



During its weekly meeting this morning the Thorndale Rotary Club – which has been serving the communities of Thorndale, Downingtown and Coatesville since 1995 – presented Chief Brian R. Byerly of the Caln Township Police Department (P.D.) with a check for \$1,000 to help fund the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program. Thanks to the funding, 100 students from the 5th grade class of Caln Elementary School in Thorndale, PA will now be able to go through the D.A.R.E. program

Pictured from left to right is Chief Byerly with Jack Hines, President of the Thorndale Rotary Club and West Bradford Township Manager. Also present was Mary Jean F. Wilson-Stenz, Principal of Caln Elementary School, and Al Marland, District #7450 Governor.

The Pennsylvania Legislature cut the funds for the D.A.R.E program in Caln Township, so the P.D. reached out to the Thorndale Rotary Club for assistance. The Thorndale Rotary Club was able to secure a matching grant from the Rotary District #7450 which comprises over 50 Rotary clubs across Southeastern Pennsylvania. As a result, the funds collected will be able to cover 2/3 of the D.A.R.E. program's annual budget.

From Chief Byerly: “With the State funding cuts we had to rely on the local community to help us maintain the program in Caln Township. We thank the Rotary Club of Thorndale for stepping up in our time of need.”

#### ABOUT THORNDALE ROTARY CLUB:

The D.A.R.E. program is one of many community initiatives that the Thorndale Rotary Club has planned for the Caln Community, and beyond, in the 2009/2010 year ahead. The Thorndale Rotary Club also recently donated 550 dictionaries to third grade students at four local schools. The schools involved included Collegium-Charter School in Downingtown, Caln Elementary School in Thorndale, and West Bradford Elementary and Bradford Heights which are both in West Bradford Township.

Rotary is an international organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, with the main objective as “Service Above Self”- within the club, in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. The Thorndale Rotary Club meets every Friday, 7:15-8:15am at the Blue Café in Downingtown, PA. For more information, please view [www.thorndalerotary.org](http://www.thorndalerotary.org), call 610.383.4055 or email [info@eBernieInc.com](mailto:info@eBernieInc.com).

#### ABOUT D.A.R.E.:

The D.A.R.E. program is a cooperative effort made up of four critical components: 1.) the Police Department, 2.) the School, 3.) the Parents, and most importantly 4.) the Students. D.A.R.E. goes beyond traditional drug abuse and violence prevention programs. The 10 D.A.R.E. class sessions help to give students the skills needed to recognize and resist the subtle and overt pressures that may cause them to experiment with drugs or become involved in gangs or violent activities.

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