Sheriff brings a smile to the face of young tragedy victim

A six-year old shooting and burn victim and her family were recently treated to a few great days courtesy of Sheriff Don Eslinger and Mr. Ward Griner, a local Seminole County businessman.

Eslinger enlisted Griner’s financial support after reading media accounts of the series of misfortunes which have struck young Delenna Williams of Chicago. Griner was thrilled to oblige. At age 2, Delenna was severely burned in a house fire which also claimed her mother’s life. Two years later, her father was shot and killed during a robbery.

In March of this year, Delenna’s aunt and great-aunt took Delenna and her 4-month old dog “Pup Pup” in search of a new apartment. Without warning, they walked into the middle of a drug-related shootout. Delenna and her puppy were both hit in the hail of gunfire which followed.

Beginning June 9th, Delenna got a chance to see another side of life. Sheriff Eslinger began with a tour of their law enforcement facility in Sanford.

Over the next six days, Eslinger and his troops took Delenna and her family on a whirlwind tour of Disney World, Sea World, Universal Studios, Church Street Station, the Sanford Zoo, and a cruise aboard the river ship “Grand Romance” along the St. Johns River.

“Everyone involved in this activity walked away feeling grateful for the opportunity to put a smile on the face of this wonderful young lady,” said Sheriff Eslinger. He hastened to add, though, that, “without the support of outstanding citizens like Ward Griner, none of this would have been possible.”

Booby Trap
Looks like Small Bundle of Drugs

NOTE: The following article, of particular importance to narcotics enforcement officers, is reprinted from the May 27 issue of The Insider, published by the San Jose, California Police Department.

Information has been received from the Unified Intelligence Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, New York, that there is a potential threat to law enforcement personnel, particularly those involved in narcotics investigations. The threat is a booby-trap manufactured to resemble small bundles of drugs. The bundles are designed to explode when handled or inspected by law enforcement officers. The booby-trap, which is called “The Armstrong Mixture,” can cause serious injury or death.

The booby-trap is constructed of BB pellets surrounded by a mixture of red phosphorous and potassium chloride. The mixture is then rolled tightly in aluminum foil. The booby-trap device is submerged in alcohol to keep the chemicals inert. The mixture reportedly becomes active when

Continued on page 2
removed from the alcohol bath. As the alcohol evaporates, the device is allowed to dry, making the device active.

The device is extremely sensitive to heat, shock or friction. The device is usually packaged in padding for transport or storage. Opening or unwrapping the aluminum foil for inspection by law enforcement officers will cause detonation.

Three sizes of the “Armstrong Mixture” are known at this time.

Marble-size is the most common and ranges from one-quarter to one-half inch in diameter. Detonation can cause facial and eye injury as well as finger loss. The next size is egg-size, which can result in the loss of a hand or arm, as well as face and eye injury. The third type is reported to be baseball-size and could prove potentially fatal if detonated.

**Extreme caution should be exercised if encountering these devices.**

*Courtesy of Crime Control Digest – June 7, 1993*

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**Monograph Available on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design**

Florida’s high crime rate and incidence of violence have been well documented in recent months. While law enforcement and other criminal justice agencies continually work to stem this epidemic of lawlessness, a return to prevention and other non-traditional approaches is emerging.

Crime prevention through environmental design is an approach aimed at reducing opportunities for crime by coordinating community growth and providing adequate public facilities and services. Its basic premise is that good design produces good behavior.

The Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute has published a monograph, *Planning for Prevention: Sarasota, Florida’s Approach to Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design,* authored by Sherry Plaster and Stan Carter. Plaster is the chief planner with the Sarasota Department of Planning and Development. Carter is the special projects officer for Sarasota’s Public Safety Department. The monograph is being distributed to the Florida criminal justice community as part of the Executive Institute’s charge to research and discuss timely issues facing today’s criminal justice decision makers.

The Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute was established within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and affiliated with the state university system by the 1990 Florida Legislature. Institute Director Dr. Jim Sewell said: “Ensuring neighborhood safety is no longer just a law enforcement issue. Environmental design can have a huge impact on the quality of life and deterrence of crime for all citizens.”

For more information contact Dr. Diane Zahm, Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, P. O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489. Phone 904-488-1340. FAX 904-487-4812.

*Courtesy of Crime Control Digest – June 14, 1993*

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**DL Fraud Flash – The Media Got Caught!**

In mid-April a television crew from WCIX-TV, Miami requested permission to videotape the Mall of the Americas Driver License Office operation. Regional Administrator Martha Roldan gave permission.

During the taping, an individual was detected attempting to obtain a license in the fictional name of Rodrigo Lopez. In his attempt to prove his identity as Lopez, the person submitted several counterfeit documents.

Upon removing “Mr. Rodrigo” to an office to discuss the matter, the individual revealed his identity as a producer for WCIX-TV. They were working on a story and apparently licensing officials spoiled the planned ending.

The Florida Highway Patrol was called and “Mr. Rodrigo” was led away in handcuffs and his driving privilege has been suspended.

Examiner Ismenia Jimenez spotted the fraudulent documents and handled the case by the book. We applaud all the examiners who are making sure Florida drivers actually ARE who they SAY they are!

*Courtesy of Florida Expressways, A Publication of the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.*
On June 9th, Governor Chiles signed a bill which added 10,524 beds to the prison system over the next five years. Of that number, 8,510 will be added to major institutions; 1,511 to alternative facilities such as drug treatment centers; and 503 at juvenile centers.

Anybody who gets the chance ought to thank their Sheriff for whatever role he played in making this happen.

Prior to the commencement of the session, I would have bet that we would go through another year without a significant increase in the number of prison beds. During our pre-session strategy meetings with Sheriffs from near and far (actually everywhere is far from Tallahassee), the need for more beds became a paramount issue, and then something happened. They got mad.

Therefore, no matter who tries to claim responsibility for the additional beds — rest assured that it was the Sheriffs who made the loud noise, and who hounded the Governor and legislators like a pesky fly — until they responded.

And, there’s one more person to which we owe a debt of thanks. Unfortunately, we can’t tell her because she’s gone — victim of another senseless killing like the hundreds of other violent deaths we have in Florida each year. She’s the woman tourist from Germany who met her fate off I-95 near Miami International Airport. After her highly-publicized murder, the things that...
Manatee County Initiates Boot Camp for Juveniles

By Dave Bristow
Public Information Officer
Manatee County Sheriff's Office

In March of 1993, the Manatee County Sheriff's Office started an innovative program designed to turn around the lives of juvenile delinquents. The Sheriff's Office Juvenile Boot Camp is the first of its kind in Florida and one of a handful in the United States.

"We're excited about the camp," said Sheriff Charlie Wells. "The juvenile justice system obviously is not working so maybe this will be a turning point."

The boot camp is headed up by Commander Lee Vallier, who came to Manatee County after working as a criminal psychologist at the adult boot camp at Sumter Correctional Institute in Central Florida.

"Based on my experience working in the prison system, I think the boot camp concept can be more successful with juveniles," said Vallier. "The quicker you get to them, the quicker you can begin to change their criminal behavior."

Vallier didn't waste any time trying to change the young offenders. When the first group of juveniles were brought to boot camp, Vallier was there to greet them.

"You're at the Manatee County Sheriff's Boot Camp. This isn't kiddie camp and we don't play," shouted Vallier. "Do you understand that?"

Commander Lee Vallier welcomes a new recruit on his first day at Boot Camp.

"Sir, yes sir," the stunned group replied.

After being searched, the juveniles were taken inside the barracks and given haircuts. A boot camp instructor asked one of the recruits with hair flowing down to his shoulders what length of haircut he wanted, short, medium or long.

"Medium sir," the recruit said, somewhat surprised by the apparent choice of hairstyles.

The instructor proceeded to shave the boy's head and dashing any hopes the recruit had of keeping his prized locks.

Manatee's boot camp has two platoons of 15 recruits each ranging in age from 15 to 17. The recruits go through an intensive four-month military-style program made up of education, counseling, and physical fitness.

After a recruit graduates from boot camp, there is an eight-month follow-up program supervised by the State Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

The boot camp is a joint project between the Sheriff's Office and HRS, a unique setup in itself.

"HRS and law enforcement have a history of fighting like cats and dogs." said Sheriff Wells. "I think this proves that we can work together and accomplish something from which everyone will benefit."

Commander Vallier instructs the group about policies and procedures they must follow while at Boot Camp.

Continued on next page
HRS is paying the Sheriff’s Office $58.47 per recruit per day which takes care of the annual budget of approximately $640,000. The boot camp is staffed by the Sheriff’s Office with 16 employees including Vallier.

“We were extremely selective for the drill instructor positions,” said Vallier. “Most of the instructors have military experience . . . I think that’s helpful.”

While Vallier stresses the importance of military-style discipline, he says the program is much more than drill instructors barking out orders.

“The intense verbal confrontations are simply setting a foundation to get the offenders under control,” he said. “Once they are under control, they are much easier to teach.”

Teaching and counseling are major parts of boot camp. The recruits spend several hours a day in classroom settings receiving schooling from certified teachers and counseling from professional counselors.

“We have to change their criminal beliefs,” said Vallier. “That’s the basic goal of the program.”

“You can’t underestimate the importance of counseling and schooling . . . . It definitely outweighs the physical fitness portion of the program,” said Dr. John Super, director of the Behavioral Science Unit at the Sheriff’s Office.

However, Dr. Super is quick to point out the importance of physical training.

“Don’t get me wrong, there’s certainly a place for physical fitness in boot camp. It goes back to the old saying, a sound body makes for a sound mind,” said Super.

The boot camp recruits go through a vigorous daily physical training regimen including running, calisthenics, precision drilling and the obstacle course.

The recruits begin their day at 5:00 a.m. and are kept on a strict schedule until the lights are turned out at 9:00 p.m. Keeping the recruits busy is part of the boot camp philosophy.

“We don’t want them sitting around talking about how they break into homes and steal cars,” said Vallier.

Several of the recruits admitted they obtained their criminal knowledge while in other juvenile programs.

“That’s where I learned how to break into cars and steal them,” said a 16-year old recruit from Pinellas County, who had been in four other juvenile detention facilities for numerous crimes including grand theft auto and burglary. “This is by far the best place I’ve been. I feel a lot better about myself. Those other places are jokes.”

Whether the Pinellas youth will turn his life around remains to be seen. But from early indications, the boot camp concept for juveniles may be the answer to some of the problems in the juvenile justice system.

“I think it’s going better than my highest expectations,” said Vallier. We’ve had officials coming in here from all over the state and everyone seems to think we’re on to something.”

Florida’s battle against crime continues to rely on high technology to identify suspects and solve cases.

In the spring of 1989, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) began operating its Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). In general, the AFIS scans and stores the digital representations of fingerprint images and extracts specific features from the images. The current process utilizes fingerprint images from arrest fingerprint cards taken at the time of incarceration. The latent fingerprints, unknown fingerprints developed and lifted at crime scenes, are entered and searched against the arrest fingerprint cards for possible matches. The matches are then viewed on a high resolution video screen by a fingerprint analyst to determine positive identification. Millions of individual fingerprints can be searched and compared in a matter of seconds, producing leads for local law enforcement investigations in what might otherwise be “dead-end” cases.

The FDLE has recently released its 1992 report on the AFIS which has continued to account for a growing number of solved cases in Florida since its inception.

During 1992, the AFIS hit on 960 criminal cases and was responsible for the identification of 1,296 latent fingerprints. The percentage increase in AFIS hits from 1991 to 1992 was 134 percent. Many of these cases would remain unsolved today without the quick identification of suspects now available to law enforcement agencies across Florida.

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Community Policing Concept Continues to Grow in Sarasota County

On January 4, 1992, the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office inaugurated a new and exciting approach to law enforcement. The concept of Community Policing became a reality when the first community Policing Storefront in the history of Sarasota County opened in Englewood.

This event marked the culmination of two years of planning and preparation which included the training of every Sheriff’s Office employee in the philosophy of Community Policing.

Basically, Community Policing goals are the development of cooperative relationships instead of negative ones between law enforcement and residents of the community they serve.

Community Policing, more a “philosophy” than a program, envisions a future role for the law enforcement officer as one who serves the community not only as a detective and crime fighter, but also as a community organizer. Their goal is to become familiar with the people on their beats - residents, businessmen and professionals alike; to make themselves accessible, to earn trust and confidence, and to draw upon their extensive knowledge of the neighborhoods in which they live or work to identify lawbreakers and prevent crime. Their new role is an active one, as opposed to being merely reactive.

The mission of the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office’s Community Policing Program is to open channels of communications with both individuals and their communities. As the partnership between the community and the department grows, the needs of the community can be met. Community Policing has caused a major shift in attitude and thinking, by both citizens and Sheriff’s Office personnel alike. The concept, also referred to in other jurisdictions as “Problem-Oriented Policing”, is designed to integrate those charged with law enforcement and those they serve with a more personable approach instead of the reactionary traditional para-military style of policing.

Not only are assigned Community Policing personnel involved in this concept, but the total complement of sworn and non-sworn personnel have accepted the challenge. Problem-oriented projects (POPs) are being discovered and addressed continually by all personnel.

Department personnel have adapted to the theory of becoming “problem solvers” as opposed to just “report takers”.

Community committees of citizens and business members meet for interaction of specific problems and the resolution of those problems on a long and short term basis. This type of cooperative atmosphere makes the problems “our problems” rather than just the community’s.

One of the main comments often heard from residents in the areas where Community Policing has been initiated is that they feel they get better service because they know the deputies personally. We know that the daily interaction of cops and citizens leads to the common understanding of the limits and the technical nature of the job of law enforcement. This understanding accomplishes one very important goal: citizen support. At budget time, this can be crucial.

On August 7, 1992, a second Community Policing Storefront was opened on Siesta Key, a community surrounded by water barriers and having unique law enforcement needs. The Storefront has been well-received by both the residents and business owners alike. A third Storefront site will open in the northern part of Sarasota County on July 17th of this year in the Newtown Estates area recreational community center.

Sheriff Geoffrey Monge will host the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremonies and introduce department Staff and the personnel who will be assigned there. County officials and local community leaders will also be acknowledged during the event. Local businesses and community organizations will provide refreshments for those attending. Displays of equipment, tours, and interviews will be made available by departmental personnel for visitors and media representatives. The general public is invited and encouraged to attend.

The concept of Community Policing is developing rapidly throughout the United States and many foreign countries. In the United States alone, more than 600 of the largest sheriff and police agencies have instituted some form of Community Policing program development.

Clearly, the introduction of Community Policing in Sarasota County has gained momentum with three established sites operational by July 1993 and possibly two more by year’s end. As with any new venture, modifications are made as needed to ensure the continued success and effectiveness of the program.

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As the deputies become more familiar with the community and the people with whom they are interacting in a very personal way, residents and businessmen will feel safer; as camaraderie develops between the citizen and the law enforcement officer, satisfaction with law enforcement services should grow; and with greater citizen involvement in crime prevention and other neighborhood activities, the partnership between “cops on the beat” and members of the public should have a salutary effect upon the crime rate within the jurisdiction being served.

For more information, please contact Lieutenant Bill Stookey, Lieutenant Steve Matosky, or Sergeant Dave Hart at 813/951-5800 or write to Post Office Box 4115, Sarasota, Florida 34230.

Florida’s ‘cops’ as seen through foreign eyes

During the past several months, Tom Bersee, Superintendent of the Amsterdam (Netherlands) Municipal Police visited a number of law enforcement agencies in south Florida through an international internship program known as Transpol.

In an article he wrote on his experiences here, he was struck by the many differences and similarities between policing methods and the very role of police in different societies.

Here are a few of his impressions.

1. I found that in American style of policing ends at the moment “the bad guy is behind the bars”. Society, nor the police, seem to bother to discover the long term results of that approach.

   In the Netherlands, the police are trying to become an integral part of the general (governmental and private) approach towards problems in society, thus generating new and often innovative solutions for long standing problems.

2. American police officers are more self-supportive than Dutch officers. Dutch officers, work in pairs and return to the station after only 2 or 3 hours of surveillance, to perform administrative activities.

3. American police as a whole are more interested in investing in technological equipment than in the development of their personnel. For the Dutch Officer, basic training at the police academy lasts almost two years, and training continues throughout his career.

4. American police work more efficiently in terms of paperwork and simplified court procedures. On the other hand, American officers have to appear in court far more often than Dutch officers.

5. Americans in general, and the police in particular are not as supportive of change as the Dutch. An example of this is the way criminals are perceived and punished. Very rarely, will American society or police be willing to experiment with solutions to crime other than the traditional ones.

6. I’ve had difficulty understanding Americans’ need to sue in an attempt to find a “guilty party” any time something goes wrong in their lives. Because Americans live in constant fear of being sued, they are often reluctant to take chances. Living entails a certain amount of risk, and accidents will happen. But suing seems to be a national past-time, where someone must be made to pay.

7. I was also struck by the focus on traffic violations. The Dutch love their country. But one would be hard-pressed to find a Dutch song entitled “I’m proud to be Dutchman”; and even harder pressed to find a Dutchman willing to sing it.

8. It occurs to me that Americans have a tendency to close their eyes to the least visible aspects of society’s problems. Both civilians and police seem to be much too focussed on traffic and parking violations and even
Continued from page 7

the "threat" of girls selling hot dogs in bikinis. Yet, from my perspective, the undermining of your democratic society, by "drug money" demands far more attention from your police efforts.

9. On the other hand, Americans are more open and creative when it comes to using private money to find solutions for many of society's problems. In fact, everyone is welcomed and encouraged to help. An example of this is the "Habitat for Humanity" program, where private sponsors and individuals collaborate together. In The Netherlands, the government sometimes seems to be afraid to "give away power" when a private sponsor is involved.

10. As a police officer, two more things really struck me. The first was the availability of guns and the arguments used to advocate such possessions. I attended a "Gun Show" in Fort Lauderdale where guns such as UZI's and shotguns were being openly sold to anyone. This is difficult to understand given the problems of crime in your society. Although in the Netherlands, you will find criminals with guns, the free possession of these items is not a debatable option.

11. Lastly, in light of European History and the atrocities of World War II, it is extremely difficult to understand the tolerance of Americans for groups such as neo-Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan who operate quite openly for instance at gun shows and whose philosophy and literature insult and discriminate against minority groups. These activities are even protected by your constitution. In Europe, we believe that the right of an individual ceases when it infringes on the rights of another.

Let me remind you that I have no objective to insult any reader as an American. The reason why I've made some of these statements is to show that although Europeans in common, the Dutch in special and Americans have many things in common, some things may also differ and that when one is staying in another country, one is struck by the differences!

Editor's note: for information about how you can participate in a foreign police internship through Transpol, contact Prof. Francis Spanza at (305) 722-5811.

AFIS - Florida's High Tech Case-Solver

Continued from page 5

FDLE Commissioner Tim Moore said, "A revealing and troubling trend jumps out of this report. Forty-six percent of these AFIS hits were made in the juvenile database. What is even more interesting is the fact that the juvenile database makes up only 15 percent of the grand total in the system. If we had all of the juvenile offenders entered into this database, the degree of our juvenile crime problem would be crystal clear to every citizen of Florida."

The Orlando area accounted for the highest number of AFIS hits in 1992, with 380. That's a 219 percent increase in AFIS hits from the previous year. Many of these cases are dramatic in nature. A highly respected female school counselor was murdered late in the evening in her home in southeast Orlando. The AFIS matched a subject involved in an unrelated residential burglary in the same vicinity six months after the homicide. The latent prints developed at the homicide scene were compared against the suspect and identified. The subject confessed, giving exact details of the crime.

Often the AFIS solves cases that are put on the shelf after all leads have apparently been exhausted. Volusia County had a case where a woman was kidnapped from a convenience store and later raped. Prints developed from her car were compared against numerous subjects over the next three years with negative results. A later submission to the AFIS system quickly identified a suspect who was arrested for the crime.

As local law enforcement agencies continue to contribute to the AFIS database, the already proven effectiveness of this crime-fighting tool will grow. "It is abundantly clear that we must continue to enhance our state crime laboratory system and provide law enforcement with the technology of the times," added Commissioner Moore.

NOTE: For more information on AFIS contact John Joyce at FDLE, 904-488-8771.

IN BRIEF . . .

Police Deaths Drop in 1992
Fewer American law enforcement officers died in the line of duty in 1992 than in any year since 1965, according to a preliminary report issued by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, and Concerns of Police Survivors.

The report shows that 136 federal, state and local law enforcement officers died during 1992. This is the fourth straight year that the number of law enforcement deaths has declined. On average, the officers who died during 1992 were 36 years old and had served for nine years. Three of the officers were women.

[Further information: 703-827-0518]

1992 Traffic Deaths Down
It seems like good news. We only killed 39,500 people on U.S. highways during 1992. That was the lowest number in 30 years, said the Secretary of Transportation. How proud we should be at our efforts to bring the death toll down.

Just as a point of comparison, 40 years ago the Korean War ended. In three years of conflict, we had 33,600 battle deaths. And yes, the Viet Nam conflict was deadlier. In nine years we killed 47,300 Americans. It is a sad commentary when it is safer on the field of battle than on the American highway.
Law Enforcement Membership items

Law Enforcement Members also receive an identification card, a membership decal, the All Points Bulletin, The Sheriff's Star and The Rancher magazines and may purchase any of the following Law Enforcement Membership items:

- Law Enforcement Automobile Tag @ $10.00 each
- "Sheriff's Star" Watches @ $175.00 each
- Brass Belt Buckles @ $15.00 each
- Law Enforcement Lapel Pin @ $8.00 each

TO MAIL: Please discard this flap, moisten glue strip, fold flap over form below and mail today!

NOTE: Included in the price of the watch is a first-year Law Enforcement Membership which is redeemable by the purchaser or transferable to another who is qualified to hold a Law Enforcement Membership. These water resistant, ETA Swiss quartz analog timepieces featuring beautifully engraved "Sheriff's Star" dials on an all gold dress medallion, or a multi-colored sports style are available in both all gold or gold/steel two-tone as depicted below. All watches carry a 3-year limited warranty from the date of purchase against failures due to defective materials or workmanship.

Florida Sheriffs Association
Law Enforcement Membership Application

Please check or money order payable to
FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 12519
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-2519

PLEASE CHECK HERE:

☐ I am enclosing my annual dues which includes a year's subscription to the All Points Bulletin, The Sheriff's Star, and The Rancher.

☐ In addition to my dues, I also wish to purchase ___ Law Enforcement automobile tags at $10.00 each.

☐ In addition to my dues, I also wish to purchase ___ Law Enforcement lapel pin(s) at $8.00 each.

☐ I also wish to purchase ___ belt buckle(s) at $15.00 each.

☐ I also wish to purchase ___ watches at $175.00 each.

☐ In addition to my dues, I am also enclosing a gift for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches in the amount of $_______.

☐ I would like more information on Voluntary Accident Coverage.

Total enclosed $_______.

(Prices include postage & handling cost)

Dues and donations are deductible for income tax purposes.