

Charles County Sheriff's Office
ANNUAL REPORT

CC
2004

SHERIFF FREDERICK E. DAVIS

MISSION STATEMENT



THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARE DEDICATED TO SERVICE THROUGH SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE. WE BELIEVE MUTUAL RESPECT, TRUST AND PRIDE IN OUR ORGANIZATION, COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL VALUES AND INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES, WILL ENSURE THE COMMUNITY'S RIGHT TO A SAFE ENVIRONMENT.



VALUE STATEMENTS

The men and women of the Charles County Sheriff's Office are bound by the highest standards of conduct, as exemplified in the following values:

- LIFE** We believe the protection of life is our highest priority.
- RESPECT** We believe in individual human dignity and the preservation of human rights under the rule and spirit of law, always treating others as we would like to be treated.
- INTEGRITY** We believe in maintaining the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest moral and ethical standards.
- FAIRNESS** We believe in the delivery of service that provides fair and equal treatment to all citizens without regard to age, gender, race, creed, color, religion or national origin.
- TRUST** We believe in order to provide effective service we must develop and maintain the confidence of the community.
- PARTNERSHIPS** We believe in working in partnership with the community and each other to identify and resolve problems and issues which affect the safety of our citizens.
- LOYALTY** We believe in an allegiance to the community, to the organization and to each other.
- PROFESSIONALISM** We believe in delivering a level of service which will reflect the pride we have in our community and organization.

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SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

TO THE CITIZENS OF CHARLES COUNTY:

The Charles County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing superior law enforcement service to our community. Maintaining law and order and protecting life and property are at the pinnacle of our operations, and we are an Agency united in our mission and built on a foundation of strong values and ethics.

Many successes and challenges defined 2004. Our experiences throughout the year reaffirmed our strong partnership with citizens, businesses, and local, state and federal public safety agencies and elected officials.

When arsonists caused millions of dollars of destruction in Hunters Brooke, a new neighborhood in Indian Head, the Sheriff's Office worked with state and federal law enforcement personnel to conduct a swift and thorough investigation. The Sheriff's Office was determined to identify and arrest the suspects involved and to bring a sense of security back to the residents whose right to live in a safe environment had been violated by the criminals behind this devastating act. The arson received national attention, but we knew the impact was much more significant locally. We met with Hunters Brooke residents and assured them our efforts to protect their families and their property would not end with the conclusion of the investigation.

Our vow to protect our community applies to every citizen and business of our County and to all of our County's visitors. In 2004, our crime prevention efforts, including community-based programs like Citizens on Patrol and Neighborhood Watch, successfully reduced crime in Charles County. Preliminary statistics from the Uniform Crime Report indicate the crime rate in Charles County dropped 3.2 percent in 2004.

In 2004, the Sheriff's Office also celebrated our re-accreditation by the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). By remaining internationally accredited by the Commission, our Agency commits itself to meeting and exceeding hundreds of professional standards and ensuring we provide Charles County with superior law enforcement services.

Our dedication to duty and our commitment to excellence are reflected in the daily toils of all our employees. More than 500 Sheriff's officers, correctional officers and civilian personnel serve our community with honor and distinction. Not only do they dedicate themselves to their professional responsibilities, but many of them spend their off-duty hours participating in a number of community outreach projects such as Relay for Life, Christmas in April and fund-raisers for Special Olympics. They are truly dedicated to maintaining a safe environment and improving the quality of life for all of Charles County.

I look to the future mindful of the lessons learned in 2004 and confident in the services we provide to our community. With pride, I present the 2004 Annual Report for the Charles County Sheriff's Office.



God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred E. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Frederick E. Davis, Sheriff
Charles County, Maryland



OUR HISTORY

Initially, the Sheriff conducted business wherever he could, which usually meant out of his residence. In the 20th century, the Sheriff's Headquarters moved from the Courthouse on Charles Street to an abandoned military site on Radio Station Road and then to a renovated truck stop on Crain Highway. The current Headquarters, also located on Crain Highway in La Plata, opened in July 2000 and is the first building ever built specifically to serve as the flagship of the Agency.

The first county jail was built next to the original courthouse, located in the former county seat of Port Tobacco. The next two jails, built behind the current courthouse in La Plata in 1897 and 1926, are still used by Sheriff's Office personnel for Traffic Operations and Court Holding. The detention center that was operational from 1981 to 1995 is located behind the La Plata District Station and currently houses Judicial Services employees and staff from the Maryland Division of Parole and Probation. The current Detention Center, which can hold more than 450 inmates, is located behind the Headquarters building.

The Sheriff's Office has grown from a one-man operation to a full-service law enforcement agency of more than 500 employees. As the principal law enforcement agency in Charles County, the Sheriff's Office is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. ■

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
IN CHARLES COUNTY
BEGAN IN 1658, WHEN
NICHOLAS GWYTHYER WAS
SIMULTANEOUSLY APPOINTED
SHERIFF IN CHARLES AND
ST. MARY'S COUNTIES.
THE ORIGINAL DUTIES OF
THE SHERIFF INCLUDED
COLLECTING TAXES, SERVING
WARRANTS, APPREHENDING
CRIMINALS, EXECUTING
CRIMINALS AND OCCASIONALLY
INVESTIGATING WITCHCRAFT.



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

DURING A YEAR MARKED BY MANY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY, THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE EXPERIENCED CHALLENGES AND TRIUMPHS. THROUGH THE EVENTS OF 2004, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE REMAINED COMMITTED TO OUR MISSION TO PROVIDE SUPERIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AND TO OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES OF CHARLES COUNTY.

SIX ARRESTED IN HUNTERS BROOKE ARSON INVESTIGATION

In the early morning hours of December 6, fires were set or attempted in 33 homes in varying stages of construction in Hunters Brooke, a new residential community in Mason Springs. Hundreds of firefighters extinguished the flames of what would become the largest residential arson investigation in the history of the State of Maryland.

Sheriff's officers arrived on the scene and quickly secured the 10-acre crime scene, in which 10 homes were destroyed and 16 others were damaged. Before the end of the first day, federal investigators from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Federal Bureau of Investigation responded to the scene to conduct a joint investigation with the Sheriff's Office and the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office. For several weeks, the Sheriff's Office worked long hours in cooperation with the state and federal agencies to keep the area secure, investigate the crime and provide assistance to the residents of Hunters Brooke. By the end of the second week, investigators had made six arrests in connection with the case.

Throughout the investigation, the Sheriff's Office remained committed to bringing a sense of security back to the residents of this new community. No one was injured in the fires, but the loss of property — which exceeded \$10 million — left the Hunters Brooke community apprehensive and concerned. Although arrests helped bring justice and relief to the residents, the Sheriff's Office vowed to continue crime prevention efforts in Hunters Brooke long after the investigation ended.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE SAYS GOODBYE TO FATHER NEWMAN

For nine years, Father Aloysius T. Newman shared with our community his devotion to the Lord, his inspiration and his spirit as a chaplain for the Charles County Sheriff's Office. Late on the night of August 2, Father Newman passed away after suffering from a long-term heart condition. In addition to family members, he is survived by many friends in the public safety community.

As a chaplain, Father Newman helped members of the Sheriff's Office and the community face life's most difficult situations. He was at the scene of serious motor vehicle crashes, giving the last rites to a victim whose injuries were not survivable. He comforted families whose loved ones were killed in crashes or acts of violence. Any Sheriff's Office employee who needed guidance could find it in Father Newman. He was also an integral part of many Agency functions, including a service to remember the lives lost in the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Services were held to remember Father Newman at the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department — where he also volunteered as a chaplain — and at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in La Plata. His funeral at Sacred Heart was officiated by Cardinal Theodore McCarrick and Monsignor Paul Gozaloff. After the service, a procession of more than 100 of Father Newman's friends, led by the Sheriff's Office motorcycle unit and members of the Honor Guard, followed his casket to the cemetery where Father Newman was laid to rest.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE REMAINS INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED

In 2001, the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) awarded international accreditation to the Charles County Sheriff's Office, but the significant effort required to attain accreditation did not end there. For the next three years, the Sheriff's Office continued its efforts to meet the hundreds of standards set by the Commission. At a ceremony in Austin, Texas, December 4, the Commission announced the Sheriff's Office continues to satisfactorily meet CALEA's standards.

The Commission made its decision after a team of CALEA assessors spent three days in August conducting an on-site review of the policies and procedures, management, operations and support services of the Sheriff's Office. The assessors visited Headquarters and the three district stations in La Plata, Indian Head and Waldorf, rode along with officers on patrol and conducted a public information session where members of the community were invited to comment on the Sheriff's Office. The assessors reviewed written materials, interviewed individuals and visited offices to witness standards compliance.

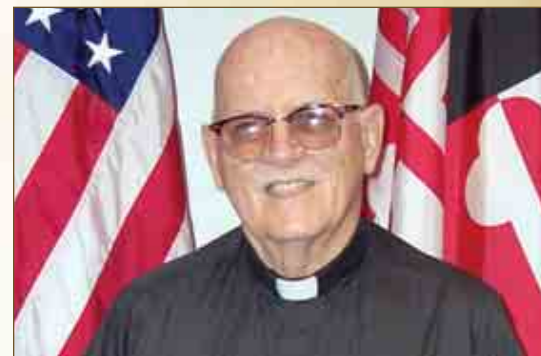
CALEA accreditation involves a thorough review of all aspects of the Sheriff's Office every three years to ensure the citizens of Charles County receive superior law enforcement services. In complying with CALEA's standards, the Sheriff's Office stands among the best law enforcement agencies in the world.

SECURITY RESPONSE VESSEL AIDS HOMELAND SECURITY, RESCUE MISSIONS

The Charles County Sheriff's Office protects the 458 square miles of land in Charles County with police cruisers, unmarked cars, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles and bicycles, but it was not until 2004 that the Sheriff's Office acquired the tools to protect the County's 150 miles of tidal and inland waterways. In December, the Sheriff's Office announced the acquisition of its new security response vessel.



Sheriff Davis participated in several press conferences during the Hunters Brooke arson investigation. The arson attracted nationwide media attention.



Father Newman will always be remembered for his kindness, sense of humor and the inspiration and guidance he provided to many members of the public safety community.



The crew of the Security Response Vessel did not deploy during 2004, but they trained in varying weather conditions to ensure they are ready to respond to emergencies and operations that take place on Charles County waterways.

The Year In Review



When officers activate the emergency equipment in their cruisers, lights flash, sirens wail and, beginning in 2004, video cameras start recording. The video can be used as evidence in court, protects officers and citizens if a complaint is filed and assists officers as they write reports.



The Agency's K9s received a new place to run, jump and practice commands from their handlers, thanks to a \$1,000 donation from Wal-Mart in Waldorf that funded an agility course. Six pieces of equipment of varying heights and difficulty help ensure the dogs remain in top condition. Pictured, Cpl. Ronald Leukhardt and his K9 partner, Drako, test out the equipment.



Sgt. Mel Harmon addresses citizens during one of 45 Meet the Challenge homeland security training programs conducted in Charles County. The Sheriff's Office was one of the first law enforcement agencies in the nation to offer the program.

The boat was purchased to provide waterway security patrols when the U.S. Department of Homeland Security heightens the terrorism threat level. In conducting waterway patrols, the vessel's crew would focus on the security of bridge infrastructures and privately owned and operated shoreline properties. The Sheriff's Office would deploy the boat when searches for lost or missing persons led to waterways, and if requested, in emergency calls for overdue vessels and vessels in distress and to assist other law enforcement and public safety agencies. The boat is 26 feet long and 10 feet wide, has a 300 horsepower engine and holds 173 gallons of fuel. It is equipped with a GPS chart plotter, depth finder, VFH and police band radios and radar. It can carry up to 12 people.

Mirant Mid-Atlantic LLC, which operates the Mirant power generating plant in Newburg, helped fund the security response vessel with a \$1,000 donation. Because of the nature of Mirant's operations and its location on the Potomac River, the power plant had many homeland security demands to meet after the September 11 terrorist attacks. The Sheriff's Office helped Mirant meet those demands and will be able to do so even more effectively with the vessel.

The boat was paid for by a ports and waterways match grant through the Department of Natural Resources and with asset forfeiture funds.

CHARLES COUNTY DECLARES IT'S READY TO "MEET THE CHALLENGE"

In January, the Charles County Sheriff's Office and the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) posed an important question to citizens and businesses in Charles County. They asked, "Are you ready to meet the challenge?"

The "challenge" the Sheriff's Office and the NSA referred to was a new homeland security and defense training program designed to give citizens tools to prepare for, respond to and prevent terrorism. The Sheriff's Office was one of the first law enforcement agencies in the nation to offer the Meet the Challenge training program.

The training discussed terrorism-related topics, including the different types of terrorist attacks and possible community targets. By participating in Meet the Challenge, citizens and businesses formed or enhanced neighborhood watch groups and became armed with important homeland security information. Trainees participated in mock scenarios and group exercises and created a community resource database of anyone who could offer assistance, such as transportation, supplies, housing and medical services, in the event of a terrorist attack or large-scale emergency.

The Sheriff's Office conducted 45 presentations to 586 citizens. The Greater Waldorf Jaycees helped fund this program with a \$4,200 donation.

HOMELAND SECURITY RESPONSE TESTED, PRAISED

After the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the responsibilities of law enforcement agencies throughout the country expanded to include homeland security. The Charles County Sheriff's Office has since conducted terrorism training for its officers and on March 31, 2004, that training was put to the test.

At about 8:50 a.m., a Verizon employee was doing maintenance work near the Sheriff's Office Waldorf District Station when he found a backpack with suspicious items inside. The employee notified the Sheriff's Office and officers responded and found a small propane tank, wires and a switch inside the bag. Deputies evacuated the district station, which houses Sheriff's Office and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) personnel, and several nearby businesses.

Other agencies responded, including the Maryland State Police and DNR police. The Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office Bomb Squad also responded; they disrupted the item and determined it was not a bomb.

The incident was considered a success, in that a watchful citizen reported the item and officers responded swiftly and as their training dictated.

CHARLES COUNTY CELEBRATES RECORD-BREAKING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

As is customary the first Tuesday in August, the Charles County Sheriff's Office hosted the largest block party of the year in Charles County: National Night Out. This isn't an ordinary party and the guest list grows year after year.

National Night Out is a major crime prevention program that brings law enforcement, citizens and businesses together to celebrate our efforts in the fight against crime and demonstrate our committed partnership in fighting crime in our community. This year, 124 neighborhoods participated in the 21st National Night Out, up from 109 last year and surpassing every other total in history. And, while 19 neighborhoods participated by leaving their lights on last year, only five neighborhoods did so this year, leaving more neighborhoods officers could visit.

For the second year, businesses participated in the festivities. More than 40 Charles County businesses posted National Night Out signs, offered free food and other goodies or served as coloring contest depots.

In November, Sheriff Frederick E. Davis, McGruff the Crime Dog and McGruff's nephew, Scruff, handed out awards to the 32 winners of the National Night Out coloring contest. In December, the National Association of Town Watch recognized Charles County for its participation in this crime-, drug- and violence-prevention program. The Sheriff's Office has received the National Night Out award for at least 11 years and has participated in the event since 1991. ■



In honor of National Police Week, Lauren Boyle, center, presented, from left to right, Capt. William Brown, Sgt. Jeffrey Wood, Lt. Edward Godwin and Lt. Ralph Acquaviva with a homemade cruiser-shaped card. Lauren's mom, Gina, left, and her aunt, Jaclyn Poceschi Mosley, joined her. Also that day, Lauren and her sister, Devon, participated in a law enforcement appreciation ceremony at Milton Somers. Devon and her teacher, Ms. Alison Dunleavy, helped coordinate the event.



Thanks to a protective vest from Girl Scout Brownie Troop #350, the Agency's K9s will be better protected if a suspect confronts them with a weapon. Sheriff Davis personally thanked the Girl Scouts, including Amanda Crehan.



Cpl. Sharon Walsh and McGruff visit with a young girl during National Night Out in August.



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

WITH AN EFFECTIVE BLEND OF PROUD TRADITIONS AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS, THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SERVES OUR COMMUNITY WITH HONOR AS THE PREMIER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IN THE STATE. THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONALLY FOR OUR PROFESSIONALISM AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING OUR COMMUNITY WITH SUPERIOR SERVICE.

The Charles County Sheriff's Office is a full service law enforcement agency, providing all services generally associated with a police department, as well as court-related services. The Sheriff's Office also operates the Charles County Detention Center.

With four decades of law enforcement service behind him, Sheriff Frederick E. Davis directs the operation of the Charles County Sheriff's Office. First elected in 1994, Sheriff Davis was re-elected in 1998 and 2002. Under his leadership, the Sheriff's Office has implemented a number of successful programs and, in 2001, obtained international accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. He is a member of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA), and is a past president of the MSA. In 2004, MSA recognized Sheriff Davis with an award for his support of and contributions to the Association.

In 2004, as government and public safety officials throughout the United States were learning more about terrorism and homeland security, Maryland Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., turned to Israeli officials for their insight. As part of the Israeli-Maryland Information Exchange, Gov. Ehrlich selected Sheriff Davis and seven other officials to visit Israel in July to learn how the country has dealt with decades of terrorism. The five-day agenda centered on critical infrastructure protection, security, intelligence gathering and first responders.

Sheriff Davis is committed to working in partnership with other public safety agencies and in 2004, he signed agreements with several agencies that will help all parties provide more efficient service to the citizens of Charles County.

Governor Ehrlich also selected Sheriff Davis to participate in the Task Force on Criminal Offender Monitoring by Global Positioning Systems (GPS). The Governor created the GPS task force to study how the State of Maryland could use GPS technology to monitor probationers, parolees, registered sex offenders, drug offenders, juvenile offenders and individuals subject to pre-trial supervision, early release and domestic violence restraining orders. The task force was also asked to study how GPS could help solve crimes and streamline workload and they were expected to present their findings in December 2005.

Sheriff Davis is committed to working in partnership with other public safety agencies and in 2004, he signed agreements with several agencies that will help all parties provide more efficient service to the citizens of Charles County. In November, Sheriff Davis and Col. Thomas E. Hutchins, superintendent of the Maryland State Police, signed an agreement that allows the Sheriff's correctional officers to collect DNA from inmates at the Charles County Detention Center. State law requires criminals convicted of certain violent crimes and sex crimes to submit a sample of their DNA to the State's database. The responsibility of collecting the samples originally rested with the State Police, but the overwhelming number of samples to collect outweighed the State Police's resources. To help reduce the backlog, ensure the speedy collection of future samples and ultimately facilitate the closure of criminal investigations, Sheriff Davis and Col. Hutchins signed the agreement.

On February 25, Sheriff Davis and Sgt. Jon Norris, President of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 24 (FOP), signed the first collective bargaining contract since a bill was passed in 2002 allowing the Sheriff's Office and FOP members to formally negotiate working conditions and other contract terms. The contract signing is the culmination of more than a year of negotiations between the Sheriff's Office and the FOP and was scheduled to be renewed two years later.

In December, Sheriff Davis signed an agreement with the Charles County State's Attorney's Office, Department of Social Services, Department of Community Services and Health Department, the Maryland State Police and the Area Agency on Aging that will help bring vulnerable adult abuse investigations to swift and successful conclusions. The agreement outlines procedures for joint investigations of the suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of adults who lack the physical or mental capacity to provide for their daily needs.

Sheriff Davis' many responsibilities are assigned by the Maryland State Constitution, the common law and statutory law of the State of Maryland and he executes these responsibilities through the **OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**. The Office of the Sheriff oversees, guides and directs all components of the Agency, including its seven divisions: Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Corrections, Technical Services, Special Services, Support Services and Administrative Services.

The Office of the Sheriff includes the Assistant Sheriff, Executive Assistant to the Sheriff, Office of Professional Responsibility, Office of the General Counsel and Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy.



Major Michael O'Toole
Assistant Sheriff



Capt. Gale Willett
Commander, Special Services
Division



Capt. Joseph Montminy
Executive Assistant to the
Sheriff



Capt. David Williams
Commander, Criminal
Investigations Division



Capt. Michael Wyant
Commander, Support Services
Division



Sheriff Davis and Col. Thomas E. Hutchins signed a memorandum of understanding that allows the Sheriff's correctional officers to obtain State-mandated DNA samples from inmates convicted of certain crimes.

Office Of The Sheriff



Capt. Brian Eley
Commander, Office of Professional Responsibility



Capt. Dennis Burks
Director, Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy



Capt. John McConnell
Commander, Technical Services Division



Capt. William Brown
Commander, Patrol Division



Capt. Tim Plumer
Commander, Corrections Division



Ross Pitrelli
Director, Administrative Services

The Sheriff receives critical support from the **ASSISTANT SHERIFF**, Major Michael O'Toole. As second-in-command, Major O'Toole manages the daily operations of the Sheriff's Office and fulfills the duties and responsibilities of the Sheriff during periods of his absence. Major O'Toole has served in this capacity for eight years. He provides leadership to the Agency's seven divisions and advises the Sheriff on important Agency matters.

The **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SHERIFF** is a critical component of the Office of the Sheriff, overseeing the presentation of information to the Sheriff regarding the performance of the Agency. Capt. Joseph C. Montminy, Jr. has handled the responsibilities of this position for more than four years. Capt. Montminy manages the Office of Planning and Accreditation, the Public Information Office, Chaplain Services and the Cadet Program.

The mission of **PLANNING AND ACCREDITATION** is to maintain the Agency's CALEA accreditation and to provide written direction for activities of the Agency. Planning and Accreditation creates and maintains the policy contained in the Agency's Administrative and Operational Manual with approval from the Sheriff or Assistant Sheriff and creates and maintains the Agency's standard operating procedures manuals.

Through daily press releases and 24-hour on-call responsibilities, the **PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (PIO)** remains in constant contact with news media, providing smooth distribution of consistent and accurate information about the Agency, its activities, and investigations that impact the community. The PIO maintains a working relationship with the news media, elected officials, Agency personnel, the general public and peer groups and is responsible for the publication of the Annual Report, the Agency's monthly newsletter — *The Sheriff's 10-43* — and other communicative pieces that assist in the dissemination of Agency information.

Local clergymen offer guidance and inspiration to employees of the Sheriff's Office and the public through the **CHAPLAIN SERVICES** component of the Sheriff's Office. Chaplains minister to Agency personnel in times of personal need or strife and provide comfort to those who are injured or afflicted. They assist in the notification of families of officers who have been seriously injured or slain and in death notifications to citizens by Agency personnel. Chaplains have become an integral part of Agency ceremonies by providing invocations and benedictions. The Chaplains include Rev. Steve Davis, Dr. Bill Miller, Rev. John Warren, Rev. Wilson Morales, Rev. Jeff Perry, Father Karl Chimiak, Rev. Vaughn Artis, Monsignor John Pennington and Dr. Lovell King, II.

College students who want to pursue a career as a Charles County Sheriff's officer gain invaluable on-the-job experience through employment with the Agency in the **CADET PROGRAM**. Cadets assist all Agency personnel by performing a variety of duties, including transporting and setting up the speed trailer, tagging abandoned vehicles, fingerprinting and assisting in truck and school bus inspections. Their duties prepare them for entry into the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy. In 2004, Matthew Thompson and Daniel Major became student police officers after serving as Cadets.



Cadet Reginald Forbes helps set up the Agency's speed trailer, which displays the speed of passing vehicles.

The **OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (OPR)** maintains the integrity of the Charles County Sheriff's Office and ensures the professional conduct of Agency personnel. Under the command of Capt. Brian Eley, with assistance from Lt. Scott Whitcraft, OPR consists of Internal Affairs and Standards and Inspections.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS investigates complaints of employee misconduct, ensures employees comply with all policies and procedures of the Sheriff's Office and manages the Agency's random drug testing program. Internal Affairs investigated 69 cases in 2004. Of those cases, 32 were sustained (proven), 7 were non-sustained (not proven), 11 were exonerated and 19 were pending at the end of the year.

STANDARDS AND INSPECTIONS acts as the Agency's "Inspector General." This component of OPR conducts routine financial audits and accounting of all Agency cash flow/charge accounts, as well as annual staff inspections of all Agency facilities. Standards and Inspections seeks to detect and prevent fraud and the waste or abuse of Agency resources.

Legal guidance and representation for the Sheriff and Agency personnel are coordinated through the **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL**. Led by Gary May, a specially-assigned Assistant County Attorney, the General Counsel works in partnership with the Sheriff, Charles County Commissioners, Southern Maryland Delegation, Maryland Sheriffs' Association and Maryland Chiefs of Police Association to draft, review and make recommendations regarding legislation. The General Counsel's responsibilities also include responding to civil suits involving the Sheriff's Office and examining the rules, policies and procedures of the Agency.

The **SOUTHERN MARYLAND CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY** is a cooperative effort between the Sheriff's offices in Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's counties and its mission is to provide highly-trained and qualified police officers and correctional officers to Southern Maryland. Under the command of Capt. Dennis Burks, the Academy successfully carries out its mission through skill scenarios, academic tests, physical training and firearms training for recruits and veteran officers. The Academy provides entry-level, in-service and specialized training for employees from each of the Southern Maryland Sheriffs' offices. In 2004, the Academy provided 981 hours of in-service training to 1,163 police officers and provided entry-level training to 120 new police officers and correctional officers, including 34 men and women assigned to the Charles County Sheriff's Office. The Academy acquired a new interactive training tool in 2004, a computer-driven projection system that allows new and veteran officers to participate in a variety of scenario simulations. The system is equipped with laser pepper spray, flashlights and inserts for Agency firearms. The lasers record how the officers use each weapon, and in instances of shots fired, whether the shot was a hit or miss and the shot's location. The Academy has maintained 100 percent compliance with Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions standards during its last two consecutive audits. ■



As part of their onsite assessment, CALEA assessors met with officers who displayed all the uniforms of the Agency, from Explorers to the Emergency Services Team.



As a student police officer, Anthony Celia was the first police class to train using a new interactive computer system that simulates law enforcement-related scenarios. Officer Celia and the other students in his class graduated in June.



Officers Michael Burrows, left, and Kristen Clark take the oath of a Charles County Sheriff's officer, a proud moment at the end of their six months of police training at the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy.



PATROL DIVISION

TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES OF CHARLES COUNTY IS THE CORE GOAL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PATROL DIVISION. BY COMBINING SKILL AND COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY WITH TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS, THE PATROL DIVISION PROVIDES SUPERIOR SERVICE TO OUR EVER-GROWING COUNTY.

Under the command of Capt. William Brown, the Patrol Division is the most visible component of the Charles County Sheriff's Office. Detecting, preventing and investigating crime, responding to calls for service and enforcing traffic laws are among the many responsibilities of this division.

Four shifts of officers in the PATROL OPERATIONS SECTION, supervised by Lt. Ralph Acquaviva, Assistant Patrol Division Commander, responded to 138,089 calls for service in 2004. As our first responders, patrol officers handle a variety of emergency and non-emergency situations and must always be prepared for the unpredictable. Because officers gain invaluable experience in patrol operations, they are assigned to this section for the first two years of their career before they may transfer to a specialty unit or another division. Ultimately, each division in the Agency supports the activities of the officers who patrol our community and respond to calls.

Officers face many dangerous situations, including individuals who are combative, armed or under the influence of drugs and who pose a danger to themselves, others and the officers. To diffuse such situations, the Sheriff's Office issued tasers to officers in October. Tasers are hand-held devices with two darts tethered to the weapon by insulated wire. When an officer deploys the taser and the darts are attached, the officer applies an electrical charge to the person for up to five seconds. In most cases, the person is immediately incapacitated, allowing officers to safely and swiftly take the person into custody. In 2004, three officers were certified as taser instructors and 13 were trained to carry the weapon. Between October and December, the officers deployed the tasers three times, once to take into custody a man armed with a rifle and barricaded inside a residence and in two separate incidents involving women armed with knives threatening suicide. Officers responded to nine other calls involving aggressive individuals but when the officers threatened to deploy a taser, the individuals complied with the officers' orders.

Jurisdictions surrounding Charles County experienced a rise in the number of teenagers killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2004. In an effort to prevent such

tragedies from occurring in our community, the Sheriff's Office instituted a new program that requires all officers who issue warnings, citations or equipment repair orders for motor vehicle violations to teenagers under the age of 18 to send a letter home to the teen's parents. The letter will also notify parents of their teenager's involvement in a motor vehicle crash.

Sheriff's officers are trained to provide first aid to victims of medical emergencies. Before 2004, if a person was suffering sudden cardiac arrest, all officers could do was administer CPR, knowing what the person really needed was a shock from an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). In 2004, the Sheriff's Office was equipped with these life-saving devices, thanks to community donations. In February 2003, Charles County residents Bill and Elaine Wedding donated an AED to the Sheriff's Office. In 2004, Dick Gregory, president of the Waldorf Jaycees Foundation, and Kevin Wedding, president of the Waldorf Jaycees Chapter, presented Sheriff Frederick E. Davis with \$22,000 on behalf of the Jaycees to purchase another 11 AEDs, with plans to fund 10 more in 2005.

As part of the Patrol Operations Section, Lt. Robert Cleaveland, Lt. Tim Crawford and Lt. Michael McGuigan serve as commanders of the Agency's district stations in Waldorf, La Plata and Indian Head, respectively. District commanders manage the officers and resources in their districts and ensure community satisfaction. Lt. Kevin Barrows and Lt. Edward Godwin serve as operational commanders. In this capacity, they ensure a commander is always available to respond to major incidents and make operational decisions.

Sheriff's officers volunteer to participate in several other functions that provide support to tactical operations and our community. Participation on these teams is in addition to the officers' regularly assigned duties.

THE EMERGENCY SERVICES TEAM (EST), supervised by Lt. Barrows, is comprised of 20 volunteer members who respond to crisis situations and perform high-risk operations. The officers participate in intense training that emphasizes tactics and teamwork. EST members must maintain a high level of physical fitness and expert marksmanship. In 2004, EST was called upon 41 times to execute high-risk search warrants and assist in narcotics investigations and other special operations, and twice during barricade or hostage incidents.

The **HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS TEAM**, supervised by Lt. Christopher Becker, is specially trained to bring situations involving barricaded individuals and hostages to peaceful conclusions. Teams consist of a primary negotiator, a coach and an intelligence officer. Each negotiator in the two three-member teams is cross-trained to be effective in each position. In addition to having specialized skills, negotiators must be able to stay calm under pressure to handle these events successfully.

The **HONOR GUARD**, supervised by Lt. Acquaviva, was originally formed specifically to assist families of fallen officers at funerals and is now a dignified presence at many important community functions. The Honor Guard presented the colors at 15 events in 2004, including police and correctional officer graduations, Fallen Heroes Day and an annual candlelight vigil hosted by the Center for Abused Persons.



Lt. Michael McGuigan demonstrates one of the Agency's new tasers, which help safely diffuse dangerous situations.



The Emergency Services Team trains often to ensure they are always ready to handle high-risk operations.



During Read Across America, Officer Rhett Calloway traded his Agency hat for one made famous by Dr. Seuss. Agency employees read to students at local schools during the annual celebration.



Cpl. Renee Cuyler's K9 partner looks to her for the next command while Sgt. Vincent Weaver, with a protective sleeve over his arm, plays the role of the suspect.



Sgt. Paul Gregory and Officer Christopher Stufft investigate a motorcycle crash.

The **COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION** plays an integral role in developing and maintaining strong ties with citizens, businesses and organizations in our community. Under the command of Lt. John Caywood, this section administers innovative and effective crime prevention programs and leads numerous community outreach efforts.

The **K9 UNIT** is comprised of six officers and a sergeant who serve as full-time handlers and two officers assigned to patrol operations who are also K9 handlers. Together with the unit's 12 dogs, the K9 teams are an effective partnership that is critical to law enforcement operations. Using a keen sense of smell superior to that of any human, the K9s are trained in narcotics detection, patrol work and/or explosives detection and the handlers use both verbal commands and hand signals to communicate with the dogs. In 2004, the unit conducted 211 building searches, 154 tracks and 129 drug searches. The handlers and their K9 partners made 115 apprehensions.

In April, the K9 Unit hosted the North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) Maryland State Seminar, sponsored by Utz and Coca-Cola. Thirty police dog handlers and their K9 partners attended the three-day workshop, which focused on explosive detection, narcotics detection and patrol work. In the middle of the first day of the training, the Sheriff's Office responded to a nearby neighborhood after receiving a call about four suspects who had just pointed a shotgun at a teenager. Upon hearing the call, Charles County Sheriff's K9 teams responded and quickly located all four fleeing suspects and the gun, which the suspects had discarded in a wooded area. Although it was a coincidence the crime occurred during the training, it was skillful police work that led to the apprehension of the suspects.

The **TRAFFIC OPERATIONS UNIT** is committed to keeping Charles County's roads, drivers and passengers safe by enforcing traffic laws throughout the County. Among its many responsibilities, the unit handles fatal crashes, school bus crashes and complaints, speed limit enforcement, commercial vehicle inspections, crossing guard duties and abandoned vehicles. The unit investigated five fatal motor vehicle crashes in 2004, compared to 11 in 2003. Traffic Operations also maintains the Red Light Camera Program, which has served to significantly reduce crashes where the cameras are installed. This year, 3,040 citations were issued to red-light-runners recorded on the cameras. The unit also participates in Chiefs' Challenge, a statewide safety belt and child safety seat use campaign. In 2004, the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, which hosts the competition, awarded the Sheriff's Office for the seventh consecutive year for this unit's committed enforcement and education efforts.

Detecting, preventing and investigating crime, responding to calls for service and enforcing traffic laws are among the many responsibilities of this division.

The **COMMUNITY POLICING (COPS) UNIT** was created under the leadership of Sheriff Frederick E. Davis to help the Sheriff's Office strengthen ties with neighborhoods in Charles County. Every officer is trained in utilizing the community policing concept, however, 10 COPS officers and two sergeants are primarily responsible for maintaining ties with 78 neighborhoods in Charles County. Each neighborhood works with one officer who helps implement crime prevention programs and addresses problems and concerns within that neighborhood. COPS is based on the premise that, by working closely with one officer, citizens will find the officer more approachable and community issues can be addressed comprehensively.

COPS officers patrol neighborhoods on bicycles, and in some cases, on all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). In 2004, the Sheriff's Office purchased from Atlantic Power and Cycle and Yamaha Corporation eight new Yamaha ATVs to replace the five older-model ATVs COPS officers had been using. ATVs assist officers in investigating complaints of ATVs trespassing on private property, during missing person searches and rescue missions and on special assignments, such as the response to Hurricane Isabel in 2003, Fourth of July celebrations and the Charles County Fair.

COPS officers participate in a number of community outreach projects including Bicycles for the Holidays, a program in which the Sheriff's Office and the community raise money to purchase new bicycles for 50 specially-selected children in the community. Bike Doctor, a local bicycle shop, then orders and assembles the bicycles at no cost.

The **CRIME PREVENTION UNIT** maintains strong partnerships with citizens and businesses and coordinates a number of successful crime prevention programs, including National Night Out, Citizens on Patrol, Neighborhood Watch and Operation Identification. Members of the Crime Prevention Unit also provide free residential and commercial security surveys, which give citizens and business owners advice on how to better prevent burglaries and other crimes. The unit sponsors community events and presents safety talks to children, adults and senior citizens on issues ranging from Stranger Danger and identity theft to internet safety and road rage. Each year since 1988, the Crime Prevention Unit has received the State of Maryland Governor's Crime Prevention Award.

To ensure Charles County's 175 liquor-licensed establishments adhere to all federal, state and local regulations, the **ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL** conducts routine compliance inspections. This detail leads the Cops in Shops program to ensure businesses are checking patrons for identification and making efforts to recognize false identification. This year, 109 adults and 71 juveniles were issued citations for underage alcohol use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages, and nine people were arrested for alcohol-related violations. The detail conducted presentations regarding underage drinking, false identification and Driving Under the Influence prevention. In 2003, the unit received a grant for tobacco enforcement efforts. In 2004, the Sheriff's Office issued 111 citations to juveniles for use and possession of tobacco products, 93 of which were issued under the grant. ■



Officer Eric Leukhardt and his fellow community policing officers are assigned to specific neighborhoods in the County. By focusing their attention on a particular group of neighborhoods, COPS officers can address community issues comprehensively and become a familiar face to the residents.



Officer Ronda Garrett uses her Agency-issued personal data assistant to record information from traffic stops. PDAs eliminate some of the written reports officers are required to complete because information is instead captured electronically — and more easily.



Cpl. Don Kabala is not only certified to operate an ATV for law enforcement purposes, but he also administers the certification course to other officers interested in participating in ATV assignments.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

INVESTIGATING THE MOST HEINOUS AND COMPLEX CRIMES REQUIRES SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME AND EFFORT. IN SUCH CASES, THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RELIES ON THE MEMBERS OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (CID) TO BRING THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE CRIMES TO JUSTICE. CID COMBINES SKILL, TECHNOLOGY, TEAMWORK AND PERSISTENCE TO MAINTAIN ITS IMPRESSIVE CASE CLOSURE RATE.

Capt. R. David Williams, who spent much of his career in CID before his promotion to captain, provides insight and leadership to CID investigators. The division is comprised of two sections: the Investigations Section and the Narcotics Enforcement Section.

The INVESTIGATIONS SECTION, commanded by Lt. David Saunders, is comprised of highly motivated detectives who are specially trained in interview and interrogation and practice cutting-edge investigative techniques. Detectives work in five specialized units, each supervised by a detective/sergeant, and are responsible for investigating some of the County's most serious crimes.

The CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS UNIT handles homicide, rape, sexual assault, death, kidnapping and critical missing person investigations, as well as cold cases in which all investigative leads have been exhausted. The unit works closely with the nurses from the Charles County Sexual Assault Nurse Examination (SANE) program. The SANE program is a partnership between Civista Medical Center and the Sheriff's Office in which a specially trained nurse at the hospital helps victims of sexual assault through the entire process of evidentiary examinations, which are crucial for law enforcement but often emotionally painful for victims. The unit investigated seven homicides, 46 sex crimes, 48 missing persons and 16 deaths in 2004.

In 2004, detectives made an arrest for a rape that occurred nearly 20 years prior. Investigators matched DNA recovered during the initial investigation with a suspect who was subsequently charged and held accountable for the rape he committed.

The CRIMES AGAINST DEPENDENT PERSONS UNIT investigates the physical and sexual abuse of children and the exploitation of the elderly. In 2004, the unit investigated 208 reported incidents of physical child abuse, 83 reported incidents of sexual child abuse, 19 reported incidents of neglect and 65 incidents of unattended children. This unit maintains the Sexual Offender Registry for Charles County; courts require anyone convicted of a sex crime to register in a statewide database as an offender. The database is available online.

The Robbery Detail of the **ROBBERY/AUTO THEFT UNIT** investigates commercial robberies, bank robberies, home invasions, carjackings and some citizen robbery cases. Detectives monitor available intelligence on armed or suspicious persons and exchange information with other agencies regarding suspects and crimes. In 2004, detectives investigated 33 robberies and two carjackings.

In 2004, the Robbery Detail organized and presented robbery prevention seminars for citizens and businesses. The detail also introduced a program to prevent robberies at Charles County businesses. Merchants who participated in the “No Hats” program displayed a poster in the window of the business asking patrons to remove hats, hoods, headgear and sunglasses before entering the business. Store employees would closely watch anyone who did not comply with the request, drawing attention to would-be criminals who would rather not be identified.

The posters were combined with special patrols by detectives and other patrol officers who located and identified suspicious persons in areas experiencing a robbery increase. This multi-level approach to robbery prevention reduced robberies in 2004 and helped swiftly close robbery investigations with arrests.

The Auto Theft Detail investigates thefts of cars, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, construction equipment and other types of motor vehicles. As our County’s population grows, so does the potential for auto theft and detectives found in 2004 auto thieves are becoming more organized and utilizing technology to facilitate their theft schemes. Auto Theft detectives combat this problem by maintaining their expertise in the latest trends and implementing aggressive theft prevention programs.

Auto theft detectives closed two “chop shop” operations, two major auto theft rings and numerous individual thefts in 2004. In one auto theft ring investigation, detectives recovered 25 new automobiles stolen in Charles and Prince George’s counties with a total value of more than \$750,000.

The **CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY UNIT** includes the Financial Crimes Detail and the Burglary Detail. Detectives assigned to the Financial Crimes Detail investigate fraud and white collar crime. In 2004, the detail investigated 34 instances of forgery, 42 embezzlements, 58 credit card frauds and 13 counterfeit incidents and 53 cases of the ever-increasing crime of identity theft.

Detectives assigned to the Burglary Detail investigate commercial and residential burglaries and theft schemes. They work closely with the Patrol Division to investigate residential burglaries and provide pro-active prevention measures, such as surveillance of neighborhoods experiencing burglaries. Detectives monitor pawn shops and second-hand shops to locate and recover stolen property.

Multi-level approaches to robbery prevention reduced robberies in 2004 and helped swiftly close robbery investigations with arrests.



Det. Patricia Garino and Forensic Nurse Examiner Amy Motz work together to help victims of sexual assaults. Detectives conduct the investigations while the specially trained nurses help the victims through the process of evidence collection.



In July, a group of teens fleeing the scene of a burglary were involved in a crash that killed one of the teens and an innocent civilian. The teens were charged with two counts of felony murder because the burglary, a felony, resulted in two deaths.



Detectives spent many hours investigating the Hunters Brooke arson. After detectives completed the on-scene portion of the investigation, reporters had their first chance to survey and report on the damage from the scene.



Det. Keith Moody and Officer Scott Kirsch discuss an investigation. Detectives and patrol officers work together to address crime issues in Charles County. CID provides a basic investigator course to officers who want to enhance their investigative skills.



The Forensic Science Unit's meticulous collection and analysis of evidence has resulted in the successful closure of countless criminal investigations.

In 2004, detectives executed 11 search and seizure warrants in connection with burglaries and thefts. As a result, the detectives recovered thousands of dollars worth of stolen property in connection with the 210 burglaries and 23 felony theft incidents they investigated.

The **FORENSIC SCIENCE UNIT (FSU)** is comprised of a supervisor, evidence technicians and latent fingerprint examiners who provide crucial support to patrol deputies and detectives by processing crime scenes and analyzing evidence. Their expertise and access to new technology and a state-of-the-art crime lab that was expanded in 2004 makes the FSU critical to investigations and criminal trials. In 2004, the FSU was assigned 1,041 cases, processed more than 4,200 items of evidence and responded to 114 crime scenes. FSU tested 926 marijuana exhibits and printed 10,322 photographs for court and investigative purposes. FSU enhances images of suspects and suspect vehicles captured on surveillance equipment.

The FSU latent fingerprint section examined more than 1,500 latent fingerprints that resulted in the identification of 540 people, including 122 people who were identified through the Maryland Automated Fingerprint Identification System. The Sheriff's Office has the only two court-qualified fingerprint experts in Southern Maryland. Fingerprint Specialists scan fingerprints lifted from crime scenes, analyze them and search for matches with fingerprints already entered into the statewide database during arrest booking procedures.

Under the direction of Lt. Daniel Gimler, the **NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT SECTION** disrupts drug trafficking in Charles County through aggressive enforcement and removes drug dealers from the streets of our community. The effective disruption of narcotics trafficking plays a vital role in the reduction of crimes overall in the community.

A detective from the Narcotics Enforcement Section is assigned full-time to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) federal task force, which includes agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and police officers from law enforcement agencies in the Washington-Baltimore area.

The **MAJOR NARCOTICS UNIT** investigates and dismantles major drug trafficking organizations operating in Charles County. The unit focuses on the entire organization from the local dealers to the source of the supply. Investigations involve dismantling the drug organization itself, arresting all its members and seizing their accumulated assets.

The Major Narcotics Unit dismantled two methamphetamine labs in 2004. The first was located in a motel and resulted in the seizure of \$1,400 worth of methamphetamine, all the materials used to produce methamphetamine and packaging materials, as well as cocaine and ecstasy. In December, the Major Narcotics Unit worked with the DEA, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Maryland State Fire Marshal and a Prince George's County bomb disposal team to dismantle another methamphetamine lab discovered in a townhouse. The investigation resulted in the seizure of approximately \$1,000 worth of methamphetamine and production

materials. Because of the explosive nature of methamphetamine production and the high volume of explosive-making materials in the residence, law enforcement prevented what could have been a catastrophic event.

The Major Narcotics Unit includes the Asset Forfeiture and Drug Diversion details. The Asset Forfeiture Detail conducts financial investigations when an individual's assets are subject to forfeiture because of his or her involvement in criminal activity. The Drug Diversion Detail investigates prescription drug fraud and related crimes. Detectives in this detail work closely with physicians and pharmacists during their investigations in an effort to arrest violators and educate health care providers.

The **NARCOTICS/VICE ENFORCEMENT UNIT** investigates drug, gambling and prostitution violations. This unit operates closely with the Major Narcotics Unit and the Maryland State Police in the federally-funded Charles County Open Air Drug Market Initiative.

In 2004, the unit executed 34 search and seizure warrants, arrested 73 individuals and removed 22 guns from the streets. Detectives executed a search and seizure warrant that resulted in the recovery of nine firearms, three arrests and the seizure of \$2,715 and crack cocaine with a street value of approximately \$67,000. It was the largest cocaine recovery in recent years.

In 2004, detectives in this unit dismantled several illicit massage establishments serving as fronts for prostitution rings. These operations led to the arrest of 16 individuals and the seizure of more than \$750,000. The unit worked closely with the Bureau of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement because the establishments employed legal and illegal aliens as prostitutes. ■

Detectives executed a search and seizure warrant that resulted in the recovery of nine firearms, three arrests and the seizure of \$2,715 and crack cocaine with a street value of approximately \$67,000.



Det. Tim Miner places handcuffs on a robbery suspect. Detectives are highly skilled in investigative techniques, including questioning suspects.



Narcotics detectives uncovered two methamphetamine labs in 2004. The explosive and toxic nature of the chemicals in "meth" make it a dangerous drug to produce.



Narcotics detectives must be not only tactical and meticulous, but also anonymous. Here, as detectives demonstrate how they would seize a vehicle and apprehend a suspect, they wear masks to protect their identities.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

BY HANDLING ALL ASPECTS OF EMPLOYMENT AND MANAGING THE FINANCES OF THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION ENSURES OUR AGENCY EMPLOYS ONLY HIGHLY-QUALIFIED APPLICANTS AND UTILIZES ITS FINANCIAL RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY.

Under the direction of Ross Pitrelli, the Administrative Services Division carries out its responsibilities through the Human Resources, Pre-Employment Investigations and Financial Services sections.

THE HUMAN RESOURCES SECTION, managed by Betsy Leonhard, is responsible for pre-employment and administrative tasks regarding potential and current employees of the Sheriff's Office. This section maintains the Agency's position classification system, processes all applications for employment and maintains personnel records for all employees, past and present. As the Agency grows, the Human Resources Section must stay ahead of changes in staffing needs so the Agency can serve the community efficiently.

In 2004, the Human Resources Section processed more than 1,200 employment applications, which included administering written exams to police and correctional officer candidates. The testing process for police officers is nationally accredited, which ensures the process is administered in a fair and equitable manner. Of the applicants processed by this section, the Agency hired 61 new employees, including 28 deputies, 13 correctional officers and 20 civilians.

Once the Human Resources Section determines an applicant meets position requirements, the **PRE-EMPLOYMENT INVESTIGATIONS SECTION** performs an extensive background investigation of the applicant. This section's mission is to ensure only the applicants with the highest levels of integrity are awarded positions within the Agency. In 2004, this section conducted 206 background investigations on police officer, correctional officer and civilian applicants.

THE FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTION, managed by Gloria Bowers, ensures the integrity and accuracy of all financial operations of the Sheriff's Office. Employees of this section implement sound financial procedures, effectively allocate resources and assist in meeting the operating and capital needs of the Agency. The four components of this section — Accounting, Payroll, Budgeting and Inmate Accounting — carry out these important responsibilities.

The **ACCOUNTING** component handles accounts payable, accounts receivable, purchase orders, outside billing invoices and collections. Employees also

prepare monthly and quarterly financial reports for federal, state and local grants, maintain the Agency's master grant file and ensure timely payment for goods and services.

The **PAYROLL** component is responsible for preparing payroll and salary reports. In 2004, employees handled 17,626 payroll-related tasks and distributed 15,536 checks and deposit statements.

The **BUDGETING** component of the Sheriff's Office assists in the development and preparation of the Agency's financial operating and capital budgets, prepares and updates Agency pay scales, prepares monthly management reports and assists in annual audits. In 2004, this component handled the Agency's \$40.6 million budget.

The **INMATE ACCOUNTING** component audits all financial records that relate to inmates at the Charles County Detention Center. Employees of this component oversee food and canteen billing, audit invoices paid by inmate funds and prepare bank reconciliations. This component reviewed more than 4,300 inmate records in 2004.

Administrative Services Division employees also coordinate many charitable events. The Human Resources Section each year spearheads the Agency-wide collection of back-to-school supplies and Christmas gifts for the young men who live at the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch, a facility sponsored by the Maryland Sheriffs' Association that helps disadvantaged and at-risk young men become productive citizens. The Financial Services Section actively participates in Christmas in April, March of Dimes, Relay for Life and United Way's Day of Caring, often coordinating fund-raisers to support these events. ■

The testing process for police officers is nationally accredited, which ensures the process is administered in a fair and equitable manner.



Accounting Manager Rita Williamson, left, Financial Services Manager Gloria Bowers, right, and the Financial Services Section team must keep accurate and detailed records of all financial matters regarding the Agency.



Sgt. Marvin Butler, who is assigned to the Pre-Employment Investigations Section, assists in coordinating job fairs to recruit qualified applicants for the Agency.



CORRECTIONS DIVISION

THE EMPLOYEES OF THE
CORRECTIONS DIVISION
WORK DILIGENTLY AND WITH
KEEN ATTENTION TO DETAIL
TO ENSURE INMATES ARE
KEPT SECURE AND TO MAIN-
TAIN ORDER IN THE CHARLES
COUNTY DETENTION CENTER,
WHICH THEY STAFF AROUND
THE CLOCK. THEIR HIGH
STANDARDS AND
COMMITMENT TO THEIR
RESPONSIBILITIES KEEP OUR
COMMUNITY AND THEIR
FELLOW EMPLOYEES SAFE
FROM THE CRIMINALS
INCARCERATED IN THE
DETENTION CENTER.

The Charles County Detention Center is a secure facility for incarcerating adults. Stretching 135,000 square feet, it was built to maintain inmates in 203 cells. In 2004, the average inmate population per day was 450. Detention Center employees processed 3,549 inmates into the facility and 10,385 arrested persons were processed through booking.

Under the command of Capt. Timothy Plumer, with support and assistance from Deputy Director Walter Poynor, the Corrections Division consistently takes measures to operate more efficiently, decrease recidivism and increase community outreach. The five units within the division are critical to the successful operation of the Detention Center.

Safety is paramount at the Detention Center and personnel within the CUSTODY AND SECURITY SECTION, commanded by Capt. Thomas Reece, Jr., take great measures to ensure the security of the facility. Capt. Reece supervises all correctional officers assigned to maintain inmate housing 24 hours a day. This section supervises the Emergency Response Team (ERT). Comprised of 20 highly motivated correctional officers, ERT responds to inmate fights and other dangerous situations within the facility. In 2004, ERT responded to 423 incidents, including fights, assaults, forced movements, cell extractions and shakedowns.

The STANDARDS SECTION, commanded by Lt. Susie Rice, conducts audits and inspections to ensure the Detention Center is operating according to the hundreds of standards set by the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards (MCCS). These standards mandate a safe living environment for inmates and a safe working environment for correctional officers.

In 2004, MCCS auditors examined all aspects of the Detention Center, including emergency and security plans. To meet MCCS standards, Detention Center employees must keep accurate and detailed records of every inmate, including how they are classified, whether they require special diets, their hygiene items, all mail they receive, their financial accounts, their visitors, the religious and education services they use, disciplinary hearings and when, where and why they are transported. Employees also keep records of employee training, mandatory visits by the Charles

County Health Department and the State Fire Marshal and an inventory of every key, pair of handcuffs and tool within the facility. In 2001, the Detention Center became the first in the State to ever score 100 percent on an MCCS audit and by achieving a second consecutive perfect score in 2004, the facility and its employees set another record.

The **SUPPORT SERVICES SECTION**, commanded by Capt. Pamela Dottellis, is responsible for central processing and inmate services. The section also oversees the inmate library and the commissary and provides security maintenance.

The **CENTRAL PROCESSING UNIT**, under the direction of Lt. Albert Masri, ensures the completeness, accuracy and security of inmate records and maintains communications with court systems, police agencies and other correctional facilities. Records, Intake, Finance, Transportation and Court Holding comprise this section.

Under the direction of Lt. DuWayne Gaddy, personnel within the **INMATE SERVICES UNIT** classify inmates who enter the facility, provide alternative sentencing programs — including Work Release — and perform court-mandated drug screenings. This section also maintains the Volunteers in Community Service (VICS) program, which in 2004 coordinated 58 special projects and welcomed six new agencies to the program.

Throughout the year, the Detention Center recognizes correctional officers who go above and beyond the call of duty and demonstrate commitment and dedication to the Agency. In 2004, CFC William Halt, CO II Lewis Ford, CFC Michael Hurd and Cpl. Robert Bernier were named correctional officers of the quarter and Cpl. Bernier was selected as the correctional officer of the year.

The Corrections Pistol Team, which was formed in 2001, participated in several matches in 2004, including the Charles County Sheriff's Office Combat Pistol Match and the Prince George's County Regional Law Enforcement Match. The team earned two first place trophies in the Charles County match and a second place trophy in the Prince George's County match. The team won four more trophies in the Tri-County Shootout held at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

Knowing many of our country's military troops would be overseas fighting the war on terrorism instead of home for the holidays in 2004, the Charles County Correctional Officers' Association spearheaded the collection of supplies to send care packages to the troops. The Association collected more than 4,100 items, which UPS volunteered to send to the troops for free. Marty Horn, who helps community members send supplies to troops through his website AnySoldier.com, assisted with the project. In each care package, the Association included a letter it received with one of the donations. In the letter — signed "Your Fellow American" — a woman told how, when she was a child during World War II, her school collected items to make care packages to send to soldiers overseas. Her family didn't have much to donate, but she was proud to give a new washcloth and a bar of soap. She also told troops how, 60 years later, she's proud to help again and offered her heartfelt gratitude to the men and women who protect our country. ■



The Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards presented Sheriff Davis, center, and Capt. William Mancuso, who retired in 2004 as the commander of the Corrections Division, with a framed certificate to honor the Detention Center's 100 percent compliance with MCCS standards.



Cpl. Robert Bernier is responsible for the Agency's access to the Rapid Eye video surveillance system.



Amid hundreds of supplies sent in care packages to military personnel overseas, Capt. William Mancuso, Ret., far left, and Sheriff Frederick E. Davis stand with (back row) Marty Horn, Sgt. Pete Wearmouth, Lt. Morris Gant, and (front row) Jim and Cathy Whittar and Sgt. Tracy Williams.



SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION

BY ENSURING WANTED INDIVIDUALS ARE APPREHENDED, THE CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE IS SECURE AND THE AGENCY'S FLEET, SUPPLY STOCK AND PROPERTY HELD INVENTORY ARE WELL MAINTAINED, THE SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION PROVIDES IMPORTANT SERVICES TO THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND OUR COMMUNITY.

Under the command of Capt. G. Gale Willett, the sections in this division are Judicial Services and Property Management. The **JUDICIAL SERVICES SECTION**, led by Lt. Michael Klotz, is responsible for maintaining a safe court environment, serving arrest warrants, serving civil process and resolving domestic violence and child support issues.

Each of the 174,265 people who visited the Charles County Courthouse in 2004 were screened by the members of the **COURT SECURITY UNIT**. This unit is responsible for ensuring the safety and security of the Courthouse by monitoring the Courthouse entrance, providing security within the courtrooms and transporting prisoners between courtrooms and the Court Holding facility. Visitors must pass through a metal detector and their briefcases, purses and bags must pass through an x-ray machine. In 2004, the unit seized knives and razor blades, effected two criminal arrests and took 177 individuals with outstanding arrest warrants into custody.

The **CIVIL UNIT** is responsible for serving civil process, including subpoenas, summonses, evictions and juvenile court papers. The unit also handles landlord complaints, postings, writs of execution, writs of possession, Sheriff's sales and all other civil process matters. In 2004, the unit handled 533 evictions, 4,251 landlord complaints, 376 postings and 126 writs of execution and served 11,707 summonses. Civil process servers served nearly 7,000 civil documents, netting the Agency nearly \$116,000 in service reimbursement.

The **WARRANT/FUGITIVE UNIT** serves arrest warrants, attachments, criminal summonses and indictments, issues detainers for wanted individuals being held at detention facilities outside Charles County and arranges for the extradition of individuals apprehended outside Maryland. In 2004, the unit served 1,820 warrants and 1,014 criminal summonses, processed 171 fugitives and arranged for 59 extraditions.

In 2004, the Warrant Unit began participating in the Maryland Motor Vehicle Drivers License Suspension Program, in which the Motor Vehicle Administration suspends the licenses of drivers with arrest warrants. As a result, 211 wanted individuals were arrested.

Failure to pay child support is a serious crime and the members of the **CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT** ensure violators are held accountable. This unit serves arrest warrants, attachments, summonses and other process related to child support and provides security for the Domestic Relations Court. The unit is largely funded by a State of Maryland Human Resources Child Support Enforcement Administration Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement, and utilized child support federal initiative funds through the Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration to publish the names and pictures of wanted individuals in the local newspaper. The unit served 312 warrants and 624 summonses.

The **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT** serves protective orders, peace orders, arrest warrants, criminal summonses and other criminal and civil process related to domestic violence. This unit investigates instances in which a person who is prohibited from owning a firearm because of domestic violence-related restrictions attempted to or successfully purchased a firearm. The unit offers guidance to victims of domestic violence and coordinates efforts with community groups and service providers. Two grants support the unit; one grant helps supplement the cost of overtime when officers serve protective and peace orders, and the other provides an additional officer to the unit. The number of peace and protective orders issued increased significantly after District Court Commissioners became available around-the-clock to issue them. The Domestic Violence Unit served 1,199 protective orders, 747 peace orders, 465 warrants and 625 summonses in 2004.

Under the direction of Lt. James Stine, the **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SECTION** handles the Agency's uniform supply and vehicle needs and manages the Agency's property held inventory through the Quartermaster's Office, Fleet Management Program and Property Held Unit.

The **QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE** is responsible for supplying personnel with uniforms, office supplies and other items, repairing and installing emergency equipment in police cruisers, preparing new vehicles for Agency use and performing minor repairs on Agency vehicles.

The **FLEET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM** maintains the Agency's ever-growing fleet, which stood at more than 300 vehicles in 2004. This component creates vehicle-related policies that ensure vehicle safety, purchases new vehicles and disposes of old vehicles.

The **PROPERTY HELD UNIT** is tasked with regulating the receipt, storage, security and disposal of property, contraband and narcotics recovered by the Agency. In 2004, the unit received and stored 5,199 pieces of property and handled 756 drug submissions.

The **FIREARMS TRACKING SPECIALIST** logs and maintains custody and safe-keeping of firearms, conducts seized firearms investigations, schedules and conducts firearms hearings, acts as a liaison to the courts, coordinates the release and destruction of seized firearms and provides citizens with information about firearms laws. In 2004, the Sheriff's Office seized 234 firearms and identified eight firearms in its inventory that had previously gone undetected as stolen from areas in Maryland and throughout the country. ■



Court Security Officers rely on an x-ray machine, metal detectors and their own skills and expertise to ensure the safety of the Charles County Courthouse.



Cathy Rickett and the employees of the Quartermaster keep the Agency's supplies well-stocked.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

THE MEMBERS OF THE
SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION
HAVE AN IMPORTANT
RESPONSIBILITY TO THE
AGENCY, THE COMMUNITY
AND OTHER LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.
THIS DIVISION ANALYZES
CRIME STATISTICS AND
INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION,
WORKS WITH THE YOUTH OF
OUR COMMUNITY, PROVIDES
SUPPORT TO CRIME VICTIMS,
RECRUITS NEW EMPLOYEES
AND MAINTAINS
THE AGENCY'S COMPUTERS
AND NETWORKS.

Under the command of Capt. F. Michael Wyant, the division is comprised of the Juvenile Resources Section, Homeland Security and Intelligence Section, Management Information Systems Section, Training and Recruitment Section, Teen Court Program, Crime Analysis Function, Victim Services Function and Grants Management Function.

The **JUVENILE RESOURCES SECTION** provides Charles County youth with programs that encourage good decision making and teach them to be upstanding citizens. Sheriff's officers and Maryland State Police (MSP) troopers, in cooperation with Charles County Public Schools, provide one officer at every public high school in the County. Those officers also maintain a presence in the surrounding elementary and middle schools. Juvenile Intervention Officers work closely with students and make numerous intervention efforts and present several school-based programs, including Safe Schools, Truth and Consequences, and Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) to thousands of public and parochial students.

The **HOMELAND SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE SECTION**, under the direction of Lt. Christopher Becker, investigates street gangs, outlaw motorcycle groups, extremists, terrorism and organized crime. The section includes the Joint Intelligence Unit, which is staffed by law enforcement officers from the Sheriff's Office and MSP. In 2004, the Joint Intelligence Unit conducted 133 investigations and assessments. The unit hosts monthly meetings of the Southern Maryland Regional Task Force, a partnership that includes more than 20 federal, state, local, military and correctional agencies.

The **MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECTION (MIS)**, managed by Eric Halvorsen, ensures the efficient operation of the Agency's computers and software programs and keeps the Agency abreast of the latest technological advances.

The **APPLICATIONS SUPPORT UNIT** provides support for software used to track law enforcement information, including calls for service, incident reports, arrests, warrants, civil process and incarcerations. Personnel in this unit evaluate new software and train employees on any new software programs the Agency implements.

The **PC OPERATIONS UNIT** maintains all the Agency's personal computers, fax machines, scanners and other various computer equipment, and handles PC repairs in its workshop. The unit maintains the voice mail system that enables citizens to leave voice messages for patrol officers. The unit also maintains the personal data assistants (PDAs) issued to Agency employees.

The **SYSTEMS OPERATIONS SUPPORT UNIT** manages all the Agency's servers and network connections. The unit also maintains servers throughout the Agency that allow critical files to be backed-up every night. In 2004, the unit established new connections to the Indian Head and Waldorf district stations and converted the network structure for better efficiency. The unit established an in-house website server and began revamping the Sheriff's Office's website.

Under the direction of Lt. Joseph J. Fenlon, the **TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT SECTION** helps employees achieve greater knowledge, skills and abilities through training. In 2004, this section provided Sheriff's Office personnel with training about weapons of mass destruction and terrorism. This section hosted the first annual Cultural Diversity Job Fair as part of ongoing efforts to recruit minority applicants and demonstrate our Agency's commitment to hiring a diverse workforce that reflects our community.

The **TEEN COURT PROGRAM** provides first time youth offenders with an opportunity to accept responsibility for misdemeanor crimes without incurring criminal records. Since its inception in March 2001, Teen Court has successfully diverted more than 440 juveniles from the formal criminal justice system. Juveniles appear before an adult community judge and a jury of their peers. The juries have sentenced youth offenders to more than 7,000 hours of community service. Youth and adult volunteers have performed more than 7,300 hours of community service as jurors, attorneys and judges.

The **CRIME ANALYSIS FUNCTION** provides analytical support to the Sheriff's Office to reduce crime, provide investigative analysis and deploy tactical resources. In 2004, the unit completed 156 assignments, which ranged from analyzing individual cases to countywide crime trends.

The **VICTIM SERVICES FUNCTION** provides resources and services to victims of crime in Charles County. The unit works with state, regional and local victim service agencies, including the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board and Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) and ensures victims have information regarding their rights under the law.

The **GRANTS MANAGEMENT FUNCTION** researches new grant opportunities, prepares grant applications and coordinates the Collaborative Supervision and Focused Enforcement (C-SAFE) Program for the County. In 2004, the unit focused on many initiatives, including homeland security appropriations. ■



PFC Dorrell Savoy, forefront, and Cpl. Jason Stoddard stand guard at one of Thomas Stone's entrances during an emergency preparedness drill held in October. The drill gave police, fire and EMS personnel the opportunity to hone their disaster response skills by responding to a mock incident involving a shooting at the school.



Cpl. Mike Vaughn and other Juvenile Resource Unit officers coordinate an annual youth basketball tournament for local students.



Capt. Michael Wyant, center, speaks with Commissioners' President Murray Levy and Commissioner Daniel Mayer at the annual candlelight vigil held in honor of crime victims and their families.

A photograph of the Charles County Emergency Services building, a two-story structure with a prominent entrance and a sign that reads "CHARLES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES".

CHARLES COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES

TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

PROVIDING A SAFETY AND
INFORMATION LINK FOR
OFFICERS, ANSWERING CALLS
FROM CITIZENS WHO NEED
POLICE ASSISTANCE AND
MAINTAINING THE AGENCY'S
HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS
OF RECORDS ARE IMPORTANT
RESPONSIBILITIES THAT
REST WITH THE EMPLOYEES
OF THE TECHNICAL
SERVICES DIVISION.

Under the command of Capt. John McConnell, the Communications Section and the Records Management Section are dedicated to providing the highest quality of service.

Personnel in the COMMUNICATIONS SECTION, commanded by Lt. Richard J. Williams, provide around-the-clock police radio communications to officers and clerical coverage of the three district stations in La Plata, Indian Head and Waldorf. In doing so, they ensure someone is always available to offer important information and emergency assistance to officers and the community.

Station Clerks receive most of the Agency's non-emergency calls for service from citizens. They must obtain the most accurate and complete information to relay to Police Communications Officers (PCOs). The PCOs then take the information, determine its priority and dispatch it accordingly to patrol officers. PCOs advise officers where they are needed and relay circumstances behind the situation, background information on suspects and other important information the officers need to work safely and efficiently. For the employees in the Communications Section, safety is paramount and remaining calm and focused during intense situations is critical. Communications personnel handled more than 167,000 calls in 2004.

The PCOs originally dispatched calls from the La Plata District Station but in 2004, they moved to the new Charles County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in La Plata. The EOC is a state-of-the-art facility that places all police, fire and EMS dispatchers together for efficient communication. In the event of a large-scale incident that requires a combined response, the EOC allows responding agencies to work together at a central location and have access to all the resources they need to handle the incident.

The EOC is part of the Sheriff's Office's transition to a new radio system. In 2002, the Sheriff's Office partnered with the Charles County Commissioners, Fire

*The Emergency Operations Center places all police,
fire and EMS dispatchers together for efficient communication.*

and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel and Motorola to acquire the new public safety radio communications system. The system will enhance the response to emergency situations in Charles County and will facilitate inter-agency communication when incidents require a combined response from the Sheriff's Office, fire departments, EMS personnel and other law enforcement agencies.

In 2004, the infrastructure for the new system and the Emergency Operations Center were completed. At the end of the year, the Sheriff's Office expected the radio system would be operational in the spring of 2005, after a foliage test could be conducted to ensure the radio signals could reach the radio towers when leaves were on the trees.

The system will provide clearer radio transmissions, even in remote parts of Charles County. It also has several important officer safety functions, including an emergency call feature that will allow an officer to override all other radio traffic in the event emergency assistance is required. Also, PCOs will be able to identify who is on the other end of a radio transmission, even when the officer does not provide a verbal message. When an officer presses the button to transmit a message, the officer's identification number will appear electronically at the PCO's computer station. If the PCO does not receive verbal confirmation regarding the officer's welfare, the PCO will know to send more officers to help.

The system will also provide the ability to create and modify talk groups. When detectives or the Emergency Services Team are conducting a special investigation or assignment, they will be able to communicate with each other on an encrypted channel separate from general police operations so confidential information can be transmitted with restricted access.

The **RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION**, under the command of Lt. Stan Gregan, preserves and maintains every report the Sheriff's Office receives and ensures old documents are destroyed according to the records retention and disposal schedule approved by the State Archivist. In 2004, the Records Management Section processed and cataloged more than 18,000 reports and supplemental reports and more than 32,000 citations, warnings and safety equipment repair orders. Records personnel also processed more than 3,000 Maryland Freedom of Information Act requests and completed 629 expungements.

In 2003, when the Sheriff's Office began installing video cameras in police cruisers, Records Management assumed responsibility for maintaining the custody and security of the video tapes and responding to requests for copies from the Court. In 2004, Records Management collected, copied, reviewed and housed more than 1,100 videotapes.

The Records Management Section also codes and classifies police reports for the Uniform Crime Report, a Federal Bureau of Investigation report that breaks down by state and by county the numbers of specific crimes that occurred in a year. The section oversees the continuous surveillance of the Sheriff's Headquarters and manages the Agency's Mutual Inter-Agency Law Enforcement System and National Crime Information Center (MILES/NCIC) access. ■



Police Communications Officer Heather Thurber dispatches calls to officers and responds to officers' requests for information. The duties of a police communication officer are essential to law enforcement operations.



Donna Tawney, left, a new police communications officer, gets a lesson in the duties of a station clerk from Delores Charnock, right. Station clerks answer the non-emergency lines at the district stations and pass the information along to communications officers who relay it to officers on the road.



Among the responsibilities of records technicians, including Records Technician Suzi Thompson, above, is monitoring the security cameras and locks at Headquarters.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF
THE CHARLES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO OUR
COMMUNITY ARE NOT LIMITED
TO PROVIDING LAW
ENFORCEMENT SERVICES.
THE EMPLOYEES OF OUR
AGENCY ARE COMMITTED TO
BETTERING THE LIVES OF
CITIZENS IN OUR COMMUNITY
IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE,
FROM REPAIRING HOMES
FOR CHRISTMAS IN APRIL
TO SERVING MEALS DURING
THE ANNUAL COPS &
LOBSTERS EVENT.

The Sheriff's Office has raised thousands of dollars over the years to support Special Olympics, a year-round sports program for children and adults with disabilities. Employees waited tables and collected donations during COPS & LOBSTERS and put on their running shoes to help Special Olympics athletes carry the Flame of Hope for the LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN.

In December, employees of the Sheriff's Office took part in the last Special Olympics fund-raiser of the year, SHIVER IN THE RIVER. Led by Sheriff Frederick E. Davis and Col. Thomas E. Hutchins, Superintendent of the Maryland State Police, 238 "shiverers," including many Sheriff's Office and State Police personnel, took a quick dip in the cold Potomac River to raise \$63,000. This was the first of three Special Olympics Winter Water Series events and the first year an event in this series was hosted in Charles County.

Christmas came early for a Nanjemoy family whose home Sheriff's Office personnel renovated as part of CHRISTMAS IN APRIL. Agency employees painted, installed new front and back porches, washed vinyl siding, installed a new skirt around the house and planted new flowers at the home. Each year, Sheriff's Office employees and people throughout the County renovate homes of the less fortunate during this event.

The Sheriff's Office also actively supports the American Cancer Society. On the evening of June 11, a team of Agency employees congregated in the gymnasium at La Plata High School and took turns walking the gym floor until the morning of June 12 as part of RELAY FOR LIFE. The team raised \$3,460 for the American Cancer Society prior to the event through several fund-raisers. They dubbed themselves "The Piecemakers" because their main fund-raiser involved selling quilt squares that could be decorated by people who purchased them. The squares were added to a quilt designed when this fund-raiser, Quilting for a Cure, was introduced in 2003.

To help mark the beginning of the 2004-2005 United Way campaign, Agency employees participated in the UNITED WAY ANNUAL DAY OF CARING. The event brings together volunteers who help agencies that are members of United Way with repairs and other projects at their facilities. The Sheriff's Office volunteered at Catholic Charities, Center for Children and the Alice Ferguson Foundation Hard Bargain Farm. ■

YOUTH OUTREACH

High school juniors and seniors considering a career in law enforcement have an opportunity to learn about the criminal justice system as part of their high school curriculum through the **CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM**. Students learn about law enforcement from an officer who instructs the class daily. The two-year program teaches students about all aspects of the criminal justice system, from police to corrections to courts. Students fingerprint for the Sheriff's Office and shadow law enforcement personnel. Students also participate in Detect and Deter, a holiday safety program in which they canvass local parking lots in search of vehicles that could be potential theft targets because of packages, cell phones, money and other items in plain view. The students leave a friendly reminder on the vehicle and counsel vehicle owners on better theft prevention practices.

Approximately 50 young adults between the ages of 14 and 21 are offered a balanced program of career, social, service, leadership, fitness and outdoor experiences through participation in **EXPLORERS POST 1658**. Explorers participate in community service events, searches for lost children, fingerprinting, traffic and crowd control assignments and neighborhood crime watch events. Explorers and students in the Criminal Justice Program collectively fingerprinted 1,641 individuals in 2004.

Six Explorers participated in the biennial National Explorers Conference held in Georgia. Our Agency's Explorers competed against 4,000 Explorers from more than 40 states and Puerto Rico and were judged on their response to police scenarios. Charles County Sheriff's Office Explorers earned a national championship in the Arrest and Search category with a score of 96 out of 100. They earned second place in the Best Uniforms category and third place in a bomb threat investigation, and were in the top 10 in the nation in the burglary response call.

In April, the Sheriff's Office hosted the ninth annual **THREE-ON-THREE TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS** youth basketball tournament sponsored by the Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police and Charles County Public Schools. In August, 24 students learned why it's important to "Just Say No" to drugs and learned about law enforcement operations by participating in the 13th annual **DRUG INFORMATION AND PREVENTION SEMINAR**. In September, Sheriff Frederick E. Davis presented Jaime McGuigan with a \$500 **MARYLAND CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP**. The scholarship is awarded each year to a college student studying law enforcement. ■

A PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE YOUTH OF OUR COMMUNITY IS VITAL. THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING YOUNG PEOPLE ARE COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO APPROACH AN OFFICER TO SAY HELLO, SEEK ADVICE, REPORT BULLYING OR REPORT A CRIME, AND OUR AGENCY HAS A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS THAT HELP YOUNG PEOPLE BUILD CONFIDENCE AND POSITIVE FUTURES.



Explorer Heather Stout, left, and Criminal Justice Student Tara Finkle pose with McGruff during McGruff's appearance at Babies R Us in Waldorf.



IN MEMORIAM

PATROLMAN LAWRENCE H. MCPARLIN

Patrolman McParlin was Charles County's first officer known to have fallen in the line of duty. On May 12, 1918, a short time after becoming a police officer, Ptm. McParlin and Officer John Conrad of the Metropolitan Police Department attempted to serve a court summons in Washington, D.C. As they entered the building, the suspect, who was wanted, shot and killed both officers.



PATROLMAN FIRST CLASS DENNIS L. RILEY, #49

On January 11, 1977, PFC Riley was killed in a tragic accident at the intersection of Route 228 and U.S. Route 301 in Waldorf. As he waited for a traffic light to change, a tractor-trailer fuel tanker skidded to a stop and overturned on his cruiser, killing him instantly. PFC Riley left a wife and four children.



SERGEANT FRANCIS "LEO" YATES, #40

On June 8, 1988, Sgt. Yates died of a heart attack as he left the Charles County Courthouse. Sgt. Yates left a wife and four children.



SERGEANT JOSEPH E. STINE, JR., #62

On May 12, 1990, Sgt. Stine arrested a disorderly subject and transported the resisting prisoner to the Charles County Detention Center. He then collapsed, due to a fatal heart attack. Sgt. Stine left a wife, two children and three step-children.



SERGEANT TIMOTHY C. MINOR, #109

On February 12, 1996, Sgt. Minor was responding to a call near Cobb Island when a vehicle pulled in front of his police motorcycle while he was traveling on Route 257 in Newburg. Sgt. Minor left a wife and two children.



STATION CLERK WILLARD C. KEESEE, #1123

On January 23, 1998, Mr. Keesee was on-duty at the Indian Head District Station when he suffered a fatal heart attack. He left two sons and a daughter.

All gave some...some gave all.



CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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