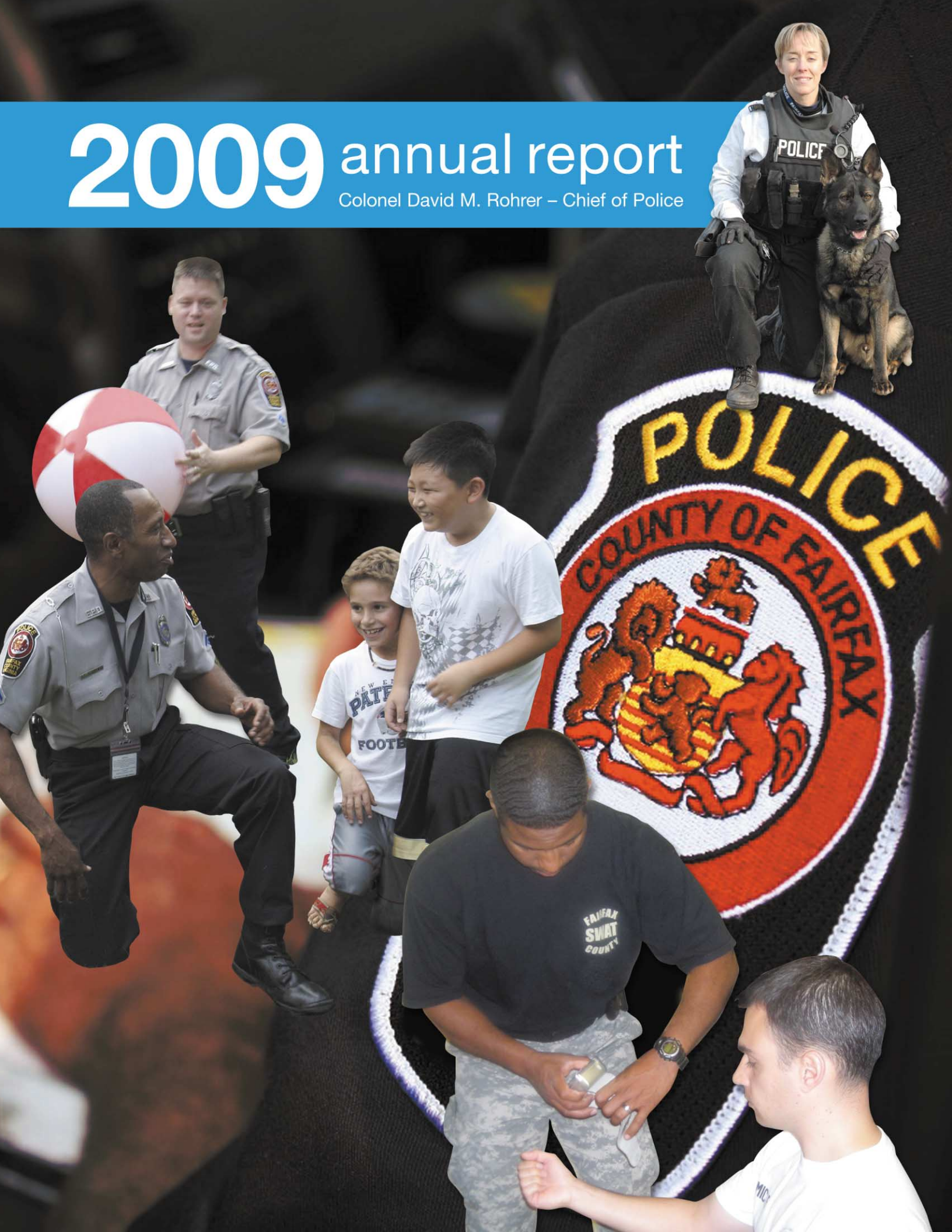


2009 annual report

Colonel David M. Rohrer – Chief of Police



message from the Chief

Dear Fairfax County Community Member,

I am pleased to present the Fairfax County Police Department's 2009 Annual Report. This report presents just a glimpse of the everyday policing, investigations, special operations, and community outreach your police department performs to ensure Fairfax County remains one of the safest metropolitan communities in the country.

Although any crime is one too many, we experienced an overall decrease of nearly 5 percent in reported index crimes in 2009. The reported incidents of rape increased, but murder, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft each declined. Most significantly, violent crime decreased overall by 14.6 percent. Crime rates are influenced by many factors, but I am confident that the dedication of our men and women, our community-policing and intelligence-led policing models, our focus on repeat offenders, and the significant community involvement and support we enjoy have proven successful once again.

Like many County residents and businesses, the police department has been challenged by the economic downturn and reductions in our budget. However, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to our core mission to protect and serve the community. Although we have had to eliminate or scale back some programs or operations, we have focused on priorities. I am proud of our men and women as they have responded to the challenges and reductions with the same professionalism and innovation that have long been their hallmark.

I am also pleased to report the Department met another professional milestone in 2009 by becoming the first law enforcement agency in the Commonwealth of Virginia to be reaccredited for the third time by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. We are proud of this accomplishment, but readily acknowledge it was only achieved with the engagement and support of the community we are entrusted to serve and protect.

As policing professionals and public servants, we are, as always, accountable to the community. Public trust is the foundation on which effective policing is built and sustained. Public trust is also at the core of the community partnership we enjoy, and we are fully committed to not only our mission, but to the core values and integrity inherent in policing. We reaffirm our commitment to maintaining the public trust, and will strive to further protect and enhance it in the months ahead.

On behalf of the men and women of the Fairfax County Police Department I hope you enjoy this annual report and I thank you for your continued support and commitment to our community partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "D. M. Rohrer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

David M. Rohrer, Colonel
Chief of Police

organizational chart



mission

The Fairfax County Police Department protects persons and property by:

- Providing essential law enforcement and public safety services;
- Promoting and maintaining community involvement, stability, and order through service, assistance, and visibility

values

We, the men and women of the Fairfax County Police Department, value:

- Ethical Standards
- Public Trust
- Our Partnership with the Public
- Laws and Constitution
- Accountability
- Teamwork
- Cooperation
- Harnessing Technologies
- Quality in Our People

2009-2011 board of supervisors

Sharon Bulova, Chairman At-Large

John C. Cook, Braddock District Supervisor

John W. Foust, Dranesville District Supervisor

Michael Frey, Sully District Supervisor

Penelope A. Gross, Mason District Vice-Chairman

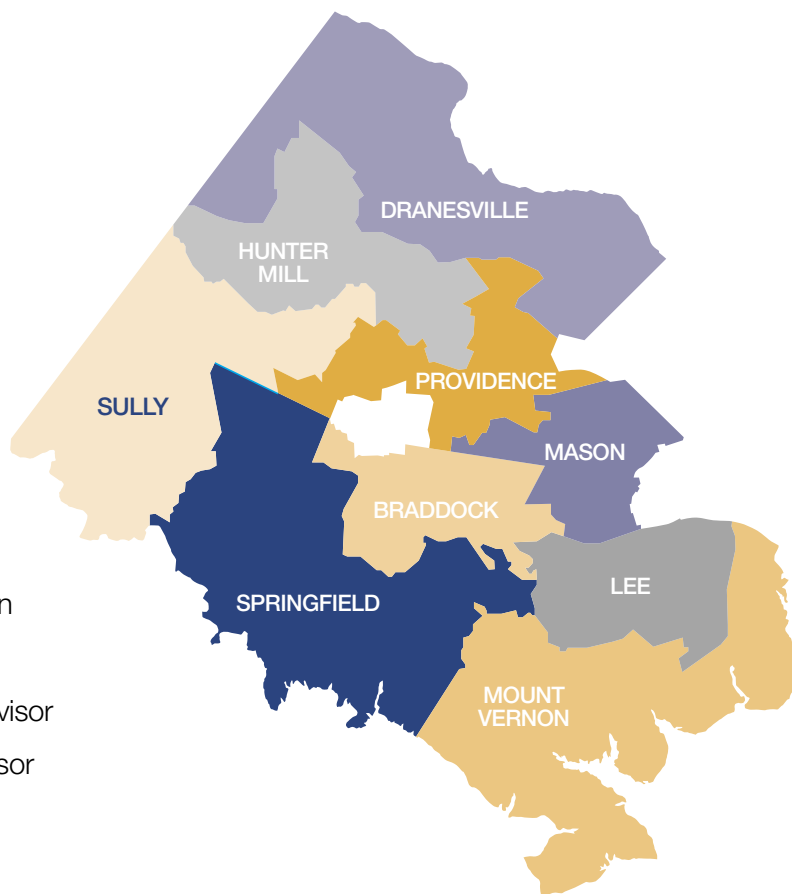
Pat Herrity, Springfield District Supervisor

Catherine M. Hudgins, Hunter Mill District Supervisor

Gerald W. Hyland, Mount Vernon District Supervisor

Jeff C. McKay, Lee District Supervisor

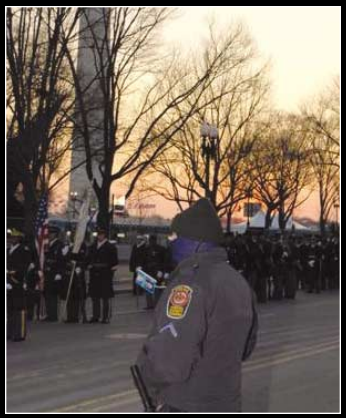
Linda Q. Smyth, Providence District Supervisor



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january



1.20.2009

INAUGURAL

More than one million people poured into downtown D.C. to witness history as Barack Obama was inaugurated the country's 44th president. A contingent of the Civil Disturbance Unit and selected volunteers was responsible for crowd control for one section of the Inaugural Parade route. Here in Fairfax County another contingent of officers fanned out to all five Metro stations and four VRE stations in the county to ensure travel to and from the District was safe. Roads leading into D.C. were closed for security reasons and that left walking and rail as the only ways to get to the festivities. There were concerns Fairfax County, especially the roads around Metro and VRE stations, would become gridlocked by hundreds of thousands of cars and people. Our officers maintained order around and inside all nine stations, stopping the flow of pedestrians to prevent dangerous overcrowding of the platforms. Their presence kept traffic and people moving safely throughout the day with only minor incidents reported.



1.16.2009

K-9 GRADUATION

Three new K-9 teams graduated after rigorous 14-week basic training to become members of the award-winning Fairfax County Police Canine Unit. There are 13 officers and 15 dogs in the Unit (two officers have bloodhounds in addition to their patrol dogs.) FCPD has 10 German Shepherds and three Belgian Malinois on patrol and they rotate duty 24-hours-a-day, seven days-a-week handling calls across the county. In 2009, the dogs and their handlers responded to 2,175 incidents and made 121 apprehensions.

K-9 teams are trained in tracking criminal suspects and missing and endangered children and adults. Additionally, the teams learn how to locate drugs and search buildings, woods, and neighborhoods. They assist on barricade incidents, stakeouts, and suspect takedowns.

These very special dogs and handlers form deep bonds on and off the job since the dogs live at home with the officers and their families.

february



2.3.2009

10 YEARS OF VIPS

Back on February 3, 1999, a news release went out from the FCPD seeking qualified persons who were interested in contributing their time and talents to provide administrative assistance to the Department. Thus began the Volunteers in Police Service or VIPS Program within the Fairfax County Police Department. Since that time, individuals have volunteered over 114,187 hours of service, totaling over \$2,854,675 in cost benefits to the department and county. At the end of 2009 there were 99 active volunteers ranging in age from 25 to 88 years old. The volunteers are assigned throughout the department depending on their skills and experience. Their assignments range from graphic designer and editor, to directors and staff members of the Citizens Police Academy, to language interpreters, and instructors for the Mature Operator Driver's program.



2.29.2009

CYBERPREDATORS

Cyber predators use the anonymity of the internet to find victims to take advantage of sexually, emotionally, psychologically or financially. They can be extremely elusive and their cases can take months, even years to unravel. One such investigation concluded in February 2009 when detectives arrested Joshua Howard Michaels, 30, of Rockville, Maryland.

The case began in December 2008 when the Fairfax County mother of a young teenaged girl found disturbing documents on a home computer and notified police. It was charged that between September and December 2008, Michaels was communicating electronically with

the 14-year-old victim. In those communications, he was charged with providing and requesting sexually explicit photos. Luckily, that's as far as this case progressed and the victim was not otherwise harmed.

Michaels was charged with indecent liberties with a child and use of communications systems to facilitate certain offenses involving children.



3.15.2009

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The Fairfax County Police Department Motorcycle Squad took top honors in the best performance category at the 2009 St. Patrick's Day parade in D.C. March 15. Normally, the 32 full-time members of the Motor Squad patrol the streets and highways of the county on Harley Davidson motorcycles, taking advantage of their two-wheeled maneuverability to weave through back ups to reach crashes and other emergencies. In rain, stifling heat and frigid cold they enforce traffic laws, control traffic at highway incidents and power outages, and clear a path for funeral processions. In 2009 the officers of the Motor Squad issued 31,145 tickets, handled 139 major crash scenes, and provided escorts for 233 funerals.



3.23.2009

SERIAL BANK ROBBER

Fairfax County Robbery Squad detectives turned to the public for help identifying an armed serial bank robber in March, 2009. On Monday, March 23, the suspect boldly vaulted over the counter to get to tellers at the United Bank, located at 13060-I Fair Lakes Boulevard. Once his demands for cash were met, he herded bank workers into the vault and locked the door on his way out.

Investigators believe this same suspect was responsible for several of the 23 bank robberies experienced in the county in 2009. Detectives solved 55 percent of those cases and continue to work on the unsolved crimes.

UPDATE: Two men inside another bank being robbed on May 20, scuffled with the armed robber and held him until police arrived. Marlon Negassa, 37, was charged with the May robbery and charges are pending against him in eight more bank robberies in Fairfax County.

april



4.20.2009

SEXTING FORUM

Sexting – the act of sending sexually explicit messages and photographs primarily between mobile phones and devices burst onto the Fairfax County teen scene in 2009. School Resource Officers assigned to the county's middle and high schools started seeing evidence of the devastating emotional and psychological impact sexting can have on teenagers.

In April the police department took a leadership role regionally to get honest, detailed information about sexting to those who needed it most. More than 150 teenagers, parents, and teachers braved standing-room-only conditions for the first sexting forum at the Kingstowne Library to learn from School Resource Officers, a detective from the Sexual Predator Enforcement and Detection unit, a representative from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Morrogh.



RABID ANIMALS

Two rabid raccoons charged residents in McLean, biting, scratching and tearing clothes in separate incidents and a cat in Oakton tested positive for the rabies virus in April, 2009. These are just three of the rabid animal incidents that put county residents on alert. Concerned police and health officials canvassed neighborhoods in Oakton and McLean, educating and warning the public about the threat of the rabies and offering steps to reduce the risk of exposure. Rabies is a deadly virus that is transferred through the saliva of an infected animal. A number of animals that live in Fairfax County, including raccoons, foxes, skunks, and bats are common rabies carriers. All dogs and cats four months of age and older must be inoculated against rabies. All dogs over four months of age also must be licensed in Fairfax County. Failure to comply with these laws can result in fines of up to \$250.

may



5.6.2009

BUILD AMERICA ARRESTS

On Wednesday, May 6, more than 135 law enforcement officers wrapped up a year-long undercover investigation. Operation Build America was launched in May 2008 in response to community complaints about illegal activities and clear indicators that crime was on the upswing in and around the shopping center. The investigation successfully infiltrated several criminal organizations and businesses around the center.

Collectively, 143 criminal arrest warrants against 27 individuals and 15 search warrants were served during this undercover operation. Among the crimes included in the charges were distribution of drugs, receiving and selling stolen property, money laundering, credit card fraud, and malicious wounding. The undercover operation successfully recovered stolen firearms and illegal narcotics including cocaine and marijuana. None of it would have been possible without the participation of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.



5.31.2009

HELICOPTER RESCUES STRANDED BOATERS

A small fishing boat lost power near the Occoquan River dam on Sunday May 31, and the Fairfax County Police helicopter responded just in time. Two men in the boat jumped out just before plummeting over the dam's spillway. When the helicopter arrived, they were clinging onto a pole protruding from the rushing water. Pilot Chuck Engle, PFC Tim Schilling and PFC Jon Kaminski lowered a rope from the helicopter to the stranded boaters below. One of the men grabbed the line, held on with a death grip, and was pulled to safety on the shoreline. The second boater was rescued moments later by a U.S. Park Police helicopter.

june



6.4.2009

RISKY RIGS OFF THE ROAD

It's a rare driver who doesn't get a little nervous at the sight of a huge 18-wheeler bearing down on them from behind or darting around them at speed on the interstate. The officers of the Motor Carrier Safety Unit concentrate on ridding the roadways of dangerous heavy-duty commercial trucks and tractor trailers. In June of 2009, the unit launched a campaign to pull over and inspect these behemoths for safety and road worthiness. Of the 21 trucks inspected in the Chantilly area, almost half were ordered off the roads because of significant safety infractions and the officers wrote a total of 117 citations for safety violations. In all of 2009 the Motor Carrier Safety Unit ordered 432 unsafe trucks off the roads and issued 2,723 tickets for safety violations.



6.4.2009

DECADES OLD COLD CASE SOLVED

DNA evidence collected at the scene of a sexual assault nearly 30 years ago finally identified a suspect in the case. It was April 22, 1981 when a woman in her 20s was sexually assaulted and terrorized at gunpoint by a man who forced entry into her Burke townhouse. Detectives from the Cold Case Squad submitted DNA evidence from the original crime scene to the national Combined DNA Index System and got a hit. Their suspect was behind bars on unrelated charges in the Hampton Roads Regional Jail. On June 4, 2009, 63-year-old Maurice Turner was arrested, brought to Fairfax County, and charged with rape, abduction with intent to defile, and burglary with intent to commit a felony.



july

7.14.2009

BARRICADE SITUATION

A tense barricade situation that lasted 24 hours started on Tuesday, July 14 with a man and woman arguing outside a house in the 7700 block of Fisher Drive. When police arrived on the scene, the argument had ended with shots fired and a 36-year-old woman lay dead in the street. The suspect fled inside his house, joining a 44-year-old woman and an 8-year-old boy. The police department's mobile command bus, Crisis Negotiations Team, Mental Health, robots from the Bomb Squad and the SWAT team took over a two-block length of the street. For hours communications with the people inside was sporadic and there was very little indication any of the occupants would exit voluntarily. In the early evening of Wednesday, July 15, when all communications from those inside the house ceased, the decision was made for a team of SWAT officers to make entry. Inside they found the suspect dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound and the woman and child unharmed.



7.29.2009

HONOR GUARD TRAINING

The Fairfax County Police Department Honor Guard hosted an internationally recognized training seminar for Honor Guard team members from around the nation and beyond in July 2009. The three-day tutorial started with two days of classroom lecture, and hands-on training sessions. Classes included instructions on the proper folding of the flag; presentation of colors; 21-gun salutes, casket handling and more. On the third day the 44 participants put on dress uniforms and performed a mock line-of-duty funeral procession at the Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home in Fairfax. The Fairfax County Honor Guard participates in an average of 100 assignments every year and their service is voluntary.

august



8.13.2009

DOG FLU

An outbreak of canine influenza in August closed the dog kennels and halted adoptions at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Shelter officials told the public they were going to be cautious until the cases were under control. Although the illness is not contagious to humans, it spreads rapidly among dogs living in close quarters such as a shelter. This illness is generally not life-threatening to dogs; however in some cases dogs can develop severe disease.



8.18.2009

CURBING UNDERAGE DRINKING

Every spring during prom and graduation seasons and every fall as teenagers return to school, the police department designs safety campaigns aimed at combating underage drinking. In August 2009, the department formed an unlikely partnership with Premium Distributors and Heineken USA to raise awareness about the dangers of underage drinking. The "Serve and Protect" campaign targeted owners and operators of establishments that sell alcohol both on and off premises. They were enlisted to educate their staffs in detecting fake identification cards and given a "Responsibility Toolkit" to help. In addition to posters and handouts about underage access to alcohol, the kit included a small magnification tool to help them spot the fake ID cards.



9.2009

SUMMER HEAT

Reston District officers turned up the heat on criminal gang activity all summer and the results were impressive. A 12-person team of uniformed and plain-clothes officers and officers on bicycles patrolled targeted areas of the district with the goal of maintaining the safety of the district's trails and pathways. In addition to crime-fighting patrols, Crime Prevention Officers partnered with other county agencies on National Night Out to engage and educate residents about criminal street gangs. Curfew checks were also conducted with the assistance of the Juvenile Probation Unit.

No gang assaults, street robberies and not one malicious wounding occurred in areas where gang activity is known to be high. At the conclusion of "Operation Summer Heat" in September, Reston officers had made 42 arrests on 52 charges ranging from gang participation to larceny to prostitution.



9.24.2009

Arrests made in far reaching mortgage fraud case Complaints from neighbors to elected officials about small houses being torn down and replaced with mansions and then converted into boarding houses launched an intense investigation by the Financial Crimes section of the Criminal Investigations Bureau. On September 24, 2009, after months of investigation by FCPD officers and the FBI, 20 suspects involved in an elaborate and fraudulent mortgage scheme were arrested in an early morning takedown operation.

The crimes in the arrest warrants include conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud, using false statements to obtain property or credit, wire fraud, and mail fraud. Suspects convicted on federal charges could face up to 30 years in prison and fines of up to \$1 million. More than 200 houses with an estimated real estate value of over \$100 million were involved in the fraud.

october



10.2009

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

In 2009, the Fairfax County Police Department responded to nearly 10,000 domestic violence-related calls for service. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Fairfax County Police Department's Victim Services Unit offers immediate and direct support and assistance to crime victims, their families and witnesses suffering emotionally, financially and physically. Fairfax County Victim Services Section professionals reach out to those in need to let them know their rights. Additionally, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognizes that domestic violence is a serious issue in our community. Services for victims of domestic violence are offered through the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Programs, which are part of the Office for Women. These programs provide victims of sexual and domestic violence with safe shelter, counseling, support groups, and 24-hour hotlines through the Fairfax Women's Shelter and the Victim Assistance Network. The Women's Shelter can be reached at 703-435-4940. The Victim Assistance Network (VAN) can be reached at 703-360-7273.

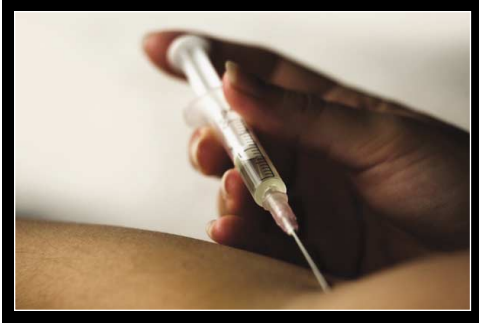


10.9.2009

ORANGE CONES. NO PHONES.

Cell phones and work zones don't mix very well. In fact drivers who insist on talking on mobile phones while driving the congested, construction-rich Virginia side of the Capital Beltway double their chances of a near-miss collision. Drivers who text while driving are over three times as likely to be involved in a traffic incident or near-miss than other drivers.

In October Captain Susan Culin, Commander of the FCPD Traffic Division, was one of the featured speakers helping to launch a regional campaign aimed at increasing awareness about the dangers of driving distracted. Add in narrower lanes, no shoulders, changing traffic patterns and lane and exit closures in the huge construction zones on so many Fairfax County roadways and it becomes a deadly dangerous combination. Safety experts implore drivers to keep their eyes and attention glued to the road, especially throughout the construction zones across the region.

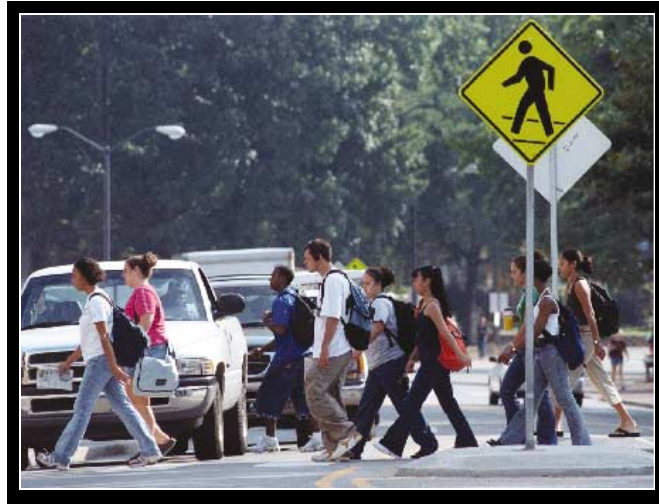


11.4.2009

ARREST IN INFANT HEROIN OVERDOSE

How can a five-month old infant overdose on heroin? That was the question detectives had to answer after the baby was rushed to the emergency room under the influence of heroin. It took three months to unravel but investigators believe the baby got the heroin when his parents left him in the care of babysitters who subsequently left him unattended long enough to get at the heroin. In November 2009 police charged four adults with felony child abuse and neglect.

The babysitters were identified as Patrick M. Hall, 41, of Stafford and Erin C. Flynn, 31, of Great Falls. The boy's parents, Marilyn Fischl, 35, and Rafael Preston, 30, were both also arrested on felony abuse and neglect. Fischl was also charged with possession of heroin and drug paraphernalia.



11.10.2009

PUSHING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY / PEDESTRIAN FATALITY

Thirteen pedestrians died following collisions across the county in 2009 so education and information campaigns and increased enforcement of laws protecting pedestrians are priorities for the police department. One such effort to deter pedestrians from unsafe and illegal roadway crossings, kicked off on November 21, 2009, in the Franconia Police District.

Police are particularly concerned about a portion of Backlick Road, between Commerce Street and Hechinger Drive, where pedestrians cross freely and frequently disregard street crossings. Officers distributed informational flyers, warnings and summonses in that area hoping to change walkers' dangerous behaviors.

The county participated in the regional StreetSmart Campaign during this same timeframe. The annual public awareness and education campaign aims to increase safety awareness among both drivers and pedestrians.

december



SANTA'S RIDE

It's a holiday tradition few Fairfax County residents want to miss. Santa, Mrs. Claus and the elves on Harley Davidson motorcycles rumble down the streets of Fairfax County delivering donated gifts to children. In addition to the hundreds of very special children in Fairfax, Santa and his helpers delivered the toys to children at the Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center and INOVA Fairfax Hospital Child Life Center. Toys also go to children at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, the Ronald McDonald House and Reston F.I.S.H. (For Immediate Sympathetic Help).

Santa's Ride includes the Fairfax County Police Motorcycle Squad, in cooperation with the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Virginia State Police, Fairfax City Police, Falls Church City Sheriff's Office, Town of Herndon Police and Town of Vienna Police.



12.21.2009

It was a snowy winter in Fairfax County and while kids took advantage of snow days to go sledding, some burglars took advantage of residents digging out. Police investigated two cases in the Belle Haven area in which thieves appeared to target homes when they could see residents outside clearing snow and ice from their sidewalks. In both cases, the thief got into the houses through unlocked or unsecured doors. They primarily took credit cards and went on personal shopping sprees afterward. Police remind you to lock your doors and secure your windows whenever you leave home.

Fairfax County Index Crimes 2008-2009

	2008	2009
Murder	22	14
Rape	95	105
Robbery	450	386
Aggravated Assault	386	309
Burglary	1,438	1,385
Larceny	16,244	15,643
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,288	1,096
TOTAL	19,923	18,938

Fairfax County At-a-Glance

Budget*	\$217,838,702
Per Capita Spending	\$213.72
Total Authorized Personnel	1,730
Total Authorized Sworn Positions	1,402
Total Authorized Non-Sworn Positions	368
Full-Time	304
Part-Time	64

* Budget data includes all costs associated with the operation of the agency. Some expenditures may be for Police Department operations made through another agency; e.g., fringe benefits budgeted to the Fairfax County Office of Personnel have been added to the Police Department's authorized budget.

in memoriam

“It is not how these officers died that made them heroes,
it is how they lived.”

Vivian Eney, Survivor



Karen Bassford
(1947-1977)



Sandy Gideonse
(1934-1998)



Tommy Bernal
(1950-2001)



Michael Garbarino
(1953-2006)



Vicky Armel
(1966-2006)



Frank Stecco
(1966-2008)



credits

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