

ON THE INSIDE

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ON THE INSIDE

Newport News Sheriff's Office — *Committed to Making a Difference*

Volume 2 No. 1 Jan — Mar, 2008

NEW LOOK. NEW FORMAT.

On The Inside has a new look. It is also now being printed. For the last year and a half, the quarterly newsletter has been available electronically only. Some people, however, like to have a newsletter that can be picked up and handled. We want to accommodate those who are tactile and those who are technophile. There are limited copies being printed in an effort to keep costs down. For the same reason, we are printing in black & white.

Remember, On the Inside can still be found on the Intranet. That way you can see photos in color.

The Newport News Sheriff's Office hopes to better keep its employees informed about important business and fun activities. The Sheriff's Office hopes to accomplish this goal by publishing On the Inside both in print and online.

WE'VE MOVED

If you are looking for the Administration Offices, they've moved into the Justice Center (formerly CSB building). The vacated space on the second floor will be transformed into a larger medical clinic. Eventually, Civil Enforcement will also relocate. That space will be renovated to better handle overcrowded jail conditions.

The renovation of the CSB building and Jail Annex (formerly Juvenile Detention) will provide some much needed breathing room.

CHRISTMAS PARTY SPECTACULAR!



As promised, the Christmas Party was a spectacular evening. This is the first time in the history of the Sheriff's Office that its Christmas Party was held off site. The Marriott Hotel was a perfect setting for the more than 200 people who attended.

It was a formal event with dining and dancing.

"Gator," the DJ and comedian, had everyone in stitches. Thank you to Gator Allmond Entertainment for the laughs and the music. P.A. Photography took souvenir pictures.

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LESSON ON GANG PREVENTION

Had Inmates Talking to Middle School Students

More and more young people are being prosecuted for more and more violent crime. And many of those crimes are linked to gang activity.

The Newport News Sheriff's Office has joined forces with the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office in a united effort to stop young people from joining organized street gangs.

Artesia Todd, Assistant Prosecutor with the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, spearheaded a gang prevention program. "I am seeing too many of young people in the courtroom," Todd said. "We are prosecuting them because of the crimes they are committing. And what we want to do is try and reach out to them before they make bad decisions," Todd continued.

Principals at four different middle schools agreed to hold assemblies for 8th grade students: Reservoir, An Achievable Dream, Passage and Huntington.

Theater students from Woodside High School opened each of the assemblies with a play about gang activity. The script was gripping. Peers often pay more attention to peers. So this performance with young actors appeared to have an impact on the young audience.

The Sheriff's Office found a creative way to address the consequences of crime by producing a short documentary movie. Three inmates, each 24 years old, spoke the truth about jail. Who better to talk about the consequences of crime than those who are paying the price?

One inmate is an alleged gang member. His charges include murder and intimidating witnesses.

"You hurting more than just yourself You may not be hurting your so-called 'friends.' But you're hurting your family. It's a waste of your life."

Another got involved in the criminal justice system at age nine. At age eleven he got caught setting fire to the judge's house. He served more than two years for arson. "Like I say, most of my life I've been incarcerated. All my younger years – all my teenage years I've done give to DOC."

For the girls in the audience, there was female inmate. She got pregnant at age 15 by a 25 year old man who didn't stick around. By today's standards, she started using drugs late in life. She was about twenty. "I got married to a guy that was smoking crack and trying to get him to stay home – I thought if I started doing it, it would be better for us. But that didn't happen."

What happened was a downward spiral into addiction and prostitution to pay for her habit. "There are no friends in the crack game. There are no friends in the street. The only friends is your family."

Talking about how gangs impact the community was RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) and a mother whose son was killed by a gang. The video of her family's story was courtesy of the Daily Press as part of their news coverage of the murder of 19-year old Erique Shaw in November of 2007.

Julia Haynes has been left to mourn the loss of one child while trying to raise another boy who looked up to Erique.

"When you get into a gang, your choice out is death. My son died because he was trying to get out. It took him to see his little brother with the flag. When he saw his brother doing that, he was like, 'Okay wait. I can't get down.' He got killed because he wanted out."



CRO Vickie Gaffney uses props when teaching Life Skills, a healthy habits lesson plan for 5th grade students. Pictured with Palmer Elementary student Richard O'Brien.

The Citizen Police Academy, a police department community outreach program, toured the jail on February 28. Its mission is to connect with the community, dispel myths, and educate citizens. The inside look at law enforcement includes instruction on a wide variety of topics. The NNSO always participates with a jail tour. Thank you Sgt. R. Daniels for your time and expertise in leading the tour, and to all the deputies on B Rotation for making the tour a success.



Congrats Gradz!!

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Sgt. W. Walters and Deputy T. Crites completed BLE. Their class, Class 07-3, celebrated with a graduation ceremony held March 6 at Tabb High School. Photo below left: Major B. Thomas, Crites, and Colonel L. Johnson. Photo below right: Walters lining up with classmates just before ceremony. While attending BLE, Walters was promoted to Sergeant.



Class 08-1 graduated from the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy on Thursday, March 20. This was the Newport News Sheriff's Office largest graduating class in recent history with fourteen men and women. The NNSO basically dominated the evening. Not only was this a large graduating class, the NNSO Color Guard opened the ceremony, Deputy Sarian was selected as class representative, and the Big Kahuna himself — Sheriff Morgan — was the keynote speaker. Sarian's brother, a Virginia State Police Trooper, presented him with his certificate of completion.

GOODBYE TO OUR BELOVED “MISS L”



After more than five years and 89 GED graduates, Vennie Lulofs, said it's time to say goodbye. She will no longer be teaching GED at the Newport News City Jail.

The news of her resignation comes with sadness.

We, of course, love “Miss L” and appreciate her dedication to the inmates in this jail. However, we also understand this place can take its toll on people. No one can blame her for wanting a change in atmosphere.

Ms. Lulofs started coming here to teach GED in September, 2002. Under her tutelage, 89 men have earned their GED.

Miss L doesn't want the spotlight on her resignation, but rather on the accomplishments of her students. Our compliments to both. Let's face it, however, not every GED instructor would choose to teach here. That makes Miss L special, whether she sees it or not.

As one deputy said, “We get paid to keep people locked up. She gets paid to set them free.”

Lulofs will continue teaching GED at Drug Court and accepted a new assignment teaching at a church.

She also said we will see her now and again at the jail when she administers the GED practice test.





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Spring Season, Hurrah!!

As we start the Spring Season, with flowers blooming, grass growing, and nature awaking, it makes me reflect on where real life begins: The resurrection of Jesus.

You see, for us to be able to come to life, Jesus had to lay His life first, to give us victory over death.

I Cor. 15:55 says: "Where is death your victory? Where, O death your sting?" Jesus conquered death with his life, and on the 3rd day, resurrected victorious, to give us eternal life!!

I would like to challenge you to celebrate "Resurrection Day" meditating on the love of Jesus for you, and enjoying life in Him!!

Be blessed, and have a wonderful and safe Spring Season!!

Omayra Pinos
Your Chaplain

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

Posted online

To read the Annual Report 2007, go to our website:
www.nnsheiff.org

The Sheriff's Office publishes an annual report to provide the citizens of Newport News with an overview of our Office.

The 2006, and now the 2007, can be found electronically on the web.



SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS



Fire evacuation drill
300 sailors from the USS Carl Vinson to stand-in inmates

ANNUAL REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2007—DECEMBER 31, 2007

OFFICER DOWN ADULT KICKBALL TOURNAMENT



Deputy E. Rocha in action!

Detective Jarrod Shivers, Chesapeake Police Department, left behind a wife and three daughters when he was killed in the line of duty on January 17. An adult kickball tournament was organized as a fundraiser to help the Shivers' family.

On Saturday, February 9, the NNSO was one of 15 teams that took to the field at Indian River High School in Chesapeake. Literally and figuratively, we had a real kick participating in the Officer Down Kickball Tournament.

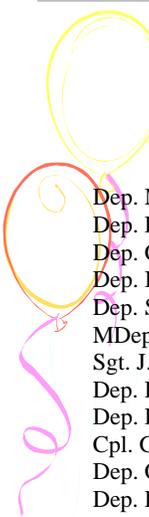
Thank you to E. Rocha, D. Brooks, T. Dubois, J. Brenzel, K. Carey, E. Pagan, and her boyfriend Jose Ortiz. You might think this was just child's play. Instead, there was some serious competition. Even a couple of nationally ranked teams with the World Adult Kickball Association (WAKA) played. The event successfully raised an estimated \$3,000.

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON AMONG SPECTATORS

Look who came to watch us play! The kickball tournament caught the attention of President Bill Clinton who was stumping for wife Hillary. Mr. Clinton was inside the high school gym while kickballers were out on the playing fields. At the end of his speech, he came outside and greeted the tournament athletes. Mr. Clinton expressed his gratitude to law enforcement officers. He shook hands and posed for pictures before heading off to his next appearance elsewhere in the state. Ultimately, Barrack Obama beat Hillary Clinton in the Virginia primary.



President Clinton with Chesapeake PD Deputy Chief L. Tayon



APRIL

- Dep. M. Hunter
- Dep. R. Spencer
- Dep. C. Woodhouse
- Dep. I. Santiago
- Dep. S. Duprey
- MDep. L. Chandler
- Sgt. J. Smith
- Dep. D. Turner
- Dep. R. Donato
- Cpl. G. Robertson
- Dep. C. Wilson
- Dep. D. Perez
- Dep. S. Anby
- Sgt. A. Maule
- Dep. J. Brenzel
- Lt. S. Whitfield
- Dep. D. White
- Cpl. D. Brown

BIRTHDAYS

MAY

- Maj. B. Thomas
- Sgt. J. Rankins
- Sgt. L. MeBane
- H. Hasan
- Dep. W. Smith
- Dep. T. Strother
- Dep. A. Johnson
- Dep. A. Owens
- Dep. F. Rogers
- Dep. G. Armstrong
- Dep. K. Taylor
- F. Tucker
- Dep. I. Rowland
- Dep. L. Winfree
- Lt. J. Vergakis
- Dep. A. Baxter
- Sgt. C. Towns
- Dep. N. Agosto Gerena

JUNE

- Dep. C. Daniels
- Sgt. H. McCoy
- Dep. M. McGhee
- Dep. S. Wall
- Dep. C. Peake
- Dep. K. Jones



PARTY *(continued from page 1)*

HOW YOU GONNA TOP IT NEXT YEAR GALS?

Without a doubt, we extend a sincere thank you to Wanda Sigler and Brenda Charity for organizing the party! They poured their hearts and souls into this event.

One of the highlights of the evening came when Gator organized a lip-synch group using our very own colleagues. The group was a cross between “The Temptations” and “The Four Tops.” It was classic Motown as the men serenaded the women. The guys were such good sports.

Sergeant Kandyce Patrick walked away with the grand daddy of all door prizes. She won a cruise!



DADS TAKE DAUGHTERS OUT ON THE TOWN

Every dad with a daughter should attend this annual event – no matter the age of your girl. From toddler to teenager, girls like spending time with daddy. The girls looked like princesses at the 2nd Annual Father-Daughter Dance held at the Midtown Community Center on February 2nd. Captain Terrence Moore brought both Tiarra and Tyra. The event is sponsored by Transitions Family Violence Services and the Newport News Domestic Violence Task Force (NNDVTF). The Transitions Family Violence Services’ mission is to engage men in the effort to end domestic violence between intimate partners. Mark your calendar for next year. The Father-Daughter Dance is traditionally held in February.

DEPUTY of the YEAR 2007

Congratulations to Deputy Dwight T. Hopkins. The selection is made by peers after extensive consideration over who had the greatest positive impact on the Newport News Sheriff's Office. Deputy Hopkins began his career with the NNSO in September, 1996. He came to use after retiring from the U.S. Army where he served tours around the globe. Deputy Hopkins was also honored by the American Legion Braxton-Perkins Post 25 on March 13.

PROMOTIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Almando Morales	Lieutenant	January 16, 2008
William Walters	Sergeant	February 1, 2008
Brian Eadie	Corporal	January 1, 2008
Gregory Robertson	Corporal	January 1, 2008
Robert Clayton	Master Deputy	January 1, 2008
Robert Coleman	Master Deputy	January 1, 2008
Tara Crites	Master Deputy	January 1, 2008
Carl Jones	Master Deputy	January 1, 2008
Janet Robbins	Master Deputy	January 1, 2008
John Thompson	Master Deputy	January 1, 2008
Charlene Toliver	Master Deputy	January 1, 2008

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted! — Our work release program is expanding. However, we are in need of jobs. If you know any employers willing to hire inmates, we need their help. Contact Deputy S. White in Classifications for details. Thank you!

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Engagement: Lt. R. Coleman got engaged on Valentine's Day.
 Birth: Deputy N. Ogarro gave birth to a baby girl in November of last year.
 Deputy C. Vincent gave birth to a baby boy on December 10, 2007.
 Deputy V. Kelly delivered her baby girl on March 9.
 Sergeant Rankins welcomed his fifth grandchild — a baby boy — on March 17.
 Anniversary: 10 year: Dep. John Thompson 6/98
 15 year: Sharon Logan 1/93; Dep. Willie Cariles 4/93
 20 year: Capt. Terry Moore 1/88, Capt. Janie Vergakis 2/88

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Donnie Darden, awarded Onsite Technician of the Year 2007 by Securus Technologies
 Deputy K. Taylor, **A Rotation** Deputy of the Month, January
 Deputy C. Bannon, **A Rotation** Deputy of the Month, February
 Deputy Cpl. B. Dodge, **C Rotation** Hard Charger Award, January

SHERIFF'S Last Word

The Sheriff's Office competes with other law enforcement agencies for well qualified applicants.

Representatives from Evergreen Solutions, LLC spent a couple of weeks in February looking at the Newport News Sheriff's Office. Evergreen is a consulting firm out of Florida that specializes in corrections management. Their visit is part of my continued effort to seek a fair pay scale at the Newport News Sheriff's Office. Evergreen staff collected data for an in-depth and comprehensive job audit.

A lot of preparation was made prior to Evergreen's arrival. For that, I extend a special thank you to Sergeant Audrey Maule. Detailed salary information had to be collected; schedules coordinated, and site tours and demonstrations arranged. These efforts were the primary responsibility of Sgt. Maule.

I also wish to thank each and every person who was interviewed and surveyed by Evergreen. All of your hard work and efforts were invaluable.

Why the job audit? This is our chance to shine. It is our chance to show how we compare to the police department and to park rangers. Entry level pay and pay grades are higher at those two city agencies than at the NNSO. It is my goal to have our positions included in the

City Pay Plan, thereby developing a competitive pay scale.

Evergreen staff was very complimentary of their experience here at the Sheriff's Office. During our exit interview, they praised the professionalism of all the personnel they had the pleasure of working with.

I commend you for your hard work and endless efforts. I will keep you updated on the progress of the job audit and what it means to you.

Cost saving proposal presented to City.

I also want to update you on communications between me and City leaders. The Newport News Sheriff's Office closed 2007 by presenting the Mayor, City Council members, and the City Manager with an overall look at the Sheriff's Office. The December 11 work session showed where we are now and where we want to be in the future. It included staffing needs, expansion plans, equipment shortages, and more.

The second part to the presentation was a cost savings proposal. I presented a thorough comparison of the NNSO and City Farm. I propose the City could save \$2-Million if the NNSO took over the farm operation.

There are duplications of services. In other words, both

agencies perform similar functions. Those redundancies are costly.

According to the State Comp Board 2006 Jail Cost Report, the City Farm's operating costs are the highest in the Eastern Region. It costs \$85.60 daily per inmate at the City Farm compared to \$42.90 at the City Jail.

Currently, Adult Corrections is under using the farm by the City Manager's own admission. Beds remain empty at the farm – at least 100 empty beds – while the jail is bursting at the seams. Hampton Roads Regional Jail is holding an average of 240 of our inmates, even though the city contracts for only 200 beds. The City pays for every extra bed at HRRJ. At the end of any year, the City pays approximately \$500,000 for those additional beds.

It is my contention that the NNSO would better manage the farm. I proposed a new model of operation. Beds at the farm would be filled. Overcrowding at the jail would be eased. Over using HRRJ would be reduced.

Keep up the good work and keep up the faith.

Warm Regards,



Gabriel A. Morgan, Sheriff