

Sitting down for society

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Typically we think of heroes as presidents and generals but one of the greatest heroes in America's history is Rosa Parks. Rosa Parks made her mark on the world the moment she decided not to give up her seat on the bus.

On December 1, 2005 this event changed the lives of Americans forever. "The life of Rosa Parks has been an continuous inspiration to African Americans all over the world and especially to me. She has given me inspiration to believe that I can do anything that I put my mind to," Says Communications student Devinque Murray. "She has taught me to have courage and stand up for what I believe in. She will always remain a important figure in African American history and will always be known as the woman who took a chance"

The 381 day boycott drew in big media attention and managed to end legal segregation everywhere.

From this incident Mrs. Parks became an inspiration for movements yet to come and gave hope for the future of African

Americans.

Still making history after her death on October 24, Rosa Parks, 92 was the first woman in American history whose casket was placed in the rotunda of the United States Capital. This was usually only done for Presidents of the United States, giving Americans a chance to pay their respects.

Even before her death Rosa Parks still remained active in her community. She read and answered letters from students and politicians, attended church and even managed to visit hospitals in her late age.

Before her life changing incident Rosa Parks was an inspired member of the NAACP serving as secretary, and later as an advisor to the youth division.

Born in Tuskegee Alabama to Rosa Louise McCauley and James McCauley, Mrs. Park's family had endured segregation and slavery as her grandmother and grandfather were born before the emancipation, the end of slavery.

Rosa, at the age of 11, was enrolled in the Montgomery Industrial School for Girls. Only having to attend school for five months instead of nine, Mrs. Parks said in an earlier interview

that her inspiration was given to her by her mother who was also a local school teacher.

After finishing at the Industrial school, Mrs. Parks attended Alabama State teachers college where she followed in the foot steps of her mother to become an educator.

While attending school Mrs. Parks met her husband Raymond and settled in Montgomery, Alabama.

She received numerous threats and harassment calls because of her act of bravery. Due to these fearful incidents and threats Mrs. Parks and her husband wanted a change in scenery and to start a new beginning. They moved to Detroit in 1957.

In Detroit Mrs. Parks served on the U.S. Representative Staff for John Conyers until her retirement in 1988.

After her husband's death in 1977, Mrs. Parks founded an institute for self improvement in their names, incorporated in 1987.

This institution sponsors a summer trip called the pathway to freedom where the youth of Detroit tour the country to learn its history.

The institution is formed for children between the ages of

11-18. During this tour they visit places like the Underground Railroad, civil rights movements sites and other important information that pertains to American history.

Even after leaving an impression on the lives of many Americans, especially those of African descent, Mrs. Parks still could not escape the troubles of this world.

In 1994 Mrs. Parks was attacked by a man in her own home for the purpose of money. This situation devastated Mrs. Parks, but she easily forgave the young man because of her Christian background. "I pray for the young man and the condition in our country that has made him this way. Despite the violence and crime in our society, we should not let fear overwhelm us. We must remain strong," says Rosa Parks in an earlier interview when asked about her life threatening encounter.

Because of her countless efforts and achievements Mrs. Parks received from former President Clinton, in 1996, the Presidential medal of freedom, which is given to people who make great contributions to American life.

Three years later in 1999 Mrs. Parks also received a

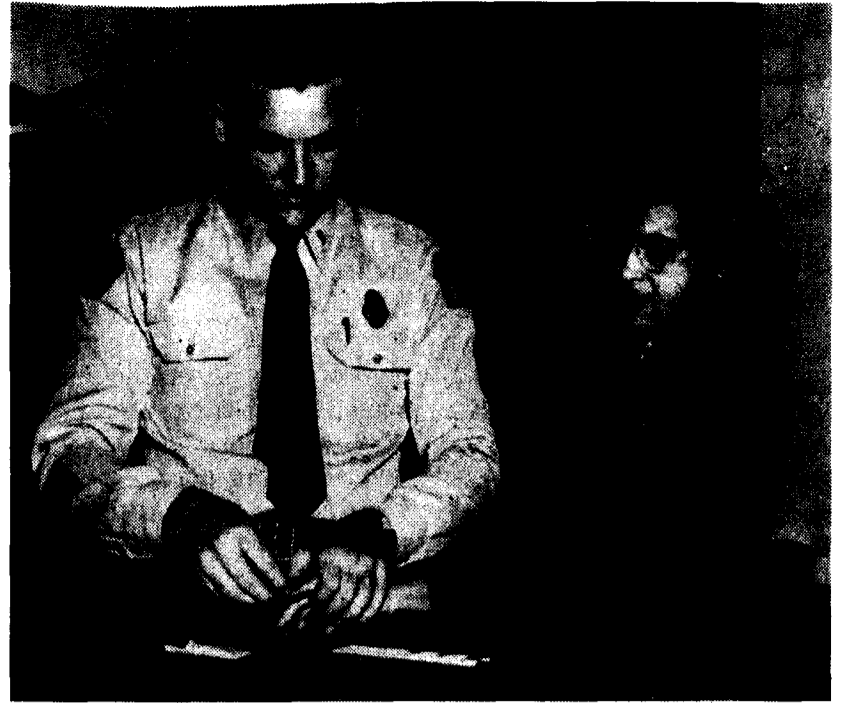


Photo courtesy of Google Images

Rosa Parks gets fingerprinted after refusing to give up her seat on the bus. This was a giant step in the Civil Rights Movement.

congressional gold medal a high level of civilian honor.

"As Rosa Parks travels to that undiscovered country of who's born, where no traveler ever returns; we must ensure that her good deeds were not done in vain," says Public Policy student Dontie Brooks. "Her life should act as a model for all to emulate, as we continue to run this race with the torch of justice and equality for all in our hands, cleansing the world of its indecorous acts of bigotry and racism." Before her death Rosa Parks

wanted to assure that everyone knew the truth about her life In this effort Mrs. Parks wrote a book called "Rosa Parks: My Story"

After her first book Parks printed a second book called "Quiet strength: The faith, the Hope and the Heart of a Woman Who Changed a Nation".

Parks memorial service was filled with mourners and tributes to Mrs. Parks from across the country. will be greatly missed but never forgotten.

To serve and protect

By Kathryn Herr
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Each day, the students, faculty, and staff at Penn State Harrisburg go about their business under the watchful, protective eyes of the University Police on campus. The police work around the clock to provide services to the campus and Middletown communities.

The police station at PSH is a tightly run operation with one chief, three full-time officers, and several part-time officers. The station is always buzzing with visitors coming to register vehicles, pick up lost property, or attend programs presented by the officers. Everyday is different for the officers and everything they do is in the daily police reports.

Early in the morning at 7 a.m., Officer Marlene Jarbeck arrives for her shift with tired eyes and coffee in hand. Though she stands only around 5 feet tall, she packs a mean punch in the realm of law enforcement.

She has been at PSH the longest of all the officers. Jarbeck can often be seen on a bike as she does the bike patrol on campus. It was Jarbeck who originally brought the Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) program to PSH.

Jarbeck works with a number of other organizations in law enforcement. She specializes in forensic crime scene investigation and works with Dauphin County Police Dept. in their forensics department as well as the Capital Region Crime Scene Unit. She also teaches cadets forensics and vehicle stop techniques at the municipal police academy.

The job is a true passion of Jarbeck's. "You never have a typical day. I never know what to expect of my day," said Jarbeck. Her only gripe of the job is the up and down opinion of police. "After 9/11 the respect was back," said Jarbeck. But how long will it last? Jarbeck says she believes they deserve respect all the time, but sometimes society has a negative opinion of cops.

In addition, as campus police, some citizens don't take them seriously. "We are certified police officers, not security guards," she said with agitation.

Jarbeck has a bachelor's degree in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree in Health Education with a concentration in Forensic Psychology from PSH.

Though Jarbeck is loaded with all types of police work both inside and outside of protecting PSH, she always finds time for her family. Her two sons, ages 9 and 13, keep her busy on a daily

basis. "They think it's really cool that their mom is a cop," said Jarbeck.

Jarbeck is often relieved by Officer Jennifer Allshouse at 3 p.m.

Allshouse specializes in self-defense, safety, and awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault. She teaches both the RAD program and the Self-defense Awareness Familiarization Exchange (SAFE) program at PSH and in the



Officer Marlene Jarbeck

community as well.

Allshouse has been with PSH for five years. "I really like working at Penn State," said Allshouse. The friendliness of the campus community and the college campus atmosphere is enjoyable to her. Before PSH, Allshouse worked for Penn College of Technology in Williamsport. She was the first woman hired there and was instrumental in turning it into a true police department. Allshouse also worked as a secret shopper for a department store, catching shoplifters undercover. She is proud of catching over 100 shoplifters.

"I've wanted to be a cop since I was about 14 or 15-years-old," said Allshouse. She has been a police officer now for 15 years.

Allshouse has an associate's degree in Business Administration from the DuBois campus, a bachelor's degree in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and is currently working on her masters degree in Health Education here at PSH. She entered the police academy in 1990. Allshouse says ultimately she would like to teach criminology and law enforcement at the college level.

A self-proclaimed pool shark, Allshouse enjoys hanging out after a long day at work with a pool stick in one hand and a margarita in the other. "Yeah I'm really good," said Allshouse. She

has just received her motorcycle driver's license and looks forward to purchasing a shiny new bike. Allshouse recalls riding with her dad when she was young and yearns to ride again soon with the wind in her hair.

Though Allshouse lives across the state from her family she tries to see them as often as possible. In the mean time her 12-year-old cat, Tigger, keeps her company. As the hours go by and the sun goes down the night shift begins at 11 p.m., bringing in Officer Frank Divonzo to take over for Allshouse.

Because Divonzo works the graveyard shift he tends to do the most security detail, locking the buildings, unlocking them in the morning, and night patrol. Therefore, his specialty has become security of the campus and the community. He has been working with the Information Technology department to minimize security breaches on campus and safely store equipment.

"I am amazed at how many people leave high-end technology items laying around," said Divonzo.

His only dislike of the job is the time of his shift. It does not allow him to interact much with the campus community. "It's a fairly quiet shift," said Divonzo. However, the nighttime hours tend to bring some of the more colorful calls such as underage drinking, noise complaints and providing escort service to and from campus buildings.

"I like the small campus and relationships and rapport with faculty and students. I do get to meet a lot of students," said Divonzo.

Divonzo spent 19 and one half years in the Army reserves, four and a half years of active duty. His favorite part of his military career was the two years he was stationed in Germany. "Living in Europe was just incredible," said Divonzo. Though he spent most of his time on the base he was still able to speak conversational German and some Italian. He is still in touch with friends he met during his time there.

Divonzo would like to live in Germany in the future. "I just love to travel," said Divonzo

Divonzo is working toward his second masters degree from PSH in Secondary Education Social Studies. With one content class left he will soon be student teaching. He hopes to one day teach overseas. His first master's degree is in Community Psychology and Social Change, also received at PSH.

Much of his time is committed to a paper he is writing about the economic and social impact of

tourism in Barbados.

Divonzo is the vice president of the Capital Area Greenbelt Association and an avid runner. He runs about three to 12 miles a day on the greenbelt with a running club he and his wife began.

Divonzo is a 'transplant', born and raised in Long Island.

The man in charge of these crazy-wild officers is Chief of Police Kevin Stoehr. He came to PSH in June of 1997 and



Officer Jennifer Allshouse

oversees the Schuylkill campus police station as well. Stoehr also teaches in the Criminal Justice undergraduate program at both campuses.

Stoehr received his bachelor's degree in Business and his master's degree in Criminal Justice from Duquesne University. He entered the police academy at Mount Lebanon in 1978 and trained at the FBI National Academy in 1993.

While PSH has unique needs in comparison with a regular police department, Stoehr really enjoys interacting with the students and the campus community. He believes the college experience is as good as it gets and he wants PSH students to have a pleasant and safe experience.

"We have a very safe campus here and we want to keep it that way," said Stoehr.

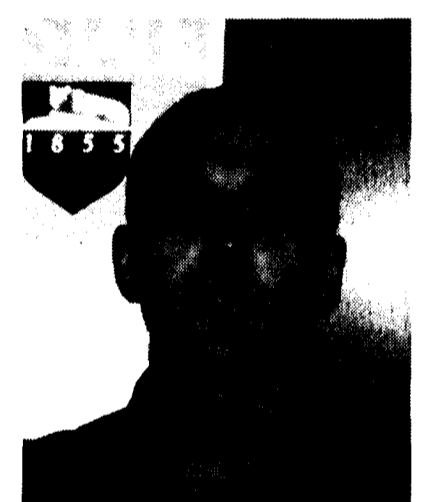
In the past few years, Stoehr has watched the campus grow and 'change dramatically' with the increase of enrollment and the acceptance of freshmen. "It's a great time to be here," said Stoehr.

Stoehr is a proud father of three college students, two daughters, one at University Park on the field hockey team, and a son also at UP who plays ice hockey. Stoehr and his wife spend almost every weekend traveling around the country to watch their kids compete or visiting their family in Pittsburgh. Stoehr's wife is the assistant athletic director, in charge of intramurals, recreation, and fitness at PSH.

A common perception of all the officers and the chief was their

views of the campus dynamics. They all say they can see the campus changing dramatically mostly for the better. With the addition of new dorms and more students comes more calls and more action on campus, but they see it as a positive change. Stoehr is currently in the process of hiring two more officers, one will be joining the team shortly and the second is yet to be hired.

The door to the PSH police department is always open and



Officer Frank Divonzo

students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their services, as they are happy to serve and protect our campus.

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Reference: Boyle, et al. v. U-Haul International, Ltd., et al., August Term 1998. No. 0840 (Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)