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ON THE INSIDE

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

Volume 3

No. 3

July—Sept, 2009

LIEUTENANT BRINGS HOME TROPHY FROM PROJECT LIFESAVER CONFERENCE!!!

The 10th Annual Project Lifesaver International Conference was held July 13-17, 2009 in Indianapolis, IN. Representatives from approximately 200 agencies attended. Lieutenants Maria Moore and Shonda Whitfield attended on behalf of the Newport News Sheriff's Office.

(continued Conference p.4)



Lt. Maria Moore proudly hoists her 2nd place trophy from the "2009 Project Lifesaver International Electronic Search Specialist Competition."

RESCUE TRAINING A TOP PRIORITY FOR SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES



On July 1st, deputies responded to a Project Lifesaver search and rescue exercise at Deer Run Park. No advance notice was given. They were given a brief description of the missing person, including his age and what he was wearing when last seen.

Captain Keith Langford's son was the "rabbit." He was equipped with a radio transmitter bracelet with a personalized frequency number. Deputies dialed that number into their receivers. Working in pairs they set out to find their missing person.

(continued Rescue p.4)

BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

Dep. H. Tran
 Dep. V. Townes
 Dep. A. Aikens
 Sgt. R. Daniels
 Dep. K. Jones
 Dep. R. Allen
 Dep. S. Tabb-Ford
 Capt. J. Vergakis
 Dep. S. Finney
 Dep. E. Hunt
 Corp. G. Sonnier

Dep. G. Taylor-Dones
 MDep. R. Clayton
 Dep. T. Wortham
 Corp. R. Hay
 Dep. H. Uy
 Lt. M. Moore
 Dep. C. Johnson
 MDep. C. Bannon
 Dep. D. Blakemore
 Sgt. R. Touchstone



NOVEMBER

Dep. C. Durham
 Sgt. R. Summerford
 MDep. T. Grey
 Dep. E. Tucker
 Nurse N. Barnes
 V. Graves—
 Inmate Program Coord.
 Dep. D. Tolson
 Nurse S. Leonard
 Dep. S. Ireland
 Dep. A. Sherman

Dep. D. Oneal-Brooks
 Deo, N. O'Garro
 Dep. Q. Abdullah
 Sgt. L. Saunders
 Sgt. R. Elias
 G. Johnson —
 Civil Process Clerk
 Dep. W. Sarian
 Dep. C. Green
 Dep. L. Washington
 Nurse L. Hurst.

DECEMBER

MDep. J. Phillips
 Dep. D. Hopkins
 Dep. D. Keller
 Dep. B. Machado
 Recruit C. Kasongo
 Dep. S. Richardson

Dep. A. Ledet
 Sgt. S. Humphrey
 MDep. E. Morales
 Sgt. V. Allen
 Dep. J. Smith



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birth:

- ★ Dep. S. Bailey welcomed his baby daughter on June 26. She weighed 6 lbs and 14 oz and measured 9.25 inches.
- ★ Dep. F. Walton gave birth to a healthy boy on June 30th. He weighed 8 lbs 10 oz.
- ★ Anna Muriel gave birth to a healthy boy on July 6. He weighed 9 lbs 8 oz.
- ★ Dep. A. Nutt welcomed his baby daughter on July 12th at 1156 hours. . She weighed 6 lbs 8 oz.
- ★ Corp. W. Hill is the proud papa of a baby boy born August 6th. He Weighed 7 lbs 3 oz and measured 20.5 inches
- ★ Corp. C. Chapman is the proud grandpa of a baby girl born Sept. 18. She weighed 7 lbs 8 oz.

Married:

- MDep. S. Boothe-Brooks is now Boothe-Hardy following her July 18 wedding.
- Dep. K. Roberts got married August 15th, becoming K. Odem.

Retirement:

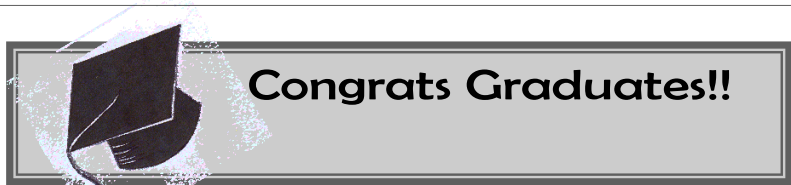
- Corporal William MacBrohn retired effective July 1, 2009. He began his career with the Newport News Sheriff's Office in August of 1988.
- Corporal James Cason retired effective August 1, 2009. His career with the Newport News Sheriff's Office began in November, 1990.

Anniversary:

- 5 year:** MDep. W. Churchill 7/04; Dep. V. Townes 8/04
- 10 year:** Sgt. R. Elias 9/99; MDep. J. Robbins 9/99
- 15 year:** Maj. J. Vergakis 9/94; Corp. D. Clinard 9/94; MDep. S. Chapman 9/94; MDep. T. Grey 9/94;

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

- Employee of the 3rd Quarter 2009, Sgt. Frank Broadwater, Civil Enforcement
- MDep. W. Churchill, **D-Rotation**, Monthly Recognition, June
- Deputy R. Solomon, **D-Rotation**, Monthly Recognition, July
- Deputy D. Blanch was named “Lady of the Year” by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 368. At the state conference held in July, she was chosen from 49 ladies as “Lady of the Year” for Virginia! Good luck at the upcoming national convention in Kentucky!



On Tuesday, July 14 Deputies Rebecca (BLE) Academy. Jones is currently assigned to Civil Enforcement. Taylor is a K-9 Handler who is assigned to Classifications.

Jones and Kyle Taylor proudly walked across the stage and accepted their Certificates of Completion from the Basic Law Enforcement



CLASS 09-1 graduated May 6, 2009 at the ceremony held at Phoebus High School’s Auditorium. Deputies pictured L-R: C. Agee, K. Lampkins, R. Bullock, C. Serrette, Q. Abdullah, D. Blackmore, and D. Swinney. CONGRATULATIONS!



CONGRATULATIONS Class 09-2

They graduated August 27, 2009. The ceremony was held at the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy . A host of family, friends and colleagues were on hand for the event.

The deputies who graduated that evening are:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| T. Corbett | A. Smith |
| E. Feliciano | S. Tabb-Ford |
| A. Knapper | D. Tolson |
| W. Loth | H. Uy |
| B. Machado | |



RESCUE*(continued from page 1)*

From the time the search began to the time in was complete, only eight minutes had passed. The average search time with Project Lifesaver is 30 minutes.



A debriefing was held at the end of the exercise. Major Jeffrey Vergakis, Captain Langford and Lieutenant Maria Moore each praised the deputies for the overall success. Locating their subject in such a timely manner was obviously great news. With the kudos, however, also came some suggestions as to how to improve. More drills were promised for the future.

Project Lifesaver is an international program aimed at providing peace of mind to the caregivers of those diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, Autism, Down syndrome and other mentally related disorders. The Newport News Sheriff's Office became a partner in 2003.

CONFERENCE*(continued from page 1)*

Even with 200 organizations at the conference, only 16 individuals had the courage to sign-up for a timed search and rescue competition. "I did it because I'm good," laughed Lt. Moore. "But seriously, I felt confident in my ability. I figured the equipment is so accurate that I knew I could find the him (the decoy). No one else used the headphones. I chose to use them because I knew they'd help me. I'd take a turn in one direction and the signal would get weak. I'd turn in the other direction, and it would get stronger," Moore



explained.

First place finished in 4:21. Moore came in second with a time of 6:09, followed by third place in 6:15.

"When I saw so many men competing, I was nervous about their athleticism," admitted Moore. She shouldn't

have been concerned. She took home the 2nd place trophy and the only other female to compete placed 3rd.

The lively competition was only a small part of the conference. There were plenty of training and workshop opportunities. Moore and Whitfield were certified at the conference to be Project Lifesaver instructors.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

God's heart is beating with love for us, and He wants our hearts to beat with love for each other as well. The love of God transforms everything. The Bible says in 1 Peter 4:8 "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins".

Have you heard people say how difficult is to love someone? If the love of God is in you, there is not a person on earth that is hard to love. If you accepted the sacrifice of Jesus at the cross, and invited Him to live in you, then you can love like He loves. After all, Jesus loves you!!

Are you willing to obey 1 Peter 4:8? If you do, your life will truly be transformed, and people will be free from condemnation. Can you imagine a world where we all abide by this particular scripture?

Can this be possible? Most certainly, because what the Lord commands He supports! We must obey, to see the results!!

Be blessed, and remember that you are loved!

Your chaplain,

Omayra Pinos

CIT CERTIFIED DEPUTY CALMS COURTROOM AND WINS PRAISE OF JDR JUDGE

Deputy M. McGee recently received the praise of Judge Barry Logsdon for how he intervened in a volatile courtroom situation. McGee used skills developed during his Crisis Intervention Team training (CIT). The incident was reported in the

Hampton-NN Criminal Justice Agency's newsletter.

A 17-year old got so hostile during the July incident that the courtroom had to be cleared. McGee was able to calm down the teen without injury to the juvenile, himself or the public.



Proud Night for Law Enforcement Family

Deputy James O'Donnell celebrated the promotion of his daughter Kerry J. O'Donnell to Master Detective with the Newport News Police Department. The Newport News Police Department Promotions and Awards Ceremony was held Sept. 16 at the Scottish Rites Center. K. O'Donnell was also named Detective of the Month for talking down an armed man.

Pictured left-right: James Fox, Chief of Police; K. O'Donnell; Chris O'Donnell, Special Agent with the FBI; and Deputy J. O'Donnell.

PRISON MINISTRY

The Fourth Annual Workshop was presented by the FREED & Prison Ministries of First Baptist Church Denbigh. Several topics were discussed during the half-day workshop held July 18.

NewsChannel 3 Anchor Barbara Ciara was the keynote speaker. Sheriff Gabe Morgan also spoke, providing an update on some of the services provided at the Newport News City Jail and Adult Detention facility.

Chairperson George Tillerson III talked to community members about what it takes for an ex-felon to petition to have his/her rights



restored. Depending on the nature of the felony conviction, ex-offenders must follow one of two different application procedures.

The person who has completed their sentence for a non-violent offense must finish a three year waiting period after all court obligations have been fulfilled. This waiting

period starts after probation is completed. Once eligible, there is a one-page application that must be sent to the Secretary of the Commonwealth for consideration.

If the felony was violent, the waiting period is five years and the application is two pages. In addition, these individuals must submit a letter of petition and three letters of reference.

In Virginia, the application process for the restoration of rights was streamlined in 2002.

The FREED & Prison Ministries is available to assist those who are eligible.

**Thanks for
Dining with US!**



SMOKIN' HOT BAR-B-Q

Thank you to city employees, the general public, Sheriff's Office personnel and Aramark for making our July 15 BBQ a huge success!

The luncheon was set-up beside City Hall. More than 260 people gobbled up eight trays of pulled pork. Yummy!!! Proceeds were applied toward the flower fund.

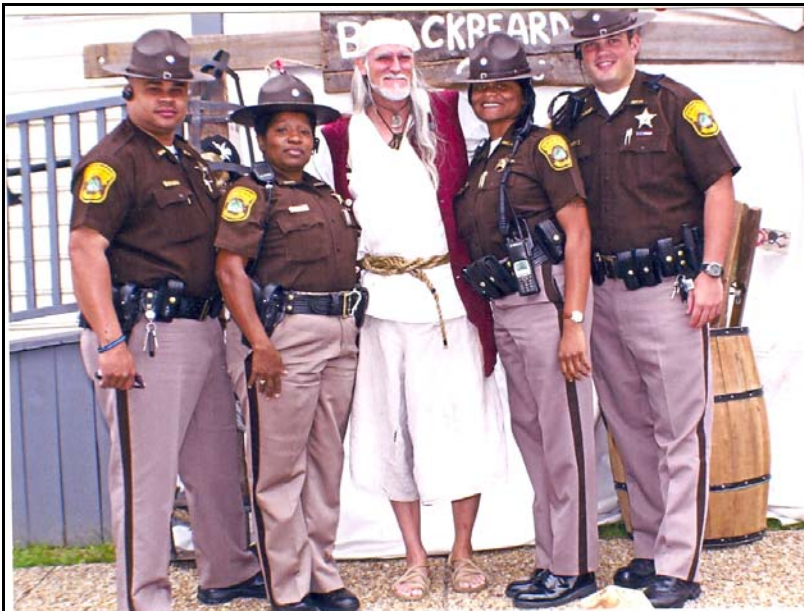
FLASH BACK



To EVENTS



REELING-IN FUN at the **14th Annual Children's' Fishing Clinic !!!**
More than a dozen deputies and civilian employees happily took the bait — hook, line and sinker to volunteer July 18 at the James River Bridge Fishing Pier.



**SHIVER ME
TIMBERS!**

The Newport News Sheriff's Office provided security at the Blackbeard Festival held September 26 at the Elks Lodge.

Deputies R. Donato, C. Daniels, V. Woodson, and M. McGee appear to have rounded-up at least one Scallywag — Pernel Taylor, or Capt. Pern as he is known by his pirate crew.

ARRRRR!

SHERIFF'S Last Word

INFLUENZA SEASON. HOW TO PREPARE.

In all likelihood, we will face a workforce reduction this flu season. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) anticipates that the H1N1 virus will circulate along with the regular seasonal flu virus. The H1N1 virus, of course, is also known as the swine flu.

How much of a workforce reduction is uncertain. The Newport News Sheriff's Office has developed a plan to maintain operations during the upcoming flu season.

Even as we prepare for a possible pandemic, we hope to dodge any significant reduction in force. How? It is important to reduce the spread of influenza. To that end, I am asking for your help. I recommend you follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines:

- If you are sick, stay home. Do not return to work for at least 24-hours after your fever is gone.
- Have a plan to care for sick family members (so you can still perform your professional commitment).
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Alcohol-based

hand cleaners are good when soap and water is unavailable.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Get the 2009 Seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccines when they are available.

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

The Newport News Sheriff's Office "2008 Annual Report" is available on-line. Please go to www.nnsheriff.org and click on 2008 Annual Report. You will find everything from quick anecdotal stories to bureau statistics.

I hope staff members will enjoy the document as much as the general public.

The main purpose of the report is to educate the public about the Newport News Sheriff's Office. However, we don't want it to read like a text book, because who would read it. We think we found an entertaining way to be informative. The men and women of this organization are dedicated to the welfare of the City of Newport News. Examples of that

dedication are woven throughout this report.

PASSED WITH AN A+

Representatives from the Department of Corrections (DOC) spent three days with us in July conducting a full audit of our jail operations. They found that we passed with a 100%. The DOC auditors ran a check on every aspect of our jail operations to verify that we meet the standards of our policies... all 143 of them. They walked through of both the City Jail and Adult Detention (formerly Juvenile Detention). They poured over documentation and interviewed deputies. Inmates were interviewed, as well.

The mission of the Newport News Sheriff's Office is to safely and securely provide appropriate supervision of all persons entrusted to our care. The auditors ensure that we are abiding by that mission and our policies.

Congratulations to our corrections deputies and their commanders for a job well done.

Sincerely,



Gabriel A. Morgan
Sheriff, City of Newport News

