



HOWARD COUNTY MARYLAND POLICE
INTEGRITY SERVICE COMMUNITY

THE BEAT

AWARDS EDITION



Police Officer of the Year
PFC ANDY LLOYD



Civilian of the Year
CHRIS McNAMARA



Community Officer of the Year
PFC ALAN SHAFFER



First Year Service Award
PO DAVID ARONOVIC

Telecommunicator of the Year
MAUREEN MEISTER

Auxiliary Officer of the Year
MIKE BAXTER

Explorer of the Year
KENNETH DRUMMOND

Animal Control Volunteer of the Year
CINDY SAVER



CONGRATULATING HCPD'S FINEST

JOIN US ON APRIL 11 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE BANNEKER ROOM FOR OUR ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

CHIEF'S MESSAGE *BY CHIEF WILLIAM MCMAHON*



I am proud to announce that we have selected our major award winners for the year 2006. This month's issue of The Beat is dedicated to these outstanding members.

Police Officer of the Year, PFC Andrew Lloyd
Civilian of the Year, Christopher McNamara
Outstanding Community Service, Cpl. Alan Shaffer
First Year Service Award, Ofc. David Aronovic
Telecommunicator of the Year, Maureen Meister
Auxiliary Officer of the Year, Mike Baxter
Explorer of the Year, Kenny Drummond
Animal Control Volunteer of the Year, Cindy Saver

These members will be recognized, along with many others, at our annual awards ceremony. The ceremony has been scheduled for April 11 at 6:00 p.m. I strongly encourage all of our members to attend and bring their families along.

It is a time to acknowledge the hard work of all of our members throughout the year. I hope you and your family will attend. To all, keep up the great work!

HCPD WELCOMES 13 GRADUATES TO FIELD TRAINING



Above, Lt. Mark Joyce, Commander of the Education & Training Division, speaks to the recruits and their families at the graduation ceremony. Below, new officers take the oath.



On February 8, 14 well-trained and prepared individuals graduated from the Howard County Police Academy to join ranks with their fellow officers in the Howard County Police Department and Sheriff's Office.

"The recruit officers of Academy 29 are perhaps the best prepared recruit class to graduate the Howard County Police Academy," said PFC Mike Johnson, the coordinator for Academy 29. "They came into the academy at a heightened level of physical readiness...and became the first academy class to win the first place team award at the Police Pace."

The 14 recruits - 13 joining HCPD and one joining the Sheriff's Office - comprised the first academy to learn the new style of defensive tactics taught by HCPD; an integrated system of GRAPLE and Krav Maga. With a focus on more real-life training, they were the first to utilize recently purchased reality-based training equipment. The physical training portion of the academy moved from a previous focus on long-distance running and calisthenics to high speed sprints and strength training, which instructors feel better trains the recruits for what they will be facing in a patrol capacity, such as foot pursuits and physically combative subjects.

Academy 29 recruits also were given significantly more scenarios than previous academies, which not only tested the skills they were being taught, but gave them real-life experience in facing the many situations that officers face on the road.

POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

PFC Andrew Lloyd Shows Remarkable Statistics

For PFC Andrew Lloyd, 2006 was a great year on the job. His energy for fighting crime was unmatched, as he tirelessly made strides each month to make Howard County a safer place to live and work. For his efforts, Lloyd was selected as Police Officer of the Year.

Lloyd's work remained impressively consistent month after month. He was nominated for the department's Police Officer of the Month award in March and April, and won the award in May. During the year, Lloyd received 18 memorandums of recognition.

Lloyd was assigned to Northern District Patrol, Platoon 2A for most of 2006, and then was selected to be a member of the district's first full-time special assignment section.

On more than one occasion during the year, members of Lloyd's chain of command made note of his work ethic, and praised him for being so well-rounded.

"PFC Lloyd embodies the qualities that supervisors and commanders seek when they are creating a suppression detail or considering a permanent unit, with a group of self-motivated individuals," said Lt. Robert Castor in his endorsement of Lloyd's nomination. "Initiative, community concern and quality of work have been the benchmark of PFC Lloyd's efforts, which have and will continue to credit this agency and set an exceptional example for his colleagues."

Lloyd says he learned that no call is truly "routine" and that officers must always be prepared for anything. He is always looking past the obvious and often continues beyond the initial arrest.

In one case, Lloyd responded to a call in April for a suspicious vehicle and possible drug violation in Ellicott City. Upon his arrival, Lloyd smelled the odor of burning marijuana and arrested the car's two occupants. But he then observed credit cards in the vehicle that did not belong

"[PFC Lloyd] truly has the public's best interest at heart and is genuinely concerned with improving the quality of life for those citizens requesting police services." -Sgt. Dan Coon, Supervisor

to either of the occupants. He contacted the owner of the credit cards who did not know the cards were missing.

Lloyd also recognized one of the suspects from a previous drug arrest. Instead of stopping at a simple drug and theft arrest, Lloyd applied for and received a search and seizure warrant for the suspect's residence, suspecting there could be additional drugs and stolen property.

Lloyd served the warrant and recovered a pound of marijuana and other paraphernalia. The seizure resulted in additional charges of possession with the intent to distribute. Lloyd was scheduled to leave for vacation upon the completion of his shift, but stayed on-duty to do a thorough investigation. While this case is only one example, it is indicative of the kind of work Lloyd performed throughout the year.

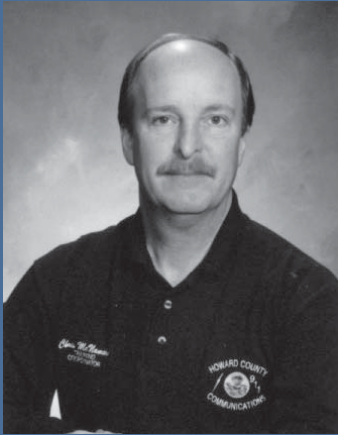
"PFC Lloyd is a dedicated and committed police officer with excellent skills and instincts," said Sgt. Dan Coon, Lloyd's patrol supervisor. "He truly has the public's best interest at heart and is genuinely concerned with improving the quality of life for those citizens requesting police services. His enthusiasm and attitude on the job has always resulted in professional and thorough service for the public he serves and reflects very favorably upon the department as a whole."

PFC Lloyd is truly a role model to the younger officers in the department and a good example for others to follow. The police department congratulates him on this well-deserved award.



CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR

Chris McNamara Makes a Big Impact on the 911 Center in a Quiet Kind-of Way



The recognition that comes with being selected as the police department's Civilian of the Year may feel unfamiliar to this year's winner. ECS Christopher McNamara goes about his duties as the training and quality assurance coordinator for the communications division in a quiet manner, according to his supervisors.

"He works without a lot of fanfare and quite often does not receive enough recognition for the job that he does," said communications commander Lt. Glenn Case.

Throughout his 29 years in Howard County's 911 center, McNamara's job has seen many changes in responsibility and commanders. Despite those changes, McNamara has been called a stabilizing force by those who have worked with him.

McNamara has an impact on the future of the communications division by training new dispatchers and coordinating the training process. During 2006, he also had an active role in the hiring process. McNamara served on a panel that interviewed dozens of applicants. He assisted in the development of questions for the applicants and provided valuable input at the conclusion of the interviews. Of all the applicants McNamara helped interview in 2006, seven have since been hired and have started their training.

McNamara also was involved in the promotional process for the rank of emergency communications supervisor. He assisted with the development of questions for the promotional interviews and took part in the interviews of four candidates. At the conclusion of the interviews he provided valuable input, which assisted in making a recommendation for the promotion to the chief of police.

McNamara has been involved in the planned renovation of the communications division's work site. To help secure funding for the renovation project, he assisted with two different presentations to the Emergency Numbers Systems Board in 2006 to pay for new 911 center furniture, dispatch consoles

and phone equipment. His assistance led to the police department securing more than \$400,000 in funding. He also secured thousands of dollars in grant funding from MIEMSS in 2006 to cover expenses related to training materials.

In 2006, McNamara conducted three, five-week training sessions to brand new employees before they began several months of training on the floor of the 911 center. He also coordinated the certified training officer program.

McNamara coordinated the in-service training for veteran dispatchers by scheduling eight training sessions throughout 2006. At these sessions, McNamara reviewed new policies, changes to existing policies and many other topics. He also used this opportunity to exercise the back-up 911 center to ensure employees were familiar with the use of its equipment.

McNamara is the communications division's security contact with the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) and in 2006 he maintained the CJIS certifications for over 60 employees. He also works closely with the police department's research and planning section and has been involved in the writing of policies. McNamara also is responsible for the maintenance of 21 standards for the department's accreditation process.

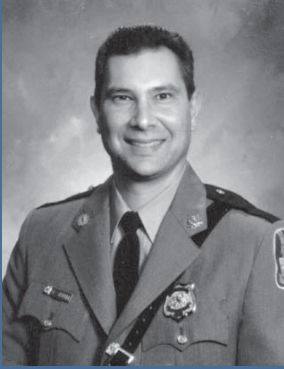
McNamara is very well-known and respected throughout the 911 community in Maryland. In 2006, he was elected to the position of vice president of the Maryland Emergency Numbers Association (MENA) and is part of the group's national association as well.

McNamara serves as a member of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and is actively involved in the planning and organization of the 2007 APCO National Conference, which will be held in Baltimore.

McNamara is a nationally certified instructor for APCO and the National Academy for Emergency Dispatch (NAED) for two products: Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) and Emergency Tele-Communications (ETC), both of which are currently used in Howard County's 911 center. He also serves on the training committees for the Emergency Numbers Systems Board (ENSB) and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS).

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Officer Reaches Out to Hispanic Community, Youths



Police Corporal Alan Shaffer has been selected as the recipient of the Outstanding Community Service Award for 2006. A veteran of 13 years, Corporal Shaffer has shown a strong interest in community policing throughout his career and has developed collaborative relationships with residents, community leaders and community-based orga-

nizations in order to conduct his outreach and crime prevention efforts.

Corporal Shaffer is well versed in Hispanic customs and his knowledge, coupled with his ability to speak fluent Spanish, enabled him to break into a demographic that is sometimes difficult for an officer without those skills to permeate. With three percent of Howard County's population being made up of members of the Hispanic community, Corporal Shaffer, a native of Puerto Rico, has acted as a liaison between this segment of our population and the police department.

In February of 2006, Corporal Shaffer initiated a POP project on Hispanic gang awareness. He worked with the Montgomery and Prince George's County Police Departments, the Los Angeles Police Department, and the Commission on Hispanic Affairs to obtain information critical to the success of the project. He spent hours of unpaid time putting together presentations to give in Howard County schools to the Hispanic population regarding the dangers and pitfalls of gang membership.

Corporal Shaffer has also acted as a role model to the Hispanic community by giving multiple presentations in the schools outlining the reasons he became a police officer.

The Howard County Council recognized HCPD's Hispanic Initiative and commended Corporal Shaffer and several other HCPD members for improving the lives of Hispanic residents. Later in the year, he was again recognized for this efforts - this time with a Governor's Crime Prevention Award for Law Enforcement Officers.

FIRST YEAR SERVICE AWARD

New Officer Known as Hard Worker, Makes Significant Drug Seizure

Police Officer David Aronovic has been selected as the First Year Service Award winner for 2006.

Since completing field training in February, Aronovic's production and motivation have been consistently high, identifying him as one of the hardest workers on his platoon.

While assigned to Southern Patrol P4E, Aronovic has demonstrated an enthusiastic attitude when it comes to police work. During his eight months in patrol, he generated 83 insight reports, arrested 19 drunk or drugged drivers, wrote 405 pieces of traffic, made 69 total arrests, handled 559 calls for service and wrote 208 reports.

The high point of Aronovic's work throughout the year occurred on June 15, when a traffic stop for a suspended registration turned into a seizure of more than 430 pounds of marijuana valued at \$500,000. Working almost 24 hours straight, Aronovic assisted detectives with the follow-up investigation, which included search and seizure warrants in other jurisdictions. He also joined the police chief in a news conference the

afternoon after the stop, as the story had generated significant media interest.

In addition to enforcing criminal and traffic laws in Howard County, Aronovic is active in the community while off-duty. He volunteers for the Metropolitan Center for Assault Prevention, which is a non-profit organization that focuses its efforts on reducing violence against children in the District of Columbia. Aronovic has worked numerous charitable events for the organization.

During the early spring, Aronovic coached track and field at his former high school, Our Lady of Good Counsel in Olney, Md.

Aronovic's professionalism, demeanor and readiness to volunteer for whatever task needs to be done have created a great impression with both his peers and supervisors early in his career.



TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR

Dispatcher Takes on Supervisory, Mentoring Roles

Senior Dispatcher Maureen Meister was selected as the Telecommunicator of the Year for 2006. Meister excelled throughout the year and went far beyond the scope of her job description. She professionally carried out her duties and strived to make her platoon the best in the communications division.

Meister, an 18-year veteran of the communications division, approaches her career professionally as a dispatcher and supervisor. She is constantly searching for ways to improve the quality of service that the members of her platoon provide the citizens of Howard County.

In an effort to improve performance, she frequently monitors the members of the platoon for areas that may improve the quality of their work. As a supervisor, Meister provides individual training for employees in a manner that is intended to build their confidence. The rapport that she has created with members of her platoon is paramount to the platoon's success.

During the first quarter of 2006, Meister's platoon lost a senior dispatcher to another platoon due to staffing issues. This resulted in Meister taking on

double duties without hesitation or complaint. In addition, Meister often filled in as the emergency communications supervisor in the absence of the D4 assigned to the platoon.

Meister not only excels in the capacity of a line supervisor, but she also maintains excellent skills as a dispatcher and call taker. In one example, Meister received a frantic call from a female advising that her two-month old baby was not breathing. She maintained her professionalism and handled the call in a compassionate yet effective manner. Meister calmed the caller and obtained the necessary information to quickly and accurately dispatch the call.

Meister realizes that part of the professional growth process is training. During the past year, Meister sought out several training assignments that were not mandatory for her position.

Meister can be relied upon to be a team player. She is proud of

her profession and displays it through her work. She is always willing to go the extra mile to help the Howard County communications division provide the best service.



ANIMAL CONTROL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Civilian Acts as "Second Employee" to Busy Animal Control Division

Cindy Saver was selected as the Animal Control Volunteer of the Year for 2006.

A volunteer since 2003, Ms. Saver has accrued close to 500 hours of service at the facility. Her specialty is with the cats, and she volunteers once a week in the "cat room", a room in the new facility that allows cats to stretch their legs, socialize and play with visitors. She takes on the duties required with that job, including moving cats to clean cages, feeding, watering and preparing the room for the public. A physically demanding job, she does it all herself without supervision, and enjoys doing so. She is so consistent and helpful that the animal control staff sees her as "an extra staff member" on Tuesday mornings, the busiest morning of the week for the division.

Ms. Saver's love and dedication to the animals, and her immense assistance to the animal control staff, completing all the duties that a paid animal handler completes on a daily basis, led to her being chosen as Animal Control Volunteer of the Year.



EXPLORER OF THE YEAR

HCC Student Finds Time to Give Back to Public, Train for Career Aspirations, Oversee other Explorers

Kenneth Drummond was selected as 2006's Explorer of the Year. Ken is described as a "mature, responsible and charismatic person with the drive to serve his community." He is currently a student at Howard Community College and is in the process of becoming a police auxiliary. He desires to follow in his father's footsteps by becoming a Howard County Police Officer.

Drummond has been recognized for his dedication to the post, demonstrated in his volunteer activities and the active role he played in preparing the team for competition at the National Law Enforcement Explorer Conference in Flagstaff, Arizona. During his nearly 400 volunteer hours in 2006, he acted as a role model and role-player during trainings for the competition and volunteered at the County Fair, Sunset Serenades Concert Series and Animal Planet Expo.

Drummond is not only an active member of the post, but has worked his way up to the position of Lieutenant, supervising the daily operations of the program.

PFC Chris Davis, the Explorer Post Advisor, wrote in his nomination, "Ken's dedication to Post 1952 is second to none and it serves as an example for the program's younger generation. He has a grasp on the needs of the post and understands that his actions and service will have an impact on the program long after his tenure ends."

One of Ken's strongest suits, according to PFC Davis, is the impact he makes each summer at the Bear Trax Camp. "Ken began to understand the importance of reaching out to the less privileged members of our community and has made a lasting impression on each camper with whom he has had contact."



AUXILIARY OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Volunteer Employee Recognized for his Dedication, Drive

Auxiliary Officer Michael Baxter was selected as the Auxiliary of the Year for 2006. After joining the auxiliary police force in November 2003, he has proven himself time and again to be a hard working and innovative member of the HCPD team.

Baxter first stands out for his level of productivity during his 525 volunteer hours during 2006. He handled 212 abandoned vehicle checks, 83 motorist assists, 29 parking complaints and 18 officer assists, as well as a variety of other duties, including school crossing guard details, senior citizen checks, road hazards and sobriety checkpoints.

Baxter has proven himself on a second level as a self-starter and innovator. He took on multiple projects during 2006 in an effort to help the department work more efficiently and provide training to other auxiliaries. He created a document known as "Survival Spanish for Auxiliary Officers," which outlines significant and appropriate work-related phrases commonly used by auxiliary officers in Spanish. He also volunteered many hours to assist with the 2007 auxiliary academy, sitting on the candidates interview panel and writing new and updated interview questions. He then worked to establish a proposed class schedule and related syllabus.



HCPD BIDS FAREWELL TO CAPTAIN, LONGTIME EMPLOYEE

After 23 years in law enforcement, Captain Greg Marshall retired from the Howard County Police Department January 31. But Marshall is not hanging up his gun belt and riding off into the retirement sunset just yet. He has taken an executive position as a deputy chief with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.



Marshall joined the HCPD in 1988 after working for the U.S. Capitol Police and the Loudon County Sheriff's Department in Virginia. While working in Howard County, Marshall rose through the ranks, serving in patrol, child abuse, violent crimes, vice and narcotics, internal affairs, information and technology management, special operations and management services.

The HCPD family wishes Captain Marshall the best of luck as he takes the next step in his distinguished career.

HCPD WELCOMES NEW ARRIVALS

The HCPD family has grown by three over the past several weeks!

On Jan. 22, PFC Tom Rukamp's wife Giovanna gave birth to their first child, Thomas Joseph. Thomas weighed just under 8 lbs. 14.5 oz. and was almost 21 inches long!

On February 1, PFC Joe Gallina and wife Stacy greeted their second child into the family. Belinda Grace Gallina weighed 5 lbs. 9 oz. and was 18 inches in length.

On February 5, Haley Gabriela Frazier made her grand entry at 6 lbs. 1 oz. and 19 inches in length. PFC Sandra Frazier and her husband, George, and children, Casey, Brendan and Kaitlyn are all thrilled with their new addition and all are doing well.

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