

ALL POINTS BULLETIN



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 1, 2002

Spending a Week at Ground Zero

by Col. Ned Hafner
Director of Corrections
St. Johns County Sheriff's Office

During the week of November 29, 2001 through December 3, 2001, I had the opportunity to travel to New York City and provide voluntary services to the recovery effort resulting from the World Trade Center Disaster of September 11, 2001. These efforts were sanctioned under the mission of the Salvation Army, Greater New York Chapter.

These efforts were basically supportive functions, assisting the NYC Police Department, the NYC Fire Department and hundreds of construction workers of various professions. The support efforts primarily involved food preparation and delivery, maintaining the numerous supplies required, i.e., clothing, medical supplies and a variety of items necessary to accomplish the task.

I left the Jacksonville International Airport at approximately 9:00 AM on Thursday, 11/29/01. After a very long and hectic day of travel, I arrived at the YMCA in New York City at 1:30 AM on Friday. After a few hours of sleep, I attended a briefing in the lobby of the hotel. The purpose of this briefing was to learn what was ahead as well as what was expected of us as volunteers.

The first topic covered was the psychological aspects of what we were about to undergo. We were told that this was



Col. Ned Hafner, Director of Corrections
St. Johns County

going to be an extremely emotional experience. We would come in contact with people that had been working countless hours since the event on 9/11, some of whom had lost close friends and loved ones and still held hope to find something that would help bring about some form of closure. We were told that, as part of our function, we would be faced with taking on the role of a "sounding board," in order to allow others to vent their feelings and possibly gain some assurance.

In addition to the psychological issues we were also given a code of conduct that we were expected to follow while onsite. We were told that we could not take cameras to the assigned areas. In the event that we did and were observed taking pictures, the cameras would be confiscated by the National Guard or the NYPD. At that point, we would be escorted away from the scene permanently. It was stressed to the group that the area was treated as, (1) a burial ground, (2) a crime scene, and (3) a war zone. The coordinator indicated that certain individuals/groups had violated the conditions in the past and had been asked

to leave.

We were also told that we would not assume the role of a "tourist." We were further cautioned against standing around "looking" and pointing at things that we saw. Any violations of these conditions would result in our being asked to leave the area permanently.

After logistical issues were covered, the work assignments were discussed. We were told that we could be assigned to one of two locations to work. The first was the Office of the Medical Examiner (OME). A brief description of this area included the fact that it was a city block that had been closed and designated as a temporary morgue. The second location was the actual site of the WTC, what has come to be known as "Ground Zero."

At 8:00 AM Friday morning, we took the subway to the headquarters of the Salvation Army of Greater New York. Here we officially registered as volunteers. We were issued photo identification which had to be worn in plain view at all times. The classification assigned to us allowed entry into all areas.

While at the office, we were assigned to the evening shift, (3-11 PM). I was assigned to a group consisting of six (6) volunteers along with a coordinator. We were then informed that the first assignment would be at Ground Zero. I looked at my watch and wondered what I was going to do for over six hours until our shift started. That dilemma lasted only fifteen minutes for we were again approached and informed that there was

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

a shortage of personnel at the OME, so we would go there first. We left the office and, once again, boarded the subway.

We arrived about six blocks from the OME. We walked and arrived at a checkpoint at the beginning of the block. Security at this location was provided by the NYPD along with the National Guard. The security force was comprised of members of the NYC Police Department, the NY State Police, the New Jersey State Police, the NYC Port Authority Police and the NY State National Guard.

As I ambled down the street through the various temporary structures I began to realize what lay ahead. This walk is one of the many subsequent events that I will remember for the rest of my life. The reality of it all hits very hard. The group walked very slowly as the functions and purposes of the various buildings and tents were described to us by the coordinator.

Along the route, there were a couple of tents on the right. One of these tents was provided simply as a place for the workers to sit and rest. A second tent was designated as a Chapel. Both were occupied.

Farther ahead, a much larger tent appeared on the left. The coordinator indicated that there might be some pretty gruesome sights on occasion in that particular area. This was the site where the Medical Examiners conducted their examinations of the human remains. At the end of the street was a vacant lot that contained about eight refrigerated semi-trailers, used for proper storage of the remains. A huge tent covered all of these trailers in order to provide as much privacy as possible. The entrance was draped with a black shroud. Only those that had a purpose for being there were present.

The remainder of the street contained several pre-fab buildings that were utilized as office spaces for the various medical personnel. Another section of the street contained an area designated for food services. It contained all of the necessary items for food preparation, i.e.,

steam tables, drinks, tables and chairs for dining, etc. In addition to the dining area, there was also a mobile canteen where people could order fast food items. Food service was the primary area of responsibility for the volunteers.

As an aside, if you ever wondered what happens to the cards and letters written by children in the various schools around the nation, you will find them spread out all over the walls and tables in the dining areas in both the OME and at Ground Zero. And believe me, they are read over and over by police officers, firefighters, and workers of all trades and skills.

One of the more significant events that occurred was the ceremonial activity that took place each time the remains of a victim was delivered to the OME. When someone's remains arrived, everything else stopped. NY State Patrol Officers on motorcycles normally escorted the vehicles into the area, and it was an extremely solemn and emotional experience each and every time. All workers stood silently while all uniformed personnel came to attention and saluted. From a personal standpoint, this was one of the most difficult times for me to withstand.

My first day at the OME ended at approximately 2 PM. At that time we were directed to go to the WTC area to begin our original shift assignment. Once again, we climbed aboard the NYC subway system, and we arrived within blocks of the site.

In the walk from the subway to the WTC, the first thing that struck me was the air quality. There seemed to be a fine mist of dust present at all times. The closer we got to the devastated area, the worse it got. In fact, close in, it adversely affected our breathing. Along with the mist, there was an odor that I had never before experienced. This odor was a combination of several things, including concrete dust, jet fuel, hot/burning steel, and decomposition.

As we approached the fence that was constructed around the site, I observed something that I found quite troubling. First, the streets were filled with people standing on anything that would rise them above everything taking pictures. As you remember, this was one of the issues that

the coordinator at the Salvation Army Headquarters cautioned us against. It just seemed so inappropriate. Secondly, the streets were lined, shoulder to shoulder, with sales people standing with their tables full of souvenirs and trinkets, like American Flags, various ribbons, pictures, etc. I didn't really observe very many sales actually occurring, so it would appear that others considered it inappropriate as well.

Eventually, we approached the entrance to the restricted area. We displayed our photo ID's and continued into the area. The Salvation Army was set up in a series of tents situated in the middle of a street. The entrance to the tents contained an area with hand washing facilities. Also, there was a shallow container of water to step into in order to clean footwear. The dust, which I described above, was nothing that you would want in the same area that you eat. Just beyond this area was a section with tables and chairs along the food serving line. The food was prepared and maintained inside portable kitchens located next to the tent. There was also a tent that was utilized for the storage of other necessary items.

The first order of business during that shift was to move everything from the original tent across the street into a newly constructed larger tent. The size of this new tent could be compared to a small circus. It was designed much better and had a lot more room. This new facility was complete with showers and lockers for the workers to utilize. Another reason for this relocation was to open up the street to traffic. The new tent was on an adjacent vacant lot.

Another section of the new tent contained necessary supplies that were made available to all of the workers. These items ranged from shirts, clean underwear, outerwear, gloves, boots, minor medical supplies, snack type foods, water, etc. All of this was provided by the Salvation Army and was free for the taking. One item that was always an issue was boots. The workers would have to change them often. The heat from the

Continued on page 4

EDITOR'S CORNER

By Tom Berlinger



A View of NYC from Tallahassee

As a native of New York City, in the weeks that followed the attacks on the World Trade Center (and the Pentagon), I found the situation really gnawing at me.

Like countless others, the event hit me personally from a few angles.

First, like all of you, I took it personally because as Americans, we had never suffered a direct attack on our mainland in history.

Second, this was a direct attack on my hometown.

Those of you that have never lived in a large metropolitan city probably have a hard time imagining that anybody that had lived in a city THAT large could look at it, and believe that it had the ability to generate feelings of "home." To a non-city-slicker, "home" is often associated with towns like Green Cove Springs, Lake City, New Port Richey or Apalachicola, but certainly NOT a place like New York.

Then there's Bill Meehan.

Bill Meehan is a guy that I first met at

age six or seven. We were going to a small Catholic grammar school in the Bronx, and he was one of my 25-30 classmates that moved along through the process of getting educated from K through 8th grade. With so many years of being cramped together as a group, we grew as close as any 25 kids could get.

In 6th, 7th and 8th grade, I was closer to Bill than most because we had a few things in common. One was a love for CB radios. We both had our "rigs" up and running at all hours. We were particularly fond of flipping on our radios in the middle of the night when everybody else was asleep and talking into the night. It didn't matter that we had absolutely nothing to talk about. After an hour or two, we'd go back to bed feeling like we'd gotten away with a crime.

He and I also honed our entrepreneurial skills in 7th and 8th grade. Now that the statute of limitations has passed, I will tell you that we'd take orders and money, then jump on the subway and ride down to Chinatown to purchase fireworks in the months preceding 4th of July. We would add a small fee to each order we took, and then use the leftover money to either purchase our own fireworks, buy a ticket to a Yankees game, or keep it for pocket money.

This past summer, I went to a reunion of my grammar school, and got to spend some time reminiscing with Bill about our old days, CB radios and our illegal fireworks business. My wife took several pic-

tures of us together that evening, and things were grand! On the reunion trip, my wife and I stayed at the Millenium Hilton Hotel, a hotel so close to the World Trade Center buildings that it was badly damaged and is still closed.

On September 11, 2001, Bill was at his desk on the 105th floor of World Trade Center - Tower 1, the first building to get hit. He left behind his wife and two teenage children.

In the months and weeks preceding September 11, Bill would often send me a one-line e-mail or AOL Instant Message that simply said, "Watch CNN today at 4 PM...I'll be on..."

As chief market analyst for Cantor Fitzgerald (the firm that lost 600-700 employees), he was one of those Wall Street experts that shows up on national TV after the close of the stock market each day to discuss the day's activity.

Since his death, I have read or seen nationally renowned financial experts on TV mention Bill, his quick wit and his smart-alecky fun-loving demeanor. They all mention how much he's going to be missed among the stock trading crowd.

There's a gang of us that knew Bill long before his Wall Street stardom.

We're gonna miss him more. ♦

Falwell Looks At The Bright Side of Osama

The September 11 terrorist attacks present an "opportunity" for churches to evangelize, said the Rev. Jerry Falwell, addressing the Florida Baptist Pastors' Conference in Lakeland, Florida.

He urged churches to "strike while the iron is hot. Whatever we can do to reach people that doesn't violate scripture, we do it."

Falwell also said that even Osama bin Laden could be saved, if only he converted to Christianity. "I had a student ask me, 'Could the Savior you believe in save Osama bin Laden?' Of course, we know the blood of Jesus Christ can save him," he told the group.

And then what, Jerry? "And then he must be executed." (courtesy of the Lakeland Ledger) ♦

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Continued from page 2

fires caused them to melt or weaken the soles regularly.

I mentioned that I was assigned the evening shift (3–11 PM), but this never really panned out. That didn't matter to any of us. We were told over and over that we had to be flexible. We were there to volunteer on an as-needed basis. It turned out that our services were required much beyond a mere shift. Between travel time and work time, we averaged about four (4) hours of sleep per twenty-four (24) hour period. But, that was okay, we weren't there to sleep and/or relax. We knew we could catch up on our sleep when we returned home.

The work routine consisted of handling the food from unloading trucks and placing it in storage. We were also involved in working at the steam tables serving food. During the late night hours, we moved throughout the area delivering coffee, hot chocolate and some food items to the people engaged in various work or security-related activities. If you ever wanted to know the true feeling of "being appreciated," walk up to somebody on a cold winter New York night that cannot leave his/her post and offer a hot cup of coffee or hot chocolate. They couldn't thank us enough. They were extremely appreciative. Construction workers the size of Hulk Hogan would kiss you, if you'd let them.

The construction, destruction and repair activities at Ground Zero never stopped, twenty-four hours a day. Noise from heavy equipment roared day and night. The lineup and movement of large trucks hauling debris never stopped. City workers were making repairs to underground equipment blocks away. And there were large numbers of people, both workers and volunteers, performing some valuable service for blocks in every direction.

As the trucks left the immediate area, they went through designated exits where they were entirely pressure-washed. This action prevented dust and dirt from leaving the immediate area.

During my entire stay in NYC, the credentials around my neck identified me as a "Deputy Sheriff from Florida" as well as

a volunteer. Many people were amazed that I traveled such a distance to help. I can't tell you how many times someone, regardless of whether they were part of the recovery effort or not, or whether I was in Midtown and miles away from Ground Zero, offered their hand in sincere thanks after reading my ID card.

During meals or on-site at my other duty stations, I did have some opportunity to talk to those persons involved in different aspects of the recovery effort. I found that the majority of the time they wanted to talk about it. Some, however, remained silent. Some were there for personal reasons, others had a patriotic interest. Some were there for both. There were tears and there was laughter. All of us shared a common bond that will stay with me forever.

Because of the magnitude of the situation, I heard several times that nearly everyone in NYC was personally affected by this disaster. It could have been the loss of a family member, close friend, or neighbor, but there was always some connection. Needless to say, this affected every citizen of the United States to varying degrees. One individual looked at me, though, and reminded me that I should expect to be a little more affected than the average citizen because I was here and saw the devastation first hand.

While making my rounds one evening, I had the opportunity to talk to a firefighter who had responded to the disaster area on 9/11. He indicated that he had been there ever since. He shared a lot of information concerning the physical aspects of the site. He told me that there were still fires burning deep into the structure. "Hot spots" in the debris was still twelve to fourteen hundred degrees. He further indicated that some workers still suffered burns when in the immediate area. He told me that the steel support structures for the first six floors weighed in excess of eight hundred pounds per foot.

There are some issues that I could share that would fit the category of, "gruesome," but that is not the purpose of this message. The purpose is to share my personal experience and what is

going on regarding the recovery activities in NYC.

At both the OME and "Ground Zero", memorials had been established to honor the fallen firemen and police officers. In the area of "Ground Zero" a memorial wall already existed regarding police officers. However, the area had been extended to include firefighters as well. The sidewalks of the street a few blocks from the WTC was lined with pictures, teddy bears and other types of memorabilia.

In the area of the OME, a plywood wall had been constructed in simple fashion adjacent to the refrigerated semi-trailers. It contained memorabilia that had been received from different parts of the country, i.e., various agency patches, wreaths, pictures, etc. I personally provided a St. Johns Sheriff's Office uniform shirt, which had been signed by several of our members.

This particular memorial had been established and designed by a Detective from NYPD. He personally maintains it as it continues to grow. This man was extremely dedicated to insuring that proper recognition was given to those contained within this temporary morgue.

Once I returned home, I was asked a lot of questions, however, two issues seemed to surface again and again. Most people were surprised to learn that fires were still burning deep within the structure. In response to the other question, a total of twenty-six bodies were located during my tour of duty.

I was asked by a newspaper reporter to describe what I came away with as I think about the experience. My response was as follows: As long as I can remember, as a child and as an adult, the idea of living in a free society was something that I have always taken for granted. I've heard comments over and over through the years pertaining to the numbers of people that have fought and died so that we can be free. I never really placed this concept in the proper perspective until now.

Another issue that I became more aware of is the display of the American

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

Flag. Again, I'll admit, it was something that I took for granted. The Colors appear on all Government Buildings, athletic events, parades, and on many homes throughout the nation as well as private and commercial motor vehicles. Since 9/11, this practice has risen to an unbelievable level. For the initial weeks immediately after the tragedy, it was literally impossible to purchase an American Flag.

As you move about NYC and observe everything that is going on you begin to realize exactly what is meant by the principle that people have died for over two-hundred years to insure that we, as a nation of citizens, can be free. In this particular case, thousands of our citizens and citizens of other free societies died in a matter of a few hours, or maybe even minutes. These people died because our way of life was under attack. None of them died as individuals as far as the enemy was concerned. It is so difficult to look at this site and imagine that one culture is capable of hating another so much that they are motivated to bring about this much death and destruction.

It has been said, by many, that we must work towards getting things back to "normal." This approach will never work again. As we move forward, we will have to set a new norm to live by. That will surely occur.

I am so glad that I had the opportunity to experience this "Attack on America," personally. No one can grasp a full understanding of the gravity of the situation in NYC or Washington, D.C., without seeing it first hand. For this opportunity I am very thankful.

I had the opportunity to recount my experiences before a statewide conference. My wife worked as a volunteer at Ground Zero a month before me. Together, we have been asked to speak to a local Chamber of Commerce function, and a local newspaper reporter interviewed us as well. This all occurred within a period of less than a month after I was in New York. It is very fulfilling for me to I see that so many people are interested in learning more about our experience.

It is my sincere hope that I have the opportunity to share this with as many people and/or groups as possible. This exchange is, in all probability, occurring throughout the country as a result of the efforts of many other volunteers like me.

I will never forget many aspects of this experience. I will especially remember the people who are directly involved on a daily basis. And I will forever remember the outpouring of love and appreciation that was shown to us by so many people....so many total strangers. ♦



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Palm Beach S.O. Hires Only Non-Smokers

Effective in February, new hires at the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office must be non-smokers and sign a non-smoking pledge as a condition of employment. The policy will also ban smoking in patrol cars and move designated smoking areas at least 50 feet away from the buildings, said Undersheriff Ken Eggleston.

Current employees who smoke won't be affected by the policy.

"Our goal is to get a healthier workforce, less sick time and lower health care costs," Eggleston said.

In 1996, the Florida Supreme Court upheld a similar anti-smoking policy in North Miami. Lower insurance costs outweighed the privacy issue, the court ruled.

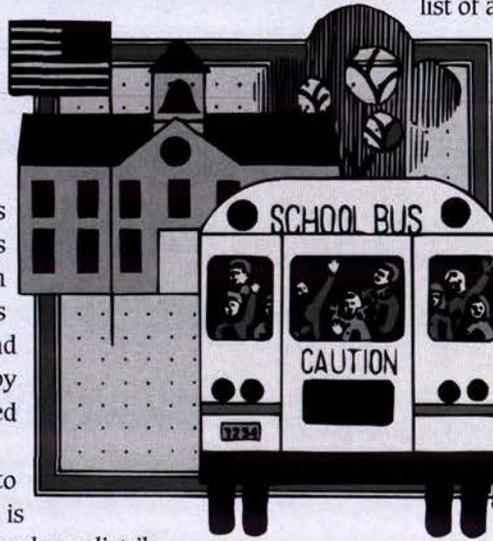
The City of Boca Raton considered the ban two years ago, then decided against it after some council members said it was too invasive of employee rights. But, contracts with three unions that represent most city employees already included a no-smoking pledge for new hires. ♦

OPERATION SAFE SCHOOLS

By Kirk Englehardt and Jim Lejedal
Broward Sheriff's Office
Public Information Officers

When students returned to their classrooms this year in Broward County, Florida, deputies were equipped with a new tool to deal with school emergencies: a CD ROM that contains emergency contact numbers, photographs and floor plans for 61 schools in areas patrolled by the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO). It's called "Operation Safe Schools."

In any critical incident, knowing whom to call, where to respond, and how to gain access is crucial. CD ROMs, loaded with school info have been distributed to more than 1300 deputies and supervisors for use in their laptop computers. Even if the deputy is not familiar with a given school campus, he will be able to access detailed floor plans, aerial photographs and interior photos. Primary and secondary perimeter points and staging areas are pre-designated so that supervisors and dispatchers will instantly know



the best places to send responding emergency units. The program includes predetermined command post locations, the closest spot to land a helicopter, and a place for parents to gather. A list of all other police agencies and hospitals is also included, as well as hazardous material information.

Sheriff Ken Jenne unveiled Operation Safe Schools during a dramatic SWAT Team demonstration at Broward Estates Elementary School, just west of Ft. Lauderdale. The scenario involved a lone gunman who fired upon two student actors in front of the school, others were injured inside the building, hostages were taken and the suspect finally surrendered to armed deputies inside the school cafeteria. Local reporters were invited to witness BSO's new technology in

action.

The BSO SWAT Team first "officially" used the program two months after its debut, when a murder suspect was holed up in an apartment building next to a local high school. The event did not take place on school grounds; however, an aerial photo of the nearby school stored on the CD provided the SWAT Team with important tactical information needed to bring the situation to an end.

BSO's tactical response experts say the CD could be invaluable in the event of a violent incident on campus, but it will inevitably be useful in other situations, as well. For example, if a school's security system detects midnight intruders, deputies will know how to best approach and apprehend the burglars. If a young student is missing, deputies will have emergency after-hours contact numbers for school officials. The information may also be valuable to fire rescue personnel during gas leaks or "haz-mat" incidents.

BSO's CD is believed to be the first of its kind nationwide to contain such detail. Nearly two years ago, Sheriff Jenne directed all district chiefs to collect copies of blueprints and prepare a written emergency response plan for every school in BSO's jurisdiction. In cooperation with the Broward County School Board, floor plans were obtained and photos were taken on campus and from the sky, via a BSO helicopter. The information was assembled over a 9 month period and copied to a CD ROM by BSO's Bureau of Information Resource Management. Out of pocket costs, to buy computer supplies, totaled less than \$25,000.

Sheriff Jenne said, "This is what modern law enforcement is all about—taking technology, combining it with innovation, and applying it to real life. The real beneficiaries are the students and teachers here in Broward County." Sheriff Jenne grew up in Lake Worth, Florida and was a student, years ago, at the middle school where teacher Barry Grunow was shot and killed by a student on May 26, 2000, the last day of school. He says he is

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Continued on page 8

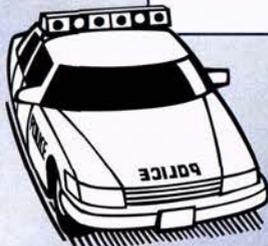


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Continued from page 6

committed to making sure BSO is ready to respond if a similar tragedy were to occur in Broward County.

BSO is already thinking of other ways to use this new technology. There are plans to add the rest of the public and private schools throughout Broward County. The program will eventually include all government buildings, the airport and seaport, hospitals, and churches and synagogues if they request it.

Violence in Broward schools is rare, but Columbine, Lake Worth, and the recent school shootings in California have taught us that we can't afford to take chances and preparation is the key. Anyone interested in learning more about Operation Safe Schools can view a demo of the program on the Broward Sheriff's Office website at www.sheriff.org, or contact BSO District Chief Frank Lightbourn at 954-786-2100. ♦

Jail Pharmacy Cost Containment?

Is it possible to control expenses in this time of ever increasing costs for jail and prison inmate medications? A Florida firm,

TYA Pharmaceuticals, answers with a resounding YES! While most pharmaceutical suppliers seem to merely pass price increases on to the jails and prisons, TYA Pharmaceutical Inc., is actively working with The State of Florida's Correctional Systems Office of Health Services, and the Leon County Jail to actually help contain medication costs.

In today's economy, the term "pharmacy services" and "cost containment" must always go hand in hand. There is a solution to all of your medication needs... Terry Yon and Associates Pharmaceuticals can help you find a more cost effective alternative. Based in Tallahassee, Florida, TYA is the only company that is licensed in Florida to custom repackage all medications.

From a stock medication program to

patient specific services, this is a Florida company that offers customized unit dose medication services with next day delivery. TYA eliminates waste through complete unit dose packaging and accepts legally appropriate return medication as allowed by Florida law for CREDIT. Today, TYA serves the State of Texas Department of Corrections, the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, The State of Florida Department of Children and Families and of course still works extensively with the Florida Department of Corrections, supplying all of their oral solid and liquid medications. In the past few years TYA has begun to work with hospitals and jails to help lower costs for medication expenses. TYA will provide whatever customized pharmacy services a client needs and help that client contain cost while doing so!

TYA Pharmaceuticals was founded in 1993 by Terry E. Yon. Terry became involved with correctional facility pharmacy services while serving in the Army Military Police unit at Ft. Leavenworth Federal Prison. In 1997, The State of

Florida, Department of Corrections, Office of Health Services, after failing to find any other pharmaceutical supplier to develop a next day drug delivery program for selected unit dose products approached Terry Yon to do so. After nearly a year of cost analysis studies and researching unit dose packaging machinery and equipment, TYA Pharmaceuticals began supplying the Department of Corrections with oral solid and liquid medications packaged in FDA approved containers and delivered to their facilities the next day.

Today, many facilities require bar codes due to their inventory control systems. TYA offers bar coding on all of its products without the inflated prices that one might assume a service like this to bring. The highly computerized company's invoicing shipping systems and extensive databases allow for easy access to customer specific information for any type of report generation that a client might require. TYA is licensed in all states in

which they conduct business, and are also licensed by the FDA and DEA.

TYA is the only company licensed to repack non-patient specific stock medications in the State of Florida. See their ad contained within this edition of *APB* on page 11. ♦

Call to Service

*by Dave Bristow
Manatee County S.O.*

The Manatee County Sheriff's Office is utilizing more than 120 volunteers to provide security in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Sheriff Charlie Wells came up with the idea of using retired law enforcement and military personnel but had no idea so many people would step forward and answer the call to service.

"It's been an overwhelming response. I thought we would get 30 or possibly 40 volunteers but this is unbelievable. It shows you how much people want to help."

Under state law, Sheriff Wells can deputize the volunteers for 30 days and then re-deputize them if needed. The volunteers are working security details around the county including the Sarasota/Bradenton Airport and Port Manatee.

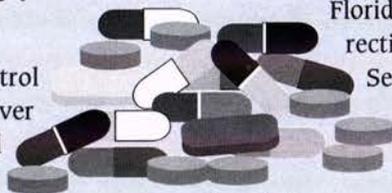
"We've been inundated with security requests since the attacks and we would have had to take at least 20 deputies off the road to cover all the shifts."

The volunteers were subject to criminal background checks and went through two days of intense training. Since the majority of the volunteers are retired police officers, the training went smoothly, according to Sheriff's Office Personnel Director Gene Leonard.

"All of the volunteers have been great. They've picked up on everything right away and have made this program a success," said Leonard.

Ironically, one of the volunteers is former New York City police officer Jim Buckley, who lost his cousin in the World Trade Center attack.

Continued on page 10



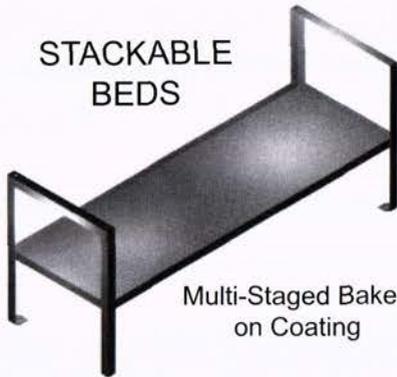


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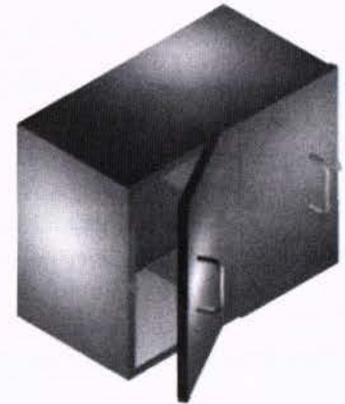
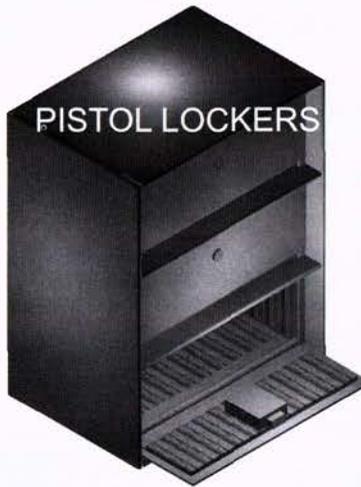
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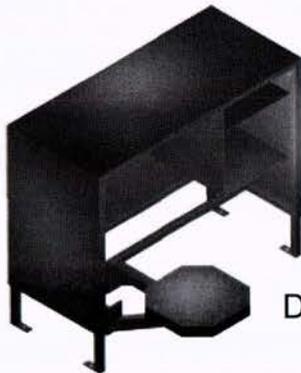


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Continued from page 8

"It's just a way an old-timer like me can do something, said Buckley, of Sarasota, after 22 years on the NYPD force and 13 years as a Manatee County Sheriff's Deputy. "I wanted to do something besides fly a flag."

Some of the volunteers have expressed an interest in becoming reserve deputies. The reserves are certified police officers who mainly work nights and weekends to avoid conflict with their regular jobs.

"I see this volunteer program really bolstering the reserves," said Sheriff Wells. "We've always had a difficult time keeping our numbers up in the reserve unit."

The Sheriff will swear in as many qualified applicants as are willing to apply. For more information on the program, call Gene Leonard at (941) 747-3011, ext. 2821. ♦

Summit on Auto Theft Emerges as Strong Resource for Reducing Auto Theft

The first annual Summit on Auto Theft in Florida was held in Tampa on September 24-25. This Summit brought together some of the most talented individuals available in the field of auto theft prevention, enforcement, investigation,

education, judiciary, insurance and law to address the serious, ongoing problem of auto theft in our state.

Along with everyone at the Florida Anti-Car Theft Committee (F.A.C.T.) the Florida Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Authority (FMVTPA), the Office of the Attorney General and the Florida Auto Theft Intelligence Unit, I extend my thanks to all sponsors, attendees,



exhibitors and presenters. The sponsors of the Summit included USAA, Progressive Insurance, AAA Auto Club South, State Farm Insurance, National Insurance Crime Bureau, Powerlock, and Florida Crime Prevention Association.

The goals of the Summit were twofold: (1) to provide participants with information about the state of car theft in Florida, and (2) to take advantage of so many talented individuals and organizations from both public service and private industry who gathered to consider solutions for dealing with the crime.

At the opening general session, issues from both the law enforcement and the public perspective were addressed as James Sewell, Regional Director of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and Richard Nuss, Executive Director of the FMVTPA, presented various solutions being utilized and planned by the law enforcement agency and the state, both of whom share the common goal of reducing auto theft in Florida.

At subsequent general and concurrent sessions, participants had the opportunity to discuss cooperative ways to curb auto theft. Carefully selected topics for discussion ranged from The State of Auto Theft in Florida, The Expansion of Organized Crime in Auto Theft and The Consequences of Juvenile Involvement in Auto Theft, among many others.

Through the sharing of enforcement, prevention and education techniques, attendees came away from the Summit more unified in Florida's ongoing battle against auto theft.

The encouraging results of a survey completed by participants at the Summit showed: (1) that an overwhelming majority of attendees were able to strengthen their network regarding auto theft as a result of attending the Summit, (2) that they learned something new in the field of auto theft prevention as a result of the

sessions and (3) that they would overwhelmingly be interested in attending again next year.

The future of reducing and preventing auto theft in Florida is encouraging as a result of this year's conference, and our resolve will only strengthen as more participants and organizations come together at the 2002 Summit on Auto Theft in Florida, planned for Sept. 15 - 17 in Tampa. Mark your calendars now, and check back to the F.A.C.T. Web site for registration information.

Again, thank you to all the dedicated individuals who are "Part of the Solution" to Florida's auto theft problem. I look forward to seeing everyone at the 2002 Summit on Auto Theft in Florida. ♦

Sincerely,

Colonel Christopher Knight

F.A.C.T. Chairman

Director, Florida Highway Patrol

Bet He'll Never Snatch Another Necklace

ST. PETERSBURG — Tracy Vickers of St. Petersburg, Fla., was sitting in his car at a gas station waiting for the car in front of him to move. A man got out of that car and came over to his window and asked the time. When he looked away to check, "he reaches in my window, snags my chain and says, 'Gotcha.'"

Vickers said, "That made me mad." The gold chain is worth about \$1,000.

The man sped off and Vickers took off after him in hot pursuit. At one point the getaway car took a sharp turn and "was pretty much on two wheels," so Vickers "just gave him [a] nudge" which rolled the fleeing car over.

Vickers bashed through the driver's window and yanked the man out.

"About the third time I kned him in the face, he threw the chain," said the 6-foot, 280-pound Vickers.

The police officers that responded suggested that his actions were "not recommended by police," but didn't charge him with any crime. (*St. Petersburg Times*) ♦

Pensacola Crossing Guard Slows Traffic With Hair Dryer

For years, nothing that crossing guard Dale Rooks did – waving, signaling, even screaming – made speeders slow down by his post outside an elementary school. Then, he got out his hair dryer.

Now everyone slows down approaching the school, and pleased local authorities say using the radar gun look-alike to control traffic in a school zone appears to be perfectly legal.

Of course, Rooks made an adjustment here or there to the hair dryer, like wrapping it with electrical tape. Bottom line is, drivers hit their brakes when they see it aimed at them.

"It's almost comical," says Rooks, 47. "People are slowing down, raising their hands at me apologetically. It's amazing how well it works."

Rooks got a visit at work from Pensacola Police Chief Jerry Potts, who wanted to try out the fake radar gun himself.

"The first car I held it up to, they slowed right down," Potts said. "It's original, it's unique, and I don't see any harm in it."

Also pleased is John DeWitt, chairman of the Escambia County School Board.

Speeding is a problem near all of the county's schools, according to DeWitt. Whistles and signs reading "Slow Down" used at several schools help, DeWitt said, but Rooks' hair dryer is perhaps the most effective solution so far.

"I've congratulated him, and think it was one of the most innovative and creative ideas I've seen," said the school board chairman. "It's impossible for the police to be at every school every day and this works."

DeWitt's official disclaimer, by contrast, sounded ineffective.

"This will never become a board policy," he said of Rooks' hair dryer, "but word is spreading and I just think it's brilliant."

A city lawyer agreed.

"I can't think of any regulation or ordinance that he would be violating," said Pensacola Assistant City Attorney Rusty Wells. "I think it's very innovative."



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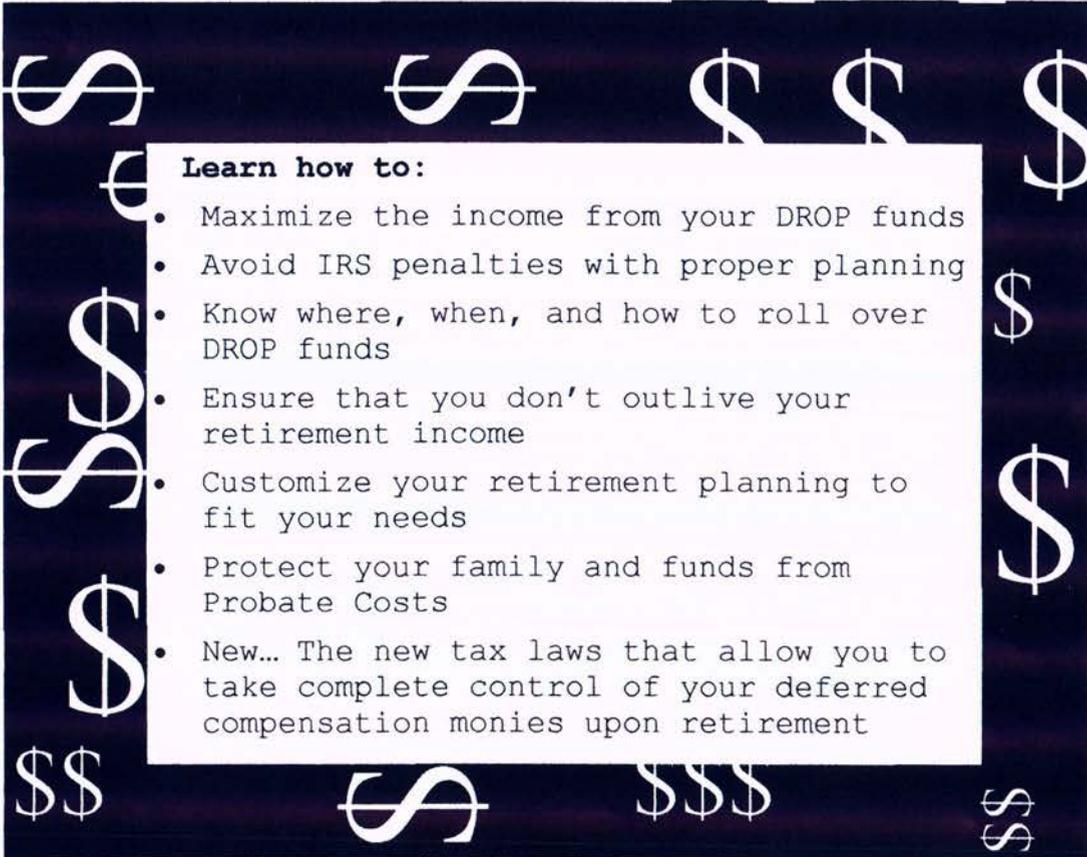
Signs That You May Have Hired The Wrong Lawyer

- Every couple of minutes, he yells "I call Jack Daniels to the stand!"
- Calls recess and asks "Got any ideas, genius?"
- Answers all objections with the term "whatever"
- Frequently gives juror number 4 an obscene gesture.
- Places a large "no refunds" sign on the defense table.
- Begins every sentence with "Well, as Ally McBeal once said..."
- He keeps citing the legal case of Godzilla vs. Mothra.
- Just before your trial starts he whispers, "The judge is the one with the little hammer, right?"
- He starts off his opening with, "Anyone got a light?"
- Whenever he says, "Your Honor" he makes those little quotation marks in the air.
- Sign in front of his law office reads "Practicing Law Since 2:45"
- Begins by telling jury, "You all look like you should be on Jerry Springer"
- He thinks he'll win your case, because, "Hey, there's a first time for everything"

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New Law Aims to Protect Inmates from Rape, Harassment

Inmates in county jails and privately run prisons in Florida now have some safeguards against rape and sexual harassment under a new law that took effect on October 1, 2001.

The "Protection Against Sexual Violence in Florida Jails and Prisons Act" makes it a felony for county and private corrections employees to have sex with inmates. Until now, the law applied only to state employees.

After today, you rape somebody, you are going to jail," said state Rep. Frederica Wilson, D-Miami, a sponsor of the bill. Just because you are sentenced to prison or sentenced to jail does not mean you should be there to be abused."

For three years, the bill has been the personal crusade of Cassandra Collins, a Tallahassee mother and former prisoner. Collins said she was raped while serving a six-month sentence in a Florida jail five years ago for passing worthless checks.

Collins said she was attacked by a jail captain. The captain had allowed her to go on work release, washing and folding laundry from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., then going home to her two daughters. But in exchange for the arrangement, the captain demanded Collins pay him \$5,300, and he later raped her.

For more than two years Collins said she tried to get the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the State Attorney's Office to prosecute the captain. She was told there wasn't enough evidence and there was no law to charge him.

That's when she made it her personal mission, Collins said, to close the loophole in Florida law. When you walk out that door and you have been raped, you blame yourself," Collins said, during a press conference at the Miami-Dade County Women's Detention Center. For five years I have fought this."



Prisoner rape is an often ignored problem in the United States, although human rights groups such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and Stop Prisoner Rape have sought to bring the issue to light. Last October 19-20, human rights groups sponsored a conference on the matter at American University in Washington, D.C.

Earlier this year, Amnesty International released a report citing 17 allegations of sexual misconduct by jail guards against inmates in Florida that had been cited in the media and had occurred between October 1998 and February 2000. Among them were reports about six guards at the Wackenhut-run work release center in Broward County who had either been fired or punished for having sex with prisoners in the summer of 1999.

Under the Florida law, all prisoners within the first 48 hours of confinement will be educated about their rights and what constitutes rape and other inappropriate sexual activity. It also requires correctional officers to undergo special training and prisoners who allege they've been raped to receive rape counseling. It applies to both men and women.

Collins said that while the captain was never criminally charged in her assault case, that he was eventually jailed for an unwarranted attack on a female corrections officer. He's serving a 15-month sentence. ♦

(Story courtesy of the Miami Herald)

(Editor's note: Cassandra Collins recently visited the Florida Sheriffs Association headquarters in Tallahassee and presented us with a plaque for our willingness to lobby support of this bill.)

BOOMING BUSINESS

Bill Sharplin, 54, of Horowhenua, New Zealand, makes hand grenades. He's not a terrorist. In fact, the former life insurance salesman says he "was working on a case involving a local grenade maker who was going bust and I thought 'hey, there's a market here'."

He redesigned American grenades, which he says had design problems, and the New Zealand Army liked them enough to hire him to make 33,000 practice units that blow out dye. Lacking a manufacturing facility, he used the garage at his home. His neighbors didn't know what was going on until an article on his business was published in the local newspaper.

"It all makes sense now," says the lady that lives next door. "The machines making all that noise over the hedge, the strange green boxes lined up against the back fence and the Army trucks coming and going at all hours. We're pretty upset." ♦

(compliments of the New Zealand Herald)

This guy may have a problem...

TAMPA — Daniel Searfoss, 43, apparently just can't help himself. The Tampa mechanic was convicted of using a "shoecam" to look up women's dresses and sentenced to 12 months probation.

When he was arrested a second time for the same offense, law enforcement officials confiscated dozens of videotapes he allegedly made with hidden cameras, including shots of women at a church where he was serving court-ordered community service.

"It's worse than that," Assistant State Attorney Dean Tsourakis told Hillsborough County Circuit Judge Walter Heinrich. "He was doing it at the probation office. For instance, the cashier at the probation office."

Judge Heinrich replied, "That just really strikes me as really being wrong." ♦

Police Applicant Jailed After Confession

Edwin V. Gaynor always wanted to be a police officer, but a few armed robberies might get in the way of his dreams.

Gaynor showed up at Baltimore's police headquarters at the appointed time in day (in August 2001) to fill out an application to join the city force, officials said. Then, he came across a simple question: "Have you ever committed a crime?"

Gaynor checked "yes," police reported – and a few hours later, he was spending the night with the type of people he once hoped to arrest.

During the interview that followed, Gaynor told police in vivid detail that he carjacked a woman and then robbed five people in two separate incidents that year in Texas, said Major George Klein of the city's Warrant Apprehension Task Force.

"I've never seen anything like this," Klein said. "I guess something spooked him and he wanted to clear his conscience."

Gaynor, 21, was discharged from the US Army, his family said, and moved from Fort Hood, Texas to Baltimore where he had grown up and graduated from Carver High School in 1998.

After Gaynor's "yes" to the application question, and a brief description of the carjacking, the police applicant investigator left the room and called the Warrant Apprehension Task Force, Klein said.

For the next few hours, Klein said, detectives questioned Gaynor, who told them of carjacking a woman in February in Killeen, Texas, using a .380 caliber, chrome-plated handgun while wearing a green and white bandana.

But nothing was taken from the car,

which Gaynor told police he parked some five miles from the crime scene.

Police were also told of two earlier robberies – one in which a jogger was accosted while entering a 7-Eleven store, the other of a group of four people in which a robber got "junk jewelry," and a pager.

After questioning Gaynor, Baltimore detectives called authorities in Killeen, who said that they had not identified any suspects in the carjacking. But, police said the crime was committed by a man wearing a green and white bandana who used a chrome-plated handgun, Klein said.

Baltimore detectives obtained search warrants and raided Gaynor's house, his mother's house and a storage center, Klein said.

During the search, police found a green and white bandana in Gaynor's house. Detectives also found several weapons, including rifles, at his mother's home, not to mention a chrome-plated .380 caliber handgun at the storage center.

Killeen police got a warrant for Gaynor's arrest, charging him with the carjacking, and filed the paperwork for extradition back to Texas.

Gaynor's mother said she couldn't believe that her son would rob anyone, and that police must have arrested the wrong man.

He had been looking for a job during the weeks preceding the arrest, his mother said, but was especially interested in becoming a police officer. "He always wanted to be one," the mother told reporters, "But police work is dangerous, and I was trying to persuade him to become a businessman. His pursuits were well-meaning." ♦

Gulf County Sends Inmates "Camping"

Frank McKeithen will be the first to concede that his new bunkmates aren't exactly boy scouts.

That might explain the surrounding fence, barbed wire and armed guards that will be looking over the Gulf County sheriff and about ten of his county's inmates as they sleep under the stars next to the sheriff's office.

Out of jail space during a renovation, and tired of spending money to house inmates in other counties, the sheriff opened "Camp McKeithen" for a three-week test run. McKeithen himself will spend the night in a big tent with about 10 hand-selected inmates to show this is a money-saving move, not punishment.

"I don't want to sound like I'm trying to be tough or insensitive," said McKeithen, "What I'm trying to sound like is, 'Folks, this is what's going on in Gulf County.' This is the decision I've made, and I have to do it. I'm not doing it to be on TV or in the paper."

"I'm doing it because (the county) is having to pay \$35 a day for each inmate who goes to another facility, and if new prisoners can't camp outside for a few weeks, then we need to start thinking about the Boy Scouts of America and the troops trying to capture Osama bin Laden."

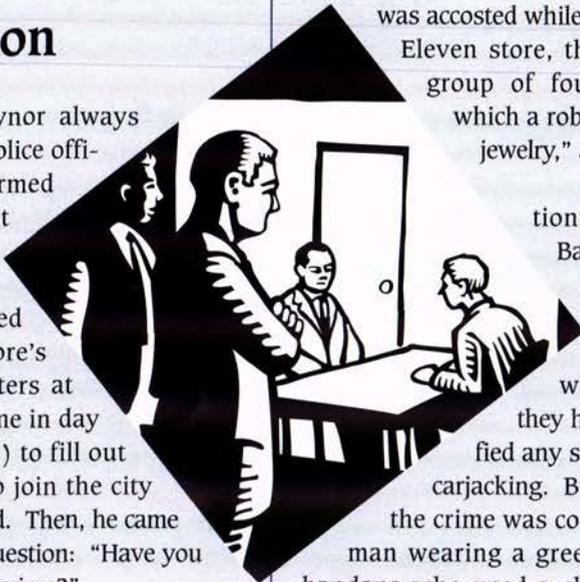
McKeithen is going to great pains not to come under criticism for a decision that he and county commissioners see as a common-sense – but short term solution to the jail space crunch.

The problem arose from the county's expansion and refurbishing of its existing jail. Before the work which will add beds, showers, a common area and toilet facilities – the jail could hold about 50 inmates. The capacity will be rising to 60.

But as part of the work, 28 beds have been lost. That will continue until the work is completed.

"I'm absolutely not going to release them," McKeithen said of whether he considered the option of early releases. "I

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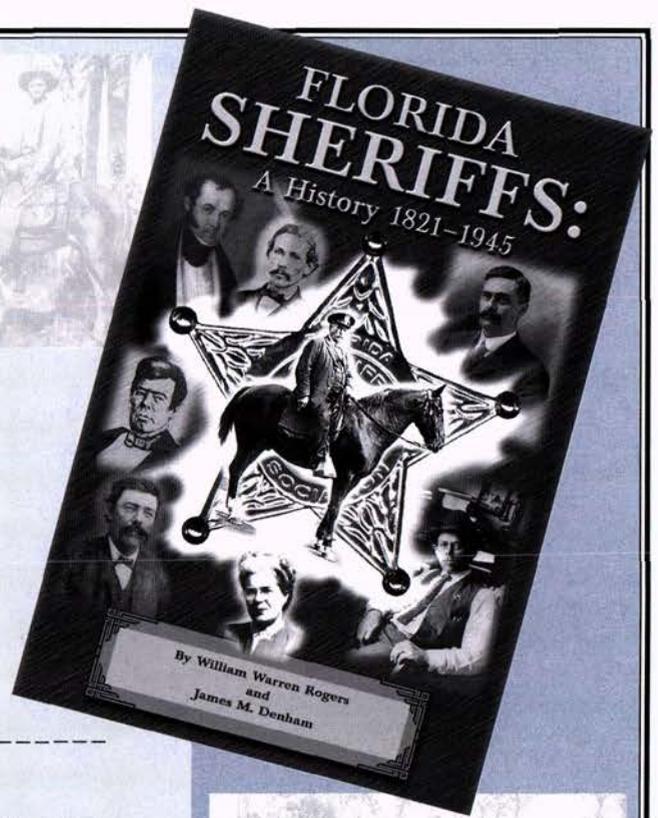
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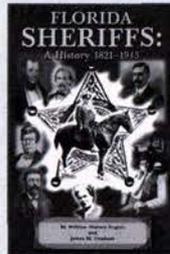
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About the authors

Co-authors William Warren Rogers and James M. Denham have earned enviable reputations nationally for their ability to dig out little known historical facts and publish them in book form for others to enjoy. Both are professors of history, but more important - they are talented storytellers. Their latest project, the history of the Florida Sheriffs, is the result of years of research. Don't miss this printed documentary of the chief law enforcers in our state.



Co-author William Warren Rogers, Emeritus Professor of History, Florida State University



Co-author James M. "Mike" Denham, Professor of history, Florida Southern College

W.H.A.L.E. Provides Needed Info in Auto Accidents

By Jennifer Collins
Bay County Sheriff's Office

A deputy tops a hill and approaches the scene of a Signal-4 on the highway ahead. A quick check for injuries reveals none of the adults in the two cars are conscious, or are too seriously injured to provide coherent information. In the back seat of one of the cars, an infant, apparently uninjured, is strapped into a car seat. In law enforcement, this is a fact of life that none of us likes to face, but which does happen on a regular basis.

In this case, as the deputy approached the car, he saw a small, neon-green sticker, about two inches square, in the window. The sticker bears a black check mark and the letters "WHALE". Seeing it, the deputy opens the car door and removes the child and his seat. On the rear of the seat is a second, much larger neon-green sticker, listing health information and emergency contact numbers for family members.

The stickers are a community service safety program sponsored by the Bay County Sheriff's Office. The program dubbed "WHALE" is an acronym for "We Have a Little Emergency" and is intended



to provide critical information to first responders at traffic crashes involving toddlers or infants who are in car seats.

The W.H.A.L.E program uses sheets of neon green stickers that contain information about small children who may be in the car. Each sheet includes small, square stickers with the W.H.A.L.E. logo and a larger one with space to record personal information about the child, such as medical conditions, as well as names and contact numbers of family members. The smaller stickers are placed on the front and/or back windshields to indicate that the larger one is inside, preferably on the back of a child safety seat.

This program assists law enforcement and emergency medical personnel in Bay County in responding to auto accident scenes with incapacitated persons, and may save the life of a small child who cannot speak for himself. Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell believes W.H.A.L.E. would be beneficial if implemented statewide.

"Information provided by programs like this one is priceless to those who respond to scenes first," Tunnell said. "But our citizens travel to other parts of the state and beyond. It is imperative that agencies outside Bay County be informed of the process, so it is universally effective. I would like to see every law enforcement agency in Florida adopt similar programs so children across the state would be protected."

Continued from page 14

have an obligation to the citizens of Gulf County and the public. I'm going to do what I have to do to house them.

"I guess the best way to put it is we're going camping," he continued. "It's like I told them: 'I'm not going to buy you a couch and loveseat,' but I'm going to make it as comfortable as they are now on the inside." ♦

(Courtesy of Mike Cazalas of the Panama City News-Herald)

Excuse Me, But Would You Mind Helping Me Get This Coat Hanger Out Of My Throat?

A few months back, a man that prefers to remain unidentified, checked into an emergency room in Wichita, Kansas, because he couldn't get the wire coat hanger out of his throat.

As best he could with a hanger stuck in his throat, the man explained he had accidentally swallowed a cocaine-filled balloon that "someone" had slipped into his drink, and he straightened out a coat hanger to fish it out. He apparently got the balloon out, but then couldn't remove the hanger. A friend took him to the hospital. Police say that if the cocaine is ever found, the man could be charged with drug possession. *(Courtesy of The Wichita Eagle)* ♦

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