

# NEWS ON THE INSIDE

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

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## **DELIGHTFUL SUPRISSES & PREDICTABLE POMP PART OF ANNUAL PROMOTIONS & AWARDS CEREMONY**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Promotions & Awards Ceremony was held December 16<sup>th</sup> at the newly renovated Ella Fitzgerald Theater inside the Downing Gross Cultural Arts Center. In his remarks, Mayor Joe Frank, pointed out the historical significance of the center.

Photo: Vickie Gaffney



[John Marshall, Commonwealth of Virginia's Secretary of Public Safety gives keynote address.](#)

During the course of the year, twenty-seven (27) men and women were elevated in rank. Those promotions included Major, Captain, Lieutenant, Sergeant, Corporal and Master Deputy.

*(continued Ceremony p. 6)*

## **EMPHASIS ON REHABILITATION AT JAIL ANNEX**



[Jail Annex official ribbon cutting ceremony from left to right: Sheriff Gabe Morgan, Mayor Joe Frank, Vice Mayor Joe Whitaker, Councilwoman Sharon Scott and City Manager Randy Hildebrandt.](#)

The adult detention facility, or jail annex, was dedicated on December 1, 2008 following a year of renovations to the former juvenile detention facility. The annex will house more than one hundred male and female inmates. It is a low-medium risk facility which will be used to house those inmates enrolled in programs. The goal is to help individuals be productive citizens upon their release. For example, they will earn GEDs, learn the basics of brick masonry, be certified in culinary arts, and participate in work release.

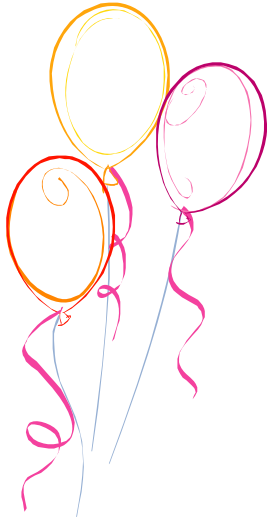
*(continued Jail Annex p. 6)*

## BIRTHDAYS

### JANUARY

Sgt. D. Sullivan  
Valencia White  
Sgt P. Preyer  
Col. Leroy Johnson, Jr.  
Dep. S. Bailey  
Dep. C. Holmes  
Dep. T. Appleby

Med. Asst. S. Holloman  
Brenda Charity  
Dep. S. Summerford  
Dep. M. Barr  
Dep. A. Fuller



### FEBRUARY

Dep. M. Smith  
Dep. M. Henry  
Dep. K. Berends  
Dep. T. Washington  
Dep. J. Hostetler  
Dep. J. Barham  
Cpl. P. Powers

Dep. K. Roberts  
Dep. A. Nutt  
Lt. R. Coleman  
Cpl. D. Wright  
Dep. B. Brown

### MARCH

Dep. T. Brovald  
Cpl. D. Clinard  
Dep. R. Soloman  
Dep. S. Chapman  
Dep. E. Rocha  
Lt. A. Morales  
Capt. K. Langford  
Dep. D. West  
Dep. L. Brown  
Dep. C. Dancy  
Cpl. J. Reisinger  
Dep. T. Davis

Cindylou Young  
Dep. R. Forrest  
Dep. S. Pirtle  
Sgt. F. Hubbard  
Dep. V. Kelly  
Dep. W. Churchill  
Capt. T. Moore  
Dep. M. Bryant  
Nurse T. Shrader  
Dep. H. Delgado  
Lt. M. Daniels



### GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Birth:**
- ★Nurse K. Billins gave birth to a 7 lb., 8 oz. baby boy on August 21.
  - ★Dep. M. Hunter welcomed his baby boy on November 28th. The baby was 7 lb., 4 oz.
- Married:**
- Dep. D. Blanch married husband Willie Oct 18.
  - Lt. Robert Coleman and Jamie were wed on November 8th.
- Retirement:**
- Major Cindy Porter — effective November 1, 2008
- Anniversary:**
- ★ **5 year:** Med. Dir. Hope Hasan 11/03, MDEP. R. Coleman 11/03, Dep. R. Holland 12/03

### SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

- Sgt. S. Humphrey, Employee of the Quarter, 4th Quarter
- Deputy D. Blanch awarded Certificate of Appreciation for her outstanding performance as the Sergeant's Assistant for June, July, August
- Deputy R. Forrest, **A Rotation**, Employee of the month, September
- Deputy R. Johnson, **B Rotation**, Monthly Recognition, September
- Deputy C. Daniels, **C Rotation**, Hard Charger, September
- Deputy S. Bailey, **D-Rotation**, Monthly Recognition, September
- **A-Rotation** took home first place in The Rally at the Alley bowling fund raiser.

# FLASH BACK



# To EVENTS



Newport News Emergency Management and the NNSO participated in the 17th Annual Disability Awareness Day at Patrick Henry Mall back in October. Dana Perry, pictured middle, educated shoppers on how better to prepare for any type of disaster. Deputy C.A. Johnson, pictured right, shared information about community programs offered by the sheriff's office.

## *Deputies Celebrate the Season by Serving*



Deputies and recruits volunteered to wait tables at the Annual Yuletide Luncheon held December 10th at the Knights of Columbus community hall. They served 360 senior citizens. The event is sponsored by Parks & Recreation's Active Lifestyles. Pictured left to right front row: C. R. Agee, K. Lampkins, and C. S. Serrette. Back Row: R. Bullock, D. C. Blakemore, Q. Abdullah, D. Swinney, Lt. J. L. Smith, Vickie Gaffney, Lt. K. L. Patrick, and Deputy M. T. McGee.



Wanda Sigler helps with Kids' Handy Prints at World Outreach Worship Center Oct. 31st Fall Festival.

## STUFF THE BUS CAMPAIGN



The Stuff the Bus campaign for Toys for Tots was a huge success. The event was co-sponsored by Hampton Roads Transit, Z-104, and NewsChannel 3. Pictured left to right: Z Morning Zoo Hosts Shaggy Rosenthal and Nick Taylor, and Deputies S.M. Sheridan and F.F. Walton. Not pictured: Cpl. W. Hill. The radio disc jockeys lived on the bus for five days. A total of 10 buses were filled for the annual U.S. Marine Corps toy drive.

# Holiday Party



**YOU KNOW IT'S A GOOD PARTY WHEN THE WOMEN START OUT DANCING IN HIGH HEELS AND FINISH OUT IN THEIR BARE FEET!**



Photos courtesy: Lt. K. Patrick and Lt. K. Carey





**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

Welcome to 2009! a new year full of promises and new opportunities to live our lives to the fullest, to love, and to serve others.

You may ask: promises, opportunities? Is that possible during the chaotic times we are living? Yes, it is, according to the Word of God.

Psalm 62:8 says "Trust in Him at all times, O people pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge."

He is interested in everything that concerns us. Just call and trust in Him, and you will be victorious over all obstacles that may come your way. Try Jesus, and live your life to the fullest, because He will never disappoint you!

Have a Blessed, Happy and Prosperous New Year!!

Omayra Pinos  
NNSO Chaplain

**PROMOTIONS**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Jeffrey Vergakis	Major	November 1, 2008
Keith Langford	Captain	October 1, 2008
Audrey Maule	Lieutenant	December 1, 2008
Kandyce Patrick	Lieutenant	November 1, 2008
Jerri Smith	Lieutenant	October 1, 2008
Robert Summerford	Sergeant	October 1, 2008

**JAIL ANNEX** *(contin from page 1)*

The building was first dedicated January 25, 1964 as the Municipal Building, housing courtrooms and a limited number of juvenile detention cells. An expansion for additional juvenile detention cells was completed in June of 1988. Juvenile detention vacated the building January, 2005 and moved to a new facility.

On December 1, 2008, the Newport News Sheriff's Office dedicated the building as its jail annex. It has 108 beds, five housing units, three classrooms,

two multipurpose rooms and a kitchen.

In addition to providing rehabilitative programs, the adult detention facility provides an intermediate solution to the dangerously overcrowded conditions in the main jail located on 26<sup>th</sup> Street. Those overcrowded conditions place deputies in harms way. With the additional bed space, sworn law enforcement officers will work in a safer environment.

**CEREMONY***(continued from page 1)*

Corporal Brian Dodge was presented the Purple Heart Medal for injuries he suffered in the line of duty. A total of seven Life Saving Medals were presented: Lt. K.L. Patrick, Dep. D.T. Hopkins, Dep. R. McMurtrie, Nurse R.R. Adams, Nurse S.D. Leonard, Sgt. C.M. Zanders and MDep. R.M. Clayton. Major Cindy Porter (retired), was given an Exceptional Service Medal for her 33-years of service. And two volunteers, Vera Ross and Glenda MacDonald, were presented with the Citizen Service Medal.

We were honored to have Commonwealth of Virginia's Secretary of Public Safety John Marshall as our keynote speaker. He recognized the importance of our profession, "It is a calling. Your

mission is important. You, yourself, are important," Marshall said. He continued with his encouraging remarks, "It takes a special kind of courage to be in your dangerous profession. What you do everyday is not seen by the public, but know that your job is important to the public."

Sheriff's office personnel veered from the printed program in order to surprise their boss, Sheriff Gabe Morgan with an award they selected for him. Morgan was caught completely off guard when presented with an outstanding leadership award.

That was not the only surprise of the evening. Lieutenant Kandyce Patrick's daughter drove-in from out of town. Patrick was overwhelmed to tears.





**Class 08-3**

After thirteen weeks of rigorous training, 22 men and women graduated from the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy. Graduation was held October 16th.

**BLE Class 08-B**



Deputy Perez videotapes much of his own graduation ceremony. Perez graduated October 27 from Basic Law Enforcement Academy.

**NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
COMMAND COLLEGE**

Major Betty Thomas, Professional Standards Bureau Chief, graduated from the National Criminal Justice Command College on September 18. The command college is offered through Virginia State Police and the University of Virginia, Richmond.



# SHERIFF'S Last Word

The year 2008 ended on a high note with both the opening of the Jail Annex/Adult Detention facility and with the Promotions and Awards Ceremony.

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, we gathered outside our new annex. Let me tell you, I was so proud of each of you who played a part in the transformation of that old structure into something new and exciting. Exciting because we are going to use the 108 bed correctional facility in a way that will have a direct impact on the reduction of crime in the City of Newport News. I believe that.



Sheriff Gabe Morgan speaking at jail annex dedication.

The annex will house inmates enrolled in rehabilitative programs. Men and women will get assistance in acquiring an education. They will learn trade skills. The goal is to release them back into their communities as productive citizens. We do not want them to re-offend. Instead, we want them to succeed. Residents of this fair city stand to gain the greatest benefit.

Lt. Col. Eileen Sprinkle oversaw the completion of this renovation project. She worked closely with engineers, contractors and vendors to ensure the project was on schedule. In addition to thanking the colonel, I want to extend my appreciation to our maintenance crew lead by Sgt. Brian Murray, Deputy Kenneth Jackson and Corporal Terry Jones. There is never a project too large for these individuals. The pride they

invested in watching the annex take shape rubbed off on their trustees who put their backs into the renovation. Captain Terry Moore and his deputies assigned to work in the adult detention facility also dove right in with finishing touches. They were not afraid to get their hands dirty. They spit polished this building and made sure it shined for the official ribbon cutting.

Cutting the ribbon the morning of December 1<sup>st</sup> was City Manager Randy Hildebrandt, Mayor Joe Frank, Vice Mayor Joe Whitaker and Councilwoman Sharon Scott. We had a sizable turnout for the ceremony. Members of the public dropped by all day long to take advantage of our open house tours of the annex prior to inmate occupation. Those tours gave us a chance to educate the public about what deputy sheriff's do day in and day out.

Two weeks after the annex dedication, we held our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Promotions and Awards Ceremony. The event is growing in magnitude. We needed a large venue and found the perfect setting in the Downing Gross Culture Arts Center's Ella Fitzgerald Theater, open only since October. The theater is a city jewel.

We were honored to have John W. Marshall, Secretary of Public Safety, as our keynote speaker. He is the highest



Lt. Jerri L. Smith being pinned by Sheriff Morgan, and daughter, Deputy M.A. Smith.

ranking law enforcement officer throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. For Secretary Marshall to clear his calendar to participate in our ceremony speaks volumes about the caliber of our organization.

You know you have had a successful event went people are comfortable gathering, laughing and socializing. That is how the evening ended with a reception in a gallery across the hall from the theater and expertly catered by Aramark.

On the heels of these wonderful year-end successes, it is only appropriate that I mention news that is sure to present some challenges to the organization. Governor Timothy Kaine mandated that local sheriff's offices make 7% budget cuts. What does that mean for the Newport News Sheriff's Office? We must work harder with less. The greatest asset of this agency is its people. I am prepared to cut everything before cutting people. The last thing I want to do as Sheriff is slash jobs. Understand that I will be fighting a hard fight in an effort to maintain positions in our organization.

Over the course of the next several months, I will share information as it becomes available. You will not be left in the dark. Honesty is my policy.

I want my final words to be those of encouragement and congratulations. We really did have an extraordinary year. I thank you for your dedication and hard work in helping the Newport News Sheriff's Office become a center of excellence. Let all of us continue our journey to move forward as a team.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Your Sheriff  
Gabe Morgan