

Behind the Badge

*Fairfax County Police Department
15th Edition, December 2011*



*Fairfax County Hit With Earthquake,
Hurricane and Flood... All In 18 Days*

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15th Edition

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From the Chief: Eye to the Future

by Colonel Dave Rohrer

As we approach the end of 2011, we can be proud of our accomplishments this year. First and foremost, in partnership with our community our men and women, whether sworn, civilian, or volunteer, continue to maintain a safe community, with one of the lowest crime rates, particularly for violent crime, of any large community.

But we have taken other significant steps this year, to include:

- Researching and recommending, along with the County Executive, an appropriate and fair model for the independent review of our internal administrative investigations. The model we have recommended the Board of Supervisors adopt is one of an independent auditor, using the County Auditor's Office. We also recommended an audit of our current investigative procedures first be conducted to benchmark our performance and to provide a foundation and performance measurements for any new model.
- Completing our transition to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), a more comprehensive crime-reporting model, becoming one of the largest agencies in the country to do so.
- Implementing a new leadership training model, the IACP's Leadership in Police Organizations (LPO), to provide a consistent leadership system across our department. Following planning and course development, the first class has now graduated and the design of a train-the-trainer course is underway.
- Continuing to foster a "culture of safety" by mandating the wearing of ballistic vests for the majority of our operational personnel.
- Preparing to host the 2015 World Police and Fire Games by attending, along with our County public safety partners, the 2011 Games in New York City to observe and learn. More importantly, a number of our members participated as athletes in the Games, many for the first time, and represented us well.
- Strategically managing our budget reductions, maintaining our mission focus and performance. We must advocate for justifiable increases in pay and benefits for our people, but our ability to manage the reductions and perform our mission is notable.

Our profession and our department should be proud of the improvement and evolution of the past few decades. We evolved from the professional policing model, one that

rarely embraced community involvement, to a community-policing and problem-solving model, with the now added layers of crime analysis and intelligence-led policing - putting "cops on the dots" and targeting repeat offenders.

Yet the past few years have been challenging, although we can expect in time an improving economy. However, by most forecasts, any economic recovery will be modest at best for some years and there will be competing needs, so strategic planning and critical thinking are imperative.

Frankly, I believe that policing faces difficult choices as there is a growing sense that the current model, with its associated costs, including salaries and benefits, is simply not sustainable. A peek over the horizon might reveal an approaching "new normal" - albeit yet undefined. Policing may have to evolve, and while the degree of change may differ in various communities, the need for change is becoming more evident. Many localities are already cutting police services or contracting policing to larger departments to reduce costs.

I cannot outline a full discussion in this limited space, but we must look inward with a fresh perspective and without the passion, emotion, and culture we too often attach to discussions. To offer some examples, we may have to consider new uses of technology; an expanded regional mutual aid model; a "flatter" organization or rank structure; and the sharing or blending of resources, particularly specialty units, or services, such as recruiting or training, with our regional law enforcement partners or our fire and rescue partners. We must maintain an open mind, and involve other stake holders, including, importantly, the community.

So while we should be proud of our past accomplishments this is just the start of a dialogue we must have in the coming months as we face an uncertain future.



Fairfax Sees Three Natural Disasters in 18 Days

by Lt. Colonel Ed Roessler

Each year the county recognizes September as National Preparedness Month. As a public safety agency, the police department has always remained prepared for all types of hazards, especially in the last decade as we have migrated toward specific roles to prepare, respond, and recover from all forms of incidents. Our participation in emergency preparedness exercises and formal training with other agencies at local, state and federal levels has provided us with opportunities to apply incident command structure systems to manage both small and large scale emergency events.

On August 23, 2011, the County experienced an earthquake. On August 25th, Governor McDonnell declared a state of emergency in preparation of Hurricane

Irene's arrival. Additionally, during the week of September 7th, Tropical Storm Lee entered our region causing heavy flooding across the county which led to the tragic death of three of our residents and caused the displacement of the Huntington community.

As we look back at National Preparedness month, September presented multiple challenges to our department and it is with great pride that I thank all employees and volunteers for providing a well-prepared response to protect our citizens and our police family.

The earthquake of August 23rd was clearly not an event where advanced warning was available. As the earthquake unfolded, all on-duty personnel undertook superior



Flooding on Route 50 westbound at Fair Oaks Mall.

actions to ensure the safety of fellow employees and the safety of the public we serve. The police department quickly established a uniformed incident command structure with the Fire and Rescue Department, the Office of the Sheriff, the Office of Emergency Management and other county agencies. The incident command structure worked smoothly and a countywide coordinated effort ensured our infrastructure was checked to avoid injuries and death.

Two days after recovering from the earthquake, we found ourselves preparing for hurricane Irene's potential landfall. The Patrol Bureau took the lead to stand up an incident command structure in coordination with the Office of Emergency Management. Then, days after our second recovery from the hurricane, we found ourselves quickly standing up our incident command structure a third time at the Office of Emergency Management as a tropical storm approached the area. Although "earthquake" and "hurricane" tend to have more traumatic impacts on us, in reality it was the lower grade "tropical storm" that caused the most damage to our infrastructure and unfortunately had three tragic deaths associated with its arrival.

The torrential rains which inundated our region caused flash flooding, collapsed roadways, and the evacuation of several communities. Again, all of our employees and volunteers were very well-prepared and we were able to capably contribute to the unified county storm management. Unfortunately, Tropical Storm Lee caused some of the worst flooding we have seen in decades which resulted in three of our community residents losing their lives when they were swept away by flash flooding in the Vienna, Great Falls, and the Fort Belvoir areas.

During all of these events, the Department was prepared to manage all of the challenges in coordination with our partner agencies and the public we serve. Our department will continue to enhance our future incident command structures by building upon lessons learned.



A sinkhole swallows two vehicles.



Despite torrential downpours, officers still had jobs to do.

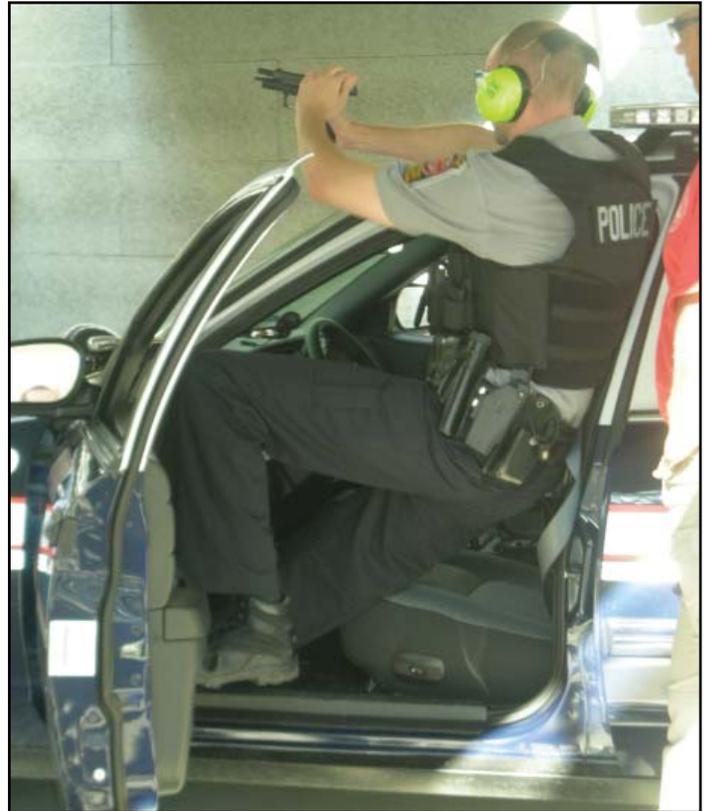
FPCD Tries On External Vests

by PFC Tawny Wright

With the new mandatory vest-wearing policy, selected officers from around the county participated in a trial of external vests. They are intended to be more comfortable, cooler and convenient for every officer.

The department experimented with various features: load-bearing and flat vests, black and navy blue colors, zip-up and Velcro closings and Velcro versus metal name plate and badge.

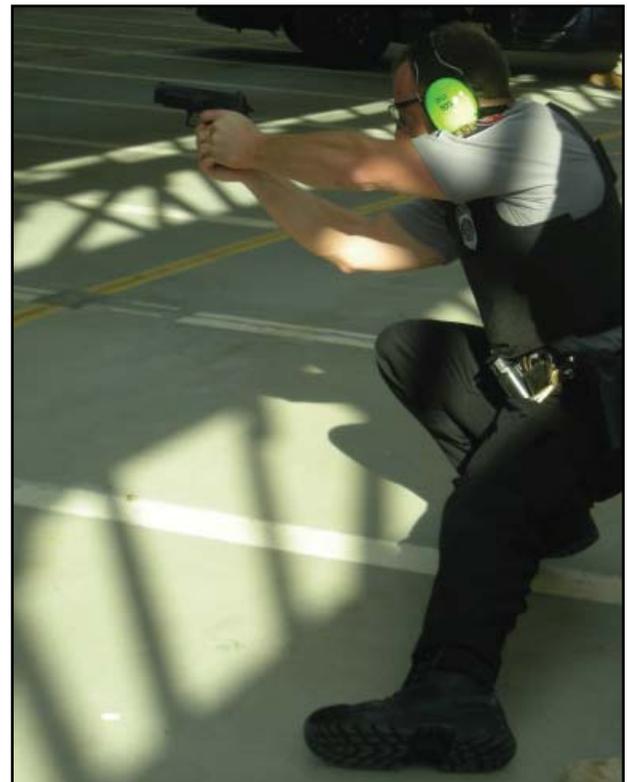
The results should be completed by January 2012 and the final decision on whether to adopt external vests will follow.



PFC Brandon Blymyer practices shooting from a patrol car.



Above: PFC Nick Taormina and PFC Heidi Carson load rounds before starting their drills with the external vest.



Right: PFC Nick Taormina practices shooting from behind cover.

Vehicle Testing Continues

by Keith Dobuler

Vehicle testing and evaluation for the replacement patrol vehicle continues at the driver training facility. In October, both the Dodge Charger and the Ford Police Interceptors (Sedan & Utility) were on hand and available for test drives by the NCR project team and other interested department members. With that, we now have had the opportunity to review, hands-on, all three of the vehicles being considered. Findings and impressions from the test drives of the three vehicle makes will be used to form recommendations as to what direction we will take with our fleet. By the time you are reading this, the results of a department-wide survey should be completed, and will be used as part of the overall decision-making process. We will continue to report on this very important aspect of our agency's daily operations in upcoming issues.



An officer checks out the interior of the Ford Interceptor SUV.

10th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

by Keith Dobuler

On Sunday, September 11, 2011, Chief of Police Colonel David Rohrer, Fire and Rescue Chief Ronald Mastin, Chairman Sharon Bulova, Congressman Gerry Connolly, and numerous invited guests and citizens took part in remembering the 10-year anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on New York, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania at the Fairfax County Government Center. The national anthem was sung by PFC Laura Redman, followed by remarks by county officials and Congressman Connolly in the atrium of the Government Center. There was a time for reflection, followed by a tolling of the bell, once for each of the three sites. At the conclusion of the ceremony, a procession to the 9/11 Memorial Grove was led by the Fairfax County Joint Public Safety Honor Guard. There, all those in attendance were invited to sing along as God Bless America was performed. Finally, Chief Rohrer and Chief Mastin placed a wreath to remember and honor those lost. It was a bright and beautiful day, much like the day ten years earlier that all public safety personnel, and America, will never forget.



Police Chief Rohrer and Fire Chief Mastin place a wreath in the 9/11 Memorial Grove.



Sully Station 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

by Lieutenant John Trace

The Sully District Station, in conjunction with the Sully Station II Neighborhood Watch and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Virginia Society Fairfax Resolves Chapter, joined hands to hold a remembrance for the 10-year anniversary of the September 11, 2001, tragedy.

Hundreds of community members attended the ceremony, which took place at Westfield High School football stadium. A total of 406 American flags were posted around the field, each carried the name of the police and fire officials that gave their lives on September 11, 2001.



The National Anthem is sung at the beginning of the ceremony.



21st Citizens Police Academy

by APO Scotty Scott

The 21st Citizens Police Academy began on September 15, 2011. Over 70 people applied, and about 35 students were in the most recent class; they graduated on November 19. The ten-week, 35-hour program is designed to give residents a solid “glimpse behind the badge.” CPA Session #22 will be held March 1 through May 5, 2012.

Classes were held on Thursday nights from 6:30 to 10 p.m. and “recruits” are rotated through various district stations, MPSTOC, the criminal justice academy, ADC, Heliport and Animal Shelter.

A highlight at the end of every session is graduation, held on a Saturday at the firearms range and driving track in Chantilly. Participants have an exciting opportunity to drive a cruiser and fire police-issued shotguns and side arms, all under the careful supervision of instructors.

Chief Rohrer presents each participant with a CPA certificate of completion and thanks the class for their interest and participation in the program. Many students join the CPA Alumni Association; others may go on to become active in Neighborhood Watch and CAC programs, and some may apply to become VIPS and APOs.

Students at this and previous CPAs have remarked on the wide variety of functions and operations of the department, the well-prepared classes, the excellent opportunity to ask questions, and the evident dedication and commitment of the officers and staff who make the presentations.



2Lt. Chris Cochrane of SWAT conducts an interactive presentation for Citizens Police Academy participants.

Durrer Forensic Facility Dedication

by PFC Shelley Broderick

On Friday, October 14, retired police chief, Colonel William Durrer, was present when the department's new forensic facility was dedicated and named after him. The forensic facility located at the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center is dedicated in honor of Durrer's vision and leadership.

Colonel William L. Durrer was appointed chief of the Fairfax County Police Department on November 1, 1957. Over the course of his 17-year-tenure as chief, Colonel Durrer embraced science and technology, advancing the department into a modern law enforcement agency.



Supervisor Herrity, Chairman Bulova, Colonel Durrer, Mrs. Durrer and Chief Rohrer cut the ceremonial crime scene tape.

In addition to creating four new police districts to better serve a growing population, Colonel Durrer also led the effort to open the Northern Virginia Crime Lab in 1971. The forensic lab enabled in-depth forensic analysis of evidence and rapid response time for results, which were previously unavailable to the department.

Chief Rohrer Appointed to VACP Board

by Lucy H. Caldwell

The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) on Sep. 27 installed the 2011-2012 VACP Executive Board during the Valor Awards Banquet of the association's annual conference in Norfolk, Virginia. Colonel Dave Rohrer was appointed in 2010 as an Executive Board member to represent the VACP on the Virginia Criminal Justice Services Board.



Sully and Reston District Stations Recognized For Occupant Protection Challenge

by MPO Beth Benham

Fairfax County Police Department conducts over 2,000 child safety seat inspections each year. We have 130 trained CPS Technicians. They are made up of officers, auxiliary police officers, volunteers in police service, police citizen aides and crossing guards. The child seat misuse rate in Virginia is 84 percent due to the constant addition of first time parents; for this reason it is a valued service to our community. All eight district stations and the Operations Support Bureau conduct child safety seat inspections year-round. We have done over 100 Child Safety Seat events and educational displays this year (2011).

In 2011, the Traffic Safety Section assisted in providing 30 child safety seats to flood victims in Prince William County and 80 child seats to families in need in Fairfax County. Did you know that when a summons is issued for failure to use a child restraint, the fines go to buying child seats for families that cannot afford them? This helps every child ride safely.

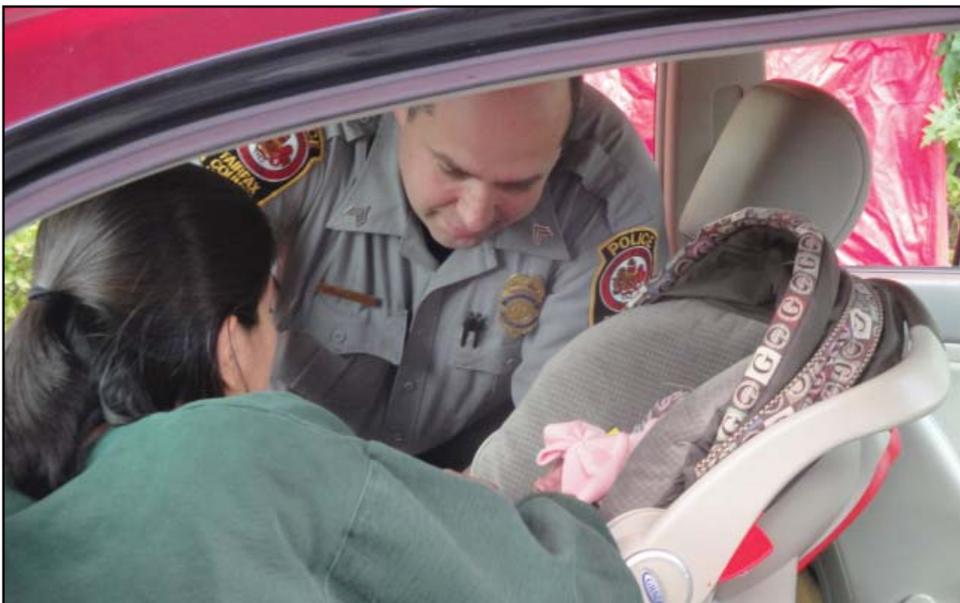
In September, the Traffic Division promoted an Occupant Protection Challenge among the district stations. Many of the stations conducted multiple child seat inspection events, seatbelt and child safety seat enforcement zones, Safety Talks, Seat Belt Convincer events, school presentations by SROs at schools and invited media to



MPO Beth Benham and some young event participants.

attend various events. The Traffic Division would like to recognize two stations for their outstanding efforts. The two Challenge winners are:

- Sully Station for their overall effort
- Reston Station for their High School Seat Belt Awareness Campaign



A certified officer conducts a child safety seat inspection.

Both Stations combined education and enforcement through the “Back to School” campaign with Child Passenger Safety Week education.

One of our most popular requests is for the “Seat Belt Convincer.” It is used at many events around Fairfax County, and requested by several outside departments. It is a great educational tool for community and school events. Traffic Safety Services has used the Seat Belt Convincer 20 times this year. The “Seat Belt Convincer” simulates a low-speed impact crash and emphasizes the importance of wearing your seat belt “every ride, every time.”

Police Unity Tour Gala Winners Spend Day at FCPD Firearms Range and Driving Track

by Lt. Colonel Maggie DeBoard

An interactive and fun-filled day at the Fairfax County Firearms Unit and Driver Training Track was a unique experience for the Police Unity Tour's First Annual Fundraising Gala's two winners, Fouad Qreitem and Mike Bell and their associates. The winners bid on the opportunity to experience our facilities, shoot weapons, and drive various vehicle courses on the FCPD's driving track, during the live auction at the Gala held in March 2011.

On October 5, 2011, the winners received briefings on the department's training, facilities, and equipment. Before participating in the firing of weapons and driving vehicles while under the supervision of Academy staff and instructors, all individuals were provided with safety lectures. It was a memorable experience had by all and, according to one winner that we spoke with, "well worth the cost of the auction bids." The Police Unity Tour – Chapter IV raised a total of \$28,000 on all items



Above and below: Gala winners enjoy their day at the FCPD firearms range and driver training track.



auctioned off that night, and more importantly, made many new friends and supporters in the surrounding community.

The next Unity Tour Fundraising Gala is scheduled for March 10, 2012. For additional information on Police Unity Tour - Chapter IV, check out their website: www.policeunitytourchapter4.com

Sports Dietician Helps Cops Shape Up

by PFC Tawny Wright and Lucy H. Caldwell

Like most people, police officers ponder their New Year's goals and resolutions around this time of year. Some choose to sample sweets and libations of the holidays but a group of 16 dedicated men and women of the force decided to take their 2012 fitness and nutrition goals more seriously. They participated in the first-ever comprehensive three-day fitness and nutrition class co-taught by Chrissy Turpin RD, LDN, CSCS, one of the dietician consultants for the Washington Redskins from December 12 to 14, 2011.

Like professional athletes, officers must remain fit and healthy to meet the strenuous physical and mental demands of their unpredictable profession. Long hours and interrupted sleep patterns can lead to lax fitness and food habits. This course focused on use of exercise as a stress-reliever, a look at heart disease and macronutrients and how to easily incorporate various forms of fitness into their daily schedules. Officers and deputies learned recipes for healthy cooking. They discovered a chicken pot pie "healthy makeover" recipe and even got to try it out in the Academy kitchen.

While we may not always have a sports dietician on-hand, the department is fortunate to have two individuals dedicated to helping officers meet their fitness goals and aid in injury and illness treatment and prevention. MPO Dave Patton is the Academy's Wellness Coordinator. His office is in the Academy gym and his goal is to keep officers motivated and in shape from the time they enter the Academy as a police recruit to the day they retire and even after!

Nancy Burke, a certified Athletic Trainer, is a medical professional with expertise in injury and illness prevention,

assessment, treatment and rehabilitation for athletes and physically active people. According to Nancy, "Any public safety officer is considered a 'tactical athlete.' Officers engage in high-risk operations that require high levels of strength, speed, power and agility."

Both MPO Patton and ATC Burke are enthusiastic about their roles on the department and are a great educational resource on any fitness or law enforcement-related issue. They are a great asset to the department and ready to help



Participants of the fitness and nutrition class learn tips from 1Lt. Dave Smith on preparing healthy meals. (Photo credit: Tin Nguyen/Fairfax County Times)

you develop a fitness training regimen and maintain your best physical condition with reduced chance of injury. Stop by and visit them next time you are at the Academy!

The Academy staff with the assistance of Detective Clinton Beach, who developed the three-day fitness and nutrition class, are already making plans for the next class. They aim to provide the department with more health and wellness activities and tips to meet the needs of a very diverse workforce.

Retiree's Corner: Retiree Turned VIPS

by Donna Spiewak

In August 2008, former 2nd Lt. Dan Courtney retired from the FCPD. Dan became a Cadet in 1981 after he did a number of ride-alongs in high school with Corporal Danny McNab. He found the work interesting, fun, and said it was the type of position that he was looking for as a career. Among his many assignments as a police officer were patrol and supervisory positions at Reston, West Springfield, DPSC (formerly PSCC), McLean, and his final slot in PIO.

the displays so everyone can walk through the exhibits to glimpse periods of time in police department history from its establishment through its growing pains and into its future endeavors.

He just received the Fairfax Count History Commission's Nan Netherton Award, for his work on the police department history book. The award is named in honor of Crime Scene Detective Rick Netherton's mom, who, along with his father Ross, captured the history of Fairfax County in book form.

Many people may ask why Dan would retire only to begin a full-time volunteer commitment. According to Dan, he still enjoys working with the department, noting that some functions require the in-house knowledge of being a career police officer. Becoming a VIPS enabled him to remain within the FCPD system to make things work and retain connections. He would recommend other retirees look into volunteering as well as they also will find this a good way to keep in contact and to continue to serve. It is another avenue for retirees to work on specific needed programs or projects for the FCPD.

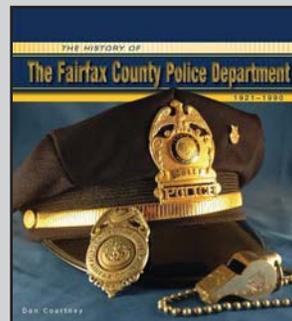


2nd Lt. Dan Courtney (Ret).

Directly upon his retirement, Dan joined the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Program to work on the History of the FCPD book and museum. He, along with several other retirees (Captain Paul Puff, Captain Eddie Wingo (deceased) and Lt. Lee Hubbard) and VIPS Dan Cronin, spent the last two years researching and organizing the materials for the book, collaborating with retirees, their family members, as well as current FCPD employees to bring together the rich history of the department, not only in vivid words but by highlighting people and events through photographs.

Averaging 40 to 60 hours per week of volunteer service while writing the book, Dan decreased his activities to about 24 to 32 hours per month after the release of the publication. In the near future, he will gear up to work on the FCPD Museum Project with other retirees, setting up

History of the Fairfax County Police Department: 1921-1990



This one-of-a-kind publication is on sale now on Amazon.com.

A portion of all proceeds will be donated towards establishing a Fairfax County Police Museum.

APO Program Surpasses 1 Million Hours

by 2Lt. Alan Hanson

In June of 2011 the Auxiliary Police Officer Program (APO) surpassed the one million hours of service mark for the Fairfax County Police Department and the citizens of Fairfax County. This significant milestone highlights the dedication and sacrifice these exceptional volunteers have made and continue to make to improve their department and community. For over 28 years, these men and women have answered the call to assist in all manner of events and natural disasters to ease the burden on the paid officers, freeing them up to handle higher priority calls for service and to conduct proactive patrols and enforcement.

One Million hours. What an amazing amount of time and commitment by this group of dedicated volunteers. But what does one million hours really mean? We have been desensitized to large numbers lately. Large numbers are thrown about day after day in the media and by politicians, so much so that we have begun to not pay attention to anything less than a trillion. Yet, one million is still a huge number so let me try to put it into some kind of perspective. One million days ago it was roughly mid-February in the year 728 B.C. One million hours ago it was early September in the year 1897. And one million volunteer hours ago, 52 men and women entered service as Auxiliary Police Officers in Fairfax County Virginia.

The year was 1983 and since then, a total of 446 APOs have served for varying durations within the APO program, bringing with them the skills and knowledge they amassed in their private and professional lives over the years. The impact on the department and the county has gone far beyond the monetary benefit it has enjoyed from their service which has been substantial. What has been gained has been an increased sense of partnership with the community, a voice to the citizenry who look to make their community better and safer. This volunteer spirit looks to address the problems that are encountered within the community instead of passing them by, leaving them for someone else to handle. What a great example to set for others in the community and for future generations.

My hat is off to all of the volunteers that serve within the Fairfax County Police Department. We have a Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program, a Chaplain Corps and a Fairfax County Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association that is second to none in this nation. What sets the APO program apart is their willingness to go into the community as sworn representatives in uniform, to work side by side with the paid officers to accomplish the mission day in and day out. To all APOs, past and current, on behalf of the Fairfax County Police Department and myself, we thank you for your volunteer service.



FCPD APO Program was honored before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

2011 Wives' Range and Track Day

by PFC Rick Lehr

The 2011 Wives' Range and Track Day was held October 6 and the weather was outstanding for this event. Eighteen wives of Fairfax County Police Officers took time to attend. The goal of this event was to provide the opportunity for them to experience a piece of the intense training their husbands endured during the academy.

The FCCJA Range Staff provided a thorough safety brief, followed by instruction on the SigSauer .40cal. and the Remington model 870 weapons systems. The wives did not turn down the opportunity to shoot the weapons systems down range at posted targets and their shots were dead-on with the brief instruction provided.

The FCCJA Track Staff provided a safety brief, followed by a brief overview of the Track facility. Then the wives were set free on the track in the Ford Crown Victoria; one wife topped at 98 mph on the straight away!

Thanks to the FCCJA, the FCCJA Range Staff and FCCJA

Track Staff for another successful FCPD Wives Range and Track Day. Special thanks to the hardworking and dedicated VIPS, Donna Spiewak and George Evans, who volunteered to take photos of this event.

Please keep a look out on the BlueNet for the 2012 Wives' Range and Track Day Announcement.



Above: MPO Steve Liberty instructs a wife on proper handling techniques.



Left: Wives get belted in and prepare for a spin around the track.

5th Annual K-9 Krawl

by Lucy H. Caldwell

Approximately 200 people and their canine companions participated in the 5th annual K-9 Krawl, a 5K walk sponsored by the police department's Victim Services Section, on Saturday, October 15. This tradition remembers domestic abuse victims and celebrates those that have survived, with a public reminder that pets are not immune to domestic violence. Batterers often threaten, injure, maim, or kill their partners' pets for the purpose of revenge or control within relationships.



Chief Rohrer greets two Fairfax County residents.

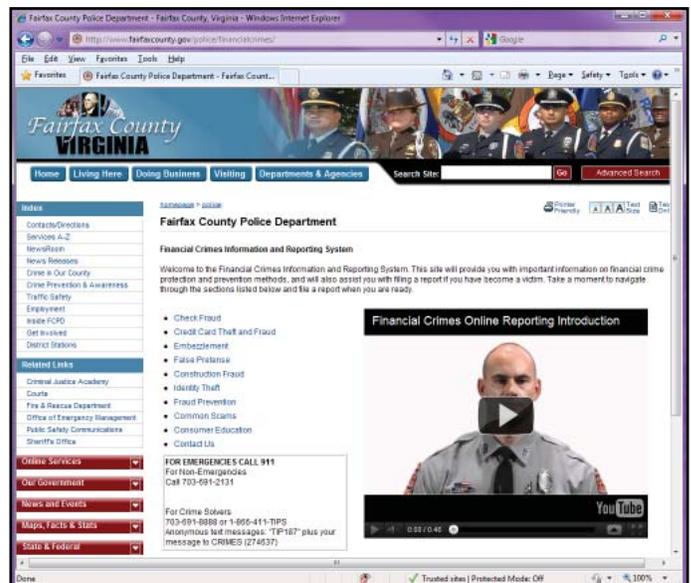
Police Launch Online Financial Crimes Reporting

by Lucy H. Caldwell

Phony checks, embezzlement, skimmed credit cards and identity theft are among the fastest growing and most prevalent crimes in Fairfax County. To help streamline these complex financial investigations, detectives and technical staff worked together to create a new Financial Crime Online Reporting System (FICOR) for simpler reporting and quicker response rates for victims. The system is one-of-a-kind. When detectives researched various online reporting systems, they didn't find what they wanted, so they built it from scratch.

Seasoned detectives and officers, who have investigated these sorts of cases for many years, helped build the educational component of the site. Residents can learn about common fraud scams, construction fraud, credit card/check theft and fraud, and vital prevention steps. The new web feature clarifies these issues for the public; it's a one-stop shopping area for vital information concerning all aspects of financial crimes.

The FICOR section can be reached by visiting the Fairfax County home page, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police and clicking on financial crimes reporting.



World Police and Fire Games Update

by *Second Lieutenant Bruce Blechl*

ATTENTION. ATTENTION. Fairfax County is approximately 3 and 1/2 years away from hosting the second largest sporting event in the world. It doesn't seem that long ago Fairfax was awarded the privilege to host the 2015 World Police & Fire Games and now we are just a few years out.

For those unfamiliar the WPFG, they are an Olympic-style event held every two years throughout the world. The sporting events are open to full-time and retired law enforcement officers and firefighters with the design to promote friendly competition, fellowship, and international relations among participants. In recent years, over 10,000 competitors have entered the Games with an approximate ratio of 60% police and 40% fire competitors. Former Olympians and current world-class athletes compete in the Games, as well as people who just enjoy their particular sport or hobby. This past September in New York City, the total number of competitors eclipsed the 16,000 mark which established a new Games' record.

The Fairfax County Police Department was well-represented with close to 30 members participating in team and individual sports. The Department fielded a newly formed hockey team which was captained by PFC Brian Bowers (Mason District Station) and a lacrosse team, Capital Region Police & Fire Lacrosse Team, captained by Mike Donaldson (OSB). This was the first time in departmental history that teams representing our agency participated in the Games and they did us proud. Congratulations are in order for:

- Craig Copeland (CIB) and Sean Cheetham (CIB) who partnered together to win a Silver and Bronze Medal in team bowling.
- Craig also won a Bronze Medal in an individual bowling category.
- Mark Harrington (Franconia Station) won a Bronze Medal in the bench press competition, and
- Mark Kidd (CIB) and Mike Tucker (OSB) partnered together and the Bronze Medal in darts.

On a whole, nearly 70 public safety officials from Fairfax County participated in this year's Games and hopefully

those numbers will increase for the 2013 Games in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The 2015 Games is expected to host 63 events throughout the National Capital Region, including:

- National Mall
- NRA National Headquarters
- Quantico Marine Base
- Manassas Battlefield

One of the highlights of the Games is the social events that take place throughout the 10 days of activities. The Reston Town Center will serve as home to the Athlete's Village, where all who are involved can relax and unwind with nightly entertainment and festivities. Additionally, Team Fairfax has planned social events at iconic settings such as the National Law Enforcement and National Fallen Firefighter's Memorials, George Washington Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens and the Pentagon.

In 2015, the Fairfax County Police Department will be celebrating its 75th anniversary and the Games will be celebrating its 30th anniversary so the pressure is on to make the 2015 Games the best ever. In the next few years, Fairfax 2015 will call upon personnel from all three Fairfax County public safety

entities, and those in the National Capital Region, to perform in various capacities, including:

- Sports managers
- Venue security
- Volunteers

So start thinking on how you can contribute to the Games. The most important thing that can be done now is to become ambassadors of the Games for the Department, the County, and the United States. Our website is www.fairfax2015.com and we can also be found on Facebook and Twitter. Help spread the word to make our Games the most successful ever.

To learn more about the World Police and Fire Games, visit www.cpaf.org. For information on the 2013 Games in Belfast, visit: www.2013wpfg.com.



Motor Squad Earns Trophies in Mid-Atlantic Rodeo

by PFC Tawny Wright

Officers of the Fairfax County Motors Squad brought home several trophies from the 2011 Mid-Atlantic Police Motorcycle Rodeo (MAPMR), hosted this year by the Prince William County Police Department. Officers placed in the following categories:

Overall Team:

- Fairfax County Motor Squad (PFC Chad Burrow, MPO Brian Plaugher, PFC Jared Lytle and PFC Chris Burriss)

Overall Rider:

- 1st place: MPO Brian Plaugher
- 2nd place: PFC Chad Burrow
- 3rd place: PFC Chris Burriss
- 4th place: MPO Scott Bates
- 5th place: MPO Kevin Palizzi

Expert Division:

- 1st place: PFC Chad Burrow
- 2nd place: MPO Brian Plaugher
- 3rd place: PFC Chris Burriss
- 4th place: PFC Jared Lytle

Novice Division:

- 1st place: MPO Mike Scanlon
- 5th place: MPO Wayne Compher

Slow Ride Team:

- 1st place: MPO Brian Plaugher, MPO Scott Bates, PFC Chad Burrow and MPO Kenny Zalaskus
- 3rd place: MPO Bill Horn, PFC Scott Neville, MPO Kevin Palizzi and Sgt. John Harris
- 4th place: PFC Chris Burriss, PFC Troy Knefel, MPO Ron Estrella and PFC Chris Huber



PFC Ben Kushner competes in the Mid-Atlantic Police Motorcycle Rodeo.

Challenge Ride:

- 5th place: MPO Rolando Estrella

Partner Ride:

- 2nd place: PFC Chad Burrow and MPO Kevin Palizzi
- 3rd place: PFC Harold Morris and MPO Scott Bates
- 4th place: PFC Scott Neville and MPO Brian Plaugher
- 5th place: MPO Kenny Zalaskus and Sgt. John Harris

The MAPMR began in 1979 with the intent to develop officers' riding skills and professional relationships among agencies in the Washington Metropolitan Area. The event has grown over three decades and now includes a Harley-Davidson motorcycle raffle. Money earned from the raffle, and the event itself, are donated to Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., a charity that supports family and friends of fallen officers.

Early Start for Tomorrow's Leaders

by Major Ted Arnn

The mention of “summer camp” usually evokes images of campfires, canoes, and tents. For the Fairfax County Law Enforcement Explorers this past summer, it meant leadership development, police-related competitions, and practical-based training at the Potomac Boundary Advisors Association’s (PBAA) 2011 Youth Leadership Academy.

The PBAA is comprised of law enforcement Explorer programs from Northern Virginia to Baltimore. Every other summer, the PBAA hosts the week-long event as an in-residence, police academy-style leadership training forum. Fairfax County’s own Explorer program, in existence since 1975, began preparing for the academy a full year beforehand. This preparation included training within the Fairfax Post and fundraising events to cover Explorers’ registration costs.

The 2011 Youth Leadership Academy was held on the campus of Towson University near Baltimore. Since the PBAA’s member agencies span a wide area, Explorers in attendance met peers and police officers from around the region. The week’s program consisted of daily exercise and both classroom and hands-on training in police bicycle riding, building searches, fatal crash investigation, and arrest and search. The jewel of the academy; however, was the youth leadership instruction. PBAA’s focus is on developing leadership traits early in our young people and future law enforcement officers so leadership education was infused in every aspect of every class and activity.

Several of our Fairfax County Explorers were selected for leadership roles including Explorer Captain Sara Emsley (Platoon Leader and PT Leader), Explorer Lieutenant Joe Winkler (Assistant Platoon Leader and PT Leader), Explorer First Class Ryan Lucas (Element Leader for Drill), and Explorer Christian Cheshire (Squad Leader).

As the week progressed, Explorers from different posts got to know each other and learned to work cooperatively in teams. PFC Jim Rattal, an Explorer advisor, made this observation, “We watched each post come in as a separate group and become a team with all the other posts in the PBAA. As the week went on, the Explorers would start

eating meals with other posts, hanging out together, and became one large post.”

By the end of the week, all Explorers in attendance had voted for one Explorer to deliver the remarks at the academy graduation. That honor fell to Fairfax County



Fairfax County Explorers gather for a picture.

Explorer Steven Pickett who was praised by ACO II Enna Lugo as doing an “outstanding job.” Also during the graduation ceremony, Fairfax County Explorers were recognized with awards including Explorer Lieutenant Joe Winkler (Outstanding Drill Team) and Sergeant Jessica Helwege (Female PT and Outstanding Drill Team).

Explorers will build upon their training and experiences at the Youth Leadership Academy in preparation for the Explorer National Conference taking place July 2012, in Fort Collins, Colorado. The National Conference takes place every other year in-between the Youth Leadership Academies. As they have in past conferences, our Explorers are expected to place nationally in the competitions which will occur there.

2011 Marine Patrol Unit Highlights

by Donna Spiewak

In 2011, 5,627 vessels were registered in Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia and Prince George's and Charles Counties. Throughout the year, the Marine Patrol Unit (MPU) encountered 3,655 vessels within Fairfax County waters and 1,556 Fairfax County citizen contacts were made.

The unit initiated two vessel inspection checkpoints at Occoquan and Pohick Regional Parks' boat launches, which resulted in one arrest, 84 warnings, and 18 summonses. The Marine Patrol also assisted with a vessel inspection event conducted by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Other community policing events MPU participated in during the year included Aquapalooza, escorts for the Wounded Warriors Ride, Metro RailSafe Operations at the Dunn Loring – Merrifield and Vienna Metro Stations and the Reston Open House.

The MPU provided asset and capabilities presentations to the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Baltimore, the Maritime Tactical Operations Group Sector Baltimore, West Potomac High School, the Mount Vernon Yacht Club and ride along events for "On the Beat," ABC 7, and Supervisor Gerry Hyland.



2Lt. Lance Schiable monitors the Potomac River.

Worn Flag Collection Initiative

by Lucy H. Caldwell

In a new FCPD Honor Guard initiative, Fairfax County Police stations began accepting worn flags in bins in their front lobby areas in early 2011. According to 2nd Lieutenant Chris Cotone, almost 700 flags have been collected.

According to federal law, the U.S. flag is to be "properly and ceremoniously disposed of when damaged or soiled and no longer suitable for display."

2Lt. Cotone with a worn flag collection bin.



If you have story ideas for an upcoming issue of *Behind the Badge*, please send them to behindthebadge@fairfaxcounty.gov

The Passing of MPO Julius Pearl

by PFC Richard Bistline

Julius Nicholas Pearl, 38, passed away on July 23, 2011, at his home from a hard-fought battle with cancer. Master Police Officer Julius Pearl was an instructor assigned to the Basic Training Unit at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy. While he was there, he enjoyed developing and leading new recruits who joined the ranks of our member agencies. MPO Pearl had a passion for leadership and lifelong learning and felt that his position as an instructor allowed him to influence the future of our law enforcement profession.

Master Police Officer Pearl began his 15-year law enforcement career in the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, eventually transferring over to the police department in 1998. MPO Pearl spent several years in patrol and eventually achieved the rank of Detective in 2004. As a Detective, he was part of the Criminal Investigations Section of the Fair Oaks District Station and then in the Major Crimes Division, as a part of the Financial Crimes Unit, before coming to the Criminal Justice Academy in 2009. During his time in patrol and as a detective, he was awarded a Meritorious Commendation, Team Excellence,

and Meritorious Action Award for his outstanding work ethic and dedication to his profession.

MPO Pearl also served as a Major in the United States Army Reserves, where he served two combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. His 18 years of service in the Army Reserves were highly decorated and awarded. MPO Pearl was the epitome of a line taken from a poem he was fond of since the first days of his service to the Army: "I have lived times others would say were best forgotten. At least some day I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was." MPO Pearl was proud of who he was and lived his life as a leader, a consummate professional, and dedicated public servant.

Julius Pearl not only loved and lived his life as a law enforcement and military professional, but he was also a dedicated father and husband. There was nothing that meant more to him than his wife, Cindy, and his twin boys, Garrett and Gabriel. He will be sorely missed by all that knew him and will always carry on in our hearts, minds, and actions.



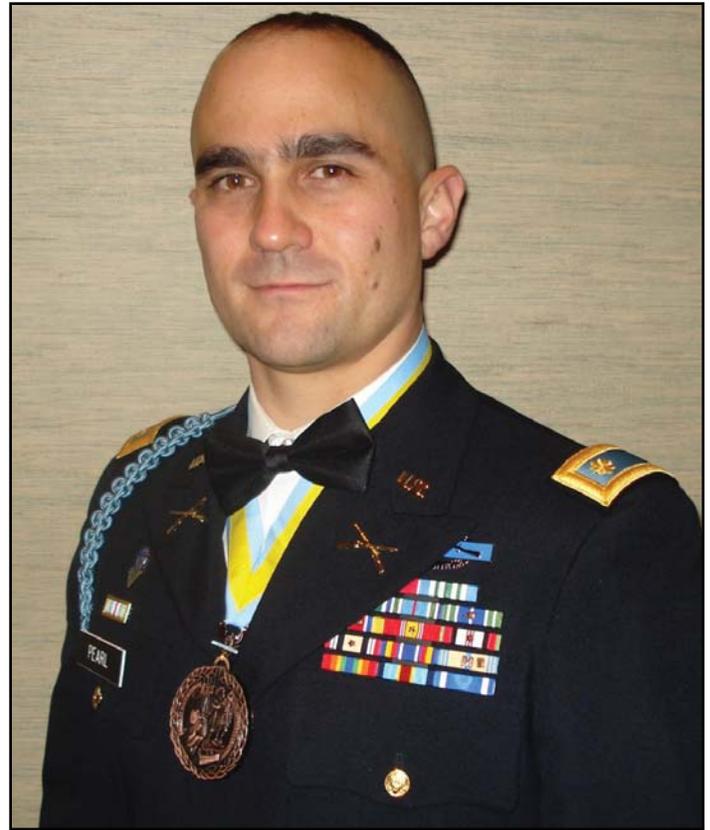
MPO Julius Pearl with his family on a recent vacation.

Friends of Julius N. Pearl,

I know time has passed since Jay was called to be with God. Although Jay has physically parted from us, he has left behind his legacy. I was unaware of how many lives Jay had touched until I experienced the outpouring of love and support by countless individuals. I have begun to reflect on the gifts God has given to me, to Garrett, and to Gabriel. He has provided us with the gift of family and friends. Each one of you individually holds a special part in our heart for sharing in our lives.

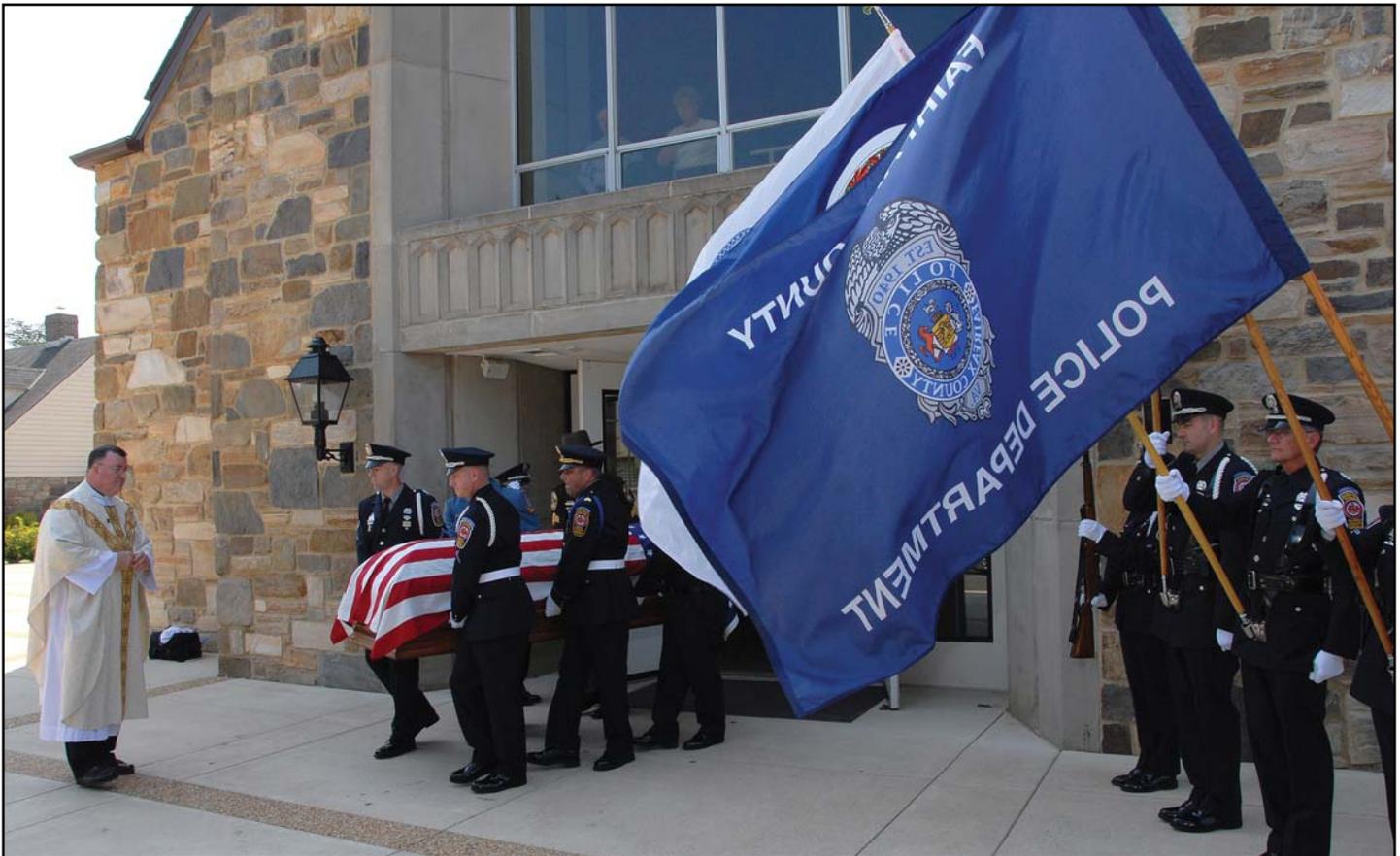
I want to thank you for your support and your sympathy that was beautifully expressed.

Sincerely,
Cindy Pearl



Right: MPO Pearl in his decorated Army uniform.

Below: A solemn moment during MPO Pearl's funeral.



Chaplain's Corner

by Chaplain Ike Hendershot, Fair Oaks Station and Helicopter Division

Do the Right Thing.

As I pondered what to write for this issue, I reflected on the Fairfax County Police Department and the great opportunities available to “make a difference.” Despite a pretty severe economic downturn recently, the department remains strong. The department’s real strength, however, rests in you, the members. The more I communicate with FCPD members, the more I am impressed with the day to day demeanor of those who claim the title of professional Law Enforcement Officer.

Demeanor has been defined as “one’s conduct toward others.” It is refreshing to interact with people who treat others as they would want to be treated in action, word, and deed. As I prepare to retire from federal law enforcement after over 30 years of service, my thoughts take me back to something an Assistant Director of the Secret Service frequently espoused. He used a phrase that went something like: “Do the right thing, the right way, the first time, on time, every time.” Doing the right thing involves one’s demeanor and respect for others. (RESPECT, R- Reasonable, E- Expectation, S-Supplying, P-Personal, E-Example, C-Communing, T-Together). In my mind, there are not many better goals to pursue.

There is a need to continue to do the right thing with respect as the FCPD continues as a premier law enforcement organization, providing first class protection to a continuously growing community, providing assistance to members of the department and other law enforcement entities in times of need and promoting camaraderie, professional networking, communications, social interaction, and the honoring of excellence in

law enforcement. Every member whether sworn or civilian represents the department. This is not a burden but a blessing. Remember, individuals can disagree without being disagreeable as they continue to build on commonality as family. Every member is capable of representing the department with integrity. In fact, the phrase quoted above could be a great definition for this over used word (INTEGRITY, I-Indispensable, N-Norm, T-That, E-Emphasizes, G-Goodness, R-Respect, I-Initiative, T-Trustworthiness, and Y-Yielding).



Chief Rohrer with Chaplain Ike Hendershot, Fair Oaks Station and Helicopter Division

I am proud to be associated with the Fairfax County Police Department as a Police Chaplain and I know that everyone connected in any way with this great department is proud as well. As you interact with others and lend a hand to those less fortunate within our community and without, remember to make a difference and “do the right thing.” The community you serve considers you worthy of trust and confidence.

May God bless you all,
Rev. Ike Hendershot

In Memory

Corporal Garland R. Rose, Jr. (Ret.)

Date of Passing: April 9, 2011

Garland R. Rose, Jr., was born November 6, 1925, in Murfreesboro, North Carolina. At the age of 17, and with written permission from his parents, he joined the United States Navy. He worked on a fuel tanker as an engineer's mate fueling ships in port and out at sea. He was at sea on a tanker when Pearl Harbor was attacked. His tanker returned to Pearl Harbor and helped clean up oil spills. After the war, Garland worked for Capital Transit, for a car dealership at Fairfax Circle and part-time as a butcher at a grocery store. He joined the Fairfax County Police Department in January 1956. His assignments included headquarters, Communications Section, the Groveton and Annandale substations and he was promoted to Corporal in March 1964. Garland retired after a heart attack in July 1974. He was an avid fisherman.

Garland's wife, Evelyn, predeceased him. He is survived by four children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Senior Police Officer Thomas J. Richardson (Ret.)

Date of Passing: August 18, 2011

Thomas James Richardson was born August 30, 1940, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. T.J. served in the United States Army. He was employed by the Bristol Township Police Department prior to joining the Fairfax County Police Department in August 1969. His assignments included the Identification Section, McLean, West Springfield and Chantilly District Stations, the Criminal Investigations Section of the Fair Oaks Station and NOVARIS. He was promoted to Senior Police Officer in July 1976. T.J. retired in March 1990. After retirement, T.J. worked a variety of jobs. He enjoyed coin collecting, reading and doing research.

T.J. is survived by his wife, Jeanne, two daughters and three grandchildren.

Second Lieutenant Walter David Belew (Ret.)

Date of Passing: October 7, 2011

Walter David Belew was born February 5, 1940, in Milan, Tennessee. He served in the United States Army. Dave worked part-time for the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office prior to joining the Fairfax County Police Department in June 1962. His assignments included the McLean and Chantilly District Stations, the Criminal Investigations Division, McLean Criminal Investigations Section, Licensing Section, Property Section and the Emergency Vehicle Operations Center. David was promoted to Senior Police Officer in August 1975, to Corporal in 1979 and to Sergeant in May 1982. He retired in March 1984 with the rank of Second Lieutenant. After retirement he worked six years for the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office. Dave and family then moved to Gleason, TN, where he farmed.

David is survived by his wife of 50 years, Judy, four children and nine grandchildren.

Janet Lee White (Ret.)

Date of Passing: August 17, 2011

Janet Lee White was born November 14, 1932, in Maryland. Janet was hired by the Fairfax County Police Department as a civilian employee in June 1970 and assigned to Central Records. Janet retired in September 1991.

Janet's husband, Tommy, predeceased her. She is survived by two sons, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The importance of a police officer's family cannot be measured. We share with you the loved ones who passed away during this time. Frances Powell, widow of retiree Philip Powell, passed away on April 20, 2011. Carolyn Burns, wife of retiree Gerald Burns and daughter of retiree Daniel Kriss, passed away on June 20, 2011. Shawn Schifko, son of retiree Edward Schifko, passed away on July 24, 2011. Ruth Dove, widow of retiree Paul Dove, passed away on September 15, 2011. Elisabeth Boswell, widow of retiree Charles Boswell, passed away on November 10, 2011. Barbara 'Bobbie' Wingo, widow of retiree Edward Wingo, passed away on November 23, 2011.



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