



The Reston Reliance

Reston District Station

"Providing Our Community a Solid Foundation Through Excellence"

May/June 2010

The First Guns n Hoses Chili Cookoff a Success!

Highlights in this issue:

- Solicitor License regulations
- Protect Your Path pedestrian campaign
- Copperhead Snake Bites on the Rise
- Reston District Station Services

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By PFC Katy Fernbacher,
Crime Prevention Specialist

Saturday June 19th, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce hosted the first Guns n Hoses Cook-off to benefit the First Responders Committee in the Reston District. The event took place as part of the annual Taste of Reston at the Reston Town Center.

The First Responders Committee is a partnership among the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, companies in and around the Reston Town Center, the Reston Citizens Advisory Committee(CAC), the Fairfax County Police Department and the Fairfax County Fire Department. The committee supports the CAC Officer of the Quarter for both the Fire Department and the Police Department in the Reston District, and provides donated gift baskets to each of the Officer of the Quarter recipients.

Five teams participated in the competition for the best chili. Reston District Commanders in Chili, Smokin Gun Chili, Fair Oaks Texas Hold'em Chili and Crime Scene Section Reaper's Stew made up the Police Department teams and Fire Station 425 A shift and C shift rounded out the five competitors. A team of five judges, including the Fire and Police Officer of the Quarter, put their votes in for the best chili of the day.

Awards were handed out for best overall chili and for the people's choice, done by number of tastes purchased. Derek Hardy and Erica Slight took first place overall with their Reaper's Stew followed by Sophia Grinnan, Kim Doran and Drew Ryan with their Texas Hold'em Chili and Fire Station 425C shift took third place by the judges. Fire Station 425C also took home the people's choice award for most chili tickets collected.

The proceeds from this event will help purchase supplies for the Officer of the Quarter baskets and a holiday luncheon the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce provides support for.

Look for the Second Guns n Hoses Chili Cook-off next year!



Under Investigation

Elderly Scam Turns into Robbery

McLean Police District – Police are investigating a robbery that began as an attempt to scam an elderly man on Wednesday, June 2. Some time between 2 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., the victim, a 74-year-old man, was approached by two men in a parking lot in the 7300 block of Lee Highway. The men claimed they had a winning lottery ticket and needed his assistance to cash it.

At the request of one of the men, they went to the victim's home nearby. Once inside, the men threatened the victim and demanded money. The victim drove the suspects to a bank in the Tysons Corner area, withdrew an undisclosed amount of cash and relinquished it to the suspects. They ordered him to drop them off near the intersection of Lee Highway and Gallows Road; the victim complied and the suspects fled on foot. The victim was not injured. The incident was not reported to police until the next day.

One of the suspects was described as Greek or Hispanic, between 32 and 33 years old and about 5 feet 3 inches tall. He was between 130 to 135 pounds, with a medium build, dark complexion and straight black hair. He spoke with an accent.

The other suspect was described as white or Italian, about 45 years old, 6 feet tall and 165 pounds, with a medium build. He had a light complexion, straight black hair and brown eyes. He went by the name of Vincent.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.



As always, report any suspicious activity to the Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131

Take Care of Your Animals Citizens Cautioned to be Mindful of Pets in the Heat

Animal Control officers responded to a citizen's call on May 27 in Chantilly regarding an English Bulldog that was in distress. The dog, estimated to be about 2 years old, was unresponsive. The dog was immediately rushed to a local animal hospital for treatment and was pronounced by the veterinarian to be dead upon arrival. The dog had no shelter and its water bowl was empty.

High temperatures can cause heat stroke and even death among pets left outside or in cars exposed to the heat. The Fairfax County Animal Services Division recommends a climate controlled area for dogs to keep them out of extreme temperatures which can be dangerous during hot summer months.

Virginia Code §3.2-6503 outlines minimum standards of animal care required of pet owners, which includes adequate water and shelter. On a hot day, leaving a pet outside without access to shade can be deadly. Even if water is left for an animal outdoors, an insufficient amount or lack of access to that water—which could be caused by a pet drinking all the water, knocking it over or not being able to reach it—may result in similar deadly consequences.

"Pets without adequate shelter or water cannot protect themselves from the elements," says Michael Lucas, Animal Control director. "Similarly, pets left in a car have no way to escape the heat. Even with the window cracked open, temperatures can soar leaving pets vulnerable and in a life-threatening situation."

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**FIGHTING CRIME
ONE CALL
AT A TIME**



1-866-411-TIPS (8477)

CRIME SOLVERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ REPORT A CRIME ✓ REMAIN ANONYMOUS ✓ RECEIVE A REWARD
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To subscribe to the Reston Reliance newsletter, sign up at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/newsletter to receive notifications to download current newsletters.

Reston District Hot Sheet From the Crime Analysis Unit

Arrest Made Burglary of Home:

An arrest has been made in a burglary case that occurred on April 21, 2010 in the 11000 block of Becontree Lake Drive. The suspect entered the home and took a laptop. Reston Detectives received information as to where the suspect was staying, responded and took him into custody. He has been charged with burglary.

Arrest Made-Burglary of Office Building:

An arrest has been made in a burglary case that occurred on May 7, 2010. A subject was seen entering an office building in the 1800 block of Explorer Street then exiting with documents. He was taken into custody and charged with drunk in public and unlawful entry.

Juvenile Suspect named in Several Graffiti Cases:

A juvenile has been named in several non gang graffiti cases in the 2400 block of Centreville Road in Reston.

Arrest Made Larceny from Auto/Assault:

Reston officers made an arrest in a case where a weapon was stolen from a vehicle while it was parked in the 12000 block of Sunset Hills Road. Information was received that the subject was in possession of the firearm and they responded to this location and took him into custody. The subject is also facing assault and larceny charges from other incidents.

Robbery:

On Saturday, June 5 around 12:09 p.m., a 26-year-old female hotel clerk and a 27-year-old female were robbed. A man entered the Homestead Studio Suites, located at 12190 Sunset Hills Road, displayed a gun and demanded money. Both victims turned over cash and personal property. The suspect fled on foot in an unknown direction. There were no injuries.

The suspect was described as white, around 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet 2 inches tall, medium build and wearing blue jeans and black T-shirt.

Arrest Made-Larceny-CVS:

Two arrests have been made in several larceny cases in CVS stores around the Reston District.

Arrest Made in Burglary Case:

Arrests have been made in a burglary that occurred on May 29th.

Suspicious fires around Runnymede Park:

Since February there have been six fires set in the area of Walnut Branch Road and Creekbend Drive. Residents are asked to report any type of suspicious activity to police immediately.

Summers here-Secure your Valuables!

Summer is here! Residents are reminded to remove all valuables from their vehicles and secure all belongings before leaving their vehicles for the night. As always, report any suspicious activity to the police departments non-emergency number- 703-691-2131.



Rise of Stolen Autos:

Recently Reston has seen spikes in thefts of motorcycles. Residents are urged to report any type of suspicious activity to the non-emergency number.

License Plate Thefts

License plate thefts continue to be an issue in the Reston District. Residents are reminded to report any suspicious activity to the non-emergency number.



Bicycle Larcenies:

Bicycle thefts are on the rise. Remember to secure your bicycles that are stored in outdoor areas.

Crime Prevention Starts With YOU!

- Lock your doors, even when you are home
- Secure your bicycle with a lock everywhere you leave it, even at home
- Record and keep all serial numbers from your electronic equipment
- Report all suspicious activity to the police, call the non-emergency number 703-691-2131

Protecting Your Path

Reston officers stepped up patrols along the W & OD trail with a public awareness campaign ensuring “Safe Avenues for Everyone” from June 12 – 25. Between 2005 and 2008 there were approximately 154 pedestrian/vehicle collisions involving bicyclists, walkers and motor vehicles.

But after years of steady decline, preliminary data showed a slight uptick in crashes in 2009. In an effort to raise awareness of the rules and regulations governing trail use, Reston officers educated bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists both on and near the trail.



Target areas for the campaign included Sunset Hills Road and Wiehle Avenue where the W & OD trail crosses Wiehle Ave. The other location was the pedestrian crossing areas in and around the Reston Town Center, especially the Bluemont Way crosswalk.

The campaign included officers traveling on bicycles, cars, motorcycles as well as a marked all-terrain vehicle that traversed the W & OD trail. Officers closely monitored the trail and nearby crosswalks and distributed safety literature to all those that passed by.

Beware of Copperheads

An unusually high number of copperhead snakes have recently been reported in Fairfax County. Copperheads are venomous snakes that are found here and throughout Virginia.

Copperhead snake bites have been reported across Fairfax County in the Dranesville (Riverbend Park), Hunter Mill (Reston), and Springfield (Clifton) Districts. Typically, reports of snake bites (and sightings) do not peak until between August and October when baby copperheads are hatching.



Virginia is home to three poisonous species of snakes, the Timber Rattlesnake, the Cottonmouth and the Copperhead. It's important to remember that while death from snake bite in Virginia is extremely rare, they can be painful and cause a number of symptoms such as; swelling and

bruising, sweating, weakness, nausea, vomiting, muscle twitching and a metallic taste in the mouth. It is important to seek medical attention if you or your pets are bitten.

The Fairfax County Wildlife biologist recommends the following safety tips:

- Keep grass and vegetation mowed short on private property – Snakes like to hunt in tall grass
- Stay on the sidewalk and park trails
- Supervise children at all times
- Do not approach a copperhead - NEVER pick up a snake
- Keep dogs on leash at all times
- Do not overturn rocks or logs
- Wear appropriate protective clothing when outdoors.

If you are bitten by a snake:

- Stay calm
- Do not apply a tourniquet
- Keep body part immobilized and area level with heart
- Seek immediate medical attention (nearest hospital)

For more information on copperheads or other local wildlife, please visit the Fairfax County Government website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals/wildlife. For more information, or to report a copperhead incident, contact Vicky Monroe the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist at 703-324-0240.

What you need to know About Fairfax County Regulations for Solicitors

There are two types of solicitors:

- Solicitors who offer merchandise for sale door-to-door or from a temporary stand
- Solicitors who solicit charitable donations for a civic or charitable organization

Rules of solicitation:

- May not solicit in any area that is clearly posted "No Peddlers or Solicitors"
- May operate only between the hours of 9:00 am and 8:00 pm
- Must present solicitor's license to any customer who asks to see it
- Must provide his/her name, name of the company and the nature of the solicitation to any customer when asked
- Must be truthful when stating the purpose of the solicitation
- Must provide a detailed, written receipt for any goods sold when asked by the customer
- Must leave when asked

What to do if you believe a person is soliciting illegally:

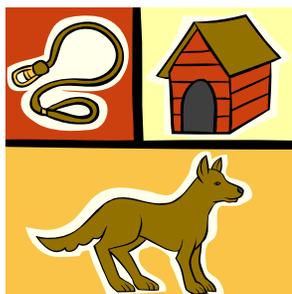
- Call the police immediately using the non-emergency number
- Give the police a description of the solicitor and which way the person is traveling
- Once the police arrive, speak with the officers to give them any other information they may require

For more information about solicitors in Fairfax County visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dcccp for the Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection.

TYPE OF GOODS Art & Jewelry	NO. S06-104
EMPLOYER DeSigns By Tina	PHONE 703-111-2222
EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS 9677 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22030	
ISSUED (DATE) 4/12/2005	EXPIRES (DATE) 6/12/2005
LEFT THUMB PRINT 	RIGHT THUMB PRINT 

Continued from page 2.

People who deprive their pet of necessary shelter and water and those who leave a pet in a car on a hot day could be prosecuted for a class 1 misdemeanor for animal cruelty under the Code of Virginia §3.2-6570.



Animal Care Tips During Hot Summer Months:

- Keep your pet indoors in a climate-controlled area, especially when you are not at home.
- Make sure that pets have access to shelter and/or shade (whether indoors and outdoors).
- Provide plenty of fresh water of a "drinkable temperature."
- Never leave pets alone in a car without air conditioning. Even cars parked in the shade or in parking garages can reach soaring and potentially fatal temperatures for pets.

SUMMER SCAM: RESIDENTIAL SECURITY ALARM SOLICITORS



Electronic security systems are an excellent means of protecting homes and businesses and most alarm companies in Virginia are legitimate. A trend in recent years has been that some out-of-state alarm companies hire temporary workers to enter Virginia and sell alarm services door-to-door. Often, the salespeople are college students, hired for the summer, who have minimal training in alarm systems and monitoring. They frequently practice “high pressure” tactics and sell relatively inexpensive alarm systems that generate most of their cost from the monitoring fees.



The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) regulates all alarm companies and their employees, including sales staff. The regulations pertaining to all such services are written to protect the consumer and citizens from unscrupulous persons. The Administrative Code relating to all burglar and security alarm sales employees in Virginia (6 VAC 20-171-30) states that prior to their being hired, each person must submit to DCJS: completed fingerprints cards, a fingerprint processing application, an applicable nonrefundable fee and all criminal history conviction information on a form provided by the department. Through this process, DCJS ensures that those persons entering a resident's home or business, who have access to your valuables do not have a criminal history. Each electronic security sales representative must also work for a licensed business in Virginia. The sales representative is required to become registered as an electronic security sales representative in Virginia as specified in the regulations.



The Fairfax County Police Department encourages all citizens to be aware and observant of door-to-door alarm systems solicitors. If you see these individuals or an increase in alarm company vehicles in your neighborhood, please report them to the Fairfax County Police Department through the non-emergency police number at **703-691-2131**. Do not fall victim to high pressure sales tactics from anyone. If you encounter an alarm sales representative, whose legitimacy you question, do **not** allow them to enter your home. Remember, the best practice is to speak to solicitors through your closed door. They can hear you! You may request to see their required DCJS issued photograph registration card and solicitors license and take down the information from it. If you are interested in the product, you may contact the DCJS directly at (804) 786-4700 or call to verify their legitimacy and call them at a later date for an invited sales visit. If the sales person is pushy, refuses to show their registration card or otherwise acts suspicious, write down their description and that of their vehicle, and immediately call police.



Fairfax County Police Department Remembers Fallen Officer during Police Week



Fairfax County Police officers took part in this year's National Police Week honoring fallen law enforcement officers May 9th through 15th. Officers from the Fairfax County Police Department participated in many of the events that took place in Washington, D.C. at the National Law Enforcement Memorial at Judiciary Square. The memorial holds the names of fallen law enforcement officers from all over the United States and its territories including the five officers killed in the line of duty from Fairfax County: Karen Bassford, Tommy Bernal, Vicky Armel, Mike Garbarino and Frank Stecco. The memorial is free to the public and open 365 days a year. For more information about the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, visit www.nleom.org.



CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Would you like to become more involved in the Reston District? You can, by attending the Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) meetings. The CAC was established in 1979 to enhance the Department's ability to communicate with and better serve the community.

The CAC meeting can involve presentations by any aspect of the police department, and may cover the helicopter division, identity theft, the canine division and child safety. In addition, you will find out what is going on in your community and will have the opportunity to talk to the Commander and other officers of the Reston District Station and express your concerns directly.

The formal meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and runs about 1½ hours. (The Neighborhood Watch precedes it at 7 p.m.) The meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Reston District Station at 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. ***The next meeting is Thursday, September 17, 2010***

There are no dues or membership requirements and dress is casual. Late arrival/early departure is OK. This is time well-spent and we hope to see you there. For more information contact the Crime Prevention Office at 703-478-0799. Everyone is welcome—join us!

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT)

is reaching out to seniors in Reston and Herndon to get more involved. Seniors, law enforcement, community services and anyone who has an interest in reducing the victimization of seniors come together on a regular basis to discuss issues like ID theft, fraud, fire prevention, emergency management and other crime prevention topics. Meetings are held in the Reston/Herndon area and are open to anyone interested in attending. For more information about SALT, please e-mail Phyllis Smith or Margie Shapiro at trisalt40@aol.com or call the Crime Prevention Office at 703-478-0799

RESTON DISTRICT STATION SERVICES

For more information regarding the following services, please contact the Crime Prevention Office at (703) 478 - 0799 or e-mail the Crime Prevention Officer Katy Fernbacher at katy.fernbacher@fairfaxcounty.gov

Reston District Police Station Web Page: You will find links to on-line reporting, neighborhood news, station information, the Reston Reliance and other information at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/reston>

Reston Reliance Newsletter: If you would like to sign up to receive the Reston Reliance, please visit the Fairfax County Police webpage at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/newsletter>

Home/Business Security Assessments: Are you concerned about the safety and security of your home or business? If so, call us to schedule a free security assessment. We will make recommendations and offer suggestions to better safeguard your home or business.

Neighborhood Watch Training: If your community is interested in receiving Neighborhood Watch training, please call us and we will schedule a time to come to your community to give the training.

Reston Business Crime Watch: This e-mail alert system is designed to give businesses up-to-date and specific crime information pertaining to the type or location of the business.

To learn more about our police volunteer programs, just visit the Fairfax County Police website (search by keyword: VIPS, APO, Citizens Police Academy); or go directly to:

VIPS: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/vips.htm>

APO: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/jobs/auxiliarypoliceofficer.htm>

Citizens Police Academy: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/citizens-police-academy.htm>

Community Resources

POLICE—Non-Emergency.....	703-691-2131
EMERGENCY	911
Reston District Police Station.....	703-478-0904
Alcohol and Drug Services (Youth Services).....	703-961-1080
Center for Multicultural Human Services.....	703-533-3302
CrisisLink Crisis Hotline (Suicide, trauma, life crises).....	703-527-4077
Community Services Board (Prevention services).....	703-324-7000
Emergency Mental Health Services (24 hour).....	703-573-5679
Department of Family Services.....	703-324-7938
Fairfax Area Agency on Aging.....	703-324-7948
Fairfax County Dept. of Community and Recreation Services—Teen Services...	703-324-8336
Fairfax County Gang Coordinator.....	703-246-2396
Fairfax County Health Dept.....	703-246-2411
Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.....	703-246-2495
Fairfax County Public Schools—After school programs.....	703-246-6740
Northern Virginia Gang Task Force—Tip Line.....	1-866-664-2647



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publication



To request this information in an alternate format,
call the Fairfax County Police Department at
(703) 246-7562 and TTY (703) 204-2264.

Reston District Station
12000 Bowman Towne Drive
Reston, VA 20190



PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 45
FAIRFAX VA