

SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Newsletter—May 2011 Edition



I would like to begin by wishing everyone a happy Spring Season. As always, spring marks a season of change, and we have experienced a good deal of it here at the Spokane Police Department. Change is not always easily accepted, but it can be healthy, productive and even exciting.

One of the changes that the department has experienced has to do with the many retirements slated for this year. It is always difficult to see experienced, respected and well liked peers leave our active ranks, but this opens up a new chapter in the lives of those who have chosen to retire. It has also allowed for many promotions to occur at the ranks of Lieutenant, Sergeant and Corporal. The individuals who have received these promotions represent the best attributes of the Agency and will perform admirably in their new roles.

Another change that has been implemented is the manner in which we address crime problems in our community. The Spokane Police Department has chosen to identify crime trends, patterns and series in an attempt to determine who the most prolific offenders in our community are. A concerted effort is being used to focus the efforts of all divisions within the Agency to apprehend and incarcerate these offenders. This includes the use of patrol officers, the PACT Teams (Patrol Anti-Crime Team) and elements of the Investigative Division (Target Crimes Unit) and Crime Analysis in a combined manner to maximize effectiveness. This new approach appears to be working. In the A.I.M. statistics for the week of 5/17/11 through 5/23/11, Burglary dropped 8.2%, Vehicle Prowling dropped 12.0% and Motor Vehicle Theft dropped 20.1%. This is very encouraging and to all of you who have worked so hard to make this happen...Great Work and Thank You!

Finally, I would just like to add how humbled I am by the opportunity to command the Operations Bureau. Patrol work truly is one of the most essential law enforcement services that we provide to the community. I am honored to share this responsibility with all of you and look forward to a fantastic year with continued successes.

- Major Scott Stephens



Spokane's Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony May 10, 2011

This year we added three names to the memorial:

Jayne Lee Biendl—EOW: January 29, 2011
Department of Corrections – Monroe Correctional Facility

Shandon Fulton Wright—EOW: March 3, 2011
Pierce County Sheriff's Department

William H. Smith—EOW: December 23, 1910
Centralia Police Department



Honorary Mention - we also remember Washington State Patrol Trooper Gary Miller, Station Manager Anne Miller-Hewitt, and Trooper Kristopher Sperry who lost their lives in a house fire on August 16, 2010.

Our guest speaker was Gloria Chavez, Chief Patrol Agent for the U.S. Border Patrol, with Master of Ceremony, Washington State Patrol Trooper Tommie Pillow directing the ceremony. We were honored to have WSP Chief John Batiste present at his side as they remembered their major lost for the three troopers who died in the house fire.

Earl Wright, Deputy Prisons Director, Department of Corrections, for Corrections; Captain Ed Smith, Pierce County Sheriff's Department; and Rae Anna Victor, LEOMP Board Member, spoke on behalf of the three officers' names engraved on our monument. Each speaker shared from their hearts, of their love and support for the surviving families and the tremendous loss felt by their departments and the community they served. It was a time to reach out to these families and "remember," letting them know these dedicated law enforcement servants will not be forgotten.

The Honor Guards from Spokane County Sheriff's Office, Spokane Police Department, Washington State Patrol, Spokane Valley Fire Department, Airway Heights Corrections Center, Pierce County Sheriff's Department, etc., did these officers memory proud and distinguished themselves and their law enforcement family by their prestigious presence and duties. The large American Flag was again raised high overhead with black covering the ladder in tribute to these fallen officers, by the Spokane Fire Department Ladder truck .

The committee wants to thank all those who came to pay tribute, and all those who helped behind the scene to make this happen, specifically Mortimers Productions, Inc., Mike Lavelle for filming the ceremony, Angus Scott Pipe Band, SPD Detective Stephanie Barkley, and the SCSO Chaplains Curt Quaschnick and Rob Hill for their services.

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

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The Spokane Police Department Honor Guard is a detail designed to promote the police department to the public; primarily during ceremonial events.

By: Ofc. Jennifer DeRuwe

These events include honoring fallen officers and their families. The Honor Guard pays tribute the service and sacrifice of the fallen officer as well as their family.



Other details include presenting the colors at official events such as; athletic events, city council meetings, awards ceremonies and retired Spokane Police Department officer's funerals.

The Honor Guard performs special details where a certain protocol exists and where the prestige of Department is on display. This is accomplished through the unit's ability to represent the department in a coordinated, sharply dressed and disciplined manner.

The SPD Honor Guard was formed just after the death of Detective Brian Orchard (1983). The unit was formed because of the response the department received from other law enforcement agencies around the state and Canada. Originally, the unit wore class dress uniforms and did not carry a firearm. In 1998, there was a joint effort by the Chaplain's Office and the Department to purchase new uniforms, which allowed the members to wear a ceremonial duty belt and firearm. This is the present day uniform.

The Honor Guard members are chosen from volunteering officers based on their ability to march, their military bearing and their professional appearance. The following officers make up today's team: Lt. Dave Richards, Sgt. JD Anderson, Ofc. Sue Mann, Ofc. Ron Tilley, Ofc. Mylissa Coleman, Cpl. David Beckley, Det. Barb Byington, Det. Stephanie Barkley, Ofc. Mike McCasland, Ofc. Holt Wildholm, Ofc. Chris Bode, Ofc. Wayne Downing, Ofc. Shaney Redmon, Ofc. Stephanie Kennedy, Ofc. Elina Bishop, and Ofc. Dean Draper.





Blaine Kakuda was hired by the Spokane Police Department on April 29, 1995. Kakuda was selected as the Employee of the 1st Quarter for 1999. He was also the reserve mentor of the Year in 1999 and is currently a department bicycle Instructor, a CO-OP advisor, a TAC team member and an FTO. With this promotion to Corporal, Kakuda will be assigned to graveyard patrol on Team 15.

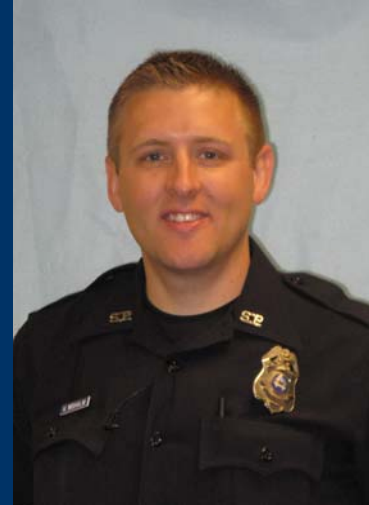


Jeff McCollough was hired by the Spokane Police Department on August 30, 1999. McCollough has been a Field Training Officer since 2006 and was a member of the FBI/Spokane Violent Crimes Gang Enforcement Team in 2010. He also received a commendation for a lifesaving incident on January 24, 2006. McCollough is currently assigned to the day shift Patrol Anti-Crime Team (PACT) and as a Corporal, McCollough will remain on the PACT Team.





OFFICER MIKE MCCASLAND



OFFICER HOLT WIDHALM

On January 14, 2011, Officer Holt Widhalm and Officer Mike McCasland were dispatched to a welfare check call in west Spokane. The location of the incident is an apartment complex with clusters of connected garages. The caller reported hearing a vehicle running in the adjacent closed garage. Suspecting a suicide attempt, the officers requested medics be notified while they were still en route.

Within two minutes of their arrival, Ofc. Widhalm and Ofc. McCasland had gotten the door to the garage open with management's assistance. Once the door was opened, they did find an occupied SUV running with the driver's window down. Without any regard for their own safety from the toxic fumes, they entered the small exhaust filled garage to check on the occupant of the SUV. They quickly established the victim had a pulse and immediately removed the victim from the SUV to the ground outside to provide fresh air.

They noticed the victim was not breathing and began CPR immediately. They successfully established breathing in the victim by the time medics arrived. The victim was in very fragile condition and required advanced life support techniques from medics. The victim was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

About two hours after the incident, Ofc. Widhalm and Ofc. McCasland were notified the victim was in stable condition. The ER physician expected the victim to have significant brain damage or possible die. A few days later the victim was released from the hospital.

It is clear that because of the immediate and decisive efforts put forth by Ofc. Widhalm and Ofc. McCasland, this citizen's life was saved. Both officers will be issued the Lifesaving Bar to be worn on their uniforms and will be presented with the Lifesaving Medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February 2012.

CITY OF SPOKANE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH MAY 2011

Officer Shawn Pegram

Officer Pegram was assigned to swing shift patrol for the Spokane Police Department in 2010. He is currently assigned to power shift patrol on the north side of Spokane, and is also a member of the Explosive Disposal Unit (EDU) as a bomb technician. Some of his patrol duties include responding to calls for service, enforcing traffic laws, and being proactive within the community. Some of the tasks required as a member of the Explosive Disposal Unit include continual training on safely handling of explosives, training other department personnel, and acting as the Lead Breacher for EDU.



An example of his diligence as a police officer occurred on Monday January 17, 2011. Officer Pegram was dispatched to a suspicious backpack that was left on a bench at the northeast corner of Washington and Main, in downtown Spokane. After further investigation it was determined to be an explosive device. Through his training and experience he was a key component in dismantling the device and rendering it safe for the community.

Shawn has displayed professionalism in every call he goes on. He is the first to volunteer for duties or new assignments given by the Sergeant. The Explosive Disposal Unit is the most used specialty team within the Spokane Police Department and has the most call outs throughout the year. Shawn is a huge asset to the team and is very knowledgeable. He is always available for call outs and one of the most dependable members on the team.

In addition, Shawn is involved in the organization of a golf tournament every year, the proceeds of which benefit the Inland Northwest Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Officer Pegram is well respected within the entire Spokane Police Department. He is devoted to his career and takes his job very seriously. He is truly an asset not only to the Spokane Police Department, but to the community as a whole.

Congratulations, Shawn!

**Your service and commitment to the City of Spokane and
the community are greatly appreciated!**

April 30th, 2011 marked the 3rd annual Media Day at the Spokane Police Academy. SPD subject experts were joined by 17 members of the media to learn how to better understand each other's roles in disseminating information.

Ofc. Terry Preuninger began the class with an introduction into dispelling police "myths," such as, police shooting to kill or shooting to stop the threat.

We broke into two groups; one group remained with Ofc. Shawn Kendall and Sgt. Kevin King to learn about the SPD Use of Force continuum. Media reporters, producers and photographers had the opportunity to handcuff each other, experience take down holds, lateral vascular neck restraints,

baton strikes, taser and wear the K9 bite sleeve.



Ofc. Terry Preuninger discusses firearms with media members



Ofc. Mike Russo assists Sally Showman (KXLY) in shooting the Glock .40 pistol

The other group experienced the firing range and were exposed to several different firearms including shooting the HK MP5 submachine gun, the Glock 22 .40 cal. pistol and the Remington 870 police shotgun. They were also shown different types of body armor and additional weapons to include the Colt m4 commando, HK G3, and a variant of the AK 47.

Thanks again for a great Saturday Media Workshop. Saw a number of officers on the Bloomsday course, and simply had to thank them. I learned lots and sure did appreciate the eye-opening information. Also -- for the record, I can't remember the name of the officer who opened with "Myths of Modern Policing", but his presentation was really outta sight - both technically and also from an educational perspective. He put together thoughtful questions and great information, his use of multi-media was top-notch and to boot, everything was well-organized, animated and engaging. My sincerest compliments.

~ Amy Hunter, Inlander photographer



Ofc. Shawn Kendall demonstrates a takedown technique on Anthony Gomes (KHQ)

On Wednesday, May 4th, three students graduated from the K-9 Basic Handler Course. The course is 10 weeks long and very demanding. The students are all from different agencies and spend those weeks away from their families while training in Spokane. The course is 400 hours and at the end the duos will be certified through WAC and will have fulfilled the WSPCA patrol dog handler requirements. The course was taught by Senior Police Officer Jake Jensen, who is working toward becoming a Master Instructor. Officer Jensen was assisted by Senior Police Officer Dan Lesser, who is a Master K-9 Instructor.



L-R: Robinson, Jensen, Finch, Lesser, Lemmon

Congratulations to Officer Jason Robinson and K-9 Moe from Coeur d'Alene Tribal Police, Officer Isaac Finch and K-9 Hondo from Ellensburg Police Department, and Officer Skip Lemmon and K-9 Helios from Sunnyside Police Department.



Local students came to the airport to wish the vets well on their trip

Inland Northwest Honor Flight made its second trip of the 2011 year on June 1st.

Vets gathered at the airport about 9:00am for an 11:00am flight and returned on Friday, June 3rd at 5:10 pm. This trip was not only special due to the proximity to the Memorial Day Holiday, but Honor Flight reached another milestone. Upon completion of this trip, over 300 vets will have been taken from the Inland Northwest area to Washington DC!!!

INWHF wishes to extend very humble appreciation to all of the citizens in the Inland Empire area who donate to the program. INWHF started out in May of 2009 with zero dollars. Thanks to all of the citizens, and media outlets getting out the word about our program, we now will have broken the 300 vet mark in just 18 months. Special thanks to KREM2 TV for all the work on the fundraising projects.



Jeff Humphrey with KXLY News interviews
Sgt. Steve Wohl

Take 25 is a preventive child safety campaign created by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) in honor of National Missing Children's Day. Annually honored on May 25th, this day serves as a reminder to the nation to make child safety a national priority.

This year the Investigative Division of the Spokane Police Department and the Spokane County Sheriff's Office partnered to help educate parents on taking an active role in monitoring their child's access to technology. Mayor Verner has proclaimed May 25 as National Missing Children's Day.

Local law enforcement were available at the Spokane Valley Mall from 10am to 8pm, offering free resources to parents and children.



Congratulations to Officer Tony Lamanna who was honored at the Spokane Glass Slipper's 2nd Annual Event on May 18.

Tony was recognized as one of six hard working members of our community that are inspiring to those around them regardless of their own personal circumstances. All six received gifts from a variety of Spokane Businesses.

Is Your Nest Being Stirred Up?

By Pam Ames



Eagles are amazing creatures. They mate for life, use the same nest year after year and share parenting responsibilities. They also have a unique way of getting their eaglets ready for flight. They begin by stirring up the nest. That is, making it very uncomfortable for the eaglets by taking out the soft stuff and leaving prickly twigs for them to sit on. Then they will flap their wings so the young ones have to get up and move around. Lastly they will either make them jump off the edge of the nest or carry them out into the wild blue yonder and drop them! That doesn't seem very nice at all but if the parents don't force them out, the eaglets will never learn how to fly. Now they don't just drop them once but several times, catching them at the last second until they get the idea of flapping their wings. Is God stirring up your nest to prepare you for another chapter in life? Keep your mind open to God's direction for you.

The Chaplain Board thanks you for your generosity. **Do you have your recipes in to Chaplain Beth yet for the Cook Book Fundraiser?** Her email is bwilson@spokanepolice.org or call her at 981-2883.

The Spokane Lilac Festival began as a one day event in 1938, growing to a weeklong festival in the following years. After the war, on August 31, 1949, the Secretary of Defense declared the third Saturday in May to be Armed Forces Day. The Lilac Festival concludes with the Armed Forces Torch Light Parade, always held on the third Saturday of May. The 2011 theme was “Ignite the Spirit of America.” Parade entrants included antique cars, band and drill teams, Equestrian drawn carriages, floats, military and specialty units as well as



**Nishinomiya Mayor Masahiro Kouno and
Ofc. Jennifer DeRuwe**

Heading the Japanese delegation is Nishinomiya Mayor Masahiro Kouno (koh-noh). Also in the delegation is Assembly Speaker Sachihiko Kamitani. Mayor Kouno was the Honorary Grand Marshal in Saturday night’s Lilac Festival Armed Forces Torchlight Parade. Other members of the delegation rode in the parade in Riverfront Park’s rubber-tire red train.

Two other key events occurred Sunday, May 22. At noon at the Tsutakawa Memorial Japanese Garden in Manito Park, the mayors and other dignitaries – in the spirit of continued Sister City Friendship – poured water from the bridge into the pond in the garden. The Japanese delegation brought a small amount of water from its river in Nishinomiya while Spokane water came from the falls downtown. Taiko drummers performed a special arrangement at the ceremony.



Members of the SPD Traffic Unit during the parade

VIP Dignitaries – both local and military. This year’s 2011 Grand Marshall was Major General Randy Fullhart. As the capability director, General Fullhart is responsible to the Air Force acquisition executive for airlift, air refueling, training and special operations programs.

Special guests for Lilac Festival Weekend included 41 residents from Spokane’s Sister City, Nishinomiya, in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan. Spokane and Nishinomiya this year celebrate 50 years of the Sister City partnership, marking one of the longest continuing city connections in both countries and in the program’s history.

At 6 p.m. Sunday at the Spokane City Club, students from Whitman elementary school provided special entertainment before a grand banquet celebrating the long-standing Sister City relationship.

The Spokane Police Department proudly supports community events and works closely with Lilac Festival coordinators to ensure a safe event. Police officers were staffed on every corner of the parade route to assist in crowd control.

YEARS OF SERVICE



Mike Carr
15 Years



Jennifer DeRuwe
15 Years



Harold Folk
5 Years



Congratulations to Wayne Lythgoe, who has been chosen for the Senior Volunteer Man of the Year by Celebrate Life Expo. Wayne was honored on May 14th with a commemorative plaque and will be featured in the Summer Issue of their magazine, PED Quarterly.

Wayne started as a Senior Volunteer with the Spokane Police Department in December of 1997 and has volunteered over 17,000 hours. He currently works in the Fraud Unit, where he averages 89 hours a month. Members of the Fraud Unit stated: "Wayne does so much more than pick up found property. He has a memory that is amazing. He remembers faces and names, commonalities in crimes, and he can connect the dots in cases that may otherwise never be worked because of case load, time, and not enough personnel. He is a hard worker and puts in a full day. He is super efficient and does really good work. Wayne is trustworthy and always eager and willing to help. He also has earned the trust and respect of other officers."

"Wayne assists with both fraud and elder crimes cases in a wide variety of ways. He picks up documentation, pictures, video, or anything else we need pertaining to cases. By doing this, he helps us be able to investigate many more cases than we would normally be able to complete. In addition, he helps us sort through property during and after search warrants, including placing items onto property, making copies, and keeping the search warrant packs filled. Further, he is able to spot trends in crime and common MOs among various suspects and cases, and works with detectives to complete cases we may not even see or even get assigned. Finally, his sense of humor and obvious dedication to the community help inspire me to perform more and better than I would otherwise. He is a wonderful role-model for all of us!"

Wayne is the founding member of the Senior Volunteer Fraud Team. Today, nearly 10 years after joining the unit, Wayne continues to assist detectives throughout our department. He truly is a volunteer extraordinaire.



Officer Barry O'Connell and other patrol officers recently responded to a suspicious device call. A suspected homemade bomb with a fuse attached was found and tossed into a garbage can. Police were called and the Explosive Disposal Unit responded to collect the device. At the conclusion of the call, an eight year old girl walked up to Ofc. O'Connell and handed him a handwritten letter of commendation: "Dear Policeman, Thank you for protecting us. You are very good at it. Even if it is fake, you still tried to help us."



We wanted to take a moment to thank you for the role Officers Ron Tilley and Shaney Redmon played in the memorial service for Chief Ralph Painter. The Columbia County law enforcement community is a small, close knit one that was rocked to its core by Chief Painter's murder, and it was felt especially hard by the members of the five-officer Rainier Police Department and of course, the Painter family. The participation of so many agencies in the multi-agency Honor Guard and the attendance of countless officers from around our region demonstrated to the men and women of the Columbia County law enforcement community that ours is a most noble profession that attends to the needs of it's

grieving brethren. Thank you again for the participation of the Spokane Police Department Honor Guard in this service. We were humbled by their dedication to honoring Chief Painter.

- Lieutenant Richard Goerling and Sergeant Eric Bunday, City of Hillsboro



I recently spoke with an individual who'd been told by employees at the Zip Trip at 3rd and Lincoln that he could not be in the establishment with his service animal unless he had papers to prove it was a service animal. When he calmly advised them of the law, one of them said he was going to call the police, so the individual stepped outside with his animal and also called them and then called me. This individual's horrendous experiences with law enforcement are the reason I got involved in this issue and wrote the City's Service Animal ordinance, in the first place. Because of previous incidents, he was anticipated problems with the police officers (who arrived on scene very quickly). He was astoundingly surprised to find that the officers not only backed him up with the store employees, but were exceedingly pleasant and sensitive to his situation. In fact, I remained on the phone and heard all of their exchanges. The man with the service animal was so grateful; you cannot imagine. He told me, "I have just met the 'awesomest' police officer I have ever met." I thanked Officer Blaine Kakuda and let him know that I would be emailing you about his response and the demeanor with which he treated this individual. Officer Kakuda told me that the credit really goes to "the upper brass" who has trained them on this issue. I find his response - crediting others - also commendable.

- Donna L. McKereghan

I want to thank Corporal Gordon Ennis, Officer Chris Douville, Officer Kurt Henson, Officer Mario Juarez, and Officer Jeremy McVay for the help they provided when I lost a storefront window to vandalism. They went far above the call of duty to notify me of the breakage at 4:30am and waited until I could get there so we could determine the damage and whether or not there was entry from the broken window. I just want you to know how much I appreciated it and what a fine job these gentlemen did. I hope there are more officers like them on our police force. - Bill B.





OFF ON INJURY

Ofc. Zac Dahle
Ofc. Tim Ottmar
Ofc. Jim Christensen
Ofc. Bonnie Sherar
Ofc. Brian Eckersley
Ofc. Stephanie Kennedy
Ofc. Dusty Howe
Ofc. Tony Lamanna
Ofc. Shawn Pegram

We hope to see you back soon!



Two detectives from the Joint Terrorism Task Force were in Spokane for a federal TATE training and happened upon the museum and were impressed with the collection. Shown here are Detective Rob Santos, museum volunteer Anita Boyden, Detective Roy Rybicki and SPLEM Vice President Dave Thompson

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SUGGESTIONS—COMMENTS?
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