

# San Rafael Police Department

SPRING 2009 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME III, ISSUE II

## ARTICLES

- Corporal Barbier,  
40 Years and Counting
- Spring/Summer 2009  
Beat and Officer Lineup
- Community Policing
- Promotions and  
Movement
- Camp Chance
- Farmer's Market
- Don't Get Scammed

### On the Cover:

Corporal Barbier walks the Downtown Farmer's Market. One of several officers providing safety and security at the event.

Photo by Officer Graham



"COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY"

Matthew C. Odetto, Chief of Police . 1400 Fifth Avenue . San Rafael, California . 94901 . 415.485.3000





## COVER STORY

### CORPORAL BARBIER, 41 YEARS AT SRPD AND COUNTING



Corporal Harry Barbier's family has a long history here in Marin. In the 1880's, Harry's great grandfather, James Cochrane, was the District Attorney in Marin. His photo is on the wall in the D.A.'s office. His other great grandfather had a contract with the City to water the streets with a horse and buggy team to keep the dust down in the late 1800's and into the early 1900's. His father, also named Harry, worked for the phone company and served as a City Council Member from 1962 until 1972 when he passed away. The City named a park on the east side of town after him as he loved to play and hike there when he was a child.

Harry grew up in San Rafael and attended St. Raphael Grammar school and San Rafael High, graduating in 1967. He started as a cadet in 1968, and became a dispatcher in 1969. In 1972, after graduating from San Jose State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice, Harry became a police officer. In 1973, he married Wendy, and they eventually had 2 children, Evan, now 27 years and Blair, 22 years. Harry went on to earn his MPA degree from Golden Gate University in 1975. He was promoted to Corporal in 1974 and to Sergeant in 1979. It was around this same time, Harry decided to leave the department for the City Manager's office, and became the Assistant to the City Manager until 1983. After returning to the Police Department, he was again promoted to Corporal in 1985. Harry has been the School Resource Officer since 1993 and is probably the most well known officer, and well liked by all who know him.

## NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

### APRIL, 12 - 18, 2009

Every year, the second full week of April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as Public Safety telecommunicators, also known as the dispatchers. This often thankless and tiring job is done by dedicated people 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They work days, nights, weekends and Holidays. But most all of them will tell you that they love what they do and enjoy knowing that they are helping people. San Rafael employs 10 full time dispatchers, a Communications Supervisor and 4 part time dispatchers. Our dispatchers are responsible for monitoring all police activity including the activity of all the officers on the street, answering all incoming emergency phones and some of the non emergency phones. It takes a focused, dedicated multi-tasker. Every year, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the International Footprint Association local chapters

Lodge #1108 and Chapter #15 have honored all the Dispatchers in the County with a dinner and raffle, held at the Elks Club in San Rafael during this special week. We are proud of all of our dispatchers and salute them for Dispatcher's Week.





## SPRING AND SUMMER 2009

### BEAT OFFICER LINE-UP

The Spring and Summer 2009 rotation took effect on March 15, 2009 and runs through September 2009. Our officers work 3/12 - 4/12 shift. That means for two weeks they work 3 - 12 hour days, and every third week they work 4 - 12 hour days. The shifts run Monday through Wednesday, and Thursday through Saturday.

The extra overlap day is Sunday. The shifts run 5 am - 5pm or 5 pm - 5 am. We have a few officers who work the overlap cover shift of 6 am - 6pm or 3 pm - 3 am.

#### Dayshift Teams:

##### Team 1:

Sunday - Wednesday 5am-5pm

Sergeant Aguilar

Beat 1 - Officer LaPlante

Beat 2 - Officer Collins (6am - 6pm)

Beat 3 - Officer Casalnuovo (6am - 6pm)

Beat 4 - Corporal Byers

Beat 5 - Officer Camins

Beat 6 - Officer E. Cogbill

Beat 7 - Officer Piombo

##### Team 2:

Thursday - Sunday 5am-5pm

Sergeant Bean

General Patrol - Corporal Berringer

Beat 1 - Officer Drolla

Beat 2 - Officer Horvath (6am - 6pm)

Beat 3 - Officer Duncan

Beat 4 - Officer DeMarta

Beat 5 - Officer O'Toole (6am - 6pm)

Beat 6 - Officer Huot

Beat 7 - Officer Chiu

#### Nightshift Teams:

##### Team 3:

Sunday - Wednesday 5pm-5am

Sergeant Clary

General Patrol - Corporal Eberle

Beat 1 - Officer Prince

Beat 2 - Officer Graham

Beat 3 - Officer Leon

Beat 4 - Officer Diaz

Beat 5 - Officer Schikore (3pm - 3am)

Beat 6 - Officer Cleland

Beat 7 - Officer Huber (3pm - 3am)

##### Team 4:

Thursday - Sunday 5 pm-5am

Sergeant Cron

General Patrol - Corporal Reese

General Patrol - Corporal MacDougald

Beat 1 - Officer Poehlman (3pm - 3am)

Beat 2 - Officer Larkey

Beat 3 - Officer Augustyn

Beat 4 - Officer Patterson

Beat 5 - Officer Adams

Beat 6 - Officer Ruggles

Beat 7 - Officer Hornstein (3pm - 3am)

Remember, this is general information only. If you have a call for service and an officer needs to respond, please call the main number of 485-3000, and not the beat officer. In addition, all officers are not only responsible for their beat assignment, but also to assist fellow officers with calls and incidents on other beats.





# San Rafael Police Department

"COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY"

## COMMUNITY POLICING SECTION PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SAFETY TIPS

At the last Federation Meeting, the topic of personal safety in the cities ties Open Space was discussed. The Police Department takes the safety of the citizens very seriously. The Department's Park Ranger regularly patrols the open space areas and all officers respond to any reported illegal activity. In 2008, our Officers and Ranger have arrested or issued citations 53 times for various violations in the Open Space. In the Gerstle Park area, 12 cites were issued and several camps were removed. In the Lincoln Hill/San Rafael Hill area, 28 cites were issued and several camps were removed. In the Loch Lomond and Peacock area, 5 cites were issued and several camps removed. In the

Terra Linda area hillsides above San Pablo, Oleander Park, the Merrydale Extension, and Yosemite area, 6 cites were issued and more camps removed. Also in 2008, 30 arrests were made for trespassing. Most of these arrests were in the area of the railroad tracks near Lincoln Avenue and Mission Avenue. In addition, our officers arrested 17 for lodging without permission in the downtown area and the Bret Harte neighborhood. There were no reported assaults in any of the City Open Space areas. For more information, please visit our website at [www.srpd.org](http://www.srpd.org) and go to Crime Reports.com.

### Some hints for your personal safety when hiking or walking in any open space area:

- When possible, don't walk alone, try to take a friend.
- You should be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Avoid areas with heavy brush.
- Try to keep some sort of communication with you, such as a cell phone.
- Tell someone where and when you are leaving, your expected trail and when you expect to return.
- Fire roads, service roads and trails are not marked or named, and you should be prepared to explain how someone would get to you.
- Never enter Parks or Open Space at night. When the sun sets you should be well on your way out.
- Do not confront anyone. If someone should confront you, immediately report it to the Police Department.
- Should you observe activity that is suspicious or people that do not belong in the area or camp sites, call and report the information immediately to the San Rafael Police at 485-3000. Please give your name and your contact phone number. This is often very helpful in case the Police cannot locate what you have reported.

## OPEN SPACE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Be advised that the San Rafael Fire Department's Vegetation Management Program has been under way since August 2007. Beginning in August 2009 through August 2010, the focus areas include Gerstle Park, Los Ranchitos, Glenwood, Southern Heights

and Picnic Area. This is done to create Defensible Space on city Open Space land. For any questions or concerns on this program, you may leave a message at 415-721-2875 and find more information at the City website at: [www.cityofsanrafael.org/firevegetation](http://www.cityofsanrafael.org/firevegetation)

SPRING 2009 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Matthew C. Odetto, Chief of Police . 1400 Fifth Avenue . San Rafael . California . 94901 415.485.3000





## SAN RAFAEL POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS AND PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS

As reported in the last newsletter, SRPD has been making changes. On March 1, 2009, the Department promoted 8 people and moved several others around. Below is a list of new duty assignments:

### Captain Jeff Franzini – Operations:

#### Lieutenant Glenn McElderry - Dayshift:

Patrol Teams 1 and 2  
Traffic Division  
S.W.A.T.

#### Lieutenant Ralph Pata - Nightshift:

Patrol Teams 3 and 4  
Footbeat  
Marine/Ranger  
Hostage Negotiation Team  
Honor Guard

### Captain Dave Starnes - Support Services:

#### Lieutenant Dan Fink - Support Services:

Community Oriented Policing  
Records  
Dispatch  
Property and Evidence  
Mental Health Officers Unit

#### Lieutenant Alan Piombo - Support Services:

Crime Scene Investigation  
Investigations and Detectives  
Training  
Personnel  
Youth Services Bureau

## CAMP CHANCE

Camp Chance 2009 will be returning to Walker Creek Ranch, located in West Marin, July 6 – 10! Sponsored by the San Rafael Police Department and the Marin County Sheriff's Office, and in partnership with the Marin County Office of Education, Camp Chance offers underserved kids ages 11 – 13 the opportunity to enjoy a traditional camping experience as well as connect with police officers and deputy sheriffs. Hiking, swimming, arts and crafts and team building activities are just part of this structured camping experience. In addition, law enforcement personnel offer interactive demonstrations in CSI, SWAT, hostage negotiations and Search and Rescue. Camp Chance is free of charge to parents and funded entirely through the generous donations of individual citizens and businesses!

Parents, teachers, school administrators and coaches

are encouraged to nominate children who could benefit from this program and we are currently contacting local middle schools to interview and select the seventy (70) children for this year's camp! For more information, or to donate to Camp Chance, please contact Rebecca L. Kuga, MFT, Youth Services Bureau Program Supervisor, San Rafael Police Department, 415-485-3025 or e-mail [Rebecca.kuga@srpd.org](mailto:Rebecca.kuga@srpd.org).





## DOWNTOWN FARMER'S MARKET THURSDAYS, APRIL 2ND - SEPTEMBER 24TH



San Rafael's Downtown Farmers' Market Festival returns on April 2, running through September 24 every Thursday night from 6:00pm - 9:00pm on Fourth Street in Downtown San Rafael. Join us for our 20th Season!

Featuring fresh organic produce, flowers, arts and crafts and an international gift mart, there is also food, live music and family fun for all. Join your neighbors in this Thursday night tradition, on Fourth Street, every week this summer!

For more information, call (415) 492-8007, or visit [www.sanrafaelmarket.org](http://www.sanrafaelmarket.org)



### COMMUNITY ALERT: "GRANNY SCAM"

Police are warning Marin residents about a telephone scam targeting seniors known as the "Granny Scam." Several San Rafael residents have reported receiving phone calls, while others have been victims of the swindle. Similar incidents targeting grandparents across the country have been on the increase over the past few months.

The "Granny Scam" is a con where the caller pretends to be a grandchild who needs money. The caller claims to have been arrested, in a car accident, or have some other type of emergency situation and needs money immediately. He/she then asks the victim to help him by wiring cash. The caller doesn't want his parents to know, and insists that the grandparents

not tell other family members. Sometimes the caller poses as a friend or lawyer who claims to be assisting the grandchild. In most of these cons, the caller wants the money wired to Canada, but occasionally victims have been directed to send money to U.S. locations.

Last year 435 American grandparents were enticed to wire \$2.2 million to Canada for "grandchildren," according to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Call Centre. The Centre tracks telephone fraud within Canada and across the border to the U.S. and is a combined effort of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Ontario Provincial Police.

Continued on Page 6





# San Rafael Police Department

"COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY"

## COMMUNITY ALERT: "GRANNY SCAM"

Continued From Page 5

The best way to safeguard family and friends is to talk with them and explain how the scam works. Tell them to be suspicious of anyone who calls unexpectedly and wants them to wire money, especially to Canada. Another red flag is the caller insisting that the money transfer be kept secret. Try to confirm where the child is and get the name of a jail or hospital, then call that facility directly to verify the situation. Suggest that they confirm the caller's identity by asking questions about some type of information known only to family members. Some families even create a password to verify themselves to one another over the phone.



## IMPORTANT POLICE DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

<b>Emergency</b>	<b>9-1-1</b> <b>485-3393</b>
Non-Emergency	485-3000
Community Oriented Policing	485-3114
Traffic	485-3034
Abandoned Vehicles	485-3033
Alarm Permits	485-3114
Investigators	485-3000
Youth Services Bureau	485-3025

## HOW TO CONTACT US

By Mail:  
1400 Fifth Avenue  
P.O. Box 151560  
San Rafael, CA 94901

By Phone:  
Phone: 415-485-3114  
Fax: 415-485-3044

Or on the World Wide Web:  
E-mail: [COPS@srpd.org](mailto:COPS@srpd.org)  
Internet: [www.srpd.org](http://www.srpd.org)

## SPRING 2009 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Matthew C. Odetto, Chief of Police . 1400 Fifth Avenue . San Rafael . California . 94901 415.485.3000

