



# Stars and Bars



Sheriff Jim Frank

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## Message from the Sheriff

### UNIONS vs. MANAGEMENT

What good are employee labor unions? Is their only purpose to negotiate contracts and defend employees in grievance proceedings? Do they exist to keep managements power in check? I would argue they serve those purposes but should and can be much more. Labor unions are important to our organizations mission and how well it is accomplished.

There is always going to be a management perspective and a labor perspective on issues. That does not mean there is only room for one perspective to exist or survive. Through open and honest dialog we often find very little substantive differences.

The best decisions are made after all voices have been heard. There are times when that can't happen but more often than not it can. Labor unions should be the voice of many on most issues.

Conflict begins when people use their position or status to further a personal cause. Inaccurate or incomplete information causes less than desirable results. Representatives need to be selected for the ability to find solutions.

Several years ago we established a monthly labor /management forum. It fell apart because of a few. It is time to re-establishing the concept with some minor changes. Labor and management can always improve communications with each other and arguably among themselves. The forum is a step in the right direction. A monthly exchange works well for most issues.

Those they represent should direct local labor unions.

Business agents obviously have a purpose but do not fully understand organizational culture. Stewards should and therefore, in my opinion, must take a more active role in dealing with management on most issues.

We need to establish as many ways as possible to remove the "us vs. them" thinking and build a strong "WE" way of accomplishing our mission. Well-focused labor unions will do just that. I encourage all of you to take an interest in your union.

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# Law Enforcement Memorial Service

By Dave Brierley, WashLine Editor

The eighth annual Law Enforcement Memorial Day service was conducted at noon on Wednesday, May 15, 2002, in front of the Law Enforcement Center. A large audience paid tribute to the fallen peace officers from across our nation during the past year. Officers presented the names of their fallen comrades and a bell tolled for their loss. Included in the list of names were officers who were lost on September 11, 2001, in the attack on the World Trade Center.

Sheriff Jim Frank conducted the ceremony and Commissioner Dick Stafford was the keynote speaker. Many uniformed officers from the County and other law enforcement agencies stood proudly at attention or at parade rest. The Sheriff's Office Honor Guard, County Mounted Horse Patrol and the K-9 Unit were present. Deputy Scott Stillman read the Law Enforcement Memorial Prayer, Correction Officer Sharon Ryan read the Correctional Officer Memorial Prayer and Patrol Officer Mike Bonn played taps.

A focus of the ceremony was the dedication of the new monument outside the LEC. The monument stands where the former building sign stood near the main entrance. Sergeant Larry Osterman and Sergeant Cheri Dexter were the leaders of the campaign to privately raise funds from individuals and erect the memorial "In honor of all the men and women who have dedicated their lives to law enforcement." This recognition applies to the officers who continue to serve their fellow citizens and to the officers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.



Commissioner Stafford, Sheriff Frank and Father Michael Cregan



Sgt Cheri Dexter and Sgt Larry Osterman



Washington County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard



Washington County Sheriff's Office employees

# Sergeant David Karwoski Retires

By Sgt Richard Peterson

On March 29, 2002, David Karwoski retired from the Washington County Sheriff's Office after 27 years of service. Dave started his law enforcement career at the Sheriff's Office on November 25, 1974. Dave was one of eleven other deputies who worked out of what is now known as the Historic Court House. Dave began his career at the Washington County Sheriff's Office on the afternoon shift and had approximately five days of field training. Dave made \$900.00 a month for starting salary and had a permanent 5-2 schedule with Wednesday and Thursday off.

Dave was promoted to Sergeant in 1989 and was a Shift Commander until 1994, working under the Command of Mike Johnson. In 1996, Dave was assigned to the Communications Center where he was in charge until 1997. Dave was then transferred to the Investigative Unit where he finished out his career under the command of Mike Johnson.

Dave completed his schooling, earning his Bachelor of Science degree in five years. He then completed a 2-year Masters Degree program in Administration and Law Enforcement from Metro State University.

In his career path, Dave successfully started the Sheriff's Office first Explorer Post and was one of the founding members of our current Water Recovery Team. Dave was also a firearms instructor for almost 25 years at the Sheriff's Office. Dave was a founding member of the Retailers Protection Association and was also instrumental in starting a Serious Property Crimes Group. As a member of the Financial Crimes Task Force, Dave testified at the House and Senate levels of the Minnesota State Legislature. His testimony, along with several others in the group, led to a new law giving statewide jurisdiction to Investigators assigned to financial type crimes.

Dave stated that his experience in the Investigative Unit was the most rewarding of his career. He feels a great sense of gratitude toward Commander Mike Johnson. The satisfaction of working with other detectives to solve major cases was a fantastic experience. One of the things he feels very proud of is his accomplishment in the area of vulnerable adult investigations. Dave successfully worked vulnerable adult cases and compared a lot of his investigation techniques to that of a homicide investigation.

His one wish for the Washington County Sheriff's Office would be to start a mentoring program for newly hired deputies. "Newly hired deputies should have someone other than an FTO to turn to for advice when needed."

Dave has a couple of things he would like to leave people with, the first being, never give up in your job assignment, regardless of where you work. Secondly, Dave would like to personally thank Mike Johnson for all his years of support. Dave stated at the end of the interview, "Without a doubt, Mike Johnson was the best boss I ever had".



Dave with his retirement cake



Sheriff Frank presented Dave with a shadow box

# Paul Paulsen Retires

By Michelle Ritzer

A retirement cake and coffee was held at the Washington County Law Enforcement Center on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2002, in honor of Paul Paulsen's retirement. Paul began his employment at the Washington County Government Center on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1990.

Paul's past work history included working for Armour Food Company for 20 years; then from 1980-1989 he worked for Chicago Northwestern Railroad. On January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1990, Paul came to work for Washington County in Central Services. In November of 1991, Paul transferred to the Sheriff's Office where he has worked until his retirement date.

Paul states that his plans for retirement include taking the summer off, doing some fishing, general house and yard work, and volunteering at church or the food shelf. In the fall, Paul said he might look for a part-time job. Paul's future plans include traveling after his wife retires in two years.



Paul Paulsen with his cake



Paul was given a plaque for his years of service

# Bailiff Sharon Swanson Retires

By John Warneke

Sharon Swanson, Bailiff since 1984, retired on February 22, 2002. She started her career as bailiff on December 3, 1984, when there were six judges on the bench. Currently there are nine judges and nine Bailiffs working in Court Security.

Sharon's retirement plans include gardening, organizing her new home, traveling, sleeping in late and most importantly seeing more of her family and friends, which include two grandchildren.



Sheriff Frank presented Sharon with a plaque for her years of service.

## **Roger Heinen Receives Award**

By Sgt Laura Waldon

The Jail Division's Emergency Response Team members unanimously recommended Sgt. Roger Heinen receive recognition for his Commitment to Excellence. His leadership role in the development of the Emergency Response Team has resulted in a highly trained and respected group, capable of responding to emergencies within the facility.

On January 31, 2002, Sgt. Heinen was awarded the Meritorious Service Award for his dedication over the past four years developing the Emergency Response Team. Sgt. Heinen played an instrumental role in the formation of the Emergency Response Team through research of other facility response teams and the ability to obtain necessary training and equipment. Sgt. Heinen continued his dedication by helping write policies and procedures for the response team as well as recruiting and training its members.

Congrats Roger for your continued dedication and service!

## **Patrol Division Deploys New Enforcement Tool**

By Sgt Scott Malinosky

In May, the Patrol Division added a new "tool" to its enforcement array with the deployment of a new unmarked traffic enforcement squad car. The new squad car is a 2002 Chevrolet Impala equipped with special emergency/warning lights. It is outfitted similar to a marked squad car in that it has radar, MDT, and a video camera along with the usual two-way radio. Having a lower "profile" than a marked unit, the unmarked squad car will be well suited for traffic enforcement as well as special details calling for more surveillance oriented equipment.

## **Explorer News**

By Sgt Cheri Dexter

The Washington County Sheriff's Office Explorers attended the Breezy Point State Competition on April 25-28, 2002. This year, Washington County sent two teams to the state competition with four Explorers on each team. There are a total of 13 events held at the competition and each team can participate in up to four events.

This years state competition had over 900 explorers and advisors in attendance. Washington County Explorer teams participated in 7 events with team one placing 5<sup>th</sup> in hostage negotiations.

The Explorers would like to thank the following advisors who go the extra mile to help them train. Jeff Larson, Sara Peulen, Jamie Jackson, Andy Ellickson, Miguel Tellez and Matt Wieland. We would also like to thank Commander Moriarty, Bill Stute and Lonnie Van Klei for their help during the year. The Explorers continue to train for the National Explorer Competition to be held in Flagstaff, Arizona from July 8-12, 2002.

# Youth Unit News

## Bicycle Patrol

By Sgt Richard Peterson

The Youth Unit will be patrolling on bicycles for the upcoming summer months. Deputies Erickson and Tellez will be patrolling areas that deputies may have problems getting access to in squad cars. Look for the bike patrol to be in areas of concern such as the Gateway Trail, Willernie Park, Katherine Abbot Park, residential areas in contracts etc. If patrol officers would like assistance from the Youth Unit regarding extra patrol requests for the bicycles, please notify your duty Sergeant. The Youth Unit bike patrol will be flexible with duty hours if the need arises. If the weather permits, the bike patrol officers will be on the street by the Memorial Day weekend. Deputies Erickson and Tellez are looking forward to a productive summer assisting the patrol division.



Deputy Miguel Tellez and Deputy Danelle Erickson

## Commitment to Excellence-Awards Corner

By Sgt Laura Waldon

The Recognition Committee in the Sheriff's Office meets on a regular basis to review all submitted nominations of outstanding work performance by Sheriff's Office Employees. They then make recommendations to the Sheriff for his approval. The following are the most recent employees given recognition.

"Letter of Excellence" awarded to Deputy Scott Stillman

"Letter of Excellence" awarded to Deputy Michael Benson

"Letter of Excellence" awarded to Detective James Neuenfeldt

"Meritorious Service Award" to Sergeant Roger Heinen

If you would like to submit an employee for recognition, send a written summary to Commander Chuck Yetter.

# WCSO Gym Users

By Sgt Richard Peterson

A committee has been formed at the Sheriff's Office to deal with the ever-present use of our beautiful gym. The committee is comprised of several people throughout the Sheriff's Office who have devoted their time in making our gym a clean, safe and healthy environment.

A sign-in sheet has been placed in the gym to help us better track the use of our equipment and address the needs of our employees. Due to poor record keeping regarding the gym orientation process, we will be asking each employee to go through a brief orientation process to update our records. Employees using the gym, who do not sign-off on the orientation form, will be in violation of Sheriff's Office policy.

Remember, using this facility is a privilege we hope will not be taken for granted. Bally's and Life Time Fitness are charging approximately \$60.00 a month without a lot of privacy in your workout sessions.

Feel free to contact the following people for orientation purposes or if you have any questions concerning the gym:

**Laura Waldon** ~ Jail Administration (ext. 7912)

**Brian Mueller** ~ Narcotics Unit (ext. 7802)

**Dan Luke** ~ Jail Programs (ext. 7928)

**Bill Hoffman** ~ Jail Programs (ext. 7927)

**John (Chris) Thomazin** ~ Corrections (ext. 7909)

**Rick Peterson** ~ Youth Unit (ext. 7886)

**Bill Lake** ~ Patrol Division (ext. 4835)

**Sally Lawrence** ~ Communication Center (ext. 7617)

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## Mental Illness In Jails

By Commander Chuck Yetter

For a number of years it has become increasingly evident that the number of inmates incarcerated in jails and prisons who suffer from some form of mental illness is on the increase. Nationwide, It is estimated that 16 percent of incarcerated persons are mentally ill. The job of supervising and managing inmates becomes even more difficult when inmates are mentally ill. Because of the additional issues faced by correctional staffs who supervise these inmates, strategies must be developed to deal with unique problems that often arise because of the mental illness.

On January 25, 2002, I attended the "Symposium on Offenders with Mental Illness: Understanding and Hope" which was co-sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Corrections and the Minnesota Department of Human Services. This symposium led to the development of "action plans" for each local jurisdiction.

Local meetings have been conducted including representatives from the Court, County Attorney's Office, Public Health, Community Social Services and others. Meetings will continue to be held as we attempt to coordinate the services to mentally ill inmates while incarcerated in the jail and when they are eventually released back into the community.

# Bring Your Child to Work Day

By John Warneke

April 25, 2002, was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Take your daughter to work day". The Washington County Sheriff's Office has expanded the day to include sons and changed the day to "Take your child to work day". The invitation was also extended to grandchildren of employees.

The Sheriff's Office scheduled events for the children and employees. This year events started with Dan Harjes and his K-9 partner Zeus (see photo below) putting on a demonstration showing their expertise in K-9 handling. Deputy Miguel Tellez and Deputy Danelle Erickson then gave a DARE talk about drug awareness. Finally, tours were given of the law enforcement center which included the jail and communication center.

The national organization, "Ms. Foundation for Women", who started this event, is changing the name for "Take Your Daughters to Work Day". In 2003, the day will be called "Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day".



Deputy Dan Harjes and his K-9 partner Zeus

# Telecommunications Week

By Troy Ruby

The week of April 14-20, 2002, was National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

National Public Safety Telecommunications week was celebrated with a cake and coffee reception to honor the communications staff. This event was held in the Emergency Operations Center located next to the Communication Center. Representatives throughout the County were invited to share in this event and have the opportunity to show their support for the people who answer their first call for help.

President George Bush, on April 11<sup>th</sup> 2002, issued a statement commending the work of public safety communicators throughout the Nation:

"The tragic events of September 11, 2001, remind us of the vital role communications professionals play in public safety. When citizens need police, fire or ambulance assistance, they rely on the skill and expertise of the dispatchers. Their important efforts can often mean the difference between life and death."

In one quote, the President summed up our jobs with perfect clarity. The dispatchers and call takers of the Washington County Sheriff's Office take their jobs very seriously and work diligently to send the right response in the right way to the right person.

If you get a chance, take the time to stop by the Communication Center to meet the people who answer that first call for help.



Dispatchers Sue Giles, Linda Stage and Thela Fitzgerald

# BURGLARIES RESOLVED

By Commander Mike Johnson

During the last several weeks we have arrested and charged several groups of prolific burglars. The north team arrested and charged an individual from Hugo and four accomplices. This group burglarized a victim's home in West Lakeland. The victim's son was an acquaintance of the suspect and he owed the suspect money from a narcotics transaction. The suspect planned and carried out the burglary in order to collect for the drug debt.

Two groups of juveniles were arrested and charged with the burglary of Sawmill Golf Course. A brother of one of the suspects showed up to golf at Sawmill with a club that Sawmill employees believed was taken from their business in one of last season's burglaries. Sawmill employees spoke with a deputy about their suspicions. The deputy followed up with the customer. He told our deputy that he had borrowed the club from his father. During the investigation we were able to determine that the customer was a brother of one of the suspects. All of the juveniles involved have admitted to two nighttime burglaries of the golf course and have been charged.

An individual from Hugo was arrested after we were able to identify a 9mm Browning pistol as one taken in a May Township burglary. The pistol was described in the original report without a serial number. The victim in the burglary provided us with expended casings from the Browning that he still had in his possession. Those casings were entered into evidence with the hope of matching them to the pistol if it was used in another crime and casings were left at the scene of that potential crime or if the gun was located. Investigators learned from the burglary victim that he was related to a suspect that was well known to us. We learned from another jurisdiction that the suspect had been arrested with a pistol in his possession during a recent narcotics arrest. The suspect was released on bond for the narcotics offense. The pistol has been identified as the one taken from the May Township burglary.

During the follow-up search of a relative's property, investigators found numerous items taken in other burglaries in the area. The suspect was charged here and in another county. He is currently out of custody on bond pending trial here and in three other jurisdictions.

There were also a number of burglaries in West Lakeland, Stillwater Township, and the City of Grant that took place over a several week time frame. An individual and his accomplices were ruled out as suspects in these burglaries. There were no leads developed initially at any of the scenes, however deputies took photos of some footprints and a tire casting was made. Two residents from the City of Grant relayed an account of a suspicious person they had observed in a driveway in Grant after Deputy Lombardi made them aware of the burglaries in the area. Both of these citizens were able to recall a vehicle description and a license number for the vehicle. Investigators contacted the listed owner and learned she had filed a stolen report on the vehicle with St. Paul. She believed her son had taken her 2000 Ford Escort. We learned that the suspect had been recently released from prison. He was arrested driving the vehicle the next day in Dakota County. Some property taken in our burglaries was found in the vehicle. An automated pawn check on the suspect revealed he had pawned many items we believe were taken from our victim's homes. Many of the pawned items did not have identifying serial numbers. Those items have been recovered. The shoe print and vehicle tire casting taken at our crime scenes appear to match the suspect shoes and vehicle tires. They will be tested further to confirm this for court. The suspect is in custody and has been charged with his involvement in four of our recent burglaries. Citizen commendations have been recommended for the two Grant residents who saw the suspect and remembered the license number of his vehicle.

The arrests of these suspects have cleared most of the recent reported burglaries.

# Patrol Division News

By Commander Don McGlothlin

During the first quarter of 2002, the Patrol Division has been investing its time in a wide range of training areas. Twenty-two deputies completed the Standard Field Sobriety Tests (SFST) training conducted by the Minnesota State Patrol, thereby enhancing their DWI enforcement skills. Individually, the deputies have been attending a variety of courses related to law enforcement through Century College. The deputies also participated in specialized firearms training conducted at the LEC utilizing a type of interactive scenario based training. The Patrol Division is looking forward to the graduation from Canine School of Deputies Livingston and Hyde; Deputy Livingston as a canine trainer and Deputy Hyde as a new canine handler.

The supervisory staff participated in a daylong goal setting session at nearby Tartan Park. The session proved to be both informative and productive with a number of divisional goals identified.

Our FTO's were very busy during the first quarter. At one time there were seven new deputies in training. All of the deputies have now moved on to "solo" patrol assignments. We have one new deputy who started with us in May.

A number of residential and commercial burglaries in Grant, Hugo and West Lakeland were solved this spring as patrol deputies worked closely with investigators and identified suspects. Stolen property was recovered and charges are anticipated.

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