

# Southern Chester County Regional Police Department

## 2020 2nd QUARTER REPORT



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## *Command Staff*



*Chief of Police  
Gerald R. Simpson  
Executive Division*

*Lieutenant  
Joseph F. Greenwalt  
Patrol Division*



## Mission Statement

The Southern Chester County Regional Police Department exists to preserve life and property, to enforce the law, to solve our communities' problems and to protect the right of all citizens to live in a safe and peaceful environment.

## Philosophy and Values

### Human Life

We give first priority to situations which threaten life and treat all persons with courtesy and respect. We make our decisions and take our actions with the intention to minimize any danger to innocent citizens.

### Integrity

We hold ourselves to high standards of moral and ethical conduct. We support the principles embodied in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

### Justice

We protect and respect the rights of all people, while treating all persons fairly and without favoritism. We display a helpful, caring, and cooperative attitude toward the people we serve. We go beyond merely responding to calls for service, in an attempt to provide an impartial service dedicated to solving community problems.

### Duty

We believe that it is each employee's duty to be committed to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, dedicated to serving our community, self-disciplined and interested in improving their level of knowledge and competence.

**“UNITED TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES WITH EXCELLENCE.”**

## Introduction

The Quarterly Report is a comprehensive report designed to provide the Southern Chester County Regional Public Safety Commissioners, Managers, Command Staff, and other readers a wide-ranging perspective of the activities and experiences of the organization, during the established timeframe.

The report is a collective effort, primarily produced by the Chief of Police and Command Staff. The report is broken down into the four functional categories of the organization. Towards the end of every functional area, the writer is required to provide a projection of upcoming events, activities or other noteworthy matters. Finally, the report will attempt to follow a standard format, but accepts that the contents may evolve as the organization does.

## Executive Division

The Executive Division is overseen by the Chief of Police. The Executive Division is responsible for the operational components, personnel, administrative, budgetary, and personnel matters in the organization.

The Executive Division is staffed with an Executive Assistant, Records Administrator, Manager, that serves as a liaison to the Public Safety Commissioners, and the Command Staff Officers, that oversee each operational division.

## Criminal Investigation Division

The Criminal Investigations Division is overseen by the Chief of Police. The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for Criminal Investigations, Intelligence and Support, Community Services, Training, Staff Services, and Professional Standards. The Criminal Investigations Division is assisted by the Chief's Executive Assistant who serves as a member of the Command Staff.

## Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is overseen by the Lieutenant. The Patrol Division is responsible for all Field Operations and is the direct supervisor of the Platoon Corporals. The Patrol Division is assisted by the Chief's Records Administrator who serves as a member of the Command Staff.

## Opening Commentary – Our reason for being...

*Authored by Chief Gerald R. Simpson*

As we left the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, I was hopeful that by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter I would be writing about something other than coronavirus and that life would be getting back to normal.

So many exciting projects and programs were planned. Fortunately, the department was able to undergo the assessment to attain accredited status. But, other programs, such as the Command & Leadership Academy, CRASE and Police Explorers have been paused or are being moved into a virtual environment. Our ability to adapt is awesome, but something is lost without being together in the same room. It appears the coronavirus is going to be around for a while --- it is our hope that you and yours follow the advice for social interactions, stay well and enjoy the summer!

### Editorial: 'We Are All Brothers And Sisters Under The Same Sun'

06/14/2020 11:56AM • By Richard Gaw



### 'How Do We Make Changes To A System That We Know Has Issues?'

06/16/2020 01:11PM • By Richard Gaw



In the days that followed George Floyd's death on May 25<sup>th</sup> at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer, I didn't join the chorus of public statements being made around the nation. Instead, I engaged in numerous thought-provoking and candid conversations with trusted colleagues, that were as dismayed and absent an understanding for what we observed on that now infamous video.

I say with assurance, tens of thousands of well-intentioned professional public safety officers across this nation are shocked, saddened and as galvanized as the citizens we serve. 8 minutes and 46 seconds George Floyd laid prone with a police officer jamming his knee into his neck while he and other police officers ignored his cries for help --- "I CAN'T BREATHE." The actions and omissions of the police officers and the City of Minneapolis contributed directly and/or indirectly to George Floyd's death.

In the sixty days that have followed, citizens in communities across this nation have clearly stated to us, ENOUGH --- reform, defund, or both.

In 1829, Sir Robert Peel credited for modernizing policing in Britain stated: *"the people are the police and the police are the people."* It is no wonder defunding has entered as a solution to deal with rogue conduct in policing.

The time to for common-sense actions is upon us. There are many ideas leading to solutions worth evaluating. Shared below are Sir Robert Peel's 9-Principals for Policing --- as relevant today as 200 hundred years ago! When law enforcement leaders adopt these principals into our hearts and instill a culture that unabashedly values professional policing, equality, compassion, caring, problem-solving, transparency with a clearly established Mission (purpose) Statement in our departments, days like May 25<sup>th</sup> will never occur again.

## ~ Sir Robert Peel's ~ 9 Policing Principles ~

1. To prevent crime and disorder, as an alternative to their repression by military force and severity of legal punishment.
2. To recognize always that the power of the police to fulfill their functions and duties is dependent on public approval of their existence, actions and behavior, and on their ability to secure and maintain public respect.
3. To recognize always that to secure and maintain the respect and approval of the public means also the securing of the willing cooperation of the public in the task of securing observance of laws.
4. To recognize always that the extent to which the cooperation of the public can be secured diminishes proportionately the necessity of the use of physical force and compulsion for achieving police objectives.
5. To seek and preserve public favor, not by pandering to public opinion, but by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to law, in complete independence of policy, and without regard to the justice or injustice of the substance of individual laws, by ready offering of individual service and friendship to all members of the public without regard to their wealth or social standing, by ready exercise of courtesy and friendly good humor, and by ready offering of individual sacrifice in protecting and preserving life.
6. To use physical force only when the exercise of persuasion, advice and warning is found to be insufficient to obtain public cooperation to an extent necessary to secure observance of law or to restore order, and to use only the minimum degree of physical force which is necessary on any particular occasion for achieving a police objective.
7. To maintain at all times a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and that the public are the police, the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence.
8. To recognize always the need for strict adherence to police-executive functions, and to refrain from even seeming to usurp the powers of the judiciary of avenging individuals or the State, and of authoritatively judging guilt and punishing the guilty.
9. To recognize always that the test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, and not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them.

In closing, the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department reaffirms its core values, they are --- **Human Life**, Integrity, Justice and Duty. Additionally, the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department exists to **preserve life** and property, to enforce the law, to solve our communities' problems and to protect the right of **all citizens** to live in a safe and peaceful environment.

## PLEAC Assessment

On August 4, 2020, the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department is scheduled to appear before the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission for accredited status. An 18-month process has come to an end --- but this is only the beginning. Now, in perpetuity, SCCRPD will undergo a three-year evaluation of their accredited status to ensure that we not only adopt the “best practices” but that we continue to follow them. Many have asked why become an accredited law enforcement agency? The short answer is that being governed by the “best practices and policy” provides for better outcomes. It goes without saying that in the high risk and complicated profession of law enforcement and public safety, better outcomes are not something we should “hope” for --- they should be guaranteed.

## Special Investigator

In April, the department lost a senior member of the Command Staff to resignation for a well-deserved retirement. It is always hard to replace valuable employees, but in this case, timing worked out wonderfully. Kevin Dykes, former Police Chief of the Chester County Detectives Office, expressed his interest in becoming a Special Investigator filling the void left behind. We consider ourselves fortunate to include Kevin’s experience, and wisdom into our operations!

## After-Action Report

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, a comprehensive After-Action Report was completed outlining the police department’s COVID-19 pandemic response. The document was delivered to all jurisdictions covered by the regional police department and is available there for your review.

## Online Software Agreements

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, the department entered two separate agreements with online companies. The first is Guardian Alliance Technologies which is designed to create a uniform Personal History Questionnaire to identify the best person in the police hiring process.

The second agreement was with PoliceOne Academy. In an effort to strengthen an environment of continued learning, PoliceOne Academy partnered with Lexipol creating expansive library of professional police training courses.

Finally, so ends the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and so begins the 2021 budget process --- stayed tuned!

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## Executive Division

The following is a summary of data, goals and activities performed by personnel assigned to the Executive Division from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

### 2020 SMART Goals

#### Goal #1:      **Strategic Business Study**

**Purpose:**      The objective is to update the original Strategic Business Study completed in 2017 to identify data points, trends and other actions from the inception of the regional police department. Once the information is validated and understood, we will attempt to leverage the organization's effect on the public safety environment.

**Status:**      Efforts began in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter with the release of a memorandum outlining 2019/2020 budget data to the Public Safety Commissioners. Development of the 2020 SBS will evolve through the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter as financial and other related information is analyzed systematically by the Management Team. --- Status: **Ongoing**

#### Goal #2:      **Police Explorers Post #60**

**Purpose:**      In partnership with Scouts BSA, the Community Policing Unit will open a Police Explorers Post program in September of 2020. The explorers' program is designed to present realistic information to young adults, ages 14 – 20 years of age, for them to learn and evaluate their interest in the law enforcement profession.

**Status:**      The promotional material has been designed and acquired. Due to CoVid-19, the recruitment process has been delayed for the foreseeable future. --- Status: **Paused**

#### Goal #3:      **PLEAC Accreditation**

**Purpose:**      Give full support to the efforts of the Office of Accreditation as they enter the final stage of acquiring PLEAC accredited status for the organization.

**Status:**      In 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, the department underwent a virtual mock and final onsite assessment by members of PLEAC. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> during the exit interview, Chief Guy Hettinger advised that he and his team would be submitting with high support to PLEAC the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department for accredited status. On August 4<sup>th</sup> the OOA will be attending the PLEAC Commission's meeting to answer questions and receive the certificate. --- Status: **Completed**

**Goal #4: NJSACOP Command & Leadership Academy**

**Purpose:** Establish SCCRPD as the future host site for the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police – Command & Leadership Academy.

**Status:** A verbal agreement with the NJSACOP Executive Director accepting SCCRPD as a host site has been established. A memo of understanding, budget approval and organization structure are pending completion. Due to CoVid-19, the C&L Academy was delayed in completing the Spring session. The Fall session is planned to start on time, albeit in a virtual setting. --- Status: **Paused**

**Goal #5: Commissioners Scholarship Award**

**Purpose:** Create an annual scholarship opportunity for a minority candidate with an emphasis on bi-lingual skills, whom meets program requirements and participates in the Police Explorer’s Post financial assistance to attend the Municipal Police Academy.

**Status:** The goal is supported by the PSC; a funding plan is in place and it has cleared legal review. The goal is contingent upon the success of the Police Explorers program, which starts in September. --- Status: **Paused**

**Goal #6: C.R.A.S.E. Program**

**Purpose:** Offer a FREE and valid active-threat response program for civilians, businesses and other community stakeholders.

**Status:** The goal is in progress. Two officers have received their certification a third is pending. Due to CoVid-19, the advertisement and recruitment process has been delayed for the foreseeable future. --- Status: **Paused**

The following is a cumulative list from each of the four directive categories. All of the below are valid through the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters.

**General Orders**

- #20-01: Emergency Contact and Callout Procedure
- #20-02: 2020 Leave Policy
- #20-03: Uniform Change
- #5.10.1: Brady – Giglio Disclosure Requirements
- #5.3.5: Pandemic Event Response
- #5.20.1: Social Media

## Personnel Orders

- #20-01: Promotion of Corporals & Fulltime Appointment  
(Kushner, Brown & Krissinger)
- #20-02: Reorganization of Personnel
- #20-03: Retirement - Gibson
- #20-04: Fulltime Appointment – Walsh
- #20-05: Resignation – King
- #20-06: Temporary transfer of OIC duties – Simpson/Greenwalt
- #20-07: Temporary transfer of OIC duties – Simpson/Greenwalt
- #20-08: Transfer – Raimato/Smith
- #20-09: Fulltime Appointment – Miller  
Part-time Employment – Dykes

## Special Orders

- #20-01: CoVid–19: Response, Mitigation and Communication Procedures
- #20-02: BLM Support Event: Traffic, Response and Communication Procedures

## Training Orders

Training Order #	Description	Personnel Assigned
20-01	2019 Mandatory In-Service Trainings - Act 180's	All Sworn Personnel
20-02	Cell Area & Prisoner Transportation	Sullivan Lantz
20-03	Outlaw MC Gangs & Narcotics	S. Madonna
20-04	ASL & Criminal Justice Workshop	Campbell
20-05	TAC Officer Training	Campbell
20-06	Vista Wi-Fi Wearable Camera-User/Evidence Library	All Sworn Personnel
20-07	Pat McCarty's Street Crimes	Kushner Blue
20-08	Crisis Intervention Team Training	O'Neill Lantz Syska
20-09	Violent Crime Symposium	Simpson Greenwalt
20-10	Bicycle Patrol School (2)	Walsh Miller
20-11	Field Training Officer (3)	Krissinger
20-12	Advanced Training --- Search & Seizure	Syska Smith
20-13	MPOETC – DLQ	A/B Platoon Personnel

20-14	MPOETC - DLQ	C/D Platoon Personnel
20-15	Biased Based Prohibitions	All Sworn Personnel
20-16	Trauma Management	Versagli Brown
20-17	CoVid-19 – Briefing for LE	Simpson King Greenwalt
20-18	Ensuring Continuity of Operations – CoVid- 19	Simpson Greenwalt
20-19	Human Trafficking	Pending
20-20	CoVid-19 CDC Exposure Avoidance – Best Practices	All Personnel
20-21	Civilian Response to Active Threat Events	Simpson Busam
20-22	Active Attack Event Response Leadership	Simpson
20-23	Dealing with Difficult People	Lutz
20-24	Active Attack Emergency Communications	Simpson
20-25	Stop Sticks	All Personnel
20-26	Duty Baton	All Personnel
20-27	Oleo Capsicum Spray	All Personnel
20-28	Reid Technique of Investigation and Interrogation	Smith
20-29	The Definition of Insanity	Simpson
20-30	Mistake Free Grammar	Lutz
20-31	The 13 <sup>th</sup> --- A Netflix Documentary	Supervisors

## 2020 Budget Commentary

The following is a summary to highlight the manageable areas of the budget; these numbers are accurate as of June 30, 2020.

### Leave Liability Audit

An audit of leave liabilities was completed and confirmed by New Garden Township's payroll department. Minor discrepancies were identified and corrected in the department's electronic ledger.

### Petty Cash Audit

An audit of on-hand petty cash revealed no discrepancies. A total of 12 transactions occurred in the quarter including account reimbursement which bring the total on-hand petty cash to \$424.50.

### Part-time Salary – 01-410-144

\$230,00.00 was budgeted for 2020 part-time salary expenses. An approximate total of \$102,777.11 was disbursed to pay for 4,380.50 hours of coverage. This represents 44.68% of the part-time wage budget.

### Overtime Expenses – 01-410-183

\$50,000.00 was budgeted for 2020 overtime expenses. \$11,814.20 for 228.5 overtime hours was disbursed for work from seven (7) of the eleven (11) authorized categories. This expenditure total represents 23.63% of the overtime wage budget. It should be noted that 55.5 hours of the total overtime used to date is reimbursable.

### Fleet Maintenance – 01-410-250

\$25,000.00 was budgeted for fleet maintenance and repair expenses. \$14,368.10 was disbursed for sixty-one (61) maintenance or repair events. This expenditure total represents 57.47% of the fleet maintenance budget.

### Contracted Services – 01-410-450

\$90,000.00 was budgeted for contracted services expenses. \$43,668.88 for sixty-eight (68) approved contracts. This expenditure total represents 48.52% of the contract services budget.

### COPS Hiring Award

Beginning in 2018, the department received a COPS Hiring Award for \$125,000.00 over a span of three-years. A total of \$36,667.12 was authorized for 2020 to offset the expenses of a police officer's wage and benefits. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, a drawdown in the amount of \$9,166.78 was submitted and received by the COPS Officer; ACH deposits have been confirmed with the Finance Director. To date, the total drawdown is \$18,333.56.

### Targeted Safe Schools - SRO Award

In 2018, the department received a PA Department of Education award for \$60,000.00 for year 2019 and \$30,000.00 for year 2020 to redeploy a police officer to serve as a School Resource Officer for the Kennett Consolidated School District. On February 4, 2020, after a six-month delay, the Department of Education finally made their last reimbursement for 2019 obligations in the amount of \$20,800.59.

On January 16, 2020, KCSD was invoiced \$58,705.00 for their 2020 obligation. All funds were received and deposited accordingly in February of 2020.

A final payment in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Department of Education has been requested.

### Bullet Resistant Vest Award

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, a 2021 BVP grant application was submitted in the amount of \$3,000.00. On the same date a drawdown in the amount of 895.50 was submitted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for recent approved purchases.

### Avondale Borough Contract Services

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, the department provided a total of 1,120 hours of in-community police services per the contract. Calls from the borough required the department to provide additional services, averaging an average of approximately 1:17 hours per week for a total of 16 hours, 23 minutes, which were scheduled for deduction in accordance with the contract.

### Revenue Report

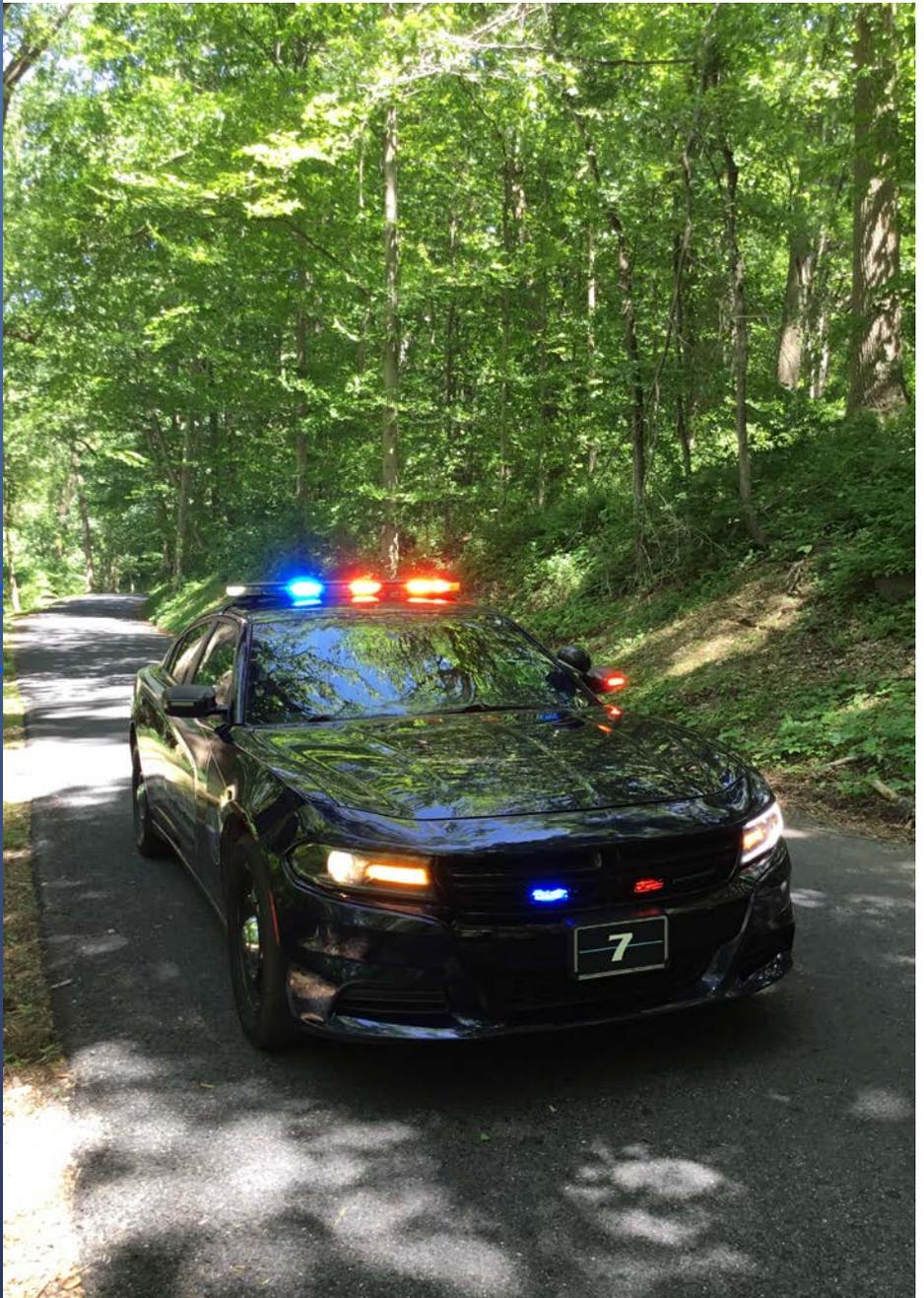
The chart below represents the total revenue received through the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter with the exception of reimbursements from awards; see chart below for breakdown:

	MDJ Fines	Report Fees	Parking Violations	X-Duty Fees	Other Service Fees	Total
New Garden Township	\$20,019.22	\$1,644.00	\$160.00	\$35,269.82	\$184.00	<b>\$57,277.04</b>
West Grove Borough	\$4,806.37	\$411.00	\$40.00	\$8,817.46	\$46.00	<b>\$14,120.83</b>
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$24,825.59</b>	<b>\$2,055.00</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$44,087.28</b>	<b>\$230.00</b>	<b>\$71,397.87</b>

# Biased Based Policing

Consistent with the recommendations of the 2015 President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, Pillar #1 --- Building Trust and Legitimacy, below is traffic stop demographic data for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2020.

The department has also implemented a Best Practice Biased Based Policing Policy in compliance with Accreditation Standards.



During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2020, the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department stopped a total of 98 motorists. Of the total traffic stops, an average of 94.90% concluded with an enforcement action. The following is an analysis of the demographics.

#### Traffic Stops and Rate of Enforcement by RACE:

Race	Total Number of Traffic Stops	Traffic Stop Percentage	Total Enforcement Actions	Percentage of Enforcement Actions
Asian	1	1.02%	1	100%
Black/African American	7	7.14%	7	100%
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
White	90	91.84%	85	91.39%
Unknown	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>94.90%</b>

#### Traffic Stops and Rate of Enforcement by ETHNICITY:

Ethnicity	Total Number of Traffic Stops	Traffic Stop Percentage	Total Enforcement Actions	Percentage of Enforcement Actions
Non-Hispanic	41	41.84%	37	39.78%
Hispanic	57	58.16%	56	60.22%
Unknown	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### Traffic Stops and Rate of Enforcement by GENDER:

Gender	Total Number of Traffic Stops	Traffic Stop Percentage	Total Enforcement Actions	Percentage of Enforcement Actions
Male	87	88.78%	83	89.25%
Female	11	11.22%	10	10.75%
Unknown	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*\*\*Information in the above tables was accurate at the time of production

## Patrol Division

### Field Operations Summary

The following data is taken from the Monthly Uniform Crime Report and represents a year to date comparison between 2019 and 2020.

2019 - Part I Offenses	Totals	2020 - Part I Offenses	Totals
<i>Criminal Homicide</i>	0	<i>Criminal Homicide</i>	0
<i>Forcible Rape</i>	0	<i>Forcible Rape</i>	1
<i>Robbery</i>	1	<i>Robbery</i>	0
<i>Aggravated Assault</i>	6	<i>Aggravated Assault</i>	4
<i>Burglary</i>	4	<i>Burglary</i>	4
<i>Theft</i>	33	<i>Theft</i>	17
<i>Auto Theft</i>	3	<i>Auto Theft</i>	6
<i>Arson</i>	1	<i>Arson</i>	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>

In Part I, the UCR indexes reported incidents in two categories: violent and property crimes. Aggravated assault, forcible rape, murder, and robbery are classified as violent while arson, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft are classified as property crimes.

2019 - Part II Offenses	Totals	2020 - Part II Offenses	Totals
<i>Simple Assault/Harassment</i>	25	<i>Simple Assault/Harassment</i>	20
<i>Rec. Stolen Property</i>	0	<i>Rec. Stolen Property</i>	1
<i>Vandalism</i>	13	<i>Vandalism</i>	11
<i>Weapons Offense</i>	1	<i>Weapons Offense</i>	2
<i>Fraud</i>	15	<i>Fraud</i>	18
<i>Other Sex Offense</i>	7	<i>Other Sex Offense</i>	2
<i>Alcohol</i>	5	<i>Alcohol</i>	2
<i>Drugs</i>	30	<i>Drugs</i>	28
<i>Disorderly Conduct</i>	4	<i>Disorderly Conduct</i>	2
<i>Runaway</i>	8	<i>Runaway</i>	7
<i>Trespass/Loitering</i>	2	<i>Trespass/Loitering</i>	4
<i>Other</i>	26	<i>Other</i>	17
<b>Totals</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>114</b>

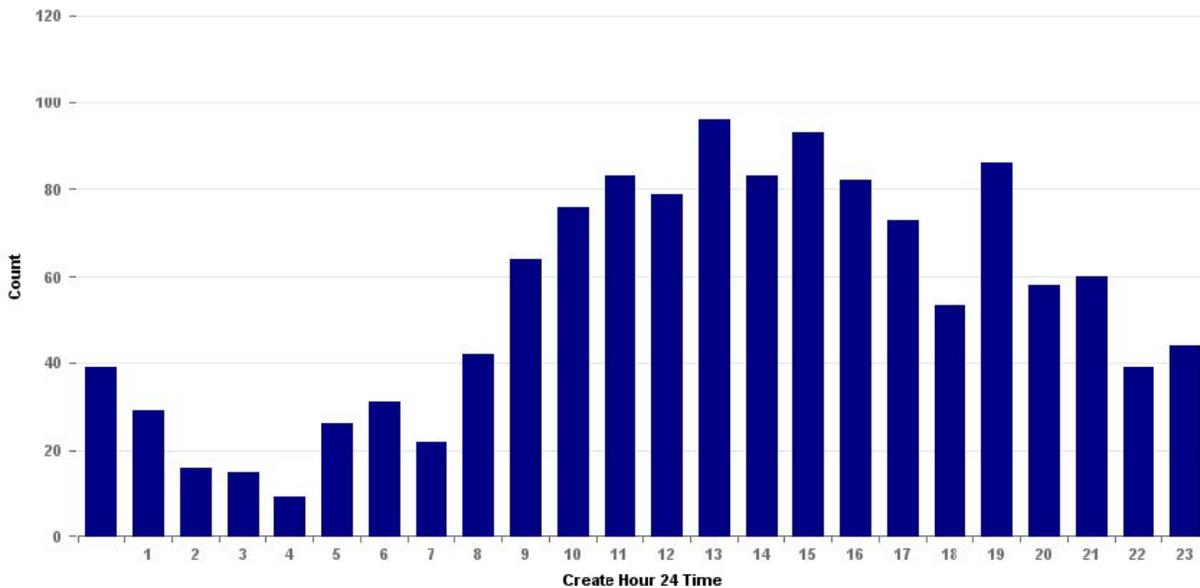
In Part II, the following categories are tracked: simple assault, curfew offenses and loitering, embezzlement, forgery and counterfeiting, disorderly conduct, driving under the influence, drug offenses, fraud, gambling, liquor offenses, offenses against the family, prostitution, public drunkenness, runaways, sex...

2019 - MISCELLANEOUS	Totals	2020 - MISCELLANEOUS	Totals
<i>Alarm</i>	220	<i>Alarm</i>	212
<i>Animal Control</i>	60	<i>Animal Control</i>	78
<i>Recovered Property</i>	9	<i>Recovered Property</i>	9
<i>Noise/Disturbance</i>	56	<i>Noise/Disturbance</i>	69
<i>Traffic Incident</i>	134	<i>Traffic Incident</i>	131
<i>Service, No Category</i>	526	<i>Service, No Category</i>	553
<i>Suspicious Condition/Vehicle</i>	161	<i>Suspicious Condition/Vehicle</i>	193
<i>Domestic</i>	63	<i>Domestic</i>	50
<i>Other</i>	232	<i>Other</i>	285
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1461</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>1580</b>

All Categories	2019	2020	% of Change
Part I	48	32	<b>-33.33%</b>
Part II	136	114	<b>-16.18%</b>
Miscellaneous	1461	1580	<b>8.15%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1645</b>	<b>1726</b>	<b>4.93%</b>

### Event Count by Hour of the Day

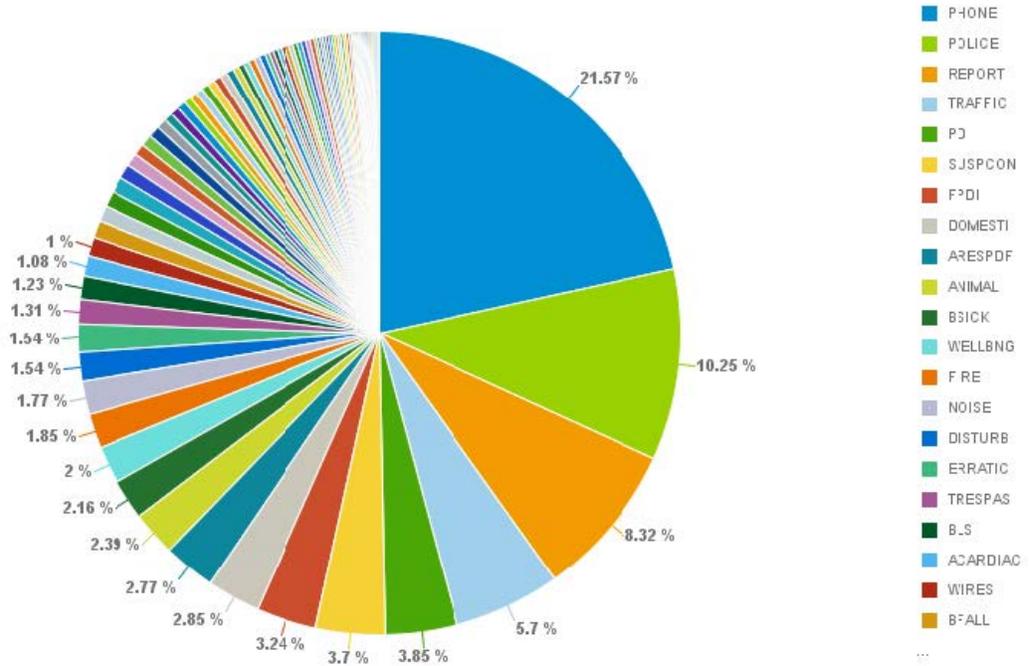
Date Range:	Last Quarter
Total Events:	1,298
Average Response	6.96 minutes



### Event Count by Type

Date Range:	Last Quarter
Total Events:	1,298
Average Response	6.96 minutes

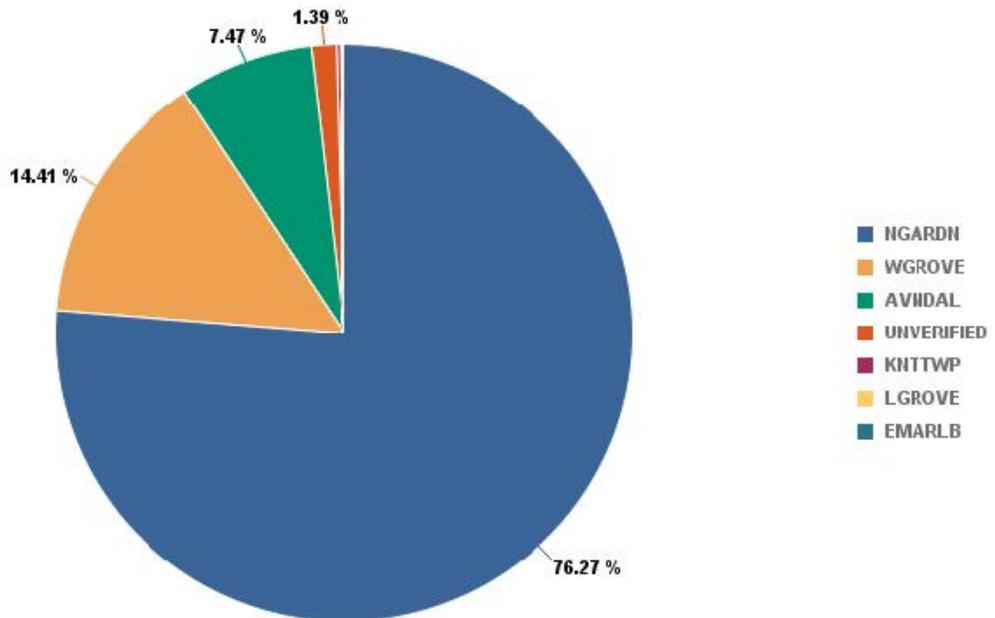
TOP Events	Count
PHONE	280
POLICE	133
REPORT	108
TRAFFIC	74
PD	50
SUSPCON	48
FPDI	42
DOMESTI	37
ANIMAL	31
WELLBNG	26
NOISE	23
DISTURB	20
TRESPAS	17
BLS	16
DUI	11



### Event Count by Municipality

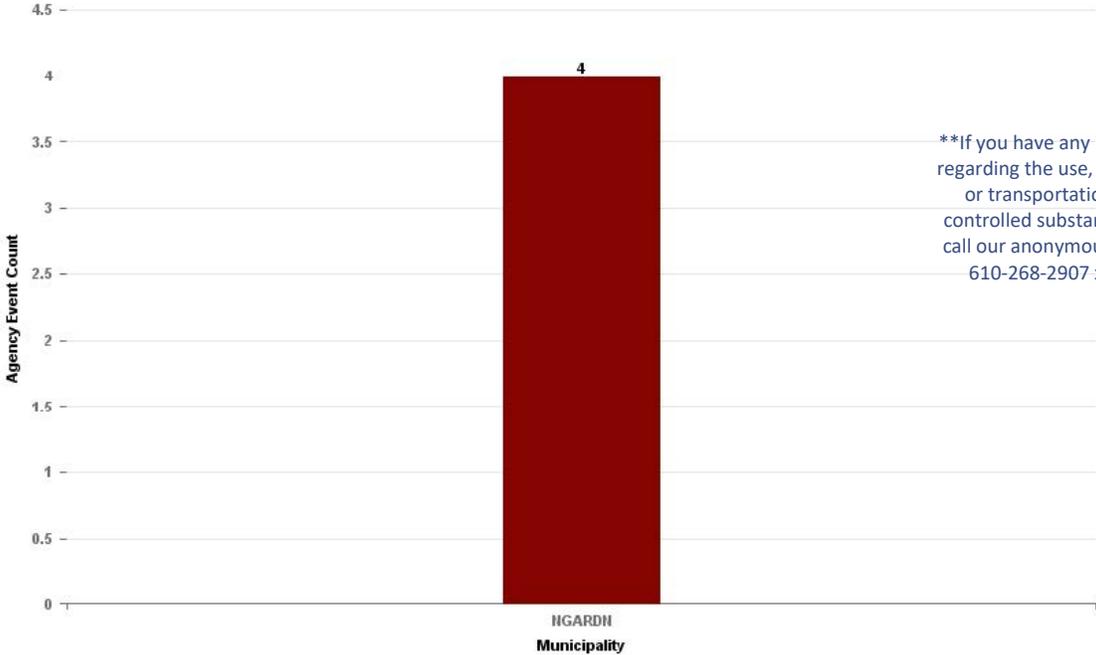
Date Range:	Last Quarter
Total Events:	1,298
Average Response	6.96 minutes

Event City	Count
NGARDN	990
WGROVE	187
AVNDAL	97
UNVERIFIED	18
KNTTWP	3
LGROVE	2
EMARLB	1
Sum:	1,298



### Narcan Event Count by Municipality

Total Events: 4



\*\*If you have any information regarding the use, production, or transportation of any controlled substances please call our anonymous tipline at 610-268-2907 x222. \*\*



## Traffic Summary

2019 Traffic Citations		2020 Traffic Citations	
Moving	651	Moving	205
Non-Moving	798	Non-Moving	414
Total	1449	Total	619
Parking Summonses		Parking Summonses	
Parking Tickets	18	Parking Tickets	9
Towed Vehicles	12	Towed Vehicles	14
Total	30	Total	23
Traffic Accidents		Traffic Accidents	
Fatal	0	Fatal	0
Reportable	42	Reportable	32
Non-Reportable	76	Non-Reportable	83
Hit & Run	12	Hit & Run	14
Total	130	Total	129
DUI		DUI	
Total	91	Total	66

\*\*Information in the above table was accurate at the time of production



## COVID-19 Crime Trends

As previously mentioned in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report, Special Order #20-01 went into effect on March 12, 2020 which directly influenced enforcement action taken during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Maintaining a firm hold on the department’s already greatly reduced crime rate was our goal, even considering the restrictions. As depicted in the images below, you can see there was another large reduction in Part I serious crimes and Part II offenses that fringe upon quality of life. While we relate most of the reduction to COVID-19, We would like to think that the patrol division’s dedication to being visible and remaining proactively vigilant also played a role in the reduction.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Traffic Collisions

The department responded to 129 traffic collisions in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. In the first 60 days, collisions were down by over 25% when compared to this period of 2019. The trend identified relating to COVID-19 regarding collisions was that in the early days of the quarantine orders issued by the Governor, there was a reduction of vehicles traveling on the roadways. Officers reported much more traffic in late May and early June resulting in the same number of crashes for this period as last year.



## Core Values in Action

Supervisor Notations are internal reports filed by ranking officers who have either identified a positive interaction between a police officer and the public or have been informed of a job well done. Supervisor notations are a certain way to letting the department's police officers know that leadership is paying attention to actions which are considered going above and beyond to honor our values and philosophy. The notations are added in the officers personnel file for permanent record.

The following letter, solidifies that we can and do in fact have a positive impact on people's lives while doing what we see as just our job. This profession is unique that way. In most situations, it's not just doing the job, it is about HOW WE DO IT! So, for that P.O. Syska, very well done. It will be times like this that when you retire, or move on, you will reflect back on and certainly take pride in.

~Lieutenant Joseph F. Greenwalt

Dear Officer Syska,

Hello, my name is [REDACTED]. You pulled me over on [REDACTED] for expired inspection and I ended up getting arrested for a DUI. Up until that day I had never been in trouble. I was afraid of going to jail so at court, I decided to do Drug Court.

For the longest time, until I was in D.O.P., I blamed you for everything. Wondering why you couldn't have let me go with a warning. That day you asked me three times "What is your drug of choice." All three times I lied, telling you marijuana. Although, I loved my pot... I was badly into methamphetamine. For blaming you and lying to you, I sincerely apologize.

Although I had even an avid pot smoker since I was 13 yrs old, I had been using meth pretty regular for 10 yrs. I had been praying to God to help me get away from it and felt like he wasn't listening.

I am sober now for 11+ months and I now realize that you were my saving grace. You saved me from the hell of a life I was living and for that I want to Thank You for giving me my life back and giving my guardian angels a break... they were doing double OT.

Sincerely,

## Office of Professional Standards

### Professional Standards Investigations

As of June 30, 2020, the O.O.P.S. has completed two Professional Standards Investigations involving two sworn employees. Each incident resulted in an improper conduct finding which required discipline being administered to the employee.

2020 Professional Standards Investigations – 6/30/2020				
PSI #20-	Date Received	Allegation Category	Source of Allegation	Findings/Disposition
1	1/2/2020	Rules Violation	External	IC/WR
2	2/16/2020	Policy Violation	Internal	IC/WR

### Police Pursuit Incidents

As of June 30, 2020, the O.O.P.S. has completed a critical review of a police pursuit incident. One incident is pending the first-line supervisor's policy review. The employee's actions in incident PEL #20-01 were found to be compliant with department policy.

2020 Pursuit Incident Log – 6/30/2020			
PEL #20-	Date Occurred	CODY #	Findings/Disposition
1	1/12/2020	128	PC/ND
2	6/10/2020	1769	PENDING

### Department Collision Incidents

As of June 30, 2020, the O.O.P.S. has completed a critical review of a department vehicle collision. Two incidents are pending the first-line supervisor's policy review. The employee's actions in incident DCL #20-01 were found to be compliant with department policy.

2020 Department Collision Log – 6/30/2020			
DCL #20-	Date Occurred	CODY #	Findings/Disposition
1	2/9/2020	485	NF/ND
2	3/10/2020	795	PENDING
3	5/01/2020	1322	PENDING

The following table is used for the aforementioned table to identify the disposition (closure) and disciplinary (punishment) codes.

Disposition Codes		Disciplinary Codes	
PC	= Proper Conduct	VR	= Verbal Reprimand
IC	= Improper Conduct	WR	= Written Reprimand
PF	= Policy Failure	RT	= Remedial Training
UI	= Unsubstantiated Investigation	SD	= Suspension from duty
U	= Unfounded	DR	= Demotion Re-classification
NF	= No Fault Collision Related	TE	= Termination from employment
AF	= At Fault Collision Related	ND	= NO DISCIPLINE
	PENDING		

## Use of Force Incidents

On July 13, 2020, the Use of Force Review Committee was convened to review 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter force incidents. The committee was chaired by Chief Gerald R. Simpson accompanied by Lt Joseph Greenwalt, SI Kevin Dykes, Det. Greg Smith and Police Officer Stephen Syska.

The committee reviewed eight (8) total use of force incidents each involving a sole police officer. Six (6) of the eight (8) incidents passed through the committee's review without comment or recommendation, all being found compliant with department policy.

The list of use of force incidents is as follows:

- RD-20-001195** – Animal Destruction
- RD-20-001210** – Animal Destruction
- RD-20-001328** – Hands-on/Compliance Hold
- RD-20-001655** – Animal Destruction
- RD-20-001661** – Animal Destruction
- RD-20-001774** – Animal Destruction

Two (2) incidents were rejected and returned back to the first-line supervisor for additional facts to be offered by them or their officer. These incidents will be revisited in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter for committee review.

The list of rejected incidents is as follows:

- RD-20-001769** – Display of Firearm
- RD-20-002000** – Animal Destruction

At the conclusion of the UOFC meeting, the Chief directed the following items to be addressed by the Executive Division and Subject Matter Experts by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:

1. Ensure all old Use of Force forms were destroyed and removed from use.

2. Revise the Use of Force form to record additional information.
3. Direct first line supervisors to use clear verbiage when stating their position of the officer's actions.
4. Consider a comprehensive review of additional force level indicators to be included, such as, de-escalation tactics.
5. Conduct a thorough review of the Conducted Energy Weapon policy.

Use of Force Chart – 6/30/2020										
Reporting Quarter	Animal Destruction	Hands-Compliance Holds	Oleo-Capsicum Spray	Electronic Control Device	Baton	Display of a Firearm	Deadly Force	PENDING REVIEW	INCIDENT TOTALS	TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICERS
1 <sup>st</sup>	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	6
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	8
3 <sup>rd</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 <sup>th</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>

# Criminal Investigations Division - Commentary

If you have read our previous quarterly reports, you may have noticed a different format for the Criminal Investigation Division, formally known as Special Operations Unit. It is truly difficult to capture daily work performed by our investigative team. Whether preparing for court, conducting a background investigation, assisting with patrol coverage, logging evidence or simply conducting follow-up investigations, our detectives are working to maintain the quality of life our residents enjoy.

The investigation team is on-call and available 24/7 to ensure that crimes are thoroughly investigated, evidence is properly collected and processed and that the path to restorative justice is partnered with victim advocate organizations.

The public is encouraged to use our website <https://chester.crimewatchpa.com/sccrpd> for a variety of information; see below:

**SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Chief Gerald Simpson  
Southern Chester County Regional Police Department  
8934 Gap Newport Pike  
Landenberg, PA 19350  
(610) 268-2907  
[www.sccrpd.org](http://www.sccrpd.org)

FOLLOWING | CRIME MAP  
SEARCH  
Twitter | Facebook

HOME | ABOUT US | CRIME | SERVICES | RESOURCES | FORMS | MEGAN'S LAW | CONTACT US

**WELCOME TO THE SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Welcome to the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department CRIMEWATCH page. We hope that our page is an informative, useful, and professional site that is in harmony with our motto: *"United to Service our Communities with Excellence..."*  
*Gerald R. Simpson, Chief of Police*

**ONLINE REPORTING**  
Now Available

**NEW ONLINE REPORTING FEATURE**  
In an effort to follow the suggested COVID-19 protocols, the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department has launched an online reporting option for *non-emergency incidents only*.  
By utilizing Online Reporting, you can...



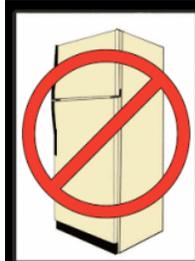
## VIRTUAL NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The Southern Chester County Regional Police Department (SCCRPD) is asking our local residents and businesses with surveillance cameras to partner with us in the fight against crime. An updated version of our [Camera Registry Form](#) is now available and it only takes minutes to complete.



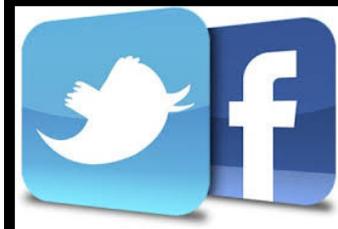
## CRASH REPORTS

The department has partnered with CARFAX to make all investigated crash reports from June 2018 forward available for access (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) via CRASHDOCS.ORG. The cost is \$15.00 per report and depending on the severity of the crash, they are usually available 5-7 business days after the accident was investigated. Click [HERE](#) to access their website and obtain a copy of a crash re



## SAFETY REMINDER – REFRIGERATORS

Residents are reminded that it is a violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code (Title 18, Section 6502) to discard a refrigerator or icebox, with a capacity of 1.5 cubic feet or more, with the door or lid still attached, in any place that is accessible to children. The SCCRPD has investigated four violations of this law in recent weeks. With warmer weather upon us, more children will be playing outside and these appliances can make tempting hiding spots.



## CONNECT WITH SCCRPD ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We are dedicated to partnering with our communities on social media. [Click here for Facebook](#). [Click here for Twitter](#).



## SCCRPD BUSINESS/RESIDENT CAMERA REGISTRY

In an effort to collaborate better with the community, the SCCRPD is asking all residents and business with cameras to register with the police department. Access to video following a crime can be the difference in solving the crime or not. To register your camera click [here](#).

Soon, the department will marry our CRIMEWATCH to our Records Management System to perform trend analysis in attempts to thoroughly understand the past environment to hopefully predict or understand crime trends.

If you have need for investigation or victim services, please contact us at 610-268-2907 extension 101. Anonymous crime tips can be entered on our CRIMEWATCH or our tip line at 610-268-2907 extension 222.

## Criminal Investigations Division – 6/30/2020

2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Statistics	Totals			
Investigations Assigned	29	<i>By Percentage</i>		
Investigations Cleared	17	58.62%		
Investigations Active	10	34.48%		
Investigations Inactive	2	6.89%		
Case Type	Totals	Total Cleared	Total Active	Total Inactive
Murder/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Kidnap	1	1	0	0
Rape/Sexual Assaults	4	2	2	0
Theft	6	2	3	2
<i>Robbery</i>	0	0	0	0
PERSON	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Assault; includes harassment, reckless endangering, etc.	1	1	0	0
<i>Burglary</i>	0	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0
Fraud/Forgery	1	0	1	0
Criminal Mischief	0	0	0	0
Assist Other Agency	0	0	0	0
Death Investigation	0	0	0	0
Drug Offense/ACT 64/MDTF	3	2	1	0
Missing Person	1	0	0	0
Megan's Law Investigation	0	0	0	0
PICS/Firearms Violation	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous; 47's, 104's, etc.	12	9	3	0
Cold Case Investigation	0	0	0	0
Other:	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>

## DET. S. MADONNA – 6/30/2020

2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Statistics	Totals			
Investigations Assigned	15	<i>By Percentage</i>		
Investigations Cleared	13	86.66%		
Investigations Active	2	13.33%		
Investigations Inactive	0	0%		
Case Type	Totals	Total Cleared	Total Active	Total Inactive
Murder/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Kidnap	1	1	0	0
Rape/Sexual Assaults	2	2	0	0
Theft	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0
PERSON	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Assault; includes harassment, reckless endangering, etc.	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0
Fraud/Forgery	0	0	0	0
Criminal Mischief	0	0	0	0
Assist Other Agency	0	0	0	0
Death Investigation	0	0	0	0
Drug Offense/ACT 64/MDTF	3	2	1	0
Missing Person	0	0	0	0
Megan's Law Investigation	0	0	0	0
PICS/Firearms Violation	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous; 47's, 104's, etc.	9	8	1	0
Cold Case Investigation	0	0	0	0
Other:	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

## DET. TOWNSEND – 6/30/2020

2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Statistics	Totals			
Investigations Assigned	8	<i>By Percentage</i>		
Investigations Cleared	2	25%		
Investigations Active	5	62.5		
Investigations Inactive	1	12.5%		
Case Type	Totals	Total Cleared	Total Active	Total Inactive
Murder/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Kidnap	0	0	0	0
Rape/Sexual Assaults	1	0	1	0
Theft	3	1	1	1
Robbery	0	0	0	0
PERSON	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Assault; includes harassment, reckless endangering, etc.	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0
Fraud/Forgery	1	0	1	0
Criminal Mischief	0	0	0	0
Assist Other Agency	0	0	0	0
Death Investigation	0	0	0	0
Drug Offense/ACT 64/MDTF	0	0	0	0
Missing Person	0	0	0	0
Megan's Law Investigation	0	0	0	0
PICS/Firearms Violation	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous; 47's, 104's, etc.	3	1	2	0
Cold Case Investigation	0	0	0	0
Other:	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>

## DET. SMITH – 6/30/2020

2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Statistics	Totals			
Investigations Assigned	6	<i>By Percentage</i>		
Investigations Cleared	2	33.33%		
Investigations Active	3	50%		
Investigations Inactive	1	16.66%		
Case Type	Totals	Total Cleared	Total Active	Total Inactive
Murder/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Kidnap	0	0	0	0
Rape/Sexual Assaults	1	0	1	0
Theft	3	0	2	1
Robbery	0	0	0	0
PERSON	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Assault; includes harassment, reckless endangering, etc.	1	1	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL	0	0	0	0
BUSINESS	0	0	0	0
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0
Fraud/Forgery	0	0	0	0
Criminal Mischief	0	0	0	0
Assist Other Agency	0	0	0	0
Death Investigation	0	0	0	0
Drug Offense/ACT 64/MDTF	0	0	0	0
Missing Person	1	1	0	0
Megan's Law Investigation	0	0	0	0
PICS/Firearms Violation	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous; 47's, 104's, etc.	0	0	0	0
Cold Case Investigation	0	0	0	0
Other:	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>

## Community Services Unit

### Eagle Scout Board of Review – May 20, 2020

PFC Mario Raimato attended an Eagle Scout Meeting in which Steven Thomas Luke from Boy Scout Troop 191 in Avondale was recognized for his Eagle project of creating a Gaga Pit in Harmony Park.



### Eagle Scout Board of Review – May 27, 2020

On May 27, 2020 PFC Mario Raimato attended another Eagle Scout Meeting in which Ryan Powell from Troop 191 in Avondale was recognized for his Eagle project was trash and recycle enclosures at each hole at Inniscrone Golf Course.



---

## School Resource Officer

COVID-19 has really screwed the world up? I have lost count of how many people have died, the countless pain and suffering felt by so many, depression from isolation, the economic impacts, the loss of life’s special moments, etc. This is truly terrible on so many levels.

One of the economic fallouts is the School Resource Officer program. We were informed by KCSD that the program would be ended for academic year 2020 – 2021 due to a funding deficient brought by COVID-19. We were told that decision wasn’t easy for the KCSD School Board, but tough decisions have to be made in this current environment. Hopefully, 2021 – 2022 will be different.

## Chaplains Corner

I have been honored to be the Police Chaplain for the SCCRPD since its inauguration in January 2017. I am a graduate of the Police Chaplain's Academy and have hundreds of hours in continuing education that focused on trauma, PTSD, and the emotional and spiritual health issues unique to law enforcement. I have a Masters of Divinity and a Masters of Social Work. Since September of 2012 I have also served as the pastor for Unionville Presbyterian Church.

You may wonder: What do chaplains do? I would like to take a bit of space to answer that question. My main jobs are to foster officer well-being and be another resource linking the officers to the community. In my role as Police Chaplain I respond in personal or professional crisis and tragedies and I provide trauma care in the midst of a critical incident. I provide spiritual and psychological hope by establishing rapport and offering counseling. I can be called out to assist an officer with a death notification. I also provide grief counseling and other services to the larger community, as well as the officers. During this time of national crisis with the combination of CoVid 19 and social justice issues that need addressing, I try very hard to connect with my officers in private and support them in public. Offering prayers is also part of the job.



Recently I stood with Chief Simpson and Lieutenant Greenwalt as part of the Black Lives Matter rally organized in West Grove. I was asked to offer a prayer at the end of the event and I would like to share it with you:

During this time of social unrest, I invite you all to sit with the powerful and uncomfortable emotions, such as anger and grief, that you may be carrying. Welcome them in the presence of God, whatever that means to you. IF we do not transform our pain, we will most assuredly transmit it. Tragically, we are witnessing the results of centuries of unresolved racial violence in our collective body today.

Pray with me please:

God of Many Names, we pray for those who knew and loved George Floyd. Bring them your consolation. For Derek Chauvin, who put his knee on George Floyd's neck for almost 9 minutes until Mr. Floyd died, and the 3 other officers who stood complicity by, we ask for the mercy of repentance and the judgement of justice. For the thousands of police who have watched that video and consider it horrific and wrong, we pray for their safety and patience. We pray for the

reconciliation, renewal, and restored relationships between the police and their community. May the dying words of George Floyd, “I can’t breathe”, challenge us all to be agents of change, that we may institute reforms where needed so that all may breathe and live freely. Let us kneel together today so we can stand together tomorrow. I offer this prayer in all the Holy Names of God. Amen.

To that end, I am pleased to assist Chief Simpson with his plan for a steering committee comprised of elected officials, stakeholders, advocacy organizations, and others. The purpose of this committee is to give opportunity to the members of the community to voice their concerns on matters of local law enforcement.

I got into this line of work the same way most police officers came to the job – I was called to it. I believe I can support the brave officers of the SCCRPC in their search for health and holism. I can offer my skills, training, and passion to them. It is an honor to serve alongside this great group of dedicated law enforcement professionals.

If you have more questions, or if I can be of assistance, please feel free to reach out. My number is 610-952-2992 and my email address is [pastorannalie@gmail.com](mailto:pastorannalie@gmail.com).

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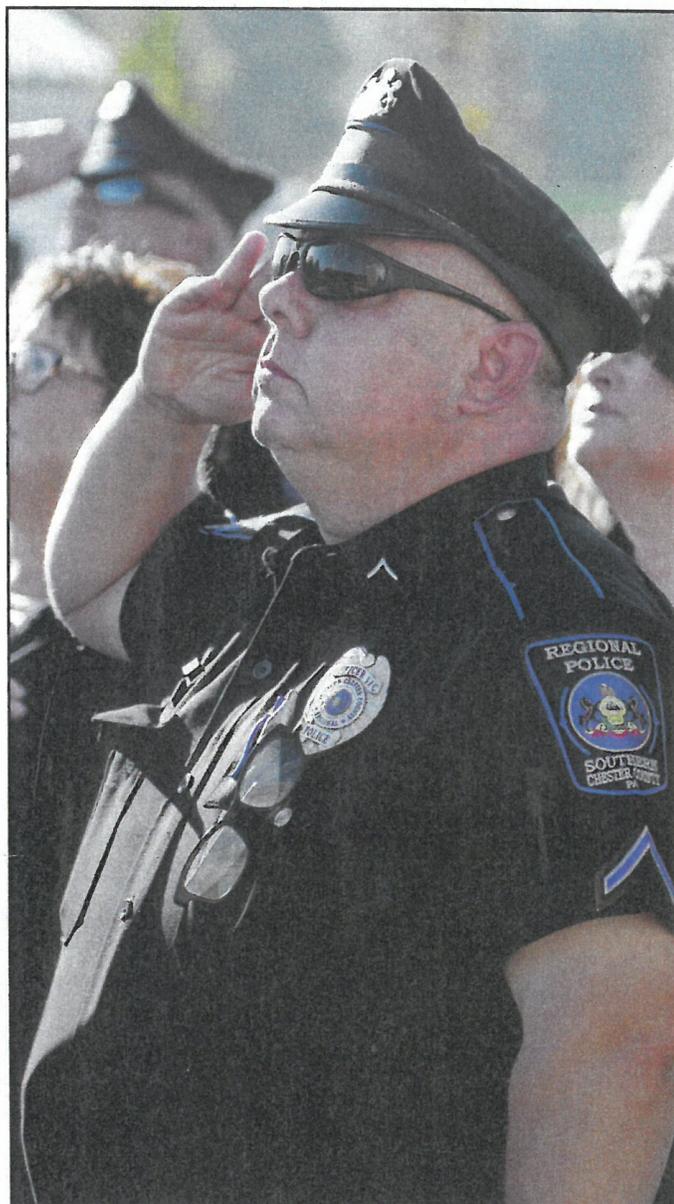
## A Special Thank You to Local Businesses & Residents

Various local businesses and countless residents have supported our department during these trying times.

Knowing that our community pulls together to support their police department continues to keep the police officers in positive spirits and allows them to focus on the safety and protection of the communities we serve.

---

# The work of police officer Mario Raimato makes a difference in the lives of many local students



All photos courtesy  
Officer Raimato at a community event in 2017.

**By Monica Fragale  
Contributing Writer**

*"I was being bullied, and it stopped.  
It's a big relief coming to school today."*

That was the message a student tearfully gave Mario Raimato, who had recently talked to her class about cyber-bullying. In his role as school resource officer for half of the Kennett Consolidated School District's schools, Raimato, 54, is someone the students trust, someone whose advice



Mario Raimato frequently reads to students and children in the community.



Michelle Raimato, Meg McCown from Kennett Area Community Service, and Mario Raimato at the annual holiday basket event

and actions linger with the students he is tasked to protect and nurture.

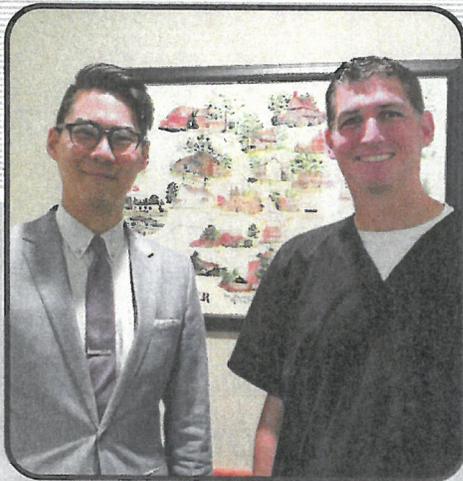
During that particular class talk, Raimato had explained to the students that cyberbullying is harassment by communication, and cautioned them not to text or put anything online that they wouldn't say face-to-face. His words resonated with those who were cyberbullying the girl, and the harassment stopped.

"It takes the right person, with the right heart ... to do this at the level he does for these young people," said Southern Chester County Regional Police Chief Gerald Simpson.

New Garden Elementary Principal Elizabeth Weaver agrees.

"I see him as a positive role model, somebody (the kids) have thought of as just another person in our New Garden

*Continued on Page 20*



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NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

## Mario Raimato

Continued from Page 19

family," she said. "They view him as a safe person."

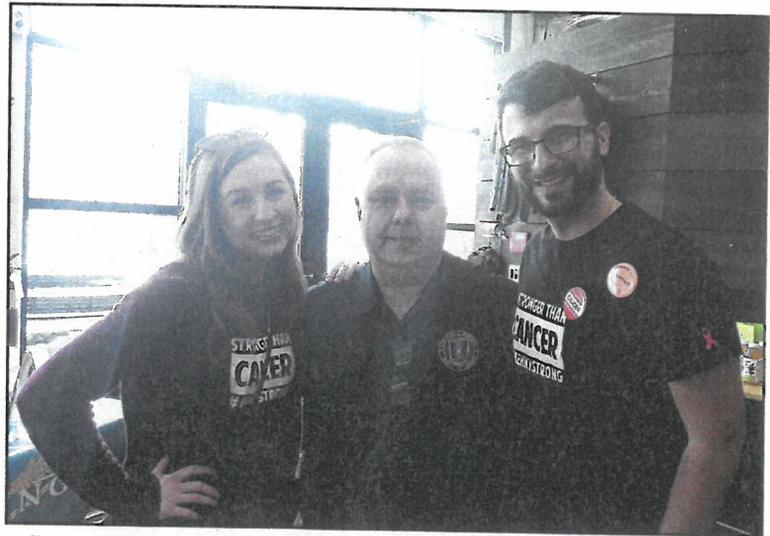
Bancroft Elementary Principal Leah McComsey describes Raimato as a connector, someone who brings "lots of positive energy and enthusiasm" wherever he goes and someone who genuinely cares about the people he interacts with.

"He definitely has embraced being a member of the school community," she said.

And it's not just at the schools where Raimato's influence is felt. As the community services officer for the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department (SCCRPD), Raimato is often the face of the department -- leading tours of the station, attending Eagle Scout ceremonies, reading to children at the library, participating in Kennett Middle School's After The Bell program, and more.

Recently he gave a Challenge Coin from the police department to a sixth grader who broke his leg playing ice hockey.

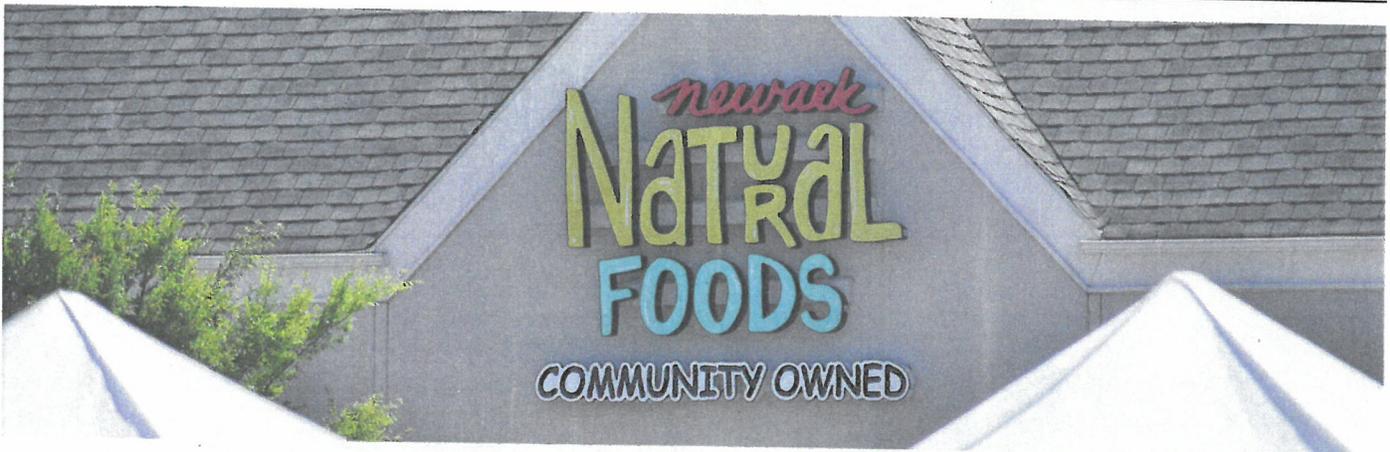
"Lucas broke his leg ... and had to stay back, while his twin brother Aiden and his father went to a tournament in Canada," according to the SCCRPD website. "Mario presented Lucas with an



Kelly and Dan Pin with Mario Raimato at the fundraiser at Anchor Life + Fitness earlier this year.

SCCRPD Challenge Coin to recognize the sacrifice he had to make because of his injury and to 'challenge him' to push through this difficult time."

Raimato, a father of three and grandfather of one who started his police career in his hometown of Kennett Square, recently participated in a community fundraiser at Anchor Life + Fitness that benefitted the son of a Bancroft Elementary teacher who is fighting a



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to See You!*

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form of leukemia. Other activities he is a part of include New Garden Community Day, Trunk or Treat at Unionville Presbyterian Church, the Kennett Area Community Service Christmas collection, and more.

"We're blessed to have him in that position," Simpson said. "Everyone knows Mario, for the right reasons, and that is priceless."

Raimato, who lives in Kennett Square with his wife Michelle, grew up wanting to be a police officer. He cherished the times that Kennett Square police officers Richard Posey and William Davis would stop by and throw a football around with the neighborhood children.

"I wanted to be that cop," he said. "If I could affect somebody's life the way they affected my life, then I did my job."

He also vividly remembers when Posey and Davis were murdered in 1972, and watching the helicopters and the state police cars that responded.

"When I found out they were killed ... the good guy's not supposed to lose," he said. "It could happen anywhere."

So as a police officer, Raimato focuses on training to stop it from happening, to police officers, to the students, to anyone in the community.

"That's my job – to stop anything bad from happening at any of our schools," he said. "I take that seriously."

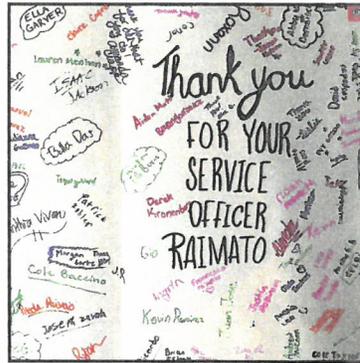
For instance, during the different lunch periods at the middle school, Raimato often protects the students from the inside but also keeps an eye on the outside.

"I do check the perimeter around the school, especially during lunch," Raimato said. "At lunchtime we have 300 or more children. The one principal is like, 'Why are you always looking outside?' To make sure there's nobody outside who shouldn't be looking in."

Raimato's presence helps students and parents see the police in a more positive light – and also gets them used to seeing police around the schools.

"He bridges that gap between the police and our lives," said Bancroft's McComsey. "He's done a lot with breaking down the tension with students who come to school with a negative perception of police ... It works for the parents, too. They also get to know him personally, and they're starting to build that relationship with the police department."

Raimato is in the three Kennett schools that are located in New Garden Township, thanks to a two-year grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Simpson



A card presented to Raimato from the seventh graders at Kennett Middle School.

Continued on Page 22

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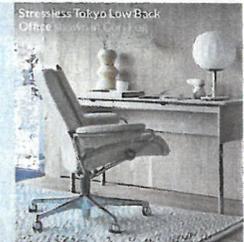
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# Mario Raimato

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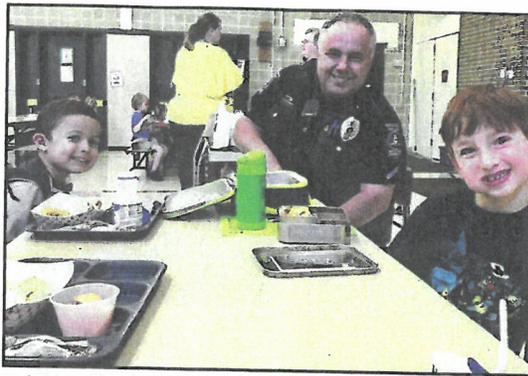
said the police department is in "early stage negotiation" with the school district to see about funding the School Resource Officer position in 2021 and beyond.

"Hopefully that happens because we think the program has a tremendous amount of success, and we think that the schools are much safer with Mario being that in-person presence," Simpson said. "We have one of the best guys on the face of the earth in this program, which we know would ensure its success."

Eighth-grader David Guinup said Raimato "makes everyone feel safer."

McComsey said Raimato helps her as a building leader by providing "another set of eyes ... to make sure things are as safe as they can be. He looks at my practices through a different lens. It's just made it such a stronger communication system."

Kennett Middle School Principal Lorenzo DeAngelis described Raimato as a community builder and a source of



Enjoying lunch with some of the children at school is a way that Raimato can make the students feel comfortable and safe.



Raimato is pictured reading to Mrs. Simasek's class at Bancroft Elementary.

"real-time communication."

"We have a constant connection to public safety, an additional resource in the building to help our students succeed, a deeper sense of security in the building," he said.

During a tornado warning during the 2019-2020 school year, the Kennett schools held a severe weather drill. Raimato was at the middle school, but quickly called New Garden Elementary to let them know another officer would be heading there. Weaver cites that phone call from Raimato as an example of how he is invested in and a part of the community at large.

Continued on Page 24



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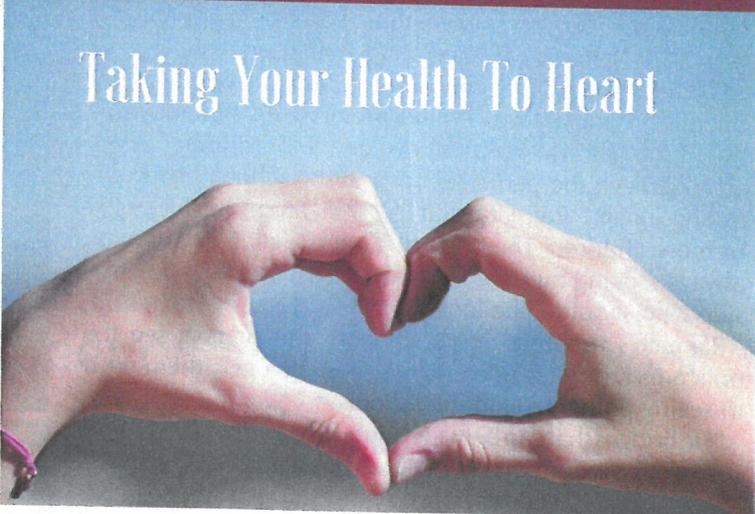
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## Mario Raimato

Continued from Page 22

McComsey said Raimato actively participates in all the emergency drills, "so the students are used to seeing police in the building during those activities."

Much like he is as a community services officer for the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department, Raimato comes across as friendly, down-to-earth, and someone who puts you at ease. He is a man known for giving high-fives to students, asking students and staff about their days, and taking an occasional pie in the face as part of a fundraiser.

Guinup recalled how Raimato always talks to him at lunch.

"He is really nice and interacts with everyone," Guinup, an eighth-grader, said. "He makes everyone laugh."

DeAngelis said Raimato always tells new jokes to the students during lunch.

"He is a mentor – a kind, caring, trusting adult," DeAngelis said.

McComsey has seen that numerous times with Raimato, including when he brought in "a huge amount of supplies" that Bancroft could give to its students, and when Raimato and the Southern Chester County Regional Police "adopted" one of Bancroft's students and bought a bike and



helmet, that was given anonymously, to the parents.

"He came in and saw our giving tree, and he just went and took an ornament right off the tree," McComsey said. "It's Mario being Mario."

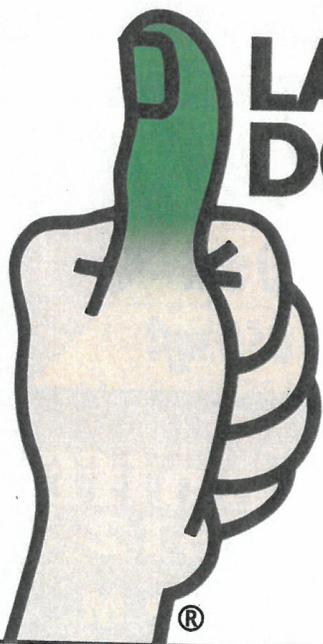
Sixth-grader Molly Malone said Raimato loves to sing.

"He'll come up to our table and sing at lunch," Malone said. "He's very funny and really, really nice."

"He's approachable," Simpson said, joking that "it helps that he's the same height as most of the kids."

"Certainly he's a very mature police officer, but he has that youthful persona."

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