the Doug Out provided funds and gifts to these families.



MedMinder is a program that the Richfield Police endorse. MedMinder provides services that simplify medication management and improve medication adherence. MedMinder's pill



dispenser is the most effective medication management solution available to improve medication adherence to above 90%. MedMinder's pill dispenser looks like a basic seven-day pillbox. Designed with ease of use in mind, it's simple and friendly interface has no digital

readouts or buttons. The medication dispenser contains 28 compartments for a week's supply of medication and can accommodate dozens of different types of pills. You program MedMinder using an online program. Once you program the machine users are prompted to take or refill their medications through a series of customizable visual and auditory alerts. Set up the reminders to blink, beep or play a custom audio message. If the user doesn't respond to these reminders they will receive a phone call. If there is no response the family or caregiver are notified by phone, email or text message ensuring that everyone stays informed. MedMinder also has a secure version so that users cannot take their medication until scheduled times. MedMinder works with pharmacies like CVS and Wal Greens so users can take the empty box to the pharmacy and they will refill and program any new medications a doctor had prescribed.