



# Sully Spotlight

Heroes Live Forever  
Badge 1417  Badge 2806

## September 2006

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### Events of Interest for the Month

 **Mon., Sept. 4—Labor Day**

 **Tues., Sept. 19—7:30 p.m.—Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard**



## Back to School Traffic Safety Tips

As students head back to school in the coming weeks, drivers are reminded to keep children in mind when driving.

School buses will once again be on the roads. Once a school bus stops and activates its stop lights and stop sign, other drivers on the road must stop their vehicles in both directions, unless they are separated from the bus by a physical median. In 2005, 288 summonses were handed out to drivers who failed to stop while a bus was loading or unloading children. Bus drivers routinely report drivers who pass them while stopped. When specific areas become trouble spots, unmarked police cars will follow buses on their routes and pull over drivers who disobey the law.

Other vehicle safety threats to children include aggressive drivers and those who speed, especially in school zones and residential areas. Drivers must abide by the 25 mph speed limit in school zones when the wink-o-matics are blinking. Fairfax County Police asks all drivers to obey the laws, and watch for direction from the crossing guards and safety patrols. If you are not already familiar with our web based form for reporting aggressive driving, visit [https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf\\_sfty\\_report.htm](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf_sfty_report.htm). Once citizens make a complaint about a driver, the driver receives a letter from Fairfax County Police Department.

Another safety issue in Fairfax County is turning right on a red light. Before making a right turn at a red light you must stop, look for oncoming cars and pedestrians, and then, only when conditions permit, can you make your turn. Too many vehicles are treating a red light like a yield sign; it is not.

We wish a safe 2006-2007 school year for children and drivers.



# *Sully Spotlight's New Look*

By PFC Mary Hulse

The *Sully Spotlight* has adopted a new look on the front page. After the events of May 8, 2006, I felt a duty to permanently honor MPO Michael E. Garbarino (Badge 1417) and Detective Vicky O. Armel (Badge 2806) in the Sully District Station's monthly newsletter. As a station, a department, and a community many things have been accomplished and are still being worked on to honor Mike and Vicky. The lioness may not mean much to you if you have never toured the Sully District Police Station. I wanted to take this opportunity to explain the significance behind the emblem. The lioness sits on the inside of the building above the back doors to the rear parking lot. It is under this lioness that officers exit the building each day to go to their cars to work. It is through these doors that Mike and Vicky gave the ultimate sacrifice for their fellow officers and community. The badge symbolizes the integrity and promise that each officer swears an oath to. Together the badge and the lioness encompass the sacrifice that each officer makes daily. So, in honor of Mike and Vicky, and all the officers at Sully, as the words under the lioness say, "Through these doors pass the courageous officers of the Fairfax County Police Department."

*Heroes Live Forever*

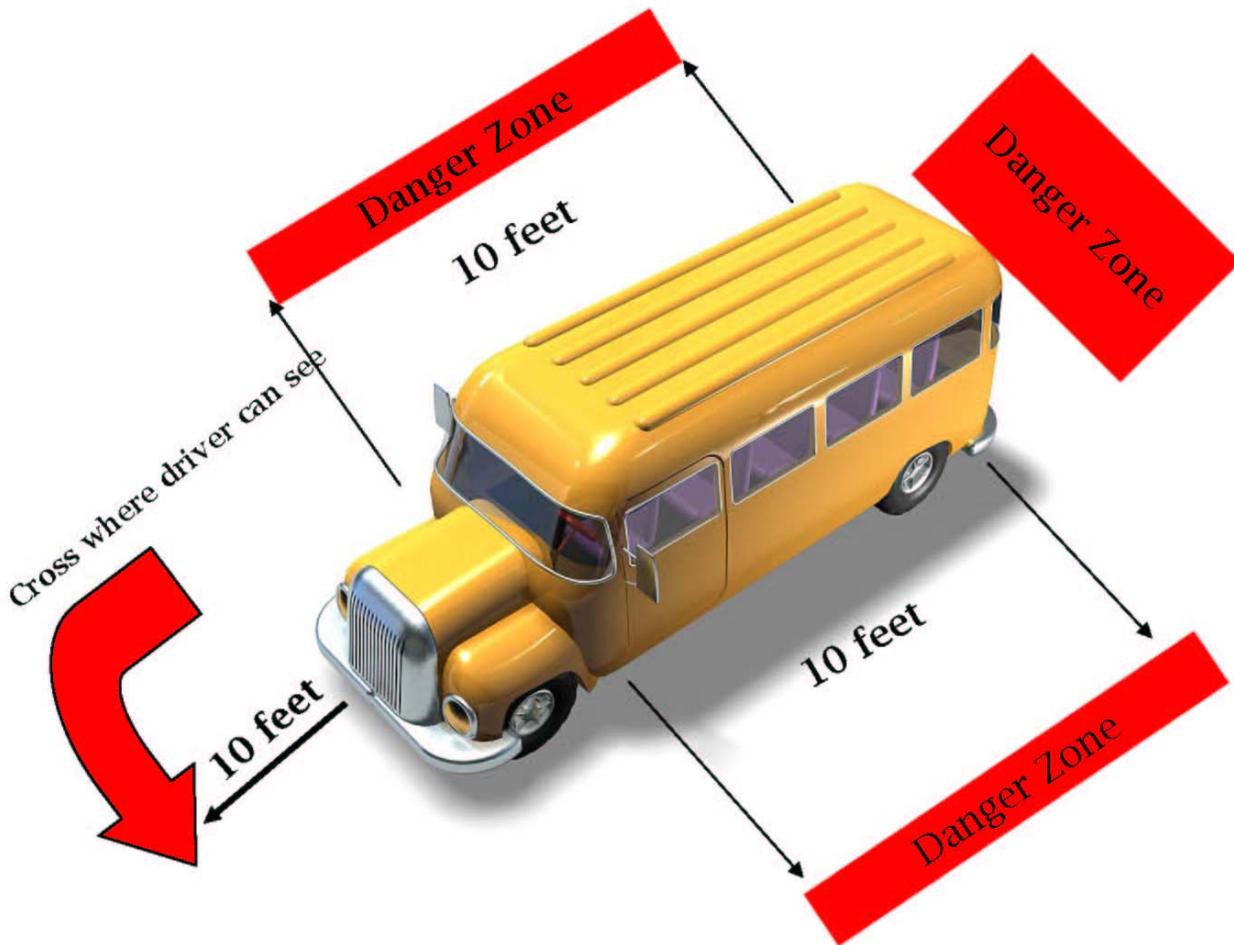
**Give pedestrians the right of way.**

**The purpose of a crossing guard is not to ensure vehicle traffic keeps moving, it is to stop traffic for pedestrians.**



**Watch for children crossing streets -- both at cross walks and other areas.**

# School Bus Danger Zones



If you have children riding a school bus, you should talk to them about the importance of danger zones around the school bus. Make sure your child is familiarized with the danger zones listed above. The danger zone is the area on all sides of the bus where children are in the most danger of being hit. Children should stay ten feet away from the bus (or as far away as they can) and never go behind it. They should take five giant steps in front of the bus before crossing, so they can be seen by the driver.



## School Bus Safety Tips for Parents

### Walking to the Bus Stop

- ‡ Walk your young child to the bus stop and have older children walk in groups. There is safety in numbers; groups are easier for drivers to see.
- ‡ Practice good pedestrian behavior; walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, stay out of the street.
- ‡ If you must walk in the street, walk single file, face traffic and stay as close to the edge of the road as you can.
- ‡ Stop and look left, right and then left again if you must cross the street. Do the same thing at driveways and alleys. Exaggerate your head turns and narrate your actions so your child knows you are looking left, right and left.

### Waiting at the Bus Stop

- ‡ Don't let your child play running games or push and shove at the bus stop. It is dangerous.
- ‡ Make sure your child stands at least 10 feet (five giant steps) from the road while waiting for the bus. The child will then be out of the way of traffic. Have younger children practice taking five giant steps to become familiar with 10 feet.

### Getting On and Off the Bus

- ‡ Warn children that, if they drop something, they should never pick it up. Instead, they should tell the driver and follow the driver's instructions. If they bend over to pick up a dropped object, they might not be seen by the driver and could be hurt if the driver pulls away from the stop.
- ‡ Remind children to look to the right before they step off the bus. Drivers in a hurry sometimes try to sneak by buses on the right.
- ‡ Teach your children to secure loose drawstrings and other objects that may get caught in the handrail or door of the bus as they are exiting.
- ‡ Give your child a note or follow your school's procedures if you would like the child to get off at a stop other than the one they are assigned. The driver isn't allowed to let a child off at another stop without written permission.
- ‡ If you meet your child at the bus stop after school, wait on the side where the child will be dropped off, not across the street. Children can be so excited at seeing you after school that they may dash across the street and forget the safety rules.

### Riding the Bus

- ‡ Children should talk quietly, be courteous to the driver and follow the driver's instructions.
- ‡ Children should stay seated during the entire bus ride and keep the aisles clear.





ChildSafeNet

## Comings and Goings – Getting Kids to School and Back Safely

by **ChildSafeNet**/P’CASO (Protecting Children Against Sex Offenders)

*Working in partnership with the Fairfax County Police to*

*Make our Communities Safer for Kids*

Making communities safer for kids is what *ChildSafeNet*, a Fairfax County-based non-profit organization in partnership with the Fairfax County Police Department, is all about. Visit [www.childsafenet.org](http://www.childsafenet.org) for information on ways to keep your children safer and to learn about *ChildSafeNet*’s P’CASO (Protecting Children Against Sex Offenders) work in Fairfax County.

Getting kids to and from school is a weekly routine for countless families – a routine so commonplace that it is easy to forget how vulnerable children are during this time. Take a few minutes now to read and be reminded of the rules that will make your own kids safer each day. Then take a lot more time to *teach and practice* these rules with them. (*Practicing* works much better than just “telling”!)

The following rules were adapted from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children’s “Know the Rules For Going To and From School More Safely”. You will find many more valuable child safety publications and resources on NCMEC’s website, [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com), which you can link to from [www.childsafenet.org](http://www.childsafenet.org).

- Always travel with a friend, and preferably in a group, when walking or riding bikes to and from school. There is safety in numbers. Never take shortcuts or travel in isolated areas.
- *Parents!* - walk the route to and from school with your children. Point out landmarks and safe places to go if your kids think they are being followed or need help.
- Even in groups it is not safe for young children to walk to and from school without adult supervision.
- Teach children of every age to stay with a group while waiting for the school bus.
- Kids should *never* accept rides from someone they don’t know well or aren’t comfortable with. Teach them to say **NO** unless you have given your specific permission.
- Teach your kids to immediately GET AWAY from anyone who bothers them while they are going to and from school, and to immediately TELL you or another trusted adult.
- Grownups shouldn’t ask kids for help. Teach your child to get away from any adult who approaches them to ask for help or directions. Teach them to **TELL** you or another trusted adult if this happens.
- Tell your kids to immediately get away from anyone who follows them on foot. If someone in a car follows them, they should turn around and go in the other direction. Make sure they are taught to **TELL** you or another trusted adult about what happened!
- Teach your children to use their voice *loudly* if someone *ever* tries to take them away. They can yell “This person is trying to take me away!” or “This person is not my mother/father.” *Practice* this skill with them. Teach children *never* to leave school with someone they don’t feel comfortable with or know. Instruct them to *always* **CHECK FIRST** with you or another trusted adult.

Children may not always be within reasonable striking distance of home or known, trusted adults. When instructing kids to “get far away” from people (persons as well as strangers) who make them feel threatened or uncomfortable, teach them that they can also go as rapidly as possible toward well-populated, well-lit areas - stores, busy shopping, schools or community centers, for instance, where people are congregated – and “tell” a store manager, Mom with kids or other person in authority.

*Telling, teaching, practicing.* Education is our best protection!

**ChildSafeNet** works in partnership with the Fairfax County Police and the community at large to make our neighborhoods safer for kids. For more information on child/teen safety, or to schedule a *ChildSafeNet* program, contact Anne Harrison, Executive Director, at 703.768.9477, or at [anne@childsafenet.org](mailto:anne@childsafenet.org). Visit *ChildSafeNet* online at [www.childsafenet.org](http://www.childsafenet.org) for a wealth of child safety information as well as links to other organizations in the field of child protection. *ChildSafeNet, Inc.*, P.O. Box 7144, Fairfax Station, VA., 22039.

# Traffic Trivia



## Passing a stopped school bus

**Code of Virginia § 46.2-859.** A person is guilty of reckless driving who fails to stop, when approaching from any direction, any school bus which is stopped on any highway, private road or school driveway for the purpose of taking on or discharging children, the elderly, or mentally or physically handicapped persons, and to remain stopped until all the persons are clear of the highway, private road or school driveway and the bus is put in motion. The driver of a vehicle, however, need not stop when approaching a school bus if the school bus is stopped on the other roadway of a divided highway, on an access road, or on a driveway when the other roadway, access road, or driveway is separated from the roadway on which he is driving by a physical barrier or an unpaved area. The driver of a vehicle also need not stop when approaching a school bus which is loading or discharging passengers from or onto property immediately adjacent to a school if the driver is directed by a law-enforcement officer or other duly authorized uniformed school crossing guard to pass the school bus. This section shall apply to school buses which are equipped with warning devices prescribed in § 46.2-1090 and are painted yellow with the words "School Bus" in black letters at least eight inches high on the front and rear thereof. Only school buses which are painted yellow and equipped with the required lettering and warning devices shall be identified as school buses.

The testimony of the school bus driver, the supervisor of school buses or a law-enforcement officer that the vehicle was yellow, conspicuously marked as a school bus, and equipped with warning devices as prescribed in § 46.2-1090 is prima facie evidence that the vehicle is a school bus.

## School Starts Tuesday, September 5 in Fairfax County

Watch for children!



Stop for school buses loading and unloading children!



Obey the posted school zone speed limits!

Obey the crossing guards' signals!



# *Sully District Station Child Seat Inspections*

Is your child seat installed properly? Is it the correct seat for the child's age and weight? Did you know that your Sully District Station offers free child seat inspections by certified technicians?

Next available dates:   Thursday, September 7, 2006           5 p.m.—9 p.m.  
                                  Tuesday, September 12, 2006           5 p.m.—9 p.m.  
                                  Tuesday, September 26, 2006       5 p.m.—9 p.m.



No appointment is necessary. Our technicians request that you make an effort to install your child safety seats yourself, so that they may properly inspect and make adjustments, as necessary. For additional child seat inspection times, you may call the Fairfax County Operations Support Bureau at 703-280-0559.

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## **Sully District Station Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC)** **September's Discussion: "Meth" Usage in Fairfax County**

By John Werderman, CAC Chairman



In 1979, the Fairfax County Police Department established a program to enhance its ability to communicate with and better serve the community. This program took the form of advisory groups, known as Citizens' Advisory Committees (CAC), comprised of citizens representing a cross-section of the various neighborhoods of Fairfax County. Each of the eight police district stations formed a Citizens' Advisory Committee to work hand-in-hand with the station commanders on issues confronting the district.

The committees hold monthly meetings open to the public for the purpose of:

- providing a forum for obtaining citizen input about the delivery of police services,
- providing a formalized process that will facilitate citizen and community cooperation with the police, and identifying specific and potential problem areas concerning police services.

The Citizens' Advisory Committees are comprised of dedicated individuals who receive no compensation beyond the satisfaction of improving their communities and their Police Department. Their role is critical in maintaining citizen involvement in, and support for, the continued delivery of professional police service in Fairfax County.

The Sully District Citizens' Advisory Committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month (September through June) at 7:30 pm. Past meeting topics have included local gang activity, counter-terrorism and illegal immigrants.

We have all read about methamphetamine or "meth" in the newspapers and heard about it on the evening news. As a highly addictive drug, Meth has found its way in our neighborhoods, our workplaces and our schools. Now you have an opportunity to hear directly from the experts about its dangers, how Fairfax County is affected and how officials are combating its use. At the September CAC meeting, there will be a presentation from law enforcement and treatment workers titled "Meth360". Additionally, we will be awarding one of our Sully officers the Officer of the Quarter Award, holding elections for our executive committee (chair, co-chair and secretary) and receiving a station update from our station commanders. You are cordially invited to attend our next meeting on September 19 at the Sully District Government Center located at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly.

Come help make our community safer. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting.



# Word Search



## School's In Session!

S K S O W G H Q B N S N Z C D E A J S S  
 P L P L P C K K O I T R R A O F L C N R  
 E G O F A E F I W O C O E S A O H E O E  
 D O T R W N T I S R S Y S T A O T I W H  
 E C S I T N G U U S N Y C D O S F A B C  
 S I P N E A L I I A A O I L I O T Z T A  
 T F T T H K P N S W U N Z L E C C S J E  
 R F T T L Y G Y H R G O D Y H S E S S T  
 I A D A S G L T T E N F O R C E M E N T  
 A R W G U U O E W E S P O L I C E J O I  
 N T Z A F B S X S O F P K S O D C K I M  
 S Z R E K Y H K Z F L A S I A G E C T I  
 Z D R O T C R X L Q C S S G R J D H C L  
 S A O Z L S C I T A M O K N I W R I U D  
 C L E C I T C A R P W B R S N L I L R E  
 R E D L I G H T S Z W S U N D E V D T E  
 N C A U T I O N Y E B O S S E D E R S P  
 S T N E R A P U A O O J E O E R R E N S  
 W S V D B V K X T H U W V L R S S N I Q  
 S T H G I L G N I H S A L F O C C T M D

ATTENTION

BICYCLES

BUSES

CAREFUL

CAUTION

CHILDREN

CORNERS

COURTESY

CROSSING GUARDS

CROSSWALKS

DRIVERS

ENFORCEMENT

FLASHING LIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONS

KISS AND RIDE

LISTEN

LOADING

LOOK BOTH WAYS

OBEY

PARENTS

PEDESTRIANS

POLICE

PRACTICE

REDLIGHTS

SAFETY PATROLS

SCHOOL ZONES

SCOOTERS

SIGNALS

SIGNS

SLOW

SPEED LIMIT

STOP

TEACHERS

TRAFFIC

WALK

WATCH

WINKOMATICS



Sully District Police Station  
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard  
Chantilly, VA 20151

Main Phone 703-814-7000  
Fax 703-814-7013

File a Report on Line  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/homepage.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/homepage.htm)

Virginia Amber Alert  
<http://www.vaamberalert.com>

Aggressive Driving—  
Report Online at  
[https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf\\_sfty\\_report.htm](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf_sfty_report.htm)



#### PHONE NUMBERS

Fairfax County Crime Solvers :  
1-866-411-TIPS

Fairfax County Police Non-Emergency:  
703-691-2131

Sully District Crime Prevention Office:  
703-814-7018

Child Car Seat Installation:  
Sully District Station  
703-814-7000 x 5140

SAFE (Self Defense Class)  
703-246-7806

Citizen Reporting System  
(to file reports only )  
703-464-4756



## The Next Time You Drive, Remember This.....

In 2006, 42 crashes have resulted in 46 fatalities:

January: 4 crashes, 4 killed  
February: 1 crash, 1 killed  
March: 9 crashes, 9 killed  
April: 8 crashes, 9 killed  
May: 4 crashes, 5 killed  
June: 3 crashes, 3 killed  
July: 8 crashes, 10 killed  
August: 5 crashes, 5 killed

#### Facts:

- ☛ Twelve **pedestrians** have been killed. (Jan. 28; Feb. 3; March 10, 25, 29; April 5, 14; June 8, 18; July 21; Aug. 17, 19)
- ☛ Six **motorcyclist** have been killed. (March 11, 27; May 20 (x2), 31; July 7)
- ☛ Six victims were **20 years old or younger**. (March 25; April 19; May 29; July 15; Aug. 18)
- ☛ Five crashes (seven deaths) were **alcohol-related**.

Your actions as a driver do make a difference on the highways. If every person obeyed the traffic laws and used care and caution while driving, these statistics would be much lower. Over Labor Day weekend and with the beginning of school, take the time to obey the traffic laws. *The life you save could be your own.*

