



Farmington Hills Police Sergeant Joe Rebh retires after 32 years on the force. Chief Bill Dwyer offers him a chief's citation for his work at the scene of a domestic disturbance.

Veteran Hills sergeant retires

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

No more pestering co-workers about changing their passwords for Sgt. Joseph Rebh of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

With more than 32 years with the department, Rebh, who has overseen the communications section for the past 17 years, retired Aug. 30.

He started with the department as a 17-year-old cadet in 1970. He was promoted to officer in 1973 and to sergeant in 1981.

He also worked in the department's divisions of traffic, juvenile, special operations and as supervisor in charge of communications. Rebh also served as president of the Ameritech Michigan User's Group.

He received a belated merit citation at his retirement ceremony in city hall on Aug. 30 for a domestic violence incident 18 years ago. It involved the suspect having a loaded gun and Rebh putting his life on the line to apprehend the man.

"Joe, I truly appreciate all the work you've done," Police Chief William Dwyer said. "You've done a great job."

In his career, Rebh also received one letter of appreciation, two letters of commendation, two citations, two unit citations, a chief's citation and was honored as the 1993 Optimist Club Police Officer of the Year.

A video was made for Rebh and shown to the audience. In it, co-workers jokingly made comments about his quirky past comments and passed along well wishes for long and happy retirement.

Also in attendance and wishing well were Mayor Nancy Bates, State Rep. Andrew Raczkowski and Oakland County Commissioner David Moffitt.

Fire Chief Rich Marinucci said Rebh has always been very

professional in his dealings with the fire department.

Assistant City Manager Dana Whinnery handed Rebh a retirement watch and said the sergeant "is a caring employee and he's a good person to sit down with and have a cup of coffee."

"It's a pretty good day," Rebh told the audience. "I don't know how I could possibly feel more

honored than I can today."

After introducing his family, Rebh said, "I've had a wonderful career. I do hold this city and department in my heart."

The retired officer, who has a side business as a contractor, plans to enjoy more time with his family in his newly rebuilt home Up North.

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Bragg sworn in as Hills officer

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer announced the promotion of David Bragg to the rank of police officer. Bragg was sworn in by City Clerk Kathy Dorman Wednesday.

Bragg, 32, joined the department in February 2002 as a part-time police dispatcher. During this time, Bragg was also employed as a police officer for the Conrail Police Department. He had previously been employed as a full-time police officer for the Highland Park Department of Public Safety.

Bragg is a 2002 graduate of Siena Heights University, where he obtained a bachelor of applied science degree. He will begin an intensive three-month field training program where he will be paired with several veteran officers before assuming solo uniform patrol duties. Bragg will then complete the remain-



DAVID BRAGG/STAFF WRITER

David Bragg is sworn in as a new officer by Clerk Kathy Dorman.

der of an 18-month probationary period.

Dwyer commended Bragg's performance, indicating that

he has demonstrated competence, maturity and a strong desire to further serve the citizens of Farmington Hills.

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ROAD WATCH

Information for Road Watch is provided by the Road Commission for Oakland County (www.rcocweb.org). Information is subject to change.

FARMINGTON

■ Road: Farmington Road, south of Nine Mile to Grand River — This section of Farmington is closed to southbound traffic as the RCOCC reconstructs and widens the road.

During the project, the detour route for southbound traffic is Grand River, Drake and Nine Mile.

Motorists traveling northbound on Farmington should expect delays and are encouraged to use the detour route as well. Completion is expected Sept. 30.

WALLED LAKE/COMMERCE TWP.

■ Road: West Maple Road, Welch to west of Haggerty — As part of the M-5 project, the Michigan Department of Transportation has closed this section of road so that it can be reconstructed as a boulevard. Potential alternate routes are 14 Mile, Welch, Maple, Decker and Pontiac Trail. Completion is expected in September.

