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### Thank You, Officer

That was the headline in a recently-published letter to the editor which appeared in the *Scotts-dale Republic*.

The letter, sent by a Fountain Hills resident, read:

"Thanks to Scottsdale Police Officer **Tony L. Jones** [Badge 788, D4 B Squad] for stopping to change my husband's flat tire on Thompson Peak Parkway and Frank Lloyd Wright Boulevard. My husband is 78 years old with health issues. Officer Jones is one of our finest."

Nice job Tony . . . it's that kind of unselfish act that brings out the best in what we strive to do every day . . . serve the public.

#### Foothills District receives accolades from citizens

I would like to acknowledge a couple of officers from the Foothills District who are making a difference in the lives of citizens daily. Here are examples provided by appreciative citizens of just some of the efforts of Officer Chris Matthew #1326 and Matt Miller #856. Three citizens from separate situations were appreciative enough of the efforts of Officer Matthew in the past month that they wrote these notes:

Note #1 June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011

#### Dear Sergeant:

I wanted to write a quick note to tell you that I have received excellent service from an officer that you have assigned to our area.

Recently, **Officer C. Matthew #1326** assisted me in getting to my vehicle that was parked some distance from my home one evening. I had to park it where my wife became ill and help my wife and the kids home in her car. While trying to procure my own vehicle later that evening, Officer Matthew was able to assist me when I found myself in a less than ideal situation.

Officer Matthew also showed concern for my family and asked if my wife was doing ok. He made that evening turn out better than I would have hoped for. During our conversation, I discovered that with his help and the diligence of your Police Force, the petty crime has





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diminished in my neighborhood. Our neighborhood has had things done such as our electric meters being turned off, petty crime, etc. Most, if not all of the problems are gone due to the diligence of Officer Matthew, and his colleagues.

Thank you for doing an excellent job protecting and serving the citizens of Scottsdale.

Sincerely, Appreciative Citizen

Note #2

Officer Matthew,

You give so much of yourself in the kindness you show and the lives you touch. That's why you deserve a heartfelt 'thank you" and a wish that all the goodness you share comes back to you. Thank you so much for the dignity, respect and compassion you displayed while taking care of the situation following the death of my husband Peter on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Yours is a difficult job and you do it very well.

Gratefully, Appreciative Citizen

Note #3

Chief Rodbell,

Good Day,

A short message about these two fine officers (Officers M. Miller #856 & C. Matthew #1326).

Last night they were called to our neighborhood (Desert View/Four Peaks in Troon) concerning a noise issue. They interviewed the two parties involved but did not stop there. They observed me in my back yard & came to the front door. I asked them in (100 degrees outside). They explained the situation to me & asked me pertinent questions concerning the noise level. They were very professional and we are very lucky to have such fine officers serving Scottsdale.

Regards, Appreciative Citizen

Submitted by Lt. Ron Bayne #559





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### An Email to Officer Jen Kinsey

"I just wanted to say hi and to say thank you for the wonderful time I had a few weeks ago at camp! I know it probably took a lot of time and effort on your part, but I really learned a lot from the academy. I learned so many valuable things.

I am working really hard this summer on being around positive influences instead of bad influences. The teen academy showed me that if I want to achieve my goal of becoming a police officer, I can't be around drugs and things that could harm me. I took that to heart and really thought about what that meant. Most importantly I wanted to thank you for that lesson I learned because if I did not learn that now, who knows where I could have ended up.

Also, I am working on having more courage especially when it comes to cars. Since I was in that accident I have been a little afraid of driving/being in cars. But I am going to try to get my license soon!

Thanks again for everything you guys put together for this academy to happen!"

Love Rachel (Teen Academy Graduate)

### Officer Rauch Going Above and Beyond!

On 7-6-11, Scottsdale Police and Fire responded to a drowning call of an elderly man at a home in the area of Pinnacle Peak and Pima just before 1pm. The victim had a medical emergency and fell into the family pool. His wife found him in the pool and tried to get him out. He was transported by SFD and later pronounced deceased at SHC-TTP. The couple did not have any friends or family close by.

The wife left me a voicemail a few weeks after her husband's passing to commend the work of our officers. As she related the events of that day, she stated:

"Later that evening, Bryan Rauch came back to make sure that I was alright, I had what I needed, and that everything was okay. Which I thought was extremely wonderful of him and I wanted you to know what a wonderful young man he is!"

Great job, Bryan! Thank you for going the "extra mile" and having a positive impact on this widow during a very traumatic time in her life. Your big heart and caring attitude represent the Scottsdale Police Department very well.

Moment of Truth submitted by Sgt. Hoster #680



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SPD Officer Helps Stranded Motorcyclist who has a Hero Past

I would like to share a great *Moment of Truth* story pertaining to **Lt. Todd Larson #553**. I do not have too much to write here since the following story submitted to University of Phoenix Faculty by College of Criminal Justice Chair Reginald Grigsby pretty much says it all. Grigsby, a retired California police commander, was sharing with all faculty two positive stories pertaining to faculty and one of them involved Lt. Larson. The story is impressive and is an excellent example of how Lt. Larson gains police supporters not only in his role as a police lieutenant, but through his influence to hundreds of students while serving as an instructor in the field of criminal justice. Sharing that role with him outside of the department I am proud that he represents the same police agency as I.

### From UOP CJ Chair Grigsby~

The second positive comment really struck a chord with me. As I was leaving the Mesa learning center, my police antennae began to buzz (yes, though retired, they occasionally activate on their own). I saw Todd Larson leaving the learning center and he was speaking with a student whom most definitely was dressed the part of a biker. Vest, jeans, boots, bandana, shaved head, long goatee – all the trappings I've come to associate with a specific type of person as a result of my former career.

In the parking lot, Todd and the person continued to talk next to his motorcycle – which I would learn was the only correct assumption I made about this young man – he in fact rode a motorcycle. The young man had a nail in the tire of his motorcycle and would not be able to ride it home, and it was beginning to rain. Todd offered him a ride. He also introduced me to the young man who was incredibly respectful and very reflective as he spoke. There was an untold story that needs to be told.

This young man was a former Marine; he served his country honorably in the Middle East, having undergone a number of traumatic experiences. He returned stateside and enrolled with the university, eventually crossing paths with Todd by being in one of his classes. He had to leave school for awhile due to personal issues. Unfortunately, fate was not kind to this young man. He and his girlfriend were on his motorcycle and became involved in an accident. She died and he was hospitalized with serious injuries. Hospitalized and with no one to really call, he called Todd. His reasoning was based solely upon his observations of Todd in the classroom and his professionalism and the sense of caring Todd exhibited to all of his students.

Todd was there for the young man with hospital visits and words of encouragement. The young man recovered well enough to get out of the hospital and is again enrolled in classes here. This former Marine noted that once again, in a crisis Todd was there for him.

The final note on this young man? After all that he has been through, he is a member of the Patriot Guard Riders; he rides his motorcycle wherever he is needed to stand between the families





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of fallen soldiers and a group of protesters who attempt to make a mockery of the funeral. It's clear that Todd stood in the gap for this young man when someone needed to be there for him – all as a result of his position and abilities as a member of the faculty at University of Phoenix.

Todd, thanks for making a world of difference to someone whom we all owe a debt of gratitude.

Respectfully submitted as a Moment of Truth to PoliceLine by Lt. R. Bayne #559

Officer has Impact on Teen Arrested for DUI

This is a letter from a 17 year old that was arrested for DUI. She ended up being a .117 on the Intox. **Officer Devlin** seemed to have a great impact on this young girl and the destructive decisions she made that night. Here is the letter she sent to Officer Devlin.

Dear Officer Devlin:

I am most likely just a faint, unpleasant memory of a teen who made the mistake of driving while intoxicated, but I hope by the end of this letter I can erase this unfavorable experience of my lack of respect as much as possible. I was arrested on April 30th and it would be an understatement to say that I was not happy. My behavior and language towards you was not only disturbing, but also hurtful and undeserved. I am both embarrassed and ashamed that I acted in such a destructive way, and looking back at the night I think of nothing but regret. I understand you were only doing your job, and because of you, people are left unharmed each night. Also, I realize that the choice to drink and drive put both myself and the people around me in danger. Even though at the moment I felt I was okay to drive, the chance and consequences of something happening are high and not worth it. As hard as it may be for you to believe, I am confident when I say I am truly a good kid who has made a fair share of bad decisions, but this mistake I can and will turn into a positive. I have definitely learned my lesson, and am grateful I have walked away from this experience with a new perspective. I have gained a lot of important information from my encounter with you, and hope we never have another confrontation. I deeply hope you can forgive me for the way I treated you, and stress that I appreciate the work you do to make the community a safer place.

Sincerely, Appreciative Teen

Jason, What an impact you made. Here is a life changed.

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#### Officer Takes Time to Listen

A Corporal in the United States Marines recently walked into the Beat 12 office looking for some assistance. **Officer Burnis Engram** who was working on an ILEADS module put down what he was doing and for the next 45 minutes he lent a helping hand. Officer Engram took the time to listen and to conduct an investigation on behalf of the Corporal who subsequently wrote in a letter of appreciation.

The Corporal wrote in part "While in the Marines I have seen too many good men not recognized for their accomplishments and after time become complacent. I wish for this to be a message to all that Officer Engram has kept up with the highest standards of the Scottsdale police..."

**Great job Burnis!** 

Submitted by Sgt. Brachtl