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Spring
2019

Chief James A. Cervera

Community Engagement Chronicles - Your Source for Crime Prevention Information!



Community Engagement Unit



April is Autism Awareness Month and the Community Engagement Unit wants to show our support to the Autism Community. Each of the members of our Community Engagement Unit will be wearing Autism Awareness bracelets for the month of April.

The Virginia Beach Police Department has worked on many programs and initiatives over the years to educate our officers and the public on Autism safety issues and bring awareness to our community about resources we have available to assist individuals with Autism.

All of our officers attend training on Autism and Law Enforcement interactions to help give us each a better understanding and strategies in dealing with individuals with Autism. We have taught educational classes to caregivers on the dangers that we see often effecting our Autism community. We also offer programs like Project Lifesaver and Child Safe ID to our community members with Autism.

Come out to Harbor Park on April 6th (10am-2pm) for Autism Safety Day and say hello to MPO Karangelen and MPO Perry.

Youth Police Academy

On March 12, 2019, the Community Engagement Unit graduated 34 students from the Virginia Beach Police Department's Youth Police Academy.



(Deputy Chief Gallagher, Captain Spivey & Captain Hatfield with student)

This dedicated group of students started their academy on October 23, 2018 and attended a total of 18 classes and several field trips to complete the program. Students went through a myriad of classes about the history and operations of the Virginia Beach Police Department and the criminal justice system, from the recruitment and training of new police officers here in the City to specialty units and their functions.

Classes were held at New St. John AME in the Bayside area of the City. New St. John has always been an excellent community partner with the Police Department, and again opened their doors to us and to these youths to host the academy.

Graduation was attended by Chief Cervera, Deputy Chief Gallagher, Captain Spivey, and Captain Hatfield representing both the command staff and the Third Precinct.

This was MPO Perry's third and final academy. He will be handing over the program to MPO Karangelen for the 2019/20 academy. If you or someone you know is interested in the next academy, please contact MPO Jason Karangelen at jkarange@vbgov.com.

Hello Neighbors! Please remember July is approaching fast and you will want to get your Neighborhood Watch renewals in by July. This way your neighborhood can continue to be counted as one of the few that care enough to watch out for each other.

If you think your neighborhood has a Neighborhood Watch, *please make sure*.

Sometimes people believe they do, but there is no contact with our office.

Once you determine that your neighborhood is not participating in Neighborhood Watch, ask your neighbors if anyone has any interest in starting one so your property and family can help reduce the opportunity for crime to flourish around you. The contacts are listed below:

1st Precinct: MPO Bradley Detrich bdetrich@vbgov.com

2nd Precinct: MPO Jim McElligott JMcEllig@vbgov.com

3rd Precinct: MPO David Nieves DNieves@vbgov.com

4th Precinct: MPO Shelly Bryant SBryant@vbgov.com



Explorers

Do you know a young person between 14 and 18 years of age who is highly motivated to enhance their resume for college or increase their knowledge base of the Virginia Beach Police Department?

If so, ask them if they would be interested in joining the Explorers. The Explorers are expected to attend meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month (6:30-8:30pm), and turn in 10 documented and approved volunteer hours each month. Maintaining grades at school and participating in some PT is also expected.

Open Enrollment will be held in April for new members. With only 23 positions left, have interested students email Explorer Sgt. Kiersten Hargis at kehargis@vbgov.com for more detailed information.

Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Awards

On Thursday, 3/21/19, the Virginia Beach Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) held their 35th Annual Awards ceremony at LETA. The ceremony was attended by several members of the Virginia Beach Police Department's command staff, to include Chief J. Cervera and Deputy Chief W. Dean.

The CPAAA presented the following awards:

- *Citizen Award* to Cheryl Scott for her diligent volunteer work through Project Lifesaver (pictured below with Sgt Rebecca Tuttle).
- *Volunteer Award* was presented to Edward Nixon for his overwhelming support and countless hours given as a Virginia Beach volunteer Community Service Officer and a volunteer Automotive Maintenance Officer for Virginia Beach.
- *Youth Award* was presented to Kiersten Hargis for her endless hours of volunteer work in several service programs and with the Police Department's Community Engagement Unit.
- *Law Enforcement Award* was presented to MPO Allen Perry for his astonishing work with and on several community engagement programs and for their increase in success over the last few years.

The Community Engagement Unit would like to extend their gratitude to the Alumni Association for their attentive work and for recognizing these individual citizens and officers. We would also like to pass on our congratulations to each of the winners.



Active Threat Citizens Defense Workshop



The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.
~Albert Einstein

Mass shootings were once so shocking that they were impossible to forget. NOW they have become so frequent, it is hard to remember them all. The VBPD will not stand by and do nothing, and neither should you!

The greatest survival tool the world has ever seen is the human brain. Each individual must make it a priority to train their brain to be prepared in responding to any emergency. While you don't get to choose when the battle begins, you DO get to choose your level of your preparedness!

On Saturday, June 1, 2019, the Police Department will be conducting their 5th public Active Threat Citizens Defense workshop during the hours 10:00 am - 2:30 pm - *FREE to the public* - at the Zeiders American Dream Theater (4509 Commerce Street). We encourage your entire family to attend.

Come join us at this beautiful new addition to our growing Towne Center. To RSVP or if you have any questions, please contact MPO David Nieves at dnieves@vbgov.com.

PLEASE do not contact Zeiders American Dream for information

Active Threat Citizen's Defense Workshop
Saturday, June 1, 2019
10:00 am - 2:30 pm
Zeiders American Dream Theater
Towne Center
4509 Commerce Street
Virginia Beach, VA. 23462



Upcoming Events!

- March 27-28: Every 15 Minutes at First Colonial HS
- March 30: Religious Institutions Scenario training,
Coastal Community Church
- April 6: Autism Safety Day at Harbor Park, 10am
- April 13: Parkinson's Walk at 31st St Park
- May 1-2: Every 15 Minutes at Tallwood HS
- May 17: Police Memorial Service,
35th St/Boardwalk, 2pm
- June 1: Active Threat/Citizens Defense Workshop,
Zeiders American Dream Theater, 10am

CAC Meetings

All meetings are held at 7pm

- 1st Precinct: 1st Tuesdays
Municipal Center/Building #19
2424 Courthouse Drive
- 2nd Precinct: 2nd Wednesdays
Second Precinct
820 Virginia Beach Blvd
- 3rd Precinct: 3rd Thursdays
Williams Farm Recreation Center
5252 Learning Circle
- 4th Precinct: 4th Thursdays
Glenwood Community Center
2097 Round Hill Road

Virginia Beach Business Watch Together We Can Reduce Crime

My friends and I at the Virginia Beach Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit are excited to help you learn how you can reduce the opportunity for crime to strike you or your business. Watch for our advice and events to learn more each month. This month I would like to invite you to call now and sign up for Business Watch. We will make you an appointment to do a free security assessment of your business and even teach your staff how to **"Take A Bite Out Of Crime"**.

Business Watch

Office: 757-385-1006

Desk: 757-385-1371

FAX: 757-385-1064

Email: vbbusinesswatch@vbgov.com



For Additional Information Contact:
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police/opsdiv/Pages/ceu.aspx](http://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/police/opsdiv/Pages/ceu.aspx)



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