

As seen in the 2011 fall edition of *There's a lot to do in Windsor*

Teen Beat

For some, reliving their high school years is a scary thought, but for Officer Kari Tkacz, an 11-year veteran of the Windsor Police Department, being right in "the thick of it" at Windsor High School is perfect. As Windsor's School Resource Officer, Tkacz's goal is to build relationships and give support to students. Working closely with school staff, she provides education, enforcement and counseling to the student body each day.

In the wings, Sergeant Christopher McKee, a 19-year veteran of the Windsor P.D. is a day shift supervisor but his passion is with the kids, so he helps Officer Tkacz whenever he can.

"Don't let Kari fool you," McKee says. "She is not only at the high school during the day but she's also at the prom, graduation, dances and many other evening student activities."

McKee and Tkacz, as well as many other Windsor Police Officers who have an interest in working with kids, have expanded and developed strong communication links with the Windsor youth. It doesn't stop on Sage Park Road, but includes reading in the elementary schools, attending school field day programs and visiting classrooms. There's also the recent development of the grant-funded Maroon-Blue Crew that partners the cops with the Youth Service Bureau to promote positive youth development and increase the number of officers working and interacting with Windsor kids.

Sergeant McKee follows in the footsteps of his father and other family members who were police officers. In the military at the age of 18, he spent three years in Washington D.C. serving as a member of the Old Guard, the unit that guards the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

While she finds her police work with youth extremely rewarding, Officer Tkacz's real passion lies in equestrian competitions. An avid horse rider, this mother of three still finds time for herself with weekly horse rides and still competes.

Together, they blaze trails of friendship and guidance to Windsor's younger citizens, keeping them on pace to becoming our community's future leaders.

