

THE BEAT



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FORMER HOWARD COUNTY POLICE CHIEF PAUL RAPPAPORT DIES AT 72

Former Howard County Police Chief Paul H. Rappaport died Sept. 10 following an illness. Rappaport served as the department's sixth chief from 1979 to 1987, after a 28-year career with the Maryland State Police.

"Paul Rappaport was known as a kind-hearted gentleman," said Police Chief William McMahon. "We are greatly saddened by his death. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to his family from the entire Howard County Police family."

Rappaport joined the Howard County Police Department to serve as chief in January 1979 after retiring from the state police as a major. During his tenure as chief, he created the take-home car program for officers who live in the county, increasing the department's visibility in the community. He also had a significant impact on the future leadership of the police department—he hired nearly every member of the agency's current command staff.

Officers and civilian employees who served under Rappaport remember him as a quiet and reserved leader.

"Chief Rappaport was a genuinely nice person,"

said Joan Cook, the department's longest-tenured civilian employee. "I worked for him directly while he was chief and he always made people feel like family. He didn't just want to know the employees, he made sure to know their spouses and families, too."

During his career, Rappaport served as a military police officer in the U.S. Army, was elected president of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association and practiced law after his retirement from police work.

In August, Rappaport joined his former colleagues for "National Night Out," a crime-fighting community event in the county. He also joined in the celebration of the Howard County Police Department's 50th anniversary in 2002.



Howard County officers pay their last respects to former Chief of Police Paul Rappaport as he is brought from the service at Sol Levinson in Reisterstown. Chief Rappaport was the sixth of 10 people to ever hold the title of Chief of Police in Howard County.

CHIEF'S MESSAGE *by Chief William McMahon*



The county's Community Readiness Week, Oct. 15-21, is a great time to give thought to how prepared each of us is for an emergency. The message of the week is to ensure that families and communities are ready for any type of critical incident (see page 7.) But as first responders, we have even more to think about. Once we know our families are prepared, we must also be sure that we are prepared professionally to handle whatever our jobs might bring.

Events of the last few years have given us plenty to think about. Watching the public safety response to the attacks of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina, and even our own Hurricane Isabel and the beltway sniper attacks a few years ago, have raised our level of awareness. It wasn't that long ago that citizens feared anthrax in their mail and bought duct tape to close off their windows.

The threats are real. Those of us in law enforcement must be ready, not only to protect our citizens, but ourselves as well. With Community Readiness Week upon us, it is a good time to check all of your assigned Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including your Tyvek suit, gloves, boots and duct tape used to seal gaps.

Check your Air Purifying Respirator (APR), also known as a gas mask, to ensure it is clean, dry and serviceable. Try it on, clear the mask and insure you have good air exchange. If you don't, your filter may be defective due to excess moisture. Be sure to have any defective equipment replaced.

Make sure you still have the gear required for universal precautions from blood borne pathogens, including gloves, a face shield and bags for disposal.

Most importantly, follow the guidelines to make sure you have a family communications plan in place, and have food, water, flashlights and a battery operated radio ready at home. While we all hope to never need them, you'll be ready if you do. Visit www.cern.us for more information.

POLICE PACE RAISES A RECORD \$44,000 FOR POLICE FOUNDATION

The department's 15th annual "Howard County Police Pace" fund raiser, a 5K run and one mile walk, set two new records this year with participation and money raised. While last year broke all prior records with 900 runners, 2006 saw more than 1,000 participants! In addition, the Howard County Police Foundation was able to raise over \$44,000 - \$16,000 more than last year's total!

The money raised during the event helps fund a number of charitable events, such as the Youth Bear Trax Program, a summer program for at-risk youths, and scholarship funds for graduating seniors.

In addition, the Police Foundation provides money and assistance to members any time

tragedy strikes. This year, some of the proceeds went to help fund the recovery effort of injured Auxiliary Officer Pieter Lucas.

The event recognizes winners by finish time and age group and awards other participants in specialty categories, such as "Top Cop." Awards also go to the fastest male and female firefighters, teachers, police recruits and Howard County

Striders, a local running club that shows great support for the event each year.

Several police academies participated in the event this year, including Howard County Police, Maryland State Police, Anne Arundel County Police and the Maryland Transporta-

continued, see PACE, pg. 6



HCPD RECEIVES DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GRANT

The Howard County Police Department recently announced its plans to launch a new Domestic Violence Unit to better serve victims impacted by this type of crime. The department was notified last month that it will receive federal grant funds to create the new team.

“This new unit will improve our ability to help and protect victims of domestic violence,” said Chief William McMahon. “We recognize that these investigations are best served by officers who are specially trained to understand the issues surrounding domestic violence cases.”

The unit, which will include a police supervisor, an officer and an administrative employee, will provide comprehensive investigation and follow-up of domestic violence cases in the county. It will be assigned to the criminal investigations bureau in the police department.

Officers in the unit will receive specialized training in domestic violence issues and will devote 100 percent of their time to these cases. They will provide victims and their families with access to appropriate social services and help them obtain protective orders, when appropriate. The unit also will work to increase the number of arrests for domestic violence and develop a tracking system to identify repeat offenders.

The team will work closely with the Domestic Violence Center of Howard County, which offers shelter and counseling services to victims. They also will coordinate with the state’s attorney’s office to assist with prosecution of

“This project will have a significant impact on our citizens who are dealing with domestic violence in their lives.” -Chief William McMahon

cases, the sheriff’s office to continue combined efforts to serve protective orders, and Howard County General Hospital to ensure police are notified of domestic violence incidents.

The unit also will focus attention on foreign-born victims, who may not report domestic violence incidents due to language or cultural barriers. The team will develop strategies to overcome those challenges for immigrant residents.

“We think this project will have a significant impact on our citizens who are dealing with domestic violence in their lives,” said McMahon.

The grant will fund employee salaries, training and some equipment. The department will receive approximately \$400,000 over two years.

EFFORTS RECOGNIZED BY COUNTY, GOVERNOR

HCPD was recently notified that seven programs or individuals have been selected to receive Governor’s Crime Prevention Awards for their work during 2006. Congratulations to the Howard County Police Department, who will receive an award in the Law Enforcement Agency category, as well as Cpl. Alan Shaffer and PFC Robert McKnight, who will each individually receive an award. Cpl. Schaffer will be recognized for his work with the Hispanic community while PFC McKnight is saluted for his outreach to the communities with his police canine Raven. Symone Linkins also will receive an individual award for her work with the CROs at community events and meetings.

Three HCPD programs will also receive recognition with a governor’s award. The Intelligence Unit will be recognized for their dedication to learning and teaching about gangs in the area. The sex offender verification detail will also be applauded along with the You Are Responsible Teen Driver Safety Program.

Within the county, the Howard County Child Advocacy Center (CAC) was recognized by the Howard County Government for their outstanding work during 2006. They were awarded with the Customer Service Team Award at the county awards ceremony. Congratulations and a sincere “thank you” for all that you do!

HOWARD COUNTY CASE BRINGS ANIMAL HOARDING

“Hoarders are by definition oblivious to the extreme suffering, obvious to the casual observer, of their animals.”

-Gary Patronek, V.M.D., Ph.D., Hoarding of Animals Research Consortium

Hoarders are people who...

-amass a large number of animals;

-fail to meet the most basic physical and social needs of some or all animals in their charge. Animals are usually deprived of adequate food, water, shelter, care, sanitary living conditions, and proper socialization;

-offer excuses or altogether deny the conditions in which they live and the severity of their behavior's consequences.

Animal Species Involved in Hoarding Cases

Cats	81.7%
Dogs	54.9%
Birds	16.9%
Small mammals	11.3%
Cattle, Sheep, or Goats	5.6%
Horses	5.6%
Reptiles	5.6%

Source: Health & Social Word, Vol 27, No 2, May 2002.

On Aug. 10, 2006, Howard County animal control officers entered a Columbia home armed with a search warrant that they had obtained after receiving multiple calls from neighbors reporting a “suspicious smell” coming from the residence. What they discovered was a situation much worse than they had ever imagined. By the end of the day, they had removed 75 cats from the home - 17 of which were already dead. Of the remaining 58, 50 were in such poor condition that they had to be euthanized and five more would eventually die from their illnesses.

The home had two residents, 78-year-old Ayten Icgoren and 50-year-old Nese Icgoren. Both face 75 counts of inflicting unnecessary suffering and pain and 75 counts of failure to provide proper care for the cats. Each of those misdemeanor counts carries a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or jail time up to 90 days. They additionally face 75 charges of violating the Howard County Animal Cruelty Code, with a penalty of up to \$1,000 for each count.

This sad case is not limited to the confines of Howard County. On Sept. 7, 2006, in Blanchard, Idaho, over 500 animals suffering from various illnesses and malnutrition were found in an “animal sanctuary,” which was in actuality nine dilapidated trailers. More dead animals were located inside of a freezer on the property. In May of 2006, a Whiteford, Md. woman was charged with 118 counts of animal cruelty after over 70 malnourished dogs and cats were found in deplorable conditions on her ranch. Bodies and bones of another 40 dogs were found in her two homes.

Understanding hoarding is difficult to do, but is vital for proper prosecution and prevention. Hoarding not only affects the animals that become victims, but the hoarder's family and the public in general.

Consequences to the Animals

Practically any animal can be a victim of a hoarder. While cats, dogs, rodents and birds are most commonly hoarded, exotic animals, wildlife and farmed animals have also been found to be victims of hoarding.

The most prevalent conditions found in hoarding cases are a lack of food and water, overcrowding, a lack of veterinary care, and filthy conditions. Animals are left to suffer from malnourishment and dehydration, often resulting in death. In cases where overcrowding



DING TO THE FOREFRONT

is present, multiple dogs and cats are confined to kennels, pens, cages and carriers that are covered with urine and feces, resulting in feces-matted coats and urine burns on their undersides. Illness and disease runs rampant in conditions such as these, and authorities are often forced to euthanize the animals when they are found to stop their suffering.

Consequences to the Hoarder's Family & Community

Studies have found that the type of treatment a hoarder gives to his or her animals is not dissimilar from that given to the hoarder's human dependants. The neglect carries over from animal to human. The living conditions that both animals and humans are forced to live in are filled with animal excrement. As a result, these homes have high levels of ammonia, which is corrosive to the skin, eyes and lungs. In addition, the close quarters shared between hoarders and sick animals facilitates the transmission of many diseases between the two.



Many hoarding cases are brought to the attention of authorities from neighbors - evidence of how hoarding is a community issue. Most neighbors complain of unsanitary conditions, odors, noise, and the presence of rodents and insects that sometimes make their way in to the neighbors' houses. Once authorities make entry into hoarder's homes, they often find that the house must be condemned as it is unfit for habitation.

Prosecution and Prevention

With some citing a near 100 percent recidivism rate for animal hoarders, what is a proper prosecution for these cases and how do we prevent them from happening again? PETA (People for Ethical Treatment of Animals) recommends sentences that treat the hoarder for their mental condition and protects any animals from being hurt or killed by them again. Recommendations include psychological counseling, a ban on contact with animals enforced by property inspections (depending on severity, several years to lifelong); a ban on owning animals (several years to lifelong); and jailtime with psychological counseling.

Information and statistics gathered from "Animal Hoarders: Behavior, Consequences, and Appropriate Official Response," from www.PETA.org.

upcoming EVENTS

OCTOBER
23

Animal Control Facility
Grand Opening
1:30 p.m.

After two years of renovations, the Howard County Animal Control Division will be hosting a grand reopening of their facility, open to all public and media. Tours of the facility will be taking place and pets that are available for adoption will be there for visiting. The facility will be announcing their new quarterly newsletter in addition to several projects that they have been able to accomplish since the renovation, including dog training classes and the Save a Life program. All are welcome! The event will be held at the facility, located at 8576 Davis Road in Columbia.

NOVEMBER
13

CAC 15-Year Anniversary
Celebration
2:00 p.m.

The Child Advocacy Center, also known as "The Listening Place," will be hosting a 15-year anniversary celebration on Nov. 13. The CAC, which was nationally accredited by the National Children's Alliance in 2005, will be honoring those whose hard work and dedication led to the opening of the center in 1991.

POLICE OFFICER OF THE MONTH

Chief McMahon has selected PFC Jason Starr as Police Officer of the Month for July 2006. Starr stood out from the rest of the nominees due to his exceptional investigation and insight work throughout the month, resulting in a total of 13 arrests.

PFC Starr's work is an example of how a little observation and initiative can result in locating much more serious criminal activity. In one incident, he stopped a vehicle being driven by a known drug user after noticing the windshield was cracked. A K-9 scan of the vehicle was positive for CDS and marijuana was located inside the car during a subsequent search. Two suspects were arrested in that case.

In another case, PFC Starr recognized a subject driving a vehicle that he knew was driving on a suspended license. After stopping the vehicle and arresting the suspect, he

found a significant quantity of crack cocaine inside the car. HCPD's Vice and Narcotics Division was able to follow up on this case and the investigation resulted in arrests for drug distribution as well as the seizure of marijuana.

In addition to these cases, PFC Starr had two DUI arrests, two juvenile arrests, five adult misdemeanor arrests, and one traffic arrest. Six of his criminal arrests during July were a direct result of a traffic stop.

Congratulations and keep up the good work!



LT. McKISSICK BECOMES FBI ACADEMY GRADUATE

In a ceremony on Sept. 15, Lt. McKissick graduated from the 10-week Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy. The academy is one of the most prestigious trainings available and is open to only a select few people throughout the world each year.

This year's graduating class included participants from throughout the United States as well as throughout the world. Representatives came from Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, East Timor, Namibia, Mexico, China, Pakistan, and Egypt, to name just a few.

Congratulations on becoming one of an elite group of people!

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tion Authority. Howard County was proud to have their team take home the recruit class award for the fastest time.

Officers David Aronovic and Sarah Kayser were recognized as the HCPD male and female Top Cops. The overall Top Cops in the event were Mike Colaiacovo from the Secret Service and Tracy Zaienski from the Maryland State Police.

PICNIC HOSTED TO SHOW APPRECIATION

On Sept. 26, the police department showed its appreciation for the civilian staff members by hosting a picnic at Centennial Park. Over 80 civilians were in attendance and were served hotdogs and hamburgers by Captains Lachman and Burnett. Many left with prizes in hand, including sweatshirts and sweatpants, reserved parking spaces (including one donated by the Chief), a dinner for two and time on the FATS machine.

While this one day a year is dedicated to thanking the civilian personnel, we should take time to thank them each and every day for the exceptional work they do!

The top male and female firefighters were Ryan Newnan and Mary Rollins. Newnan is the son of Lt. John Newnan, who has acted as the event coordinator for the Police Pace for the last 12 years.

Thanks to all the members of our agency and volunteers from the community who made this event such an outstanding success! A special thanks to Lt. Newnan for his endless dedication to this fund raiser.

COMMUNITY READINESS WEEK

Howard County Executive Jim Robey has proclaimed October 15 – 21 Howard County's second annual "Community Readiness Week." The county is building on the tremendous success of last year's event with activities that will emphasize the importance of both individual and family disaster preparedness. The effort is co-sponsored by Howard County's Community Emergency Response Network (CERN).

"As local elected officials, it is our responsibility to make sure those who live, work or visit Howard County are prepared and protected when disaster strikes," said County Executive Jim Robey. "That's why we established a Community Readiness Week in Howard County last year and spent the entire week teaching individuals, families and businesses about the simple steps they could take to be better prepared."

The week will kick-off with an ambitious, drive-thru mass immunization initiative spearheaded by the Howard County Health Department. Designed to test the County's ability to immunize the population on a large scale, health nurses will actually be administering flu vaccines to the public during this test drill.

"With Community Readiness Week coinciding with the beginning of the flu season we have a unique opportunity to combine preparedness training with a practical application," said Howard County Health Officer Dr. Penny Bornstein.

Other events will be held throughout the week including a "hard hat" preview of the county's new Public Safety Training Center, a Disaster Volunteer Fair, CERN Neighbor-to-Neighbor workshops, an annual test of the county's

Community Notification System and a chance to meet Howard County's own "Flood Team" and learn how they monitor flood conditions throughout the county.

"As we did last year, we're asking each person in Howard County to find at least one way to be better prepared," said Fire Chief Joe Herr who heads up Howard County's Office of Emergency Management. "Community Readiness Week is a good annual reminder to check the supplies in your in-home emergency supply kit or have a simple dinner conversation with your family about what to do if disaster strikes. We want the public to understand that local officials will do all they can to help in an emergency, but we need the public to help us out by taking some of the responsibility for their own safety."

CERN, the readiness week co-sponsor, was established in 2002 in response to the county's escalated disaster planning efforts in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Designated by Executive Robey as the official Citizens Corps for Howard County, CERN's membership includes representatives from county government, the public school system, the public library system, Howard Community College, Howard County General Hospital, non-profit human services organizations, the business community and more.

The organization has been recognized several times by the Federal Office of Homeland Security for "best practices" in terms of similar groups operating nationwide. For more information about CERN visit www.cern.us.

A complete schedule of Community Readiness Week activities will be announced in early October and be available on-line at www.co.ho.md.us.

POLICE MOURN LOSS OF LONG-TIME HCPD OFFICER

The Howard County Police Department said a final farewell Oct. 2 to a retired longtime member of the agency, PFC Donald Bathgate.

Don died last month after spending his entire life in Howard County. He graduated from Howard High School and enlisted in the Army before joining the HCPD in 1969. He spent 27 years as a Howard County officer, retiring in 1996.

Those who knew Don as an officer say that he embraced the concept of "community policing" even before the term became popular. He was an officer who knew the citizens and business owners in the community. At his funeral, Chief William McMahon described Don as a "strong man with a big heart." He will be truly missed by the Howard County Police family.

HAVE A SAFE HALLOWEEN

Howard County police will be out in force on Halloween to help ensure a safe and fun evening for children throughout the county. Officers will target residential neighborhoods to increase visibility, prevent vandalism and ensure that children stay safe. Police also will conduct speed enforcement activities and be on the lookout for drunk or impaired drivers.



The Howard County Police Department wishes everyone a safe and happy Halloween!

TIPS FOR TERRIFIC TRICK-OR-TREATING

- Encourage children to trick-or-treat before dark. After dark, an adult should carry a flashlight and choose well-lighted streets.
- Wear costumes that are short, snug and flame retardant. Flowing sleeves, capes and skirts can cause children to trip and can catch fire if they brush against candle flames. Be sure to wear light colors or reflective tape.
- Avoid masks that can obstruct vision. Use face paint instead or make sure mask eye holes are wide enough.
- Discourage the use of fake knives, guns and swords, as they may result in aggressive behavior. If these types of

props are used, be sure they are made of flexible materials such as foam or rubber.

- Stay in groups while trick-or-treating and make sure young children always are accompanied by adults.
- Teach children that they should NEVER go into a stranger's home or car.
- Eat dinner before trick-or-treating to prevent the urge to eat treats before they have been inspected by parents. Never eat treats that have been opened.
- Leave porch or other outside lights on to make clear that trick-or-treaters are welcome.



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