



St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office

Update

Volume #12

2009 Annual Report

www.stcharlessheriff.org

DEDICATED TO REPORTING THE NEWEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ST. CHARLES PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Postal Patron

This is a free annual publication mailed to St. Charles Parish residents, law enforcement professionals, community organization representatives, civic leaders and government officials. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to receive future issues, please direct your request to the Special Services Dept. at (985) 783-1355 or fax us at (985) 783-1195.



**SHERIFF
GREG CHAMPAGNE**

Welcome to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office's twelfth issue of "Update". As always we strive to keep local residents aware of the many advancements within the agency.

At the same time, we want to bridge the distance between the community and law enforcement providers, facilitating the exchange of information and giving a voice to all involved in the community policing process.

In this issue, we discuss several specialized departments and services they offer by my dedicated staff. Each of these components strives to provide effective law enforcement protection and personalized service.

1.

Meeting St. Charles Parish's Needs Now - And In The Future

St. Charles Parish remains one of the safest communities in the New Orleans Metro area. We work tirelessly to maintain this achievement. This success also needs to include a vision for the future.

At this time we are beginning construction on a brand new Law Enforcement Complex that be located on a 7-acre parcel of property donated to the parish by the Edward Dufresne Family. For the first time in history, The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office will have a true "headquarters". The 7 million dollar building should serve us well for decades to come.

All of our enforcement operations will be under one roof and will provide us with a structure capable of withstanding 150 MPH hurricane winds. The building has been designed to anticipate future growth with space allocated for future expansion

when needed. Construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2010. This project is being funded completely from the refinancing of existing bonds with no tax increase to you. Our new

the lowest crime rates in the region, we do take every crime and victim of a crime very seriously. To this end, we are proud to announce the formation of our new Crime Victims Assistance Department.

This five-person unit will provide a number of services that will let each victim know they are important to us. Whether offering assistance in understanding the judicial process, providing a safe haven from an abusive spouse, or simply following up with a phone call to discuss a stolen lawnmower, our victims assistance unit will offer help and support to all victims. The Crime

Victims Assistance Department is located on River Road in Hahnville in the former Lion's Club Hall.



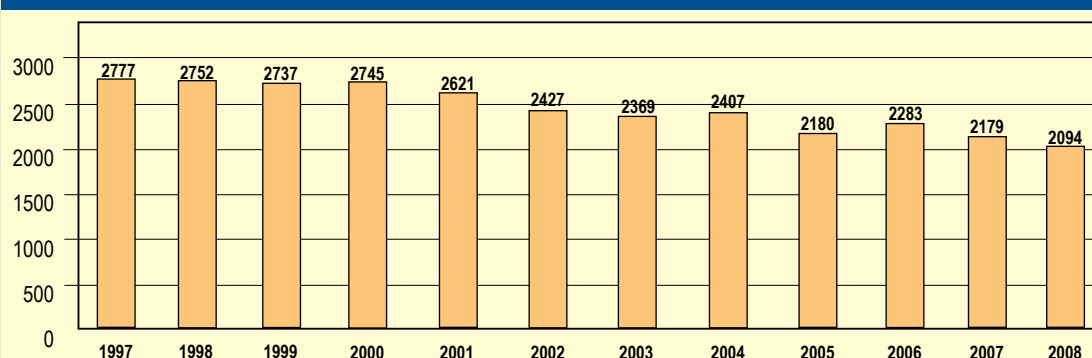
39,000 square foot facility will house the Patrol, Marine, K-9, Traffic, Criminal Investigations, Juvenile Investigations, Special Investigations, Crime Scene, and Reserve Officer departments.

While St. Charles Parish has one of

Crime Rates Continue to Drop in St. Charles Parish

ST. CHARLES PARISH ANNUAL UCR TOTALS

Total Index crimes reported to the FBI



St. Charles Parish experiences a .2% reduction in crime during the first half of 2009, offering one of the lowest crime rates in the metropolitan area.

Community Outreach

Sheriff Champagne Promotes Three Employees

Sheriff Champagne is pleased to announce that he has promoted three employees, one to the rank of Major and two to the rank of Captain.

Major Fred Oubre - Commander Of Patrol Operations

Fred Oubre, who has been with the department for 25 years, has been promoted to Major in the Patrol Department with oversight of the day-to-day operations of the Patrol Department. Major Oubre resides in St. Rose with his wife Sharon, and his two children, Mandi and Clint.



Captain Alvin Robinson Assistant Warden

Alvin Robinson, who has been with the department 12 years, has been promoted to a Captain at the Nelson Coleman Correctional Center. As Assistant Warden, Captain Robinson has oversight of four shift commanders and their personnel, assists the Warden, and assists with daily operations of the Nelson Coleman Correc-



tional Center. Captain Robinson began his career with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office in 1997 as a deputy in Corrections. Captain Robinson, who was raised and lives in St. Rose, Louisiana, has two children, Anaya and Alvin IV.

Captain Gilbert Schmidt Patrol Department

Gilbert Schmidt, who has been with the department for 24 years, has been promoted to a Captain in the Patrol Department where he has oversight over the Patrol, Traffic, Marine, Canine, Vehicle Maintenance, and Reserve Departments. Captain Schmidt began his career with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office in 1981 in the Patrol Department. Captain Schmidt resides in Destrehan with his wife, Mary. He has three children, Kristen, Gil, III, and Jonathan. Captain Schmidt also serves as a Constable in District 3.



Sheriff Champagne stated, "All three officers have demonstrated command leadership over many years, and I am confident they will perform in an exemplary manner."

Deputy Ronald Newman Named 2008 Deputy of the Year

Deputy Ronald Newman has been named St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Deputy of the Year for 2008.

Last Christmas Eve, a burglar alarm went off at about 7:00 P.M. at a home in the 2300 block of Ormond Boulevard when the residents were away from home. Quick action by Deputy Newman placed the suspect under arrest for burglary. The suspect gave a fictitious name, but his fingerprints were taken in AFIS, and the nationwide computer system gave his true identity.

He turned out to be Ronald Lee Moore, one of America's Most Wanted



Deputy Ronald Newman

Criminals who had just been released from a Maryland jail after serving time for burglary. This release was in error, as a "hold" on him for a violent rape charge was overlooked. Maryland officials were, therefore, anxious to re-capture Moore.

"Deputy Newman was able to make this arrest and take a violent predator off the streets due to his alertness and quick action," said Sheriff Champagne.

Newman, who is 30 years old, has been with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office for 4 years. He started out in Corrections and is now a Deputy in the Patrol Department. Newman resides in LaPlace. He has a 7 year-old son, Bryson, and Christian (deceased age 5).

Congratulations to Deputy Ronald Newman!

2.

Crime Victims Assistance Department

"WHY DOESN'T SHE JUST LEAVE?"

It's the first question people ask. At first she stays hoping it will get better – maybe they can get help - maybe she can make him happy again – maybe the beatings will stop.

Then she stays because she is ashamed – ashamed that she's allowed him to treat her this way and ashamed that she's taken him back so many times before. She has no money – she's never held a job before and doesn't think she can make it alone.

Finally, she stays because of fear. He's become tremendously powerful in her eyes. She has developed low self-esteem and believes he will carry out his threats to kill her, the children and/or her family

Domestic Violence is a Crime that affects people of every race, religion, sex, and financial status. Domestic violence destroys any family or relationship it touches, unless it is recognized, treated and stopped! Taking many forms, from

Hahnville, Louisiana. Officers assigned to this unit receive reports from patrol department and place follow-up phone calls to every victim the next workday.

The following programs are being operated by the Crime Victims Assistance Department:

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office CVA Department has an ongoing counseling program. The counselor meets with victims of domestic violence and assault and battery at the victim's request. The service is at no cost to the victim, and all paperwork is confidential. There are referral services provided by the CVA Department for the children of the victims of domestic violence issues and or witnesses to the crisis.

The CVA Department works closely with the St. Charles Madere Child Advocacy Center to provide forensic interviews and counseling to all children of child abuse and or witnesses to abuse



Crime Victims Assistance Department is located at 15630 River Road in Hahnville.

beatings, sexual assault, molestation, and even murder, offenses include assault/battery of any kind, threatening and intimidating, kidnap or false imprisonment, stalking and trespass.

Because of the family relationship, victims of domestic violence usually feel afraid, ashamed, and embarrassed. Many are convinced that they did something to deserve the abusive treatment, and most feel powerless to change the situation or escape from it. Everyone in a family affected by domestic violence wants to believe that each incident of violence will be the last.

Unfortunately, statistics show that the violence tends to become more frequent and more severe with each occurrence. It is important to remember domestic violence is a crime and there is no need to suffer in silence. Help is available for both the victim and the offender.

Most Sheriff's departments have specialized units for domestic violence complaints. Taking this concept to the next level, Sheriff Greg Champagne has created a new department to focus on all residents who are victims of crime. The Crime Victims Assistance Department is located at 15630 River Road in

and or domestic violence or other crimes perpetrated to child victims. The St. Charles Madere Child Advocacy Center is a partnership between the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office and the St. Charles Parish District Attorneys Office. The child victims of abuse are provided with counseling at no cost to the family.

VICTIM REPARATIONS

Victim Reparations is a program that helps innocent victims and their families when they have no other means of paying for the financial cost of crime. The fund is administered by the Crime Victims' Reparations Board under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement. The money in the fund comes from people who break the law.

Approved claims may be awarded compensation for the following only if they are related to the crime: (1) Reasonable medical and prescription expenses, (2) Dental expenses, (3) Mental health counseling, funeral expenses, loss of earnings or support, (4) Child care to enable a victim, spouse, surviving spouse of a deceased victim, or guardian to continue employment and (5) Reasonable replacement costs for item or items taken as evidence or made unusable

continued on page 8

Community Partnerships



Special Response Team



New York City – September 11, 2001 - Where were you -- have you forgotten?

Imagine a terrorist attack the magnitude of 9-11 occurring in St. Charles Parish. True, we don't have tall buildings for planes to smash into, but along the Mississippi River lies a target-rich environment for those who would seek massive destruction. According to the port industrial map, sixty-two refineries, including chemical plants, dot the landscape of the Mississippi River in St. James, St. John and St. Charles parishes. Consider, also, that in December 2001, U.S. forces found copies of American chemical trade publications in an Osama bin Laden hideout in Afghanistan.

Imagine, also, the natural disaster of a category 4 or 5 hurricane slamming into the river region and creating a major chemical release in our area.



By land or by sea



3 Zodiac boats, and Sheriff Champagne purchased the Bear Cat for \$300,000 through a federal grant.

If you're wondering if this isn't a case of being "overly defended", think back to the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, the 1995 Oklahoma federal office bombing, the 9-11 attacks and Columbine. Ask any survivor how they felt when they saw the first S.W.A.T team arrive. And finally, if you're wondering why officers would be so dedicated that they would volunteer to strap on heavy black tactical gear and train in 100+ degree weather, consider Sgt. Troy Whitney's response to the 9-11 attacks. He speaks for all of us when he said:

"On September 11th 2001, I was working a detail in the Des Allemands School Zone. My partner and I were just finishing up when a passerby stopped and advised us of the suspected terrorist



SRT officers will basically respond to any situation in a like manner and in emergency situations outside units join seamlessly with the home agency.

For these reasons, Sheriff Greg Champagne has created a Special Response Team (SRT) to provide people of St. Charles Parish with the highest degree of homeland protection and natural disaster response. Team Commander Rodney Madere and Assistant Commander Joe Ganote currently supervise this unit of twenty-seven officers.

Joining the SRT team is no easy task. Enforcement personnel who apply must pass a strenuous physical training program, take part in numerous community exercises and must be on probation for one year before being accepted to the unit through unanimous vote. On many occasions, St. Charles SRT officers train with SRT units from other agencies. This is done so that all

With public safety in mind, St. Charles SRT officers created an ongoing emergency preparedness program with local refineries. Physical exercises and security intelligence are constantly upgraded and shared between the plants and SRT.

Top of the line equipment is available to this unit, beginning with the SRT Equipment Truck. Upon unit activation, the Equipment Truck carries officers and a variety of tactical equipment into high-risk situations such as suspected terrorist activity, hostage situations, chemical releases and sniper attacks.

Three Zodiac inflatable boats stand ready to launch at any given time. Since the terrorist attacks of 9-11, maritime security efforts have focused primarily on large commercial vessels, cargoes,

and crew. Increasingly, law enforcement agencies encounter terrorists, smugglers of weapons, narcotics violators and other criminals using smaller vessels. Small vessels have also been successfully employed overseas by terrorists to deliver Waterborne Improvised Explosive Devices (WBIEDs).

The Sheriff's Office recently acquired a Bear Cat armored vehicle, which gives officers the capability of responding to even greater risk events. The vehicle is constructed of hardened steel armor plate and multi-hit ballistic glass windows. Specially designed gun ports and a roof hatch provide officer protection while affording return-fire option.

So what does all this cost the taxpayer? Surprisingly very little. The SRT Equipment Truck was donated to the Sheriff's Office by St. Rose Volunteer Fire Department and refurbished and painted by Angola prisoners. Lt. Rodney Madere obtained federal grants for the



attack. We looked at each other, ran to our units and sped home to watch the news coverage. As I watched in disbelief, I felt cold and saddened. Then my sadness turned to anger and rage, but then suddenly I felt helpless. There was nothing I could do but watch again in disbelief."

Eight years later, we still ask: Where were you -- have you forgotten? Today, the SRT team stays informed, prepared, and ready to carry out a swift and effective operation. They all remember where they were on 9-11 - **they have NOT forgotten.**

TRIAD Offers Crime Prevention and Safety Programs to Senior Citizens

On April 23, 1997, Sheriff Greg Champagne and the St. Charles Council on Aging announced the creation of a local Triad program that would help support the needs of our growing elderly population. Triad is a commitment between the Sheriff's office, Council on Aging, and Senior Service Providers in our parish to help reduce elder victimization and increase law enforcement services to older persons. The purpose of a Triad is to develop and implement crime prevention and education programs for older individuals. Activities center on pre-victimization (victim/witness assistance) aspects. Triad also focuses on reducing fear of crime by identifying

misconceptions, educating seniors or criminal activity that affect them, and creating programs to reduce elder crime. St. Charles Parish Triad has several outreach programs that help with this assistance. (See right column.) As a non-profit organization, Triad has been supported by funding through United Way of St. Charles since 2002. The Triad program has been able to reach out to more senior citizens and provide additional services since funding by United Way became available.

For more information about this program, please contact the Triad Coordinator at 985-783-1355.



Sheriff Champagne welcomes senior citizens to Triad's Senior Day event.

Self Defense And Awareness Program

Half of everyday living is being aware of what is going on around you. Safety plays a big part in your day-to-day living. But, what if you were in a situation that you had to defend yourself from an attacker? Would you know how? The best way to prepare yourself to fight off an attacker is to take a self-defense class. The St Charles Sheriffs Office and the St Charles Parish School System have been partners in preventing crimes by teaching self-defense classes for Women, Children & Senior Citizens. We'd love to give you all the right moves in just one article, but some things you just have to learn in person. A good self-defense class can teach you how to size up a situation and decide what you should do. Self-defense classes can also teach special techniques for breaking an attacker's grasp and other things you can do to get away. This class can teach you ways to surprise your attacker and catch him or her off

guard. A self-defense class should give you a chance to practice your moves. If you take a class with a friend, you can continue practicing on each other to keep the moves fresh in your mind long after the class is over. Lt. Pam Schmitt teaches free classes several times a year in the fall and in the spring. These classes are taught at different levels for women, children and for senior citizens. Please call Lt. Pam Schmitt if you are interested in participating in these free classes at 985-783-6230.



FREE PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS

Adopt A Senior

Law enforcement officers meet with eligible senior citizens on a regular basis to provide reassurance of safety and open lines of communication between senior citizens and law enforcement officials.

File of Life

Miniature Medical File for immediate access to one's medical history, current medications and emergency contacts.



A Survivor's Journal

A guide to help prepare your loved ones for your disability or death

St. Charles Parish Triad

A Survivor's Journal

This is a small book, which acts as a guideline to assist senior citizens and their families to prepare, in advance, their own wishes during a disability and/or death.

Flashing Security Light

Developed for crime prevention, it helps emergency units find your home quickly by auto flashing capabilities. Also, steady light comes on automatically at dark and shuts off during daylight hours.



Operation Quick Response

A house numbering project for those senior citizens who do not have visible addresses on their homes. Every second counts in an emergency.

3260

Drug Disposal Program

This service is designed to reinforce the safe use and disposal of expired and unused medications of all types.



Senior Citizen Self-Defense Class

A class teaching senior citizens how to verbally and physically defend themselves. Also, teaches them how to prevent being a victim of crime.

BAYOU PATROL

The next time you launch your boat in St. Charles Parish, check out the new signs Sheriff Champagne installed at our boat launches to promote boater safety. Included in the safety reminders is a message from our Sheriff to: "Have a safe boating trip and arrive alive".

Since January 1, 2009, the Sheriff's Office Marine Department has responded to 12 "call outs" for tow-ins, 2 camp burglaries, one camp arson and has recovered 2 accidental drowning victims.

This department, consisting of Lt. Irvin "Sandy" Dares, Dep. Clint LeBlanc and Dep. Roy Gautreaux, patrols the parish waterways in search of over-due or stranded boaters and enforces criminal trespass, arson and other parish and state laws. Assisted by

Deputy Clint LeBlanc responding to call for assistance.



several reserve deputies, they respond to boating accidents, drownings, and calls for assistance when boats or ATV's are needed. On occasion, they offer assistance as needed to the boating community and conduct community education youth programs on boater safety.



St. Charles Parish Sheriff Announces New Emergency Text Page Alert System

Sheriff Champagne is pleased to announce that he has implemented a new emergency notification system, which is now available to the public. This system allows anyone who registers to receive immediate text page alerts via their cell phones or alpha-numeric pager. These notifications will only be made in emergency situations such as hurricane evacuations, tornadoes, hazardous material spills, serious automobile crashes involving road blockage, and possible terrorist attacks.

Citizens should be aware that their cell phone service providers may charge for text page features. The cost is usually very low, but everyone is urged to contact their provider for exact information and costs. Citizens are urged to contact their providers before activating this feature.



In order to register for this emergency notification service with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office all you need to do is go to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Website at www.stcharlessheriff.org. Scroll down to the bottom center of the page and click the banner which states "ENROLL TO RECEIVE EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGE."

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

CHILD I.D. FILE

Imagine one second your child is by your side and the next he or she is gone. It is a parent's worst nightmare. Having the needed information readily available the first few moments of the search can be invaluable to law enforcement authorities. Realizing this, Sheriff Greg Champagne is making available free Child I.D. Files for your children. A Child I.D. File is a packet of information about a child, gathered, stored and regularly updated by a parent. The file focuses on a child's unique characteristics. Many children disappear each year, whether they



are runaways, kidnapped by a divorced or separated parent or by an unknown person. Whatever the reason a child is missing, finding that child quickly is vital, and a Child I.D. file can help. Have your child's fingerprints taken. Fingerprints can be used to identify children who can't identify themselves due to injuries, disabilities, trauma or because they're too young to speak. They can also be used for older kids who refuse to identify themselves or who give incorrect information or for victims who have died. Children's appearances change, making photos less useful as time passes, but fingerprints stay the same. The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office offers free child fingerprinting and a booklet about keeping a Child I.D. File. For more information, contact the Special Services Department at 783-1355.

Safety Programs Focus on Youth

As a service to the community, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office regularly visits schools, local events and meetings. Also, the Special Services Dept. offers community programs designed to promote safety and crime prevention. The objective of these programs, which are offered at no charge, is to provide residents with vital information and needed skills to lessen their risk of becoming a victim. Through education, we hope to reduce crime locally.

Topics and demonstrations include:

- * Child Fingerprinting
- * K-9 Demonstrations
- * Crime Scene Presentations

- * Halloween Safety
- * Narcotic Awareness
- * Seatbelt Safety
- * Bicycle Safety
- * Vehicle Safety
- * Tips for Latchkey Kids
- * Personal Safety
- * Drug Awareness
- * Self Defense



To arrange a presentation for your group or organization, contact Susie Breaux Gauthier at 783-1355. Scheduling is flexible.

SETTING THE PACE IN SAFE SCHOOLS

Taking a proactive approach in promoting a safe learning environment, the Sheriff's office and school board are in the forefront with their partnership in creating a safe schools program that has become a national model. Since implementation 14 years ago, the St. Charles Parish Violence Prevention Program has yielded as much as an 83 percent reduction in violent incidents on school campuses. Seven deputies, serving as school resource officers, are assigned to the parish's middle and high schools where they serve as

safety officers, teachers of law related education, and reality based counselors. The St. Charles Parish Safe Schools model has been duplicated by agencies nationwide.

In addition, the Sheriff's office has three D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officers.

Free Bicycle Registration

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office offers free Bicycle Registration. You can register your bicycle and receive a bicycle license. For more information contact the Special Services Department at 783-1355.



Community Awareness



An old acquaintance invited me to a dog fight / training arena. It was held in a small outdoor, chain-link yard lit with a few light bulbs. Dogs were chained to anything sturdy, and caged behind bars meant for tigers. It was a dark night, cold, no moon and all of us stood huddled under whichever source of light we could find. Around a small building were littered an assortment of strange devices - whips, choke collars, treadmills, muzzles, shock collars, and spiked lances.

About an hour later, a scrawny young dog was brought out. Tail tucked between her legs, eyes sullen, and her hindquarters littered with an assortment of lash marks. She was called "Number 12". She was dragged out, staked to a pole, and kicked once. The audience laughed. After another moment, a man took the stage and announced the dogs for sale:

"Number 12," - The audience laughed, as he gestured to the quivering pup.

"and Cane." Cane was a gorgeous dog - a big white male pit bull, still a puppy by the looks of him, but big, and powerful. He jerked on a chain leash every chance he got.

The announcer stepped away, jumping over the arena fence, as Cane

was unleashed. Number 12, tied to such a short stake, ran in circles trying to avoid Cane's snapping jaws. As Cane ripped and tore at this dirty, emaciated puppy, people laughed, threw things, and yelled numbers at the top of their lungs, "2 thousand!" "Two thousand an' a hundred!" After about 5 minutes, Cane was pulled off the screeching, urinating Number 12 and eventually sold for over four thousand dollars.

"Number Twelve - 50 cents!" Called out the announcer, while the audience laughed uproariously. A tiny, squealing voice - equal to the painful yelps of the fallen Number 12, wailed above the crowd -- I bought Number 12 for one dollar.

If this sounds like something from a work of fiction, guess again. It is a true story and one that is all too familiar to St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office and St. Charles Humane Society. A task force consisting of Lt. Pam Schmitt (St. Charles Sheriff's Office) and Humane Society

employees, Supervisor Angie Robert and Shawn Palmisano, assistant, investigated 15 animal cruelty cases in 2008 resulting in 5 arrests and the impoundment of pit bulls. On two occasions, investigators confiscated huge chains (see photo). The owners made the dogs drag the heavy chains around to build up muscles.



Abused and neglected dog currently at St. Charles Animal Shelter.

In the words of a 16 year pit fighter: "You want your pit to get the scent of a fighter and blood. You should put a cat and your dog in a room until the dog kills the cat. This will also get it used to being scratched up in fights. Then when you're sure that your dog is beefed up enough to take another pit bull you should put a smaller dog in a room with it and persuade it to tear it to shreds".

The above-referenced Number 12 is what the task force describes as a "bait dog". Bait dogs can be any breed. Their muzzles are sometimes duct taped shut so they can't bite; then they are thrown in a ring with a fight dog being trained. The attacks that follow leave the bait dog scraped, chewed and many times, dead or nearly so. Imagine your own household pet in this situation.

To protect residents and animals alike, in St. Charles Parish, it's against the law to allow animals

to run at large, and Parish Ordinance 4-10 (c) states: "All American Pit Bull Terriers must be registered with mandatory microchip with the Animal Control Office. Color

pictures with full detail description must be filed with registration. Micro chipping of animal is required. All premises must



Lt. Pam Schmitt with dog neck chains.

be inspected by an Animal Control Officer for confinement of said animal before final registration is approved." Lt. Schmitt testified before the state legislature about the growing problem of dog fighting in our area. Her testimony prompted

the legislature to enact a law that no one may "Knowingly attend as a spectator at any organized dog fighting event". Lt. Schmitt, A. Robert and S. Palmisano conduct yearly training classes to St. Charles Sheriff's deputies and also teach at the Sheriff's Office basic academy.

All residents of St. Charles Parish are encouraged to call St. Charles Sheriff Office at 783-6807 or 783-6230 or St. Charles Humane Society at 785-9136 to report any events of organized dog fighting or other animal cruelty acts.

So, what became of Number 12? Well, her name is now Terra, and she's living a happy life on a farm. She is completely loyal to the person that bought her for one dollar.

2009 TORCH RUN



In Louisiana, the Law Enforcement Torch Run® began in 1985, with a mere handful of officers carrying the Olympic Torch to the Opening Ceremonies of the State Summer Games at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond. St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office was one of the agencies to participate.

Since 1985, the Louisiana Law Enforcement Torch Run® has grown

6.

from a handful of officers participating in an annual event, to more than 2,000 law enforcement officers from over 100 agencies, volunteering year-round. The officers join together for two common goals: to spread awareness of the capabilities of individuals with intellectual disabilities and to generate funds ensuring that Special Olympics can provide year-round sports training and competition programs at no cost to the athlete or their family.

During the week prior to the Special Olympics Louisiana State Summer



Sgt. Dwayne LaGrange, Hannah Hotard and SA Larry Johnson



2009 St. Charles Sheriff's Office Torch Run Participants

Games, Law Enforcement officers from virtually every corner of the state begin their 1,000 mile run to deliver the Olympic Torch to the Opening Ceremonies. This year the officers met on Friday, May 22nd to light the "Flame Of Hope" at Southeastern Louisiana

University in Hammond.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the single largest fundraiser for the Louisiana Special Olympics. This past year the St. Charles Sheriff's Office raised over \$1,600.00. These funds were raised through personal donations, Valentine Candy Gram and a pastelaya and bake sale.

Community Strategies

Training Department Provides High Quality Instruction

The Training Department provides and coordinates all training efforts for St. Charles Parish sheriff's deputies. The mission is to provide the highest quality of professional law enforcement training possible.

Prior to assuming a sworn (having arrest powers) assignment within the Sheriff's Office, St. Charles Parish recruits first attend 12 weeks (480 hours) of training at St. Charles Regional P.O.S.T. law enforcement academy. As a Regional POST Academy, police officers and sheriff's deputies from all around Louisiana receive their "POST" training and certifications at our academy.

At the academy, deputies are educated in report writing, crash investigation, juvenile and criminal law, community policing, felony procedures, use of force issues and other law enforcement curriculum. A deputy receives approximately 1000 hours (both in classroom and in field) of training prior to being released for active patrol status. But the training does not end there! Once certified, the Sheriff requires

new recruits to undergo an extensive Field Training Program. Deputies with several years experience on the job, Field Training Officers (FTOs), continue the educational process by leading the new recruits through their daily assignments. In addition, the Training Department is charged with maintaining the level of training agency-wide. From the proper use of firearms to hand-to-hand defense tactics, the department ensures that deputies get the training they need. The

department regularly provides mandatory in-service programs for deputies, as well as reserve officers.

The Sheriff has 3 full time instructors assigned to Training and 29 FBI Instructor Development Certified (IDC) Instructors on staff to provide knowledge in a

wide range of courses. These include training in use of deadly force, defensive tactics systems, chemical agents, driving, ethics, legal aspects, high-risk entry, domestic violence, less-than-lethal weapons, and standardized field sobriety testing. In addition, the National Ethics Association has certified four of our deputies as instructors. The Sheriff's



Sgt. Troy Whitney delivers law related topics.



Lt. Mark Candies teaches defensive tactics.

Office also has a network of experts, including our parish's Assistant District Attorneys, readily available to instruct or assist.

The Training Center serves as the hub for annual in-service sessions. All deputies are required to successfully complete an annual in-service program. These in-service training sessions have been reported to be the most extensive in-service programs in the state and are open to all law enforcement agencies throughout Louisiana.

LOCK YOUR VEHICLE DOORS & STORE VALUABLES

Lock Your Vehicle

- ☐ Shut windows tightly whenever you park. Even a small gap will allow a thief room to insert a wire to pry up the lock button.
- ☐ Lock all doors and the trunk or hatchback every time you leave your car. Lock the garage door too.
- ☐ Never leave a car running unattended.
- ☐ Avoid leaving keys with a garage or lot attendant by choosing a place where you park your own car when possible.

Don't Tempt a Thief

- ☐ Carry as few valuables in your vehicle as possible. Cell phones, money, mobile audio or video equipment, etc., are lures for thieves looking to make a quick grab.
- ☐ Lock packages in the trunk, or put them under the front seats.

- ☐ Engrave your car's VIN on radar detectors, CD players, mobile audio or video equipment, etc., in your vehicle. If the equipment is found later it will make it easier to identify as yours.
- ☐ Don't use the glove compartment as a "traveling safe." Take your valuables, including personal papers, with you.



Young boys learn lessons for life at camp

The 14th annual "Operation First Class Sheriff's Camp" was held during the week of July 5 - 10 at the Boy Scout's Camp Salman located in the pine forest of Kiln, Miss. An average of 50-60 boys between the ages of 11 - 16 attended the 5-day camp along with ten deputies serving as chaperones.

The camp promotes trust and interaction between the parish's youth and the deputies. "Campers and deputies have raved about this experience. The summer camp provides the boys the opportunity to

enjoy the outdoors, make new friends, and develop new skills. For many of the boys, it's the first time they've ever been camping," said Sheriff Champagne.



The St. Charles Sheriff's Office sponsors this annual event allowing local youth an opportunity to develop leadership skills. During the 5-day camp, the youth had the opportunity to experience the outdoors, camp fires, swimming, canoeing, archery, rifle shooting, repelling, and rock wall climbing. Since 1996 over 500 St. Charles Parish boys have attended this summer camp.

TRIAD

Senior Day 2009

FREE

All senior citizens are invited to attend
TRIAD SENIOR DAY

FREE

THURSDAY • OCT. 22, 2009 • 9:30 A.M.
JERUSALEM SHRINE CENTER IN DESTREHAN

This event is free and offers a variety of health screenings, information for seniors, entertainment, lunch, door prizes and give-a-ways.

Contact Lori Duplessis at 985-783-1355 for more information.



Fallen HEROES



Deputy James Allen Arterbury



Three short years after his law enforcement career began, Deputy James Allen Arterbury, 24, was killed while responding to a disturbance at a local bar.

On July 4, 1973, several subjects in the bar room jumped the deputy and a scuffle ensued. Deputy Arterbury was shot in the back with his own gun. He died several hours later at the St. Charles Parish Hospital.

James A. Arterbury was the second St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office officer to be killed in the line of duty. His memory is honored at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on panel 4E-7.

Deputy Nelson Coleman



A 13-year veteran of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Department, Deputy Nelson Coleman, 70, suffered a heart attack on Nov. 5, 1982.

While attempting to subdue a suspect wanted on a felony warrant, the deputy and suspect became embroiled in a scuffle. During the struggle, Deputy Coleman experienced severe chest pain and died.

His wife and three children survived Deputy Coleman. His memory is honored at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on panel 44W-18. In 2001, Sheriff Greg Champagne further honored Deputy Coleman, naming the parish's state-of-the-art correctional center in his memory: Nelson Coleman St. Charles Parish Correctional Center.

Sheriff Lewis Ory



Lewis Ory's 23-year tenure as sheriff of St. Charles Parish tragically ended on Jan. 26, 1903.

Sheriff Ory, 56, was attempting to arrest a fugitive from neighboring Jefferson Parish when he was shot in the temple. He died instantly. According to a local newspaper account, a sheriff's posse hunted down the murderer. The suspect's body was found riddled with bullets. Lewis Ory was the first lawman, and only St. Charles Parish sheriff, to be killed in the line of duty.

His memory is honored at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on panel 42E-20.

SERVICE PIN RECIPIENTS HONORED

Congratulations to the following personnel on receipt of the department's service pins. We are indeed fortunate to have employees dedicated to this agency and community by providing many years of faithful service. Thank you for sharing your talents and experience with us.

25 YEARS

Baudoin, Patricia R.
Cardella, Connie H.
Cazenave, Gary L.
Dale, Robert
Dufresne, Diahann L.
Johnson, Michele B.
Magee, Claudette M.
Oubre, Ricky L.
Walker, Kathy T.

20 YEARS

Breedy, George
Dempster, Melissa M.
Faucheux, William D.
Francis, Denise L.
Kinler, Rene Fourroux
LeBeauf, Warren S.

15 YEARS

Gagliano, Donald K.
Gaubert, Gery D.
Hunter, Leroy
Joseph, Michelle
LeBlanc, William R.
McCarter, Burley E.
McWilliams, Gail
Varnado, Louis M.

10 YEARS

Cunningham, George R.
Dominic, Rocco A.
Jennings, Gwendolyn M.
Rollin, George Carter
Sampson, Roanne L.
Shuff, Marlon

5 YEARS

Baird, Christopher G.
Caldwell, Larry Von
Durante, Laurence J.
Fontenot, Steven B.
Gregory, Shawn Michael
Hamilton, Giovanni M.
Hirsch, Jeffrey L.
Johnson, Shondell M.
Malbrough, Candie M.
Menendez, Lloyd
Minnich, Mikhael G.
Nowak, John James
Peranio, Jared P.
Sanders, Steven R.

Congratulations!

Crime Victims Assistance Department

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as a result of the criminal investigation.
VICTIM NOTIFICATION (LAVNS)

There are certain crimes for which victims are eligible for notification; all felony crimes and several misdemeanor crimes. The victim's unit will be notified of the release or escape of a prisoner either by the jail personnel or by LAVNS (on line registration). The victim will then receive a call from CVAD.

Victim rights include: **1.** The right to reasonable notice and to be present and heard during all critical stages of proceedings; **2.** The right to confer with the prosecution; **3.** The right to refuse to be interviewed by the accused; **4.** The right to review and comment on any pre- or post sentence report; **5.** The right to a reasonably prompt conclusion of the case; **6.** The right to seek restitution; and **7.** The right to be informed upon release from custody or the escape of the accused or the offender.

CAP (CRISIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

C.A.P. is a crisis intervention and advocacy service provided by the

River Region Wellness Collaborative in partnership with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Crime Victims Assistance Department and United Way of St. Charles. The purpose of CAP is to provide supplemental support and guidance to persons who have experienced a traumatic event. This allows the officers to remain focused on their duties during a crisis while a CAP counselor is screening the victims. CAP provides victims and officers with on-site crisis management support, debriefing counseling, screening and referral to services, on going counseling and other support. The major objectives of CAP are to respond swiftly and effectively to the crisis, facilitate immediate stabilization for the victims and family, and provide support to the officers

on duty. In addition they provide useful resources and follow-up with the victims.

We are providing these services for persons directly or indirectly affected by homicide, violent crime, vehicle accidents, domestic violence, home invasion and suicide. In the hopes of creating a violent-free and safer community, Victim Assistance Officers will be there to help you deal with the emotional impact of crime and sort out the practical issues that you may be facing. They can also be there to guide you through the court system, which can also seem very complicated. **For additional information on any of the services that we offer, call Lt. Pat Baudoin or Lt. Pam Schmitt at 985-783-6230.**

SEND YOUR GIFT HOME

SCSO employees enthusiastically gave to the United Way of St. Charles in 2008, increasing contributions for the ninth consecutive year.

By designating the parish's United Way agency as the recipient of your pledge, you can ensure that



neighbors like you will receive crucial services in their time of need.

Unless you designate St. Charles Parish, your gift will go to the parish in which your office campaign is held. **Please, send your gift home to the United Way of St. Charles.**

8.

Want more information on the services or programs offered by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office? Whether you're seeking a listing of departments, services, or a brief history of the agency, you can find it on the World Wide Web. Visit us today at: www.stcharlessheriff.org.

