

NEWS ON THE INSIDE

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ON THE INSIDE

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

Volume 4

No. 1

Jan—Mar, 2010

CIT Training Pays Off

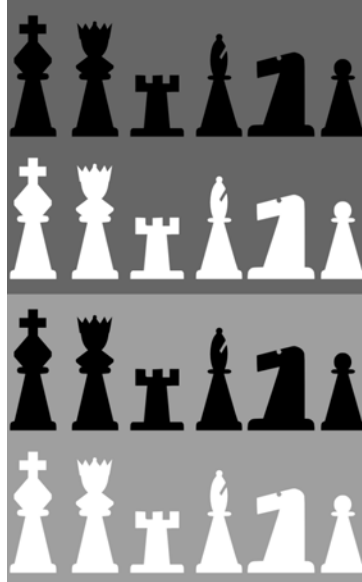
Crisis Intervention Team Raises Awareness about Mental Illness

A teenager began getting hostile in Judge Barry Lodgson's courtroom. Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court can be the most volatile of courtrooms based on the nature of the cases heard. Family matters and those involving children can get people's blood boiling.

On this July day, it was a 17-year old girl who was angry and whose behavior was erratic. Deputy M. T. McGee quickly intervened and got a handle on the situation. McGee calmed the teen without injury to the juvenile, himself, the public or to Judge Lodgson. The judge praised McGee for how he managed to de-escalate the situation.



(continued CIT p.4)



Chess teaches inmates life lessons

Going behind bars to learn the value of intellectual games

(see story on p.6)

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes



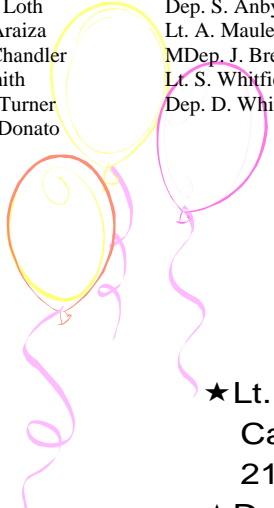
WHAT'S ON HIS FEET?

(see story p. 3)

BIRTHDAYS

APRIL

Dep. M. Hunter	Dep. G. Robertson
Dep. M. Feliciano	Dep. C. Cowell
Dep. R. Spencer	Dep. J.T. Smith
MDep. C. Woodhouse	MDep. D. Perez
Dep. W. Loth	Dep. S. Anby
Dep. I. Araiza	Lt. A. Maule
Sgt. L. Chandler	MDep. J. Brenzel
Lt. J. Smith	Lt. S. Whitfield
Dep. D. Turner	Dep. D. White
Dep. R. Donato	

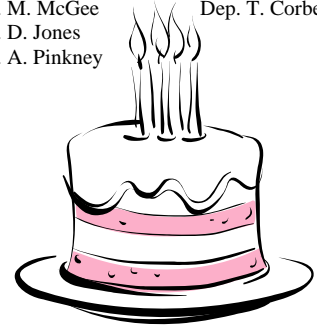


MAY

Maj. B. Thomas	Dep. K. Taylor
Dep. E. Feliciano	F. Tucker, Classification
Sgt. L. Mebane	Dep. I. Rowland
Hope Hasan, Medical	Dep. L. Winfree
Dep. W. Smith	R. Carson, Mail Clerk
Dep. T. Strother	Maj. J. Vergakis
Dep. C. Serrette	Dep. C. Towns
Dep. C. Agee	Cpl. C. Zanders
Dep. A. Owens	Dep. N. Agosto-Gerena
Dep. G. Armstrong	

JUNE

Dep. C. Daniels	Dep. S. Wall
Sgt. H. McCoy	Dep. S. Peake
Dep. M. Kingsley	Dep. A. Smith
Dep. M. McGee	Dep. T. Corbett
Dep. D. Jones	
Dep. A. Pinkney	



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birth:

- ★ Lt. M. Daniels and Sgt. R. Daniels welcomed their granddaughter, Callie Ann, on January 8, 2010. She weighed 8 lbs and 6 oz and was 21.5 inches long.
- ★ Dep. R. Solomon and his girlfriend are the proud parents of a baby girl. Littly Tylah entered the world on February 15 weighing 6 lbs and 13 oz.

Anniversary:

- 10 year:** Cpl. G.L Robertson 3/2000
- 15 year:** Colonel Leroy Johnson, Jr. 2/1995; Sgt C. A. Wilberg 2/1995

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

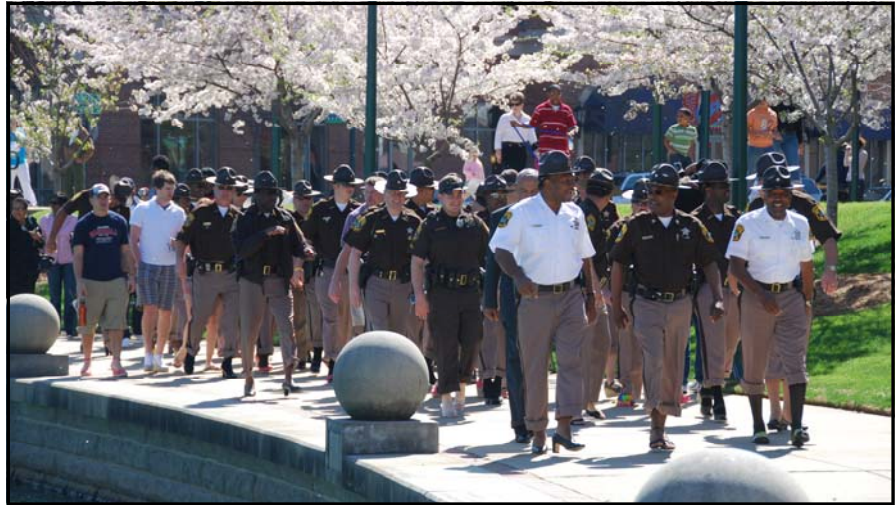
- Sgt. R. Summerford, **IT Administrator**, NNSO “Employee of the Quarter,” 1st Qtr. 2010
- Cindylou Young, LIDS Tech, **Inmate Services**, “Employee of the Month”, January 2010
- Deputy Q. Abdullah, **Rotation B**, “Employee of the Month,” January 2010

PROMOTIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
R. M. Clayton	Corporal	January 1, 2010
J. M. Robbins	Corporal	January 1, 2010
D. D. Blanch	Master Deputy	January 1, 2010
R. L. Jones	Master Deputy	January 1, 2010
E. M. Rocha	Master Deputy	January 1, 2010
C. Vincent	Master Deputy	January 1, 2010

**Are You Man
Enough?
Put Yourself
In Her Shoes.**

**Men's March to Stop
Rape, Sexual Assault
And Gender Violence**



**Saturday April 10, 2010 — City Center Fountain in Oyster Point, Newport News
Registration at 10 a.m. — Walk at 11 a.m.**

Download Pledge Form at www.visitthecenter.org or call 757-599-9844

Create a pledge page – Accept on-line pledges – Follow the link: <http://www.firstgiving.com/npo/36004>

Let's do it again! In 2009, the Newport News Sheriff's Office (NNSO) set a team turnout record for the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event with nearly 30 male deputies joining Sheriff Gabe Morgan. Collectively, the NNSO also brought in the most money, setting a fundraising record.

Proceeds from the annual event go to The Center for Sexual Assault Survivors, a private non-profit organization that has served the Peninsula since 1996.

The men of the NNSO proved THEY ARE MAN ENOUGH! "It speaks volumes about the deputies who can find the humility to come out and do that for a worthy cause," praised Sheriff Morgan.

For those unfamiliar with the event, let me paint a picture for you. Grown, hairy-legged, macho men each slip into a pair of ladies high heeled shoes and stumble around a one mile route. There are men from all walks of life who join this parade of hilarity. There was a sea of brown as deputies from our department dressed in full uniform with the exception of their footwear. Each proudly rolled up his pant legs to show off his individual style. Other walkers

included college students; CSB employees, including Dean Barker; everyday dads; and Archie Whitehill with VASAVOR. Archie proved to be multi-talented. Not only did he walk in women's shoes, he took photographs too. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/archiew/sets/72157616365004974/detail/>

We are previewing this year's event in hopes of having another large team of walkers. Gentlemen, please consider walking as a member of the NNSO team. Ladies, do your part by pledging your support as a cheering spectator or with a monetary pledge.



CIT

(continued from page 1)

Deputy McGee applied skills developed during his Crisis Intervention Team training (CIT). The Newport News Sheriff's Office is systematically ensuring that its personnel receive CIT training to better address the needs of the mentally ill. Not to say this particular teenage girl was mentally ill, but her behavior was unstable at the time. The skills Deputy McGee learned were an appropriate fit. A major component of crisis intervention is improved communication skills. Those who are CIT certified learn to recognize signs of mental illness and how to approach those persons without creating more conflict.

Based on the merit of this incident and another in which Deputy McGee assisted the Magistrate's Office, he was named "Deputy of the Year" at the 2009 CIT Awards Banquet. The banquet is sponsored by the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board (CSB) and was held January 7, 2010.

Sheriff Gabe Morgan was also recognized at the Awards Banquet. Morgan received the "Bridge Builder of the Year" honor. This award is given to an individual who has "truly built bridges between systems and people to increase awareness of mental illness while reducing its stigma," according to CSB.

Those suffering from mental illness have been traditionally underserved within the criminal justice and correctional system. Sheriff Morgan increased the visibility of this issue through the media. He partnered with the Community Services Board in actively pursuing legislative change in Richmond. Even in the climate of budget cuts and the scaling back of programs, Sheriff Morgan provided a unit within his jail specifically designed to help persons suffering with mental illness. Persons incarcerated at the Newport News City Jail now have direct access to onsite care.

Sheriff Morgan is a real advocate of CIT training and is helping to create a model of collaboration on the Peninsula. Sheriff's deputies, correctional nurses, police officers, juvenile services personnel and other first

responders are being trained in crisis intervention. There is now a choice on the street whether to make an arrest or to take the person to a mental healthcare drop-off center, or the CIT Receiving Facility.

The Bridge Builder award also recognized Sheriff Morgan for his commitment to the safety and security of the Receiving Facility. CIT certified deputies are working extra duty at the facility. Obviously this helps to heighten security at the facility. With the drop-off center being safely staffed, CIT police officers have increased options. They can divert people from jail and get them to where they will receive treatment for their mental illness.

Congratulations to both Deputy M. T. McGee and Sheriff Gabe Morgan for earning this much deserved public recognition.

FLASH BACK



To EVENTS



We get to steal a page from right from the sport's page. National Signing Day 2010 is when colleges and universities recruit the nation's best athletes. DeShaun Thomas of Bethel High School signed his letter of intent with the University of Charleston Golden Eagles. DeShaun is pictured alongside his girlfriend Shayla and his proud parents: Maj. Betty Thomas (seated front right), Capt. Cornell Thomas (standing back) and stepmother Air Force Major Donna Phelps-Thomas (seated front left).

She might only be 6-years old, but Kayleigh Crimmins is a hero to the Newport News Sheriff's Office. This little girl from Chesapeake, VA is on a mission to outfit all police dogs with bullet proof vests. One of her generous and life saving gifts went to Vader, a Newport News Sheriff's Office K9. Vader is dual-purpose dog trained in both narcotics detection

and patrol. Vader and his handler Corporal Wayne Hill were presented with the vest at the October 13, 2009 City Council Meeting. Pictured from left to right: Mayor Joe Frank; Kayleigh's mother Lee Crimmins; Kayleigh; Sheriff Gabe Morgan; Corporal Wayne Hill; and Vader.

BIG HERO in Small Package !!



VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS FROM PLAYING CHESS

"The things that you did to come to jail, you've got to change those things." Dep. M.D. Hardy

Typically, jail is not a quiet place. But November 21, 2009 was not a typical day. The ticking of egg timers echoed through the Newport News Jail Annex multi-purpose room as 16 inmates participated in a Sheriff's Office sanctioned Chess Tournament. "It keeps them engaging with others. They learn to communicate and compete without violence," said Sergeant L.D. Saunders.

This was bracket play with the best two out of three moving onto the next round and ultimately to the championship game.

Deputy M.D. Hardy loves the game of chess. All the boards were on loan from his personal collection. As part of his daily rounds, Hardy uses chess to teach life lessons. He points out to the inmates that they think about the consequences of their next move in the game. Imagine if they would deliberate over life decisions in much the same way. "The game they played before, they may have made a move that didn't work out the right way. So this time they want to change that move. Same thing applies to life on the streets. The things that you did to come to jail, you've got to change those things," explained Deputy Hardy.



The Jail Annex, or the Newport News Adult Detention facility, was opened in December 2008 as a rehabilitative facility. With 100 beds, it eases the crowding in the main City Jail. But it's the mission of the Annex which sets it apart from other local correctional centers.

The men and women housed in this building are all enrolled in programs and classes. GED. Basic computer. Brick masonry and culinary arts. Inner Reflections, a comprehensive drug and alcohol rehab program, is operated out of the Annex. Inmates enrolled in Work Release are housed at the Annex.

That one program alone, Work Release, has netted significant returns. So far, nearly \$29K has gone to child support; \$42K has been contributed to home expenses; \$9K has been paid in state taxes and \$15K in federal taxes; and court costs and fines have been paid down to the tune of \$33K.

Inmates housed at the Jail Annex are trying to better themselves. It stands to reason that their recreational and social activities in jail would also be constructive.

Inmate Charles Parker is realistic. He knows not everyone will succeed, but everyone is given a chance. He said, "Some of us will fall by the weigh side, but others of us, we try and

(continued CHESS p.7)

Deputy of the Year, 2009

Congratulations Sergeant Frank Broadwater!

Sergeant Frank Broadwater was selected by his peers to be the Newport News Sheriff's Office "Deputy of the Year, 2009."

Broadwater began his career with the Newport News Sheriff's Office (NNSO) in 2001. He officially retired, effective October 1, 2009 as the Assistant Commander of Civil Enforcement. We say "officially," because he never actually left. He is now a part-time deputy with the NNSO. He also continues to be a member of the NNSO Honor Guard.

He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2006 where he performed the duties of Assistant Shift Commander in corrections before being transferred to the civil section of the NNSO.

Even with retirement on the horizon, Sgt. Broadwater continued to seek professional development opportunities. In 2009, he completed the "Management Development for the Future Series," conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice National Institute of Corrections.



He served more than twenty-six years in the U.S. Air Force. Following his retirement from the Air Force in 1993, Frank returned to school, earning a Degree in Psychology from St. Leo University in 1996.

Congratulations Sergeant Frank Broadwater for being selected as "Deputy of the Year, 2009" by the Newport News Sheriff's Office.

CHESS *(continued from page 6)*

shine." Deputy Hardy said he and the other deputies reach everybody, "They may not take heed to what we're saying, but we do reach everybody."

So what was the outcome of the day's competition? Yes, there was a winner. Kevin Williams won bragging rights, was issued a certificate and given double portions for one meal. But what of any long term outcome? Was the exercise just a game?

Something to occupy their time and nothing more? Or did these lessons reverberate with a lasting impact?

Herkey Wallace used the metaphor of counting your chess moves and your opponent's counter moves with his answer, "What I'm going to do is check my

moves from now on before I just go stepping out on the ledge without some kind of balance to what I want to do."

Parker admitted that without his criminal charge, he wouldn't have accomplished any of the things he's done while behind bars. All total, Parker completed twelve classes. "First of all, I had to take a basic computer class. Now that I learned how to use a computer, I got my GED. So now that I have my GED, at least I have something to say 'consider me for the job.' Then I got my (vocational) trades, so I'm qualified for this job. It's all in steps," he continued. "While we're here, we learn the steps to take to be a positive aspect to society."

SHERIFF'S Last Word

LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS

I am proud to announce that on March 11, three members of the Newport News Sheriff's Office team were recognized at the Newport News Police Department's Promotion and Awards Ceremony.



Maj. Jeffrey Vergakis, Sgt. Robert Summerford (pictured with Chief Fox) and Dep. Christopher Agee each earned the "Outstanding Contribution to Law Enforcement" award for their exemplary performance of duty. Throughout the year 2009, they played integral roles in the transition to the I LEADS/RMS/JMS/data system. Their efforts helped bring the system online.

The updated software is essential in improving the interoperability between city agencies. These systems allow us to communicate the same way from department to department.

It improves the collection of vital information, and it improves the transfer of such information between stakeholders in the criminal justice system.

Congratulations gentlemen.

I wish to thank Police Chief James Fox for including our office in his department's ceremony.

For the citizens of Newport News, this is a perfect display of cooperation between the law enforcement agencies responsible for their safety. Citizens should find comfort in knowing such collaboration exists. After all, members of the public are the ultimate benefactors of all technological advancements, and of mutual respect between organizations.

NEW LOOK! NEW BENEFIT!

You may have seen our new ID cards. Not only are they slick looking, they incorporate other added benefits.



There is now an expiration date so the photos will stay more current. Plus, security settings make the card difficult to reproduce.

BUDGET UPDATE

It is now halftime and we are at the crossover phase in the General Assembly. The Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee released and adopted their respective budget. Both versions of the budget substantially restore the position cuts in the introduced budget by Governor Kaine.

The exact details are being analyzed by the Compensation Board and will be released as soon as it becomes available.

Please keep in mind that we still have an entire half to play and WIN!!! I want to thank each of you who responded to my "call for actions." I am always confident that our "TEAM" is a championship team and together we can overcome the odds!

Sincerely,

Gabriel A. Morgan
Sheriff, City of Newport News