



Stars and Bars



Sheriff Jim Frank

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WASHINGTON COUNTY DEPUTY TOM STAFFORD NAMED 2001 MINNESOTA POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

By Sgt. Ryan Meverden

The Minnesota Police & Peace Officers Association (MPPOA), a professional organization of over 7,000 Minnesota peace officers, has named Washington County Sheriff's Office Deputy Tom Stafford 2001 Minnesota Police Officer of the Year. The award was presented on June 10th at the MPPOA Annual Conference held in Alexandria. The Police Officer of the Year award is made annually to one individual who has demonstrated "outstanding service, exemplary job performance, or heroism" in the line of duty. Stafford received the honor for his work with the Minnesota Gang Strike Force, which included helping to resolve a number of gang-related rapes, shootings, and murders.

Stafford, 37, was initially hired to work as a Correctional Officer in the Washington County Jail, and in 1995 he began working as a Deputy in the Sheriff's Patrol Division. In 1997, Stafford transferred into the Sheriff's Investigations Division and was assigned to the Asian Gang section of the Strike Force. Sheriff Frank praised Stafford's ability to work effectively with the other members of the Strike Force and the diligence he demonstrated under difficult working conditions, "Deputy Stafford was routinely dealing with the most violent crimes imaginable. The professionalism he displayed under those circumstances speaks volumes about the kind of person Tom is."

Deputy Stafford returned to the Sheriff's Patrol Division this past January after completing his three-year tour of duty with the Strike Force. Sheriff Frank congratulated him on behalf of the entire Washington County Sheriff's Office, "Earning the 'Police Officer of the Year' award is really a tremendous accomplishment. Everyone in Washington County can be proud of the work Tom has done."



Chief Deputy Steve Pott introduces Tom Stafford to the county board as "2001 Minnesota Police officer of the Year."

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Message from the Sheriff

BUDGET UPDATE

On Tuesday, August 21, I presented our purposed 2002 budget to the County Board of Commissioners. I would like to share some of the information and high points of the presentation.

Our total budget is slightly over 18.6 million dollars. Wages and benefits comprise 74% of our expenditures, or almost 14 million dollars. The remaining 4 plus million dollars is divided into operating expenses 17%, direct payments for services 7%, and capital purchases are 2%. We are a service driven organization and that is clearly reflected in our expenditures.

Where does the money come from? Seventy-five percent of our revenue comes from levy, tax dollars. Fees that we collect are 18% followed by intergovernmental revenue of 5%, other revenue of 1% and fund balance 1%.

You can quickly see that levy dollars and wages and benefits cancel each other out and the three additional areas of expenditures are balanced by the four other revenue sources. There is obviously more to it but it all boils down to expenses must not exceed revenue. There is very little room for error in our budget. If it isn't in the budget we can't do it!

When the Law Enforcement Center was designed and built, it was done with an eye on the future. Projections were made from a review of the past and speculation on the future. The jail was designed to meet the county's needs by the year 2005. We aren't there yet, so the jury is still out. We do know however, that based on today's needs those early predictions were pretty strong. Renting out unused beds was an excellent way to fill the gap. We did that very successfully over the last seven years. It was a revenue source that allowed us to ask for fewer levy dollars to fund our operation. Other than Ramsey County, the demand for our extra beds has dried up. It resulted in a need to identify increased revenue sources of 800 thousand dollars. The largest source was a levy increase of 5%. Various other funding sources were identified to close the margin.

A tremendous amount of thought, time and energy has gone into our purposed 2002 budget. County administration and the commissioners have been both helpful and understanding. We have all worked together to develop a responsible budget that will allow us to continue the same excellent level of service to the people we serve. The budget allows things to happen but it is the dedicated employees we have that make it happen. This will be a tight budget year, however I expect and know we will survive.

Sgt Tim Tuthill Graduates from Police Staff and Command School

By John Warneke

On June 29, 2001, Sergeant Tim Tuthill was 1 of 45 students who graduated from the School of Police Staff and Command. The school was sponsored by the Minnesota State Patrol through Northwestern University Center for Public Safety.

The school was ten weeks long and was held at the Minnesota State Patrol Training Facility in Arden Hills. Thirty police agencies were represented and seventeen different instructors were brought in from around the country. Subjects taught included: interpersonal and organizational communications, managing organizational change, police resource analysis, leadership, civil liability, labor/management relations etc. Each student was required to pass eighteen examinations and turn in a research paper.

Congratulations Tim!



Tim graduates from command school

Mounted Patrol Member's Son Wins Scholarship

Andy Bell, son of Linda Bell of the Washington County Mounted patrol has been awarded a \$500.00 scholarship from The Minnesota Sheriff's Mounted Posse Association. The Minnesota Sheriff's Mounted Posse is a volunteer organization that assists and cooperates with all police officers with in the State of Minnesota.

Andy's mother, Linda, has been a volunteer member with the Washington County Sheriff's Office Mounted Patrol unit since 1997. The Washington County Sheriff's Office Mounted Patrol unit was formed in 1994. The main goal of the unit is to provide assistance to the Sheriff's Office in search and rescue operations. The Mounted Patrol also makes public appearances at many community events such as the Washington County Fair, parades, National Night Out, crime prevention, Safety Camps and Explore the Parks Day.

Congratulations Andy!

New Employees in the Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's Office has hired many new employees in 2001. Here is a list of the new employees, when they started and where they work.

- January: John Weber - Correctional Officer II - Jail
Stephany La Bath - 911 Dispatcher - Communication Center
- April: Lloyd Ackerknecht - Deputy - Patrol
David Ray - Correctional Officer II - Jail
Jon Givand - Correctional Officer II - Jail
- May: Denise Eichten - Correctional Officer II - Jail
Don Doane - Correctional Officer II - Jail
Brian Dobberstein - Correctional Officer II - Jail
Heather Campbell - Correctional Officer II - Jail
- June: Cal Vaughn - Correctional Officer II - Jail
Rachelle Goodall - Office Technician II - Jail
Zachary Nayman - Deputy - Patrol
- July: Theresa Osterbauer - 911 Call Taker - Communication Center
Bradley Jamison - Deputy - Patrol
- August: Joan Simonson-Whipps - 911 Call Taker (Transferred from Office Technician II in the Jail to Communication Center).
Tim Harris - Deputy-Patrol (Transferred from Correctional Officer II in the Jail to Patrol).
Cory Reedy - Deputy-Patrol

Sgt. Jay L. Kimble W.C.S.O. #137 – Retires

By Sgt. Larry Osterman

On Wednesday, August 1, 2001 at 0645 hrs. Sgt. Jay L. Kimble (also known as The Great Kimbolie) gave the final roll call of his career. The room was filled with people from all Divisions of the Sheriff's Office to wish him well as he retires after 27 ½ years of service to the citizens of Washington County. Jay started his roll call right on time, as usual, and gave out the district assignments, extra patrols, summary of the 3rd shift calls and officer safety information. This roll call was different. As he prepared the shift to take the street with his usual saying about keeping safe and crushing crime, his voice began to crack and tears welled in his eyes. After roll call was completed, Jay received a plaque from 1st shift. The plaque was engraved with the saying by which he ended every roll call. Commander McGlothlin then released Jay from his duties of the Shift Commander, as is customary. Jay completed his last tour by patrolling areas frequently stopped at, for business checks of course, such as the N J Café and others.

At the end of his tour, Jay sent his last message to us all. He talked about starting as a Washington County Deputy Sheriff on March 1st, 1974 and having an office in what we now call the Historic Courthouse. He told of moving from the Historic Courthouse in 1975 to the Government Center which some of us call the "old office". He spoke of our current office and the advancements and growth of our profession. Far most, Jay relayed a belief to us all that he is proud to have served the public with such a large number of truly dedicated people, who are motivated to deliver the best for our citizens and stand committed to excellence.

During Jay's Coffee and Cake gathering he kept his speech short, which is very unusual for Jay. He talked about cases he worked and starting the D.A.R.E. Program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) with Deputy Marvin Stutz and what an honor it has been to work with such a large number of caring people. After the good-byes were nearly complete, Jay told us about his new Porsche and his plans for his financial company. By the time the gathering was over, Jay was talking percentages and interest rates and could be heard making comments such as, "Have I got a deal for you". Take care Jay. We will miss you.



Jay with his cake at his reception



Sheriff Frank presenting Jay with his shadow box

VIDEO ARRAIGNMENT

By Commander Chuck Yetter

The internal design of the jail was one of the future when it opened in 1993. Part of the future inside the jail was Video Arraignment. Until now Video Arraignment has been used for things other than its intended purpose.

The idea of Video Arraignment was to link the jail and the courts together with video equipment in order to communicate with each other. Video Arraignment and the courtroom in the Government Center do not have direct contact with each other, yet they do have the ability to communicate through the video equipment. Two monitors are set up in each courtroom, one monitor views the Judge and the other monitor "pans" to the voice of the person (inmate, attorney, probationary staff, etc.) addressing the Judge.

Judiciary Staff, attorneys, probationary staff and the inmates gather in Video Arraignment to conduct court proceedings. Family members of the inmates, victims and the general public may view and listen to the court proceeding in another courtroom inside the Government Center via the video equipment.

Several advantages of linking the two together are 1) increased safety for both the inmate(s) and the public, 2) the potential for a prisoner escape has been drastically reduced, 3) the need for multiple Bailiff's and other court personnel have been reduced and 4) the potential for contraband being passed to the inmate(s) from the public has been eliminated.



County Auction

By Michelle Ritzer

This year Washington County had two county auctions. The first auction was held on June 18th, 2001 and hosted approximately 370 people. There were over 1000 items for sale which came from the county, school districts, several local governments and police departments. The Washington County Sheriff's Office auctioned 35 forfeited vehicles; 2 boats; and 1 Harley Davidson motorcycle. The total revenue collect from the auction was \$121,000.00 The Sheriff's Office received \$22,645.00 from the forfeiture vehicles.

The second auction was held on July 7, 2001 at the North Shop. This auction consisted of many abandoned items from police departments that had not been declared ready to sell at the June auction. The total revenue from this auction was \$24,630.50.

2001 Washington County Fair

By John Haugen

Another summer is winding down (way too quickly) and another Washington County Fair has gone into the history books. The 2001 fair began on Wednesday August 1st and continued through Sunday August 5th. The Sheriff's Office, once again, participated in a number of different ways.

On August 1st, the Court Services STS Crew assisted by bringing the needed supplies and equipment to the fairgrounds and assisted by setting-up the tent and fast-pitch booth (in the rain). The display area included the Special Operations/Command Post Trailer which contained information about the overall operations of the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Jim Frank, Chief Deputy Steve Pott, Division Commanders along with other Sheriff's Office personnel and volunteers, were present at various times throughout the fair to greet visitors and answer questions about the Sheriff's Office.

The fast-pitch booth, with radar gun, was once again operated by Sheriff's Office Explorers Post to help raise money to support their activities. The Sheriff's Office Canine Unit was a popular attraction as the dog handlers and their canine partners conducted two demonstrations each day. Correctional Officers from the jail were present to take children's fingerprints for identification purposes, as a service to their parents.

While there have been some warm days at fairs in years past, this years steamy weather was very hot indeed. Sergeant Osterman and Sergeant Dexter have proposed a dunking booth instead of the fast-pitch booth at next year's fair, and if the weather is anywhere near as warm, they shouldn't have too much trouble getting volunteers to be dunked.



Sheriff Frank introduced the K-9 Demonstration



Dan Starry and Smokey at the K-9 Demonstration



Explorer Brad Asplund works the Explorer Post speed pitch booth.



Correctional Officer Dave Stumpner volunteered to fingerprint children at the fair.

Cimarron Community Youth V.S. Sheriff's Office

By Deputy Greg Reiter

Yearly softball games began in 1997 between children living in the Cimarron Manufactured Home Park in Lake Elmo and members of the Washington County Sheriff's Office, Youth Service Bureau and other County Agencies. The games were started to increase positive contacts between area residents, law enforcement and other service providers. Each year, two games are held at the ballpark, which is located in Cimarron. After the game all the players and spectators gather to have a potluck dinner, cook out and take time to visit.

This year's first game was held on July 9th and ended with a tie score of 8 – 8. The teams socialized after the game with the traditional cook out and potluck dinner. The second game was played on August 20th and ended with a score of Cimarron Youth 16- Sheriff's Office 15.

If you would like to participate in future games or be a spectator please contact me at 651/430-4869 or AS400 at GWREITE. Everyone is welcome, win or lose we all have fun. Hope to see you there.



Players and their families wait for the start of the game.



Mike Bonn plays the infield while waiting for the next batter.

Investigations News

By Commander Johnson

The Washington County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Team has been very active over the last several months. Narcotics has worked more cases and drafted more search warrants than any other summer before. Several significant arrests have been made as a result of their efforts.

There has been an increase in the number of ecstasy arrests and warrants. One case worked by the Narcotics Team resulted in the arrest of four individuals for the distribution of ecstasy. Over 2000 dosage units of ecstasy were seized in that investigation.

Methamphetamine continues to be the most frequently encountered substance in all of our cases. Several weeks ago the North Team, Narcotics and Ramsey County S.U. I. cooperated in an investigation resulting in numerous search warrants. The subject of the warrants had recently been released from prison and had established a residence in the Mahtomedi/Willernie area. Probable cause for a search warrant was developed based on information regarding a burglary in Ramsey County. The search warrant was served and numerous items of stolen property were recovered. Narcotics served a second warrant and seized a substantial amount of methamphetamine. Subsequent search warrants were served in two other jurisdictions. Stolen property from numerous locations was discovered. The suspect has been responsible for many thefts in Washington and Ramsey Counties and is in custody in the Washington County Jail.

The North Team Investigators cooperated with the ATF and successfully resolved several gun related burglaries. The suspect is well known to most members of the division and is a frequent offender in Washington and Ramsey counties. A lead developed from video surveillance near a gun burglary site regarding the vehicle involved in the incident. The vehicle was identified and female and male suspects were arrested several days later. Search warrants were served in several locations and numerous firearms taken from a northern Washington County burglary were recovered. Due to this suspect's lengthy criminal history, a federal indictment was requested. The suspect was indicted by a federal grand jury on weapons related offenses and is waiting for trial on the federal level.

An investigation involving a theft of a firearm led to a warrant being issued to a well-known local frequent offender. The suspect has been involved in numerous investigations over the last several years. The suspect was recently released from prison where he had been sentenced for assaulting a Mahtomedi resident with a knife. The suspect has an extensive criminal history and is currently wanted for possession of a handgun by a person prohibited and is effective nationwide.

The successful investigations regarding these frequent offenders result in less Washington County victims. One of the keys for success in several of these cases is the cooperation between divisions of our office and the cooperation with other agencies neighboring Washington County. Continued communication and sharing of information has resulted in numerous successful investigations.

Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics

By Sgt Cheri Dexter

On June 21, 2001 the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics came through Washington County. The run began on June 18, 2001 in Moorehead, MN and followed U.S. Highway 10 to the Twin Cities. The run ended on June 21, 2001 at the opening ceremonies of the 2001 Special Olympics Minnesota Summer Games being held at Bierman Field on the Twin Cities campus of the University of Minnesota.

The torch run supports and raises money for Minnesota Special Olympics. This year several members from our department participated in the event. The torch run came into Washington County on Co Rd 8 in Hugo and continued on HWY 61 to White Bear Lake. This year's participants were: Joanne Sellner, Kyle Schneck, Lonnie VanKlie, Larry Osterman, Jim Gribble, Jeff Marose, Cheri Dexter, Mike Tellez and Jerry Lannon.

Law Enforcement is the only permanent sponsor for the Special Olympics. All the proceeds raised go to Special Olympics Minnesota, with this year's event raising \$141,000.00

Congratulations to all who participated.



2001 torch run members: Joanne Sellner, Kyle Schneck, Lonnie VanKlie, Larry Osterman, Jim Gribble, Jeff Marose, Cheri Dexter, Jerry Lannon. (Not Pictured: Mike Tellez)

Human Resources Corner

By Jeneen Johnson

Since March of this year my husband and I have attended six weddings (including our son's) with three more to attend before the end of the year. Although each ceremony is different in many ways, it has been interesting to hear the various clergy and judges who were officiating at these ceremonies. They talk about the importance of open and honest communication to build and sustain these young couples throughout their married lives.

Of course, open communication is not unique to married couples. Over the next several months, the 2002 budget process will be the topic of numerous discussions along with the medical insurance premiums and union contract negotiations. If you have questions or concerns regarding these items, I encourage you to go to the source of the information.

You may mean need to make a couple of phone calls to H.R. or Administration, attend a meeting or two, volunteer to be on a committee, and carefully read the updates from the Office of Administration and Human Resources. Human Resources staff are available from 7:30 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. and will gladly answer your questions.

Open and honest communication builds and sustains all relationships.

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Communication Center News

By David Wulfing

The busy summer season is winding down for the Washington County Sheriff's Office Communications Center. During the past several months, the Communications Center staff has dealt with a wide variety of calls ranging from serious personal injury accidents to barricaded, armed suspects. All of the communications staff performed their duties with the utmost professionalism and poise. I would like to recognize their efforts for providing superior public safety communication services to the residents and visitors of Washington County. The Sheriff's Communication Center is responsible for answering all non-emergency and 911 calls coming into Washington County, with the exception of Cottage Grove. In addition to Deputy Sheriff's, the Communications Center provides dispatching services for 8 city police departments and over 13 fire and E.M.S. providers. As we head into fall, we have several new employees starting in addition to 2 currently in training. We look forward to continuing to provide the best possible service to all of the residents and visitors of Washington County.

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