



BEHIND THE BADGE



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OUR MISSION

In the spirit of service, the Raleigh Police Department exists to preserve and improve the quality of life, instill peace, and protect property through unwavering attention to our duties in partnership with the community.

OUR VALUES

Service, Courage, Fairness, Integrity, Compassion

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

As a department, we are committed to our people, professionalism, leadership, innovation and interoperability, and organizational change.

Behind the Badge is published monthly by the Raleigh Police Department.

Please send corrections, comments, or inquiries to Dawn Myers at: Dawn.Myers@raleighnc.gov



Spotlight On... Officer H.K. Slade

By Ms. Dawn Myers

Last month, the Triangle Community Foundation selected Officer H.K. Slade of the Southwest District as their most recent "Champion of Giving Back," an honor that recognizes local individuals who are dedicated to serving their communities. The TCF selected Slade for the award because of his work with Bushido Women's Self Defense, an all-volunteer organization that teaches women practical self-defense skills.

Ten years ago, Slade discovered that there were very few opportunities available for women who wanted to learn how to effectively defend themselves against an attacker; the self-defense books and classes tailored to women mainly involved physical techniques that were hard to master and could potentially be difficult to remember during an attack. So he decided to seek out the advice of the experts at the Association for Women's Self Defense Advancement, a non-profit organization dedicated to furthering awareness of self-defense and rape prevention.

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Ofc. Slade

New, Improved RPDnet To Go Live on March 28

By Ms. Dawn Myers

On March 28, the new version of RPDnet, with a restructured design and expanded features, will become available to all RPD personnel.

For over a year, members of the RPD's Information Services Team and Public Affairs Office, guided by officer input, have been working on expanding and improving Department's existing Web-based intranet site, which was created several years ago by Senior Officer J.T. Maultsby. RPDnet began as a

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The new RPDnet, which will go live on March 28, will serve as the new source for all types of departmental information.

RPD Explorers Excel at Regional Competition

By Ms. Dawn Myers

Members of the RPD's Explorer Post 911 got a chance to showcase their law-enforcement skills at the Winterfest Explorer Competition, which was held February 4-6 in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Over 3,200 Explorers from all over the nation participated in this year's Winterfest, in which Law Enforcement Explorers, Fire Service Explorers, and members of the JROTC gathered to compete in a series of events designed to test their knowledge and skills relating to their chosen fields.

Explorers Z. Bumgardner, R. Byrd, D. Campbell, E. Huggins, J. Locke, M. Macedo, K. Meehan, and M. Pierce represented the RPD as one of the 70 Law Enforcement Explorer teams at the competition. They participated in four of the 15 events, and earned fifth-place honors in both uniform inspection and domestic violence response.

According to Youth Services Officer K.L. Everett, the Explorers have been preparing for this competition during their weekly meetings since last summer. Guided by Everett, Youth Services Officer J. Carlton, Sergeant R. Walters, Senior Officer V.M. Doxbeck, Officer M.R. Harris, and Senior Officer S.P. Womack, the Explorers have practiced a myriad of law-enforcement skills through scenario-based training throughout the past several months to get ready to compete at Winterfest, and they are already planning to enter more events at next year's competition.

"We are grateful to the RPD officers who volunteered their time and knowledge in assisting the Youth Services officers in preparing the Explorers for this competition," said Walters, who leads the Youth Services Unit. "At Winterfest, our Explorers competed against more experienced Explorer post members and exceeded our expectations. We are very proud of their accomplishments."



During the annual Winterfest Explorer Competition, RPD Explorers Z. Bumgardner, R. Byrd, E. Huggins, and M. Macedo speak with an assessor about their performance in a felony vehicle stop scenario.

Photo courtesy of SO J. Carlton



The RPD Explorers line up for a group photo at Winterfest.

Left to right: E. Huggins, D. Campbell, R. Byrd, Z. Bumgardner, K. Meehan, M. Pierce, M. Macedo, and J. Locke.

Photo courtesy of SO J. Carlton



High-School Honor Students “Bowl With a Cop”

By Ms. Dawn Myers

Recently, some lucky high-school students got to take quite a unique field trip—to bowl and eat pizza with officers from the North District! The event, called “Bowl With a Cop,” was organized by the North District’s Community Policing Team as a way to reward top-performing students at Wakefield, Millbrook, Sanderson, and Leesville high schools.

Administrators from each high school chose three or four students who had made a significant achievement in academics or community service, and Sergeant R.E. Benjamin, Senior Officer H.G. Kellar, Senior Officer V.J. Espinoza, and Senior Officer H.L. Morton picked them up from school on February 3 and brought them to Sparians Bowling Boutique and Bistro at North Hills, which provided free bowling and lunch for the students and officers.

To add a fun twist to the event, each officer was paired with a school team, and the teams engaged in a bit of friendly competition. At the end of three games, Wakefield High School’s team, coached by Benjamin, was declared the winner and got to take home the trophy. Sanderson’s team took second place, followed by Millbrook and Leesville.

“Initially, the bowling idea was just a way to allow students to meet police officers in a setting outside normal interactions, to break down the authority-figure barrier that exists between citizens and the police,” said Benjamin. “Then we decided that we would like to honor a group of honor students for being positive examples to their fellow students. It was a very successful event, and I think the officers had just as good a time as the students did.”

The North District community officers are already looking forward to next year’s event, and they are grateful to Sparians for their generosity in hosting this event for the students.



SO Espinoza bowls with the Sanderson High School team during the North District’s first annual “Bowl With a Cop” event at Sparians Bowling Boutique and Bistro on February 3.

Photo by Dawn Myers



SO Kellar, SO Espinoza, SO Morton, Sgt. Benjamin, and students from Leesville, Millbrook, Sanderson and Wakefield high schools pause for a group picture at the end of the “Bowl With a Cop” event on February 3.

Photo by Dawn Myers



Spotlight On... Officer H.K. Slade *...continued from page 1*

Slade attended the AWSDA's yearly national conference, met several nationally-recognized self-defense instructors, and began to train with them. In 2003, he founded Bushido Women's Self Defense with a co-worker, Heather Fox, and they taught self-defense seminars and demonstrations at recreation centers, schools, and other venues on a volunteer basis, investing any funding from class registration fees back into the program.

Eight years later, Bushido Women's Self Defense has seven volunteer instructors, including Master Officer J.D. Fox of the North District and Officer E.M. Reeves of the Southeast District, and the organization offers a variety of courses, seminars, intermediate classes, demonstrations, and safety presentations. According to Slade, the goal is to teach women the skills they need to guard themselves against attack without teaching a specific series of movements that might easily be forgotten in a stressful situation. "Our entire focus is stopping sexual assault," said Slade. "The techniques that we teach are very simple to do and are very close to instinctual."

Slade says that a typical class begins with classroom instruction and discussion about topics such as situational awareness, verbal assertiveness, and the psychological aspects of being involved in a physical confrontation. The second half of the class involves hands-on activities to teach the participants how to gain advantage over a larger and stronger attacker. During some of the courses, the women get to try out their new skills on a padded assailant.

"We get a lot of requests to just teach the physical techniques, but we never do that without first teaching the verbal skills and how to avoid a situation where the last remaining course of action is to fight," said Slade.

Slade says that some women are hesitant to take a self-defense class because they feel protected by the men in their lives or by other factors, such as their dogs, alarm systems, or weapons they carry for protection, but he encourages all women to learn more about how to keep themselves safe.

"The truth is that even if a woman has an awesome husband, brother, father, or other man who she feels protected by, he's not going to be with her every minute of every day," said Slade. "It's the same way with a gun or an alarm or a dog – sometimes those things aren't there, or they don't work. Learning self-defense skills provides another layer of protection."

When Slade founded Bushido Women's Self-Defense, he was working in the hospitality management field, but his work with teaching self-defense led him to seek a new career in public safety. After graduating from Basic Law Enforcement Training and spending a year as a member of the Meredith College Campus Police, Slade joined the RPD in August 2010. After graduating from the 101st Lateral Academy, Slade was assigned to the Southwest District, where he currently serves on A Squad.



Ofc. Slade coaches a participant during the hands-on portion of a Bushido Women's Self Defense course.

Photo courtesy of Ofc. H.K. Slade

**RUN FOR OUR
HEROES**

IN HONOR OF OUR FALLEN OFFICERS RALEIGH POLICE

Come Run With Us on April 30!

Registration for the third annual Run for Our Heroes 5K race is now open.

For more information, visit www.runforourheroes.org.



New, Improved RPDnet to Go Live on March 28 *...continued from page 1*

list of links to district-specific information, such as most wanted lists, and as personnel from different divisions realized how many officers were using it on a regular basis, more links were added. Currently, all RPD personnel can pull up RPDnet and click the links to sign up for in-service training, access City e-mail, check warrants from several different agencies, and search RPD's trespass file, among other things.

According to Systems Analyst Nick Newbill, who developed the new RPDnet, and Public Affairs Specialist Laura Hourigan, who created the new "RPD News" section, the main idea behind changing the site was to decrease the number of emails sent out department-wide by expanding the capabilities of RPDnet. The goal, they say, is to put nearly all of the information that is currently distributed via mass e-mail onto RPDnet to reduce the amount of e-mail RPD employees receive on a daily basis.

"The purpose of the redesign is not to replace RPDnet, but to improve on an already crucial resource," said Hourigan. "It will be the go-to site for all of the Department's information."

The new RPDnet's home page features a "Common Links" section that lists many of the links that are on the current RPDnet. New to the home page is a listing of high-priority BOLOs, as well as a "Must Reads" section for important information that all personnel are required to review. Links to NCAWARE, CJLEADS, ERP, and the Pilot Daily form are easily accessed at the top of the page, and by clicking the "Theme" link in the upper right corner, users can switch the page's color scheme to make it more easily readable in daylight or darkness.

An array of drop-down menus under the RPDnet banner point to pages featuring division- and district-specific information, along with bulletins from the Raleigh Intelligence Center, computer support links from the Information Services Team, and RPD news from the Public Affairs Office. The new "BOLOs" section features a search capability for both active and archived BOLOs.

According to Newbill, a link to the old version of RPDnet will be available on the new site for a limited time, so that any resources that users may not be easily able to find on the new RPDnet can still be accessed quickly. Newbill says that the link to the old site will not be around for very long, and he encourages RPD members to contact him if they find that a particular link on the old RPDnet is not included in the new version.

"Our police resources on RPDnet are getting a much-needed facelift, but we want to make sure that everyone can still find what they need," said Newbill. "I also invite feedback about things people think should be added or changed."

Renee Ray, Johnnie Jones, Beverly Davis, Dawn Myers, Adrienne Brooks-Elsenity, Mary Ann Souders, Anita Goel, I'Asia White, Phyllis Williams, Beth Stephenson, Teresa Scaringelli, Beki DeArmas, Jennifer Green, Sherry Drafts, and Brent Quick were among the many RPD members who participated in the national movement to bring about greater awareness of women's heart disease during National Wear Red Day on Friday, February 4.

Photo by Laura Hourigan



Chief's Office Conducts Formal Inspection

By Ms. Dawn Myers

On Wednesday, February 9, the Chief's Office formal inspection took place in front of the interim RPD Headquarters on Six Forks Road. After a uniform inspection of sworn personnel conducted by Deputy Chief R.W. Grayson, the members of the Chief's Office gathered for a group photo.



Deputy Chief R.W. Grayson addresses the sworn members of the Chief's Office after inspecting their uniforms and equipment.

Photo by Dawn Myers



On Thursday, February 17, the Islamic Association of Raleigh held an appreciation luncheon to recognize several members of the RPD who have provided outstanding assistance and support to the IAR during the past five years. At the conclusion of the luncheon, Sgt. W.N. Vaughn, Lt. T.A. Klein, Lt. S.M. Jackson, Sgt. S.L. Lowery, Sgt. G.M. Smith, Chief Dolan, and Lt. R.L. Munn gathered for a group photo with former IAR Director of Security Kent Fullenweider, IAR Chairman Jalees Afzal, IAR Director Hassan Imam, Chairman of Safety and Security Abdul-Ahad Sadat, Vice-Chairman of Safety and Security Rashid Salahat, and former Chairman of Safety and Security Jameel Adur-Rashid.

Photo by Dawn Myers



Field Operations Division Holds Formal Winter Inspections

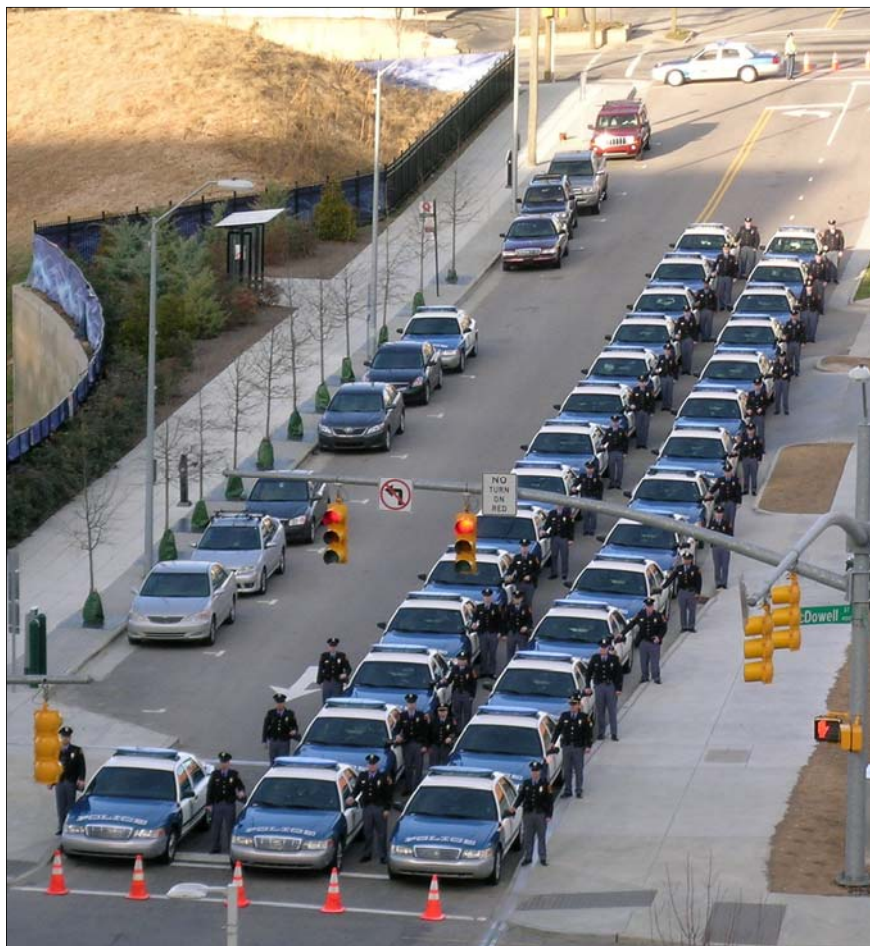
By Ms. Dawn Myers

On Sunday, February 20, the first of the Field Operations Division's formal winter inspections took place on W. Cabarrus Street in front of the Downtown District stationhouse. Field Operations Major J.C. Perry was joined by members of the RPD Inspections Unit to examine officers' uniforms and vehicles.

The officers of A and C Squads were the first to be inspected, and Perry stated that he was proud of their professional appearance and the condition of their vehicles. He also expressed his appreciation for the members of the Police Service Center team who have attended each inspection to take care of minor vehicle maintenance issues.

Members of C2 Squad from each of the six RPD districts stand beside their patrol cars on W. Cabarrus Street in preparation for a formal inspection on Sunday, February 27.

Photo courtesy of Lt. K.A. Carswell



Records Specialist Beverly Davis (center) pauses for a photo with Records Specialists Jonnie Jones, Beth Stephenson, Phyllis Williams, Betty Graves, Judy Farmer, and Records Supervisor Cordelia Holmes. On Friday, February 11, the Administrative Services Division held a social to thank Davis for her 13 years of outstanding service to the Records Section and wish her the best in her new role as a staff support specialist at the Raleigh Police Training Center.

Photo by Tammie Smith



Major Deans Announces Selections to GSU, TEU, CRU

By Ms. Dawn Myers



MO Camacho



SO Caron



MO Carpenter



SO Manukas



MO Sorrell

On February 7, Major S.M. Deans announced the selection of two officers to the Gang Suppression Unit, two officers to the Traffic Enforcement Unit, and one officer to the Crash Reconstruction Unit. These transfers will take effect on Saturday, March 12.

Master Officer E. Camacho has been selected to the Gang Suppression Unit. Camacho joined the RPD in February 2005. After his graduation from the 85th Academy, Camacho was assigned to C Squad in the Southwest District, where he now serves as a police training officer and district gang liaison. Since joining the Department, Camacho has earned his associate's degree in criminal justice from the University of Phoenix. Camacho was born and raised in Bronx, N.Y., and at the age of 18, he joined the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division. During his military service, he was deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. Camacho received a combat jump badge and a Silver Star for his actions in Afghanistan.

Senior Officer M.S. Caron has been selected to the Traffic Enforcement Unit. Caron joined the RPD on August 19, 2002. After graduating from the 80th Session of the Raleigh Police Academy, Caron was assigned to the Northwest District's A Squad, where he currently serves as a police training officer and the assistant team leader for A1 Squad. Caron grew up in West Haven, Conn., and joined the U.S. Marine Corps after graduating high school. During his military service, Caron managed approximately \$800 million worth of highly explosive ordnance and weapons systems and was stationed in South Korea for one year. Caron separated from the Marine Corps in 2001 and worked as a corrections officer at Central Prison before joining the RPD.

Master Officer A.P. Carpenter has been selected to the Gang Suppression Unit. Carpenter joined the RPD in March 2005 as a member of the 85th Academy. After graduation, Carpenter was assigned to E Squad in the Southeast District. Carpenter served as a gang liaison officer, and was also assigned to the district's special projects squad and A Squad before being called to serve on an overseas deployment with the N.C. National Guard in 2008. After returning from his tour of duty in early 2010, Carpenter was assigned to the Southeast District's Community Policing Team. Carpenter was raised in Warren County, N.C., and after graduating from high school, he worked for four years as a corrections officer in the N.C. prison system before being called for his first military deployment. Carpenter joined the RPD shortly after he returned from his deployment.

Senior Officer P.G. Manukas has been selected to the Crash Reconstruction Unit. Manukas joined the RPD as a member of the 76th Academy in January 2000. After graduating from the Academy, Manukas was assigned to the Northeast District, and in 2002, he transferred to the Southwest District. After five years on patrol in the Southwest District, Manukas transferred to the North District. Manukas became a Standardized Field Sobriety Test instructor in 2006, completed Drug Recognition Expert training in 2007, and became a DRE instructor for the State of North Carolina in 2008. Manukas, who grew up in central New Jersey, moved to North Carolina in 1996 after earning an associate's degree in criminal justice. He graduated from Campbell University in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

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Deputy Chief Grayson Announces Sergeant Transfers

By Ms. Dawn Myers

On February 7, Deputy Chief R.W. Grayson announced that Sergeant K.S. Anderson will join the Chief's Office as the Planning and Research sergeant, and Sergeant R.A. Hepps will join the Detective Division as the supervisor of the North General Case Squad, effective Saturday, February 12.

Sergeant K.S. Anderson joined the RPD on July 15, 1996 as a member of the 67th Academy. After field training, Anderson served on "E" Platoon, first on the 120 Squad, and later on the 2600 Squad. Anderson was one of the first members of the Threat Assessment Unit when it was created in 2001, and she also served as a detective on the Assault Squad and Cyber Crimes Unit. When Anderson was promoted to Sergeant in

2003, she was assigned to Field Operations, where she served as a patrol supervisor in the Southeast and North Districts. In 2006, she was transferred to the Administrative Services Division to serve as the In-Service Training Sergeant. After serving a year-long assignment as the RPD's Strategic Planning Coordinator in 2009, Anderson returned to the Training Staff. In November 2010, Anderson was transferred to the Detective Division as the supervisor of the North General Case Squad.

Sergeant R.A. Hepps joined the RPD on March 2, 1987. After graduating from the 52nd Academy, Hepps was assigned to "A" Platoon, where he served as a patrol officer. During his tenure of nearly 10 years on "A" Platoon, Hepps was a police training officer, a major crash investigator, a hostage negotiator, and a member of the CISD team. Hepps was promoted to Detective in March 1997 and assigned to the Drugs and Vice Unit, where he served for one year before transferring to the Residential Burglary Squad. In October 2003, Hepps became a corporal and transferred to the Southwest District, where he served for three years. Hepps was promoted to Sergeant in October 2006 and was assigned to the Downtown District, where he supervised a patrol squad until July 2009, when he was selected to serve in the Special Operations Division as the Front Desk sergeant. Before his transfer, Hepps supervised the Information Response Technicians, who were transferred to the Administrative Services Division in December 2010. Hepps currently lives in Raleigh with his wife of 24 years, Sherri. The couple's older son, Petty Officer Second Class Aaron Hepps, is a Navy Corpsman who has completed two tours of Afghanistan and is currently stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Their younger son, Lance Corporal Tyler Hepps, is a Marine Air Framer at New River Air Station in Jacksonville, N.C.



Sgt. Anderson



Sgt. Hepps

Major Deans Announces Selections to GSU, TEU, CRU *... continued from page 8*

Master Officer G.H. Sorrell has been selected to the Traffic Enforcement Unit. Sorrell joined the RPD in March 2005 as a member of the 85th Academy. After graduation, he was assigned to his current position as a patrol officer on A Squad in the North District, and he is certified as a general instructor, Standardized Field Sobriety Tests instructor, chemical analyst, and Drug Recognition Expert. Sorrell, a native of Angier, served in the National Guard's 30th Infantry Brigade and served an overseas tour of duty in Iraq before joining the RPD.

Race with us on Friday, April 8!

The RAPS Race is a 90-minute endurance go-kart race for public safety professionals at Rush Hour Karting's indoor go-kart facility in Garner. Four-person teams from local public safety agencies enter the race for intense fun, serious bragging rights, and the chance to support a good cause.



For more information, visit rapracing.com.



RPD in the Community



On Monday, February 7, Master Officer G.A. Witherspoon of the Downtown District's Community Policing Team arranged for the members of the William Bunn Preparatory School class at Moore Square Middle School to experience N.C. State University from a student's perspective. The boys attended two classes, then ate lunch at the dining hall and paused for a group photo before embarking on a tour of campus with their student mentors, who are majoring in parks and recreation at N.C. State. Photo courtesy of Master Officer G.A. Witherspoon

On Tuesday, February 15, the Youth Services Unit visited the Walmart on New Hope Church Road to thank the store management for their assistance with the RPD's "Shop with a Cop" event last December, in which 22 children were given gift cards to purchase holiday gifts for themselves and their family members. Master Officer J. Carlton, Master Officer K.L. Everett, Sergeant R. Walters, and Senior Officer R. Hopkins presented Store Manager Stacey Treadway (second from right) with a certificate of appreciation for the store's sponsorship of the event in conjunction with General Mills.

Photo by Dawn Myers



On February 22, Master Officer G.A. Witherspoon read the book "Duck Soup" to six preschool classes at Chesterbrook Academy on W. Millbrook Road.

Photo courtesy of Master Officer G.A. Witherspoon



Letters of Recognition

Please join us as we congratulate the following RPD personnel, who were recognized by the Command Staff for outstanding service and support to the city of Raleigh and the RPD.

Officer T.A. Williams - Downtown District

During the period from November 26, 2010 to January 25, 2011, Officer T.A. Williams recovered nine different firearms while answering calls for service and engaging in self-initiated patrol techniques. During several of these gun seizure cases, felony firearm and carrying concealed weapons charges were brought against the suspects.

During this same time frame, Williams filed felony drug charges against nine different defendants while investigating suspicious activity that occurred in parking areas belonging to several downtown clubs and bars. The charges brought against these suspects included possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana, possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine, and trafficking heroin.

Officer Williams is to be commended for his efforts in recovering illegal drugs and weapons from the streets of Raleigh, but most importantly, he is applauded for his keen ability to look beyond the initial violation.

Captain K.S. Craghead and Sergeant T.D. Turner



Ofc. Williams

Records Specialist Wendy Smith - Administrative Services Division



Wendy Smith

On January 4, Records Specialist Wendy Smith provided Ms. Deborah Atkinson with exemplary customer service. Ms. Atkinson contacted the Records Unit to request information regarding a traffic accident report. Smith not only located the report, but she also called Ms. Atkinson and told her how to get a copy of the report and how to interpret the information contained within the report. Ms. Atkinson was so impressed with the level of service that Smith provided that she emailed Records Supervisor Cordelia Holmes directly and expressed how impressed she was with Smith's pleasant demeanor and proficiency. She noted, "It is very rare these days to find someone who will actually do their job, much less anything extra. I wanted to let you know that Ms. Smith is a big exception to the rule. She is a huge asset to your organization." Ms. Smith's quality customer service and pleasant demeanor is hereby commended, as she exemplified professionalism and provided outstanding service to a customer of the Raleigh Police Department.

Major R.J. Daigle and Captain K.S. Swinson

First Class Officer D.P. Egan and Officer P.T. Browne - Southeast District

In the early morning hours of February 3, First Class Officer Egan spotted a vehicle traveling in an erratic manner on Rock Quarry Road. Egan proceeded to initiate a stop on the vehicle, but the driver attempted to elude him by quickly turning onto Edwin Drive. Egan followed the vehicle, activated his emergency equipment, and requested a check-in officer. The vehicle pulled over on Edwin Drive, and the driver was acting in a nervous manner. Officer Browne soon arrived to assist Egan in investigating the situation. Within minutes of the traffic stop, Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications advised that there had been a larceny of motor vehicle at a gas station on Rock Quarry Road, and Egan and Browne soon determined that the vehicle they had stopped was the stolen vehicle. Officers Egan and Browne are to be commended for their diligence, proactivity, and teamwork in making an arrest that led to the recovery of a stolen motor vehicle within five minutes of the theft being reported.

Lieutenant R.E. Hoffman and Sergeant J.M. White



Letters of Recognition

Senior Officer J.D. Rattelade, First Class Officer A.D. Johnson, Officer C.M. Erving and Officer K.L. Potter - Southwest District

On January 5, Southwest District C Squad officers responded to a residence on Portree Place in reference to a domestic assault in which the suspect had assaulted the victim and left the scene prior to the officers' arrival. The suspect had a previous criminal record and was escalating in his actions toward the victim. Officers searched for the suspect, but he could not be located. Warrants were drawn on the suspect, and officers continued to look for him throughout the shift. Late that night, the suspect was believed to have surreptitiously returned to the victim's apartment and set a fire. While no one was hurt in the fire, it caused extensive damage to the apartment.

The next day, SWD C Squad Officer J.D. Rattelade took the extra step of composing a basic BOLO for this suspect. Following the tenets of community policing, Rattelade distributed these to convenience stores near the victim's apartment. Later that day, after the end of his shift, SWD C Squad Officer A.D. Johnson was on his way home in his PPV when he noticed a pending "suspicious person" call on his MCT. Despite the broad classification of the call, Johnson read the remarks and discovered that a convenience store clerk who had received Rattelade's BOLO had just seen the suspect. Johnson immediately shared this information with oncoming D Squad units as well as other officers that may have been in the area, and SWD Officers C.M. Erving and K.L. Potter quickly responded to assist. Although the suspect first attempted to conceal himself and then run from the officers, Erving and Potter were able to capture him. The suspect was interviewed by detectives, and additional charges were made for first-degree arson.

The SWD officers in the case are to be commended for their excellent dedication to the apprehension of this dangerous suspect, specifically Officer Rattelade's savvy in extending watchful eyes via the community, Officer Johnson's alertness and attention to detail, and Officers Erving and Potter's rapid and coordinated response to capture the suspect. There is no doubt that these officers' teamwork and relentless effort in apprehending this suspect will prevent additional violence to the victim for some time to come.

Captain P.A. Niemann and Lieutenant A.G. Russo

Letters of Appreciation

Dear Chief Dolan,

Recently, the NHL had the pleasure of celebrating the 2011 All-Star Weekend in your great city. The All-Star game is a premier NHL event and one that requires considerable planning and attention to detail to execute properly. By many accounts, this was one of the best All-Star events ever.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the large contribution made by the Raleigh Police Department in making this event a success. I would especially like to acknowledge the following members of your agency who distinguished themselves in the planning and execution of the police plan: Major S.M. Deans, Captain D.W. Linthicum, Lieutenant T.N. Tomczak, Lieutenant B.A. Amstutz, Sergeant W.M. Medlin, and Sergeant R.S. Bailey. In addition, I am very grateful for the outstanding performance of the following individuals: Sergeant J.C. Wacenske, Sergeant T.L. Hairston, Master Officer S.A. Goree, and Master Officer M.L. Lyman. These individuals worked directly with my staff on a variety of issues, and they performed flawlessly. Professional, courteous, and efficient are just a few adjectives used by my staff and senior NHL executives to describe these individuals.

Before occupying my present position, I was a member of the New York City Police Department for 27 years in a variety of command positions. I only share this with you to emphasize a personal observation I made during the weekend: every officer that I encountered in uniform looked sharp, professional and projected a very positive image. I congratulate you. I am sure they reflect the positive leadership you bring to the Raleigh Police Department. Please extend my sincere gratitude to the above personnel.

Sincerely,

Dennis Cunningham

Executive Vice President

NHL, Security



Letters of Appreciation

Dear Lieutenant Jordan,

Thank you so much for sending your officers to attend our annual "Day of Heroes" event on February 17 at Forest Pines Elementary School. The children and teachers really enjoyed your company and learning about your profession. We're sure they also appreciated the opportunity to learn about how horses and dogs can be a part of the police force. The officers were exceptionally kind and patient to stand out there for several hours as the entire student body greeted the animals and asked numerous questions. We do hope that they enjoyed themselves as much as the students enjoyed all of you. We were pleased to be able to welcome you to our school to give you the recognition you deserve and provide an informal lunch. Hopefully we can celebrate this special day again next year.

Thank you again to you and your staff!

Sincerely,
 Camille Gibbs and Chris Fellows
 Co-chairs, Hospitality
 Forest Pines Drive Elementary PTA

Forest Pines Drive Elementary School students greet SO K.T. Pickens and K-9 Phantom at the school's annual "Day of Heroes" event on Feb. 17.



MO P.A. Formyduval (foreground), FCO D.L. Ide, Ofc. C.D. Held, and Sergeant D.S. Gillespie of the Northeast District chat with students and hand out stickers.



Mounted Unit Officers W.R. Byrd and M.C. answer the students' questions about police horses Cody and Ike.

Photos by Dawn Myers



Letters of Appreciation

Dear Chief Dolan:

This is to express our utmost appreciation to the Raleigh Police Department generally, and to Detective W.D. Gill specifically for the yeoman's job he performed in pulling together and crystallizing numerous elements and data relative to the case involving the horrendous murder of our relative, the late Jurgen D. Cheston.

It is reassuring to know that public servants are still steadfast in the commitment to their work and that they will stand tall and evince probity that highlights them in their assigned areas. It also truly warms our hearts to know that Detective Gill and the Raleigh Police Department immediately got on this case in August 2009, made an arrest in October 2009, and provided palpable evidence that was indispensable in gaining a conviction in January 2011. In the day-to-day activities of our penal system, this is without equivocation an outstanding occurrence.

God is merciful. It is our belief that He played a central role in the assigning of people with expertise at all levels in this matter. All persons that our family came in contact with were indeed warm and respectful. Their actions led ultimately to a timely and relief-connective denouement because Jurgen was a wonderful person, extremely undeserving of this horrific act, and we loved him dearly.

We are fundamentally indebted to Detective Gill for his hands-on work in this case. As representatives of our family, we send our many thanks to him and to everyone involved for a job par excellence!

Yours truly,
Allan J. Williams, Sr.
Nettie Cheston Williams

Dear Chief Dolan,

On a recent Saturday afternoon, I drove into Raleigh to check on my mother who was very ill from the effects of cancer. Upon entering her home, I found she had unexpectedly passed away. Of course, my immediate response was to call 911, and among the responders were multiple officers from your department. I am writing this letter to commend the officers who responded. The responding officers were Master Officer R.D. Young, Senior Officer W.M. Brinkley, and two others whose names I don't recall.

These officers were complete professionals. They performed their responsibilities with sincere expressions of sympathy, both in word and deed. Officer Brinkley offered to get a beverage of my choice, even offering to leave the scene in order to get a milkshake. I was supported by an officer from the time they arrived until the funeral home had removed the body. I was comforted by their presence and competence, which helped to ease my anxieties while in the midst of a difficult situation. The City of Raleigh is fortunate to have such dedicated and compassionate individuals serving the community.

Sincerely,
Mike Smithson

Dear Beth (Stagner),

I am not sure where to direct this email, but found your name on the City of Raleigh Web site for accolades. I have spent many hours over the last couple of weeks watching the streaming video of the Raymond Cook trial on WRAL. I want to compliment and commend every member of the RPD that has worked and testified as a part of this trial. They have all been extremely professional, knowledgeable, well spoken, and thorough in their testimony. I especially compliment Officer C.A. Bradford for his painstaking work as the lead crash reconstruction officer, for his superb expertise and knowledge, and for the way he conducted himself on the witness stand. His grace under pressure when grilled by the defense was masterful (and I am sure it was not easy).

I have lived in Raleigh for 35 years and have had little interaction with RPD (and I see that as a good thing). I hope and trust that if I ever do, I will be dealing with officers such as I have witnessed during his trial.

Many thanks,
Bill Wade



Letters of Appreciation

Dear Officer Witherspoon:

On behalf of the Salvation Army of Wake County and more than 1,400 children at our community center, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of time, labor, and materials in providing the William Bunn Library of High Standards for our children at the community center. The kids and parents absolutely love the new paint color in the room. The boys and volunteers that painted did a fabulous job. The new couches, books, and the bookshelf built by Ron have been a blessing! Thanks to you, we now have a welcoming environment where kids can learn to read and we can share William's desire to achieve great things with all our kids. Thank you for desiring to make an impact in the lives of youth and challenging them to achieve. For 2011, the Salvation Army Community Center will continue those efforts through our after-school, track-out, athletics, and summer day camp programs. We are committed to serving the children in our community at the deepest level. Our goal is to share the love of Christ, help the children achieve academically, and guide them to a path of loving God and loving others. Thanks to you, we are starting to make great strides in improving our facility. I plan to stay in contact with you, and I will be in touch soon to line up a time for you to talk with our kids. Spoon, thanks again for making a huge impact at our community center! God bless you!

Chris Kelley

Executive Director, The Salvation Army Community Center

Dear Chief Dolan,

I would like to thank you for allowing Captains P.A. Niemann, K.S. Swinson and K.H. Riggsbee to take time from their busy schedules to assist as assessors in the search for a new assistant chief and captain for our Department. Their time and valuable professional opinions in this process were greatly appreciated, and if I or this Department can be of any assistance to you or to your Department in the future, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Chris Blue

Chief of Police, Town of Chapel Hill

Dear Captain Carrigan,

I am writing this email to inform you of what a great job Sergeant Porterfield is doing. He has really helped with several problems we have had on our property recently. Sergeant Porterfield came out to our office to introduce himself. Before, we had no contact on the police force that we were aware of. It is nice to know that we have an actual police officer assigned to our area and that he wants us to call him any time we are experiencing trouble.

Maggie Andrews

Property Manager, Duraleigh Woods Apartments

Dear Chief Dolan:

I am writing to let you know how much I appreciate the work of Detective A.J. Salmon. In October I tried a murder case, *State v. Barber*, in which Detective Salmon was the lead detective. She was professional, thorough, and worked the case incredibly well from start to finish. The case was well investigated, interviews and notes were presented to me in an organized fashion, and any additional items that I requested were done in an expeditious manner. I am most appreciative of her communication with me, as she kept me apprised weekly either through phone calls or e-mail as to any new developments with the case.

The case resulted in a first-degree murder verdict, in very large part due to the efforts of Detective Salmon. I am thankful for Detective Salmon and her work as a homicide detective, and I truly appreciate the service that she provides to this city.

Sincerely,

David L. Sherlin

Asst. District Attorney



Letters of Appreciation

Sergeant Rucker,

I have looked back over my calendar to double-check the several dates that Master Officer D.L. Hubbell came to the North Carolina Justice Academy firing ranges and assisted me during the past year. The dates are January 25, February 1, February 15, March 15, October 25, and November 1, 2010. What Deanna did on those dates was serve as a line coach and safety officer during the first day initial qualification for the Specialized Firearms Instructor Training Course.

Part of Officer Hubbell's responsibilities were to make sure all shooters on the line were operating safely as well as checking for any alleged alibi rounds to ascertain whether or not they were actually alibis. Additionally, she was solely responsible for communication with me in the range tower. She was invaluable in her assistance during these courses because she is always alert and possesses the correct mindset for an NCJA range officer. Due to the budget restraints placed on the state, I could not have been as successful at my job if it hadn't been for the efforts of Officer Hubbell and a few others just like her who were willing to donate their time to help out. Thank you for allowing her to help me and the Academy during this time. If you need anything further from me, please do not hesitate to ask. Thanks again.

Chad Thompson
School Director
North Carolina Justice Academy
Specialized Firearms Instructor Training Program

Dear Sergeant Suggs,

This is a note of sincere thanks and commendation to Officer P.D. Lands. On Wednesday, January 26, our car was stolen from in front of the BP station at the corner of Lynn and Creedmoor. Officer Lands took the report from my husband, George Walton. Within moments of the theft and less than four hours later, Officer Lands had located the car! George said that Officer Lands treated him with respect, courtesy and understanding. We want to express our appreciation to him, to you, and to the 911 dispatch department! We have no contact with the police in our daily lives, so the one time we did, it was a real positive experience.

Sincerely,
Joy Walton

Dear Sergeant Frattini,

I would like to extend my gratitude to the detective who was assigned my case. On January 14, Detective N.J. Grimaldi came to my location and spent time with me going over all the material that someone had stolen from me. This thief had stolen numerous radiators from my property. In order to remove the radiator, this individual had to pry it, then cut all the exposed wires from the battery, generator, starter, and lights. He destroyed the vehicle when he removed the radiator and wire, therefore making it worthless.

Detective N.J. Grimaldi made the preliminary observation, and I then gave him the SD card from the deer camera that I had placed on the property in an effort to catch the thief. The detective spent ample time to compile and produce a number of photos of this individual and then proceeded to the junkyard, where he was able to confirm the identity of this person.

As a law-abiding citizen and taxpayer I want to commend him for his actions that went above and beyond my expectations. Detective Grimaldi is certainly an asset to the Raleigh Police Department, and I am thankful that he was assigned my case. He has proven to me that some of our officers still care about their community, and he helped me out by catching a thief. I certainly appreciate this job well done by Detective Grimaldi.

Melvin D. Stencil



Letters of Appreciation

Good morning, Captain Brugger –

It has come to my attention that an arrest was made regarding the burglaries at North Bend Townhomes. Additionally, there may be two other suspects that the RPD are looking to arrest, related to these cases. I know of at least one homeowner who was contacted and was able to recover a few stolen items.

On behalf of the NBTHA Board and homeowners, I'd like to thank the RPD, the North District, and most especially the line officers involved in this investigation; they should be commended. These burglaries have prompted our community to call a Community Watch meeting on February 15. Too often, citizens are quick to complain, so I wanted to take time to express our thanks for a job well done.

Steve Nelson
President, North Bend Townhomes Homeowners Association

Captain Lull,

I am a teacher at River Bend Elementary School here in Raleigh. I am also the chairperson of our Career Day committee. I asked Senior Officer S.C. Martin if he would like to be one of our presenters on our special day, and in spite of a very busy and demanding schedule, he made time to be with us. His presentation was awesome! His ability to relate to kindergarten, first-, and second-graders was amazing to watch.

The students were so excited about and interested in everything he had to say. As expected, the highlight of their morning was the opportunity to sit in a 'real' police car. (Hopefully, that will be the only time they will ever sit in that particular back seat!) Officer Martin made quite an impression on our precious little ones. I received only positive feedback and compliments about his personality and presentation. It is comforting to know he is protecting us. Officer Martin is truly one of Raleigh's finest!

Sincerely,
Denise Bynum Gardner, M.Ed.

Birth Announcements

Congratulations to these RPD employees on the latest additions to their families!



We joyfully announce the birth of our daughter

Emily Diane

February 2, 2011 at 7:40 a.m.

Weighing 8 pounds

Measuring 20 inches

Welcomed with love by Derek and Jennifer Dike
And Big Sister Jessica

