

FEBRUARY 2019



Raleigh Police Department Community Newsletter

This newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department. It provides Raleigh citizens with crime prevention tips, seasonal information, and upcoming RPD community activities.

RPD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 24, 2-3:30 p.m.

Reception to celebrate "Joseph Winters Sr., the RPD Cop Who Bridged the Racial Divide One Superstar at a Time"
*Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts*

February 25

Deadline for applications for the spring sessions of the Mental Health First Aid class offered in partnership with Behavioral Healthcare. For more information, click [here](#).

March 1

Deadline for applications for the RPD's Citizen Police Academy. For more information, click [here](#).

As the days begin to get longer and the sunshine warms up the North Carolina air, many people are itching to get out and enjoy it. When they do, we hope that they are properly obeying the laws when it comes to walking along or crossing roads (especially major intersections).

This edition of the Community Newsletter features tips on staying safe as a pedestrian as well as some information about what our officers are doing within the community. We hope you will share this information with your friends, family, and neighbors.

TIPS TO STAY SAFE AS A PEDESTRIAN AND BEING CAREFUL AS A DRIVER

Whether it's a short walk in a parking lot or a long trek to work—we're all pedestrians. When people share spaces with vehicles, it's important that we all watch out for each other. According to [Watch for Me NC](#), more than 2,400 pedestrians are hit by vehicles in North Carolina each year. The following are some tips to keep you safe:

- When crossing a street, remove distractions which may make it hard for you to see or hear an approaching car (such as headphones or cell phones).
- Be careful crossing multiple lanes of traffic. Make sure each lane of traffic is clear before you cross.
- Enhance your visibility at night. Walk in well-lit areas, carry a flashlight or wear something reflective, such as stickers or arm-bands, to be more visible.
- Watch for cars backing up in parking lots; brake lights can mean that a car is about to back up.
- Cross the street where you have the best view of traffic. At bus stops, cross behind the bus or at the nearest crosswalk.

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Please call 911 if you have experienced a crime or if you want to report any suspicious activity.

TIPS TO STAY SAFE AS A PEDESTRIAN AND BEING CAREFUL AS A DRIVER (CONTINUED)

Safety is a shared responsibility. Motorists need to be watchful for pedestrians, drive at slower speeds, avoid distraction, and know the laws regarding when pedestrians or bicyclists have the right-of-way.

- Be prepared to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.
- Never pass a vehicle that is stopped for pedestrians.
- Before making a turn, be sure the path is clear of any pedestrians.
- Slow down in areas where you are likely to find pedestrians, such as near bus stops, schools, playgrounds, and parking lots.
- Look carefully behind your vehicle for approaching pedestrians before backing-up.
- Keep an eye out for pedestrians at night that may be walking near or across the road.
- Avoid distractions such as food, passengers and using mobile devices. Talking and texting while driving is both dangerous and illegal in many places.



FIRST RESPONDERS HONORED AT LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The A.B. Combs Elementary School family honored First Responders for ‘Leading with Love Week.’



On February 11, an appreciation breakfast was held for all first responders including the Raleigh Police Department, Orange County Fire Department, Wake County Sheriff’s Office and Wake County EMS. The school family not only served breakfast, they also conducted a “Coins for our Cop” fundraiser, with proceeds going to Officer Ainsworth’s recovery. Officer C. Ainsworth was at A.B. Combs regularly and anytime the school needed law enforcement support.

The link for this story can be found [here](#).

NORTHEAST DISTRICT OFFICERS BRING JOY TO FAMILY

In January, an officer in the Northeast District responded to a home where a bicycle was reported stolen. The bike, left on the front porch, was missing when the family returned from church. The bicycle was special because it had been donated to one of the children in the home after the family learned of the father’s cancer diagnosis. Officers were able to put a smile back on the daughter’s face when the officer went back to the home a few hours later with another bicycle just like the one that was stolen.

