



Press Release

Date: May 27, 2014

Re: Police Officers Receive Awards

During this year's Police Week (May 11-17), the Neenah Police Department recognized several employees with awards:

- Officer **Vicki Strebel**, a 15-year NPD veteran, was named the department's Officer of the Year. Officer Strebel heads up the department's Honor Guard unit, which has performed at parades, ceremonies, and even Milwaukee Brewers baseball games. Officer Strebel is also the department's senior training officer, and has assisted in the training of many of the younger officers. She is looked to as a leader on patrol – not only by her peers at the Neenah Police Department, but also by the members of other local agencies.
- Administrative Assistant **Brenda Mathison** received the department's Employee of the Year Award, which is given to an outstanding non-sworn employee every other year. Brenda provides invaluable technical help to members of the department in graphics, databases, photography and videography, social media, and project work.
- Officer **Nick McDonald** was presented the Exceptional Service Award for his inexhaustible work and energy to initiate the Neenah K9 program. Officer McDonald first brought the idea for a K9 program forward, promoted the creation of the program to administrators and council, and led out in fundraising efforts. The K9 program is now in place serving the citizens of Neenah with distinction.
- Officer **Chris Gorden**, the department's K9 handler, received an Outstanding Arrest Award for the work he and his partner, Cedric, did to accomplish one of the largest methamphetamine seizures in northeast Wisconsin.

NEENAH'S GUARDIANS

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- Officer **Marlyn Heiting** was presented an Outstanding Arrest Award for his timely capture of two burglars who had just broken in and surprised a homeowner, and were fleeing the scene of the crime. Officer Heiting was conducting traffic enforcement duties and had the suspects detained even before the burglary call was dispatched.
- Lieutenant **Jeff Malcore** was recognized for 25 years of service to the department.

Police Chief Kevin Wilkinson commented on the pride he feels for the award recipients, as well as for those who didn't receive awards.

“Awards programs only tell part of the story,” he said. “They recognize those incidents and acts that become widely known, as they should. But there are so many other selfless, even heroic acts that occur quietly and never find their way into an award nomination.”



Officers Gorden, Strebel, McDonald, and Heiting display their awards.

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