



**Chatham County
Sheriff's Office**

Inside:

- Pg. 2 Programs' ladies wanted for a good cause
- Pg. 4-5 Construction Project Update
- Pg. 6-7 Photos from MLK Jr. Day Parade
- Pg. 8 Revving up for this year's Poker Run
- Pg. 9 CCSO Runs to Remember Fallen Officer



Sheriff's Note:

The number of "In the Line of Duty" deaths had been decreasing in the United States, but not last year. In 2011, 164 law enforcement officers were killed on the job. Already in 2012 there have been 14 deaths—five of them traffic related and seven were from gunfire. The best advice I can give you—wear your vest, wear your seatbelt and watch your speed! Whether you work on the street, in the jail or in the courts you must never let your guard down. You are sworn to protect and serve but you must protect yourself first.

-Sheriff Al St Lawrence

The Sheriffic News

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February 3, 2012

Project Lifesaver Lives up to Expectations



Project Lifesaver Stats

- CCOS joined Project Lifesaver in 2009
- Active Clients 33
- Program Capacity 50
- Trained Deputies 83

Left: Deputies Blanton and Blount were on the ground coordinating with Sgt. Moore in the helicopter to find a missing Alzheimer's patient. Photo by: Michelle Gavin

Two elderly women in our community were found safe this winter thanks to Project Lifesaver tracking devices and Chatham County Sheriff's Office deputies.

On December 14 an 82-year-old woman with Alzheimer's Disease walked away from her home on East Gwinnett Street.

Nearly two dozen Street Operations deputies responded along with the Chatham County Mosquito Control helicopter and pilot Scott Yekel.

Once in the air, Sgt. James Moore and Yekel were able to determine that the elderly woman was in the Strathmore Estates neighborhood. Less than

10 minutes later they located her three blocks from her home. Deputies Warren Blanton and Christopher Blount were patrolling the area and returned her home safely.

This was the first recovery of a Project Lifesaver client in Chatham County using Project Lifesaver.

Sheriff Al St Lawrence said, "I applaud the efforts of my deputies in locating this woman safely and in such a short amount of time. This illustrates why Project Lifesaver is such a valuable asset for our community."

Project Lifesaver assists our community by locating individuals affected by Alzheimer's, De-

mentia, Autism, and other health related illnesses or injuries that may cause them to wander or become lost easily. The clients wear a transmitting device on their wrist that helps deputies locate them quickly.

On January 3 another elderly woman wandered away from her home on East DeRenne Avenue. Lt. Rick Hall and Deputy Madeleine Pinckney located her at the Food Lion on Skidaway Road and safely returned her home.

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office joined the Project Lifesaver program in May 2009 and currently serves 33 clients. That

See "Project Lifesaver"
Continued on Page 3

Lawrence and Crawford Seeking “Bail” for MDA Lock-up

Latoya Lawrence and Kendra Crawford are raising money to stay out of jail and to help a local charity.

They are both participating in this year's 2012 Southside Savannah Lock-up to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

The Southside Savannah Lock-up is a community event with the goal of raising money to help make dreams come true for our local children and adults with Muscular Dystrophy.

On March 7, Lawrence and Crawford will have to serve one hour behind bars in a mock jail cell for the MDA. In the meantime they have been tasked to raise \$2,400 in bail money for this cause. So far they have raised approximately \$360.

The Sheriff's Office has participated in the MDA Lock-up for many years. CCSO deputies drive around the community to “arrest” the pre-selected participants. But this year Lawrence was selected by an anonymous citizen to participate in this event and will get arrested by the deputies.

“It's crazy—I have a probation officer and everything!” Lawrence said.

Lawrence said she wasn't about to do this alone, so she convinced her colleague and friend Crawford to participate with her.

“She played on my emotions,” Crawford said. “She knows I am a sucker for the kids.”

Article by: Michelle Gavin



Above: Lawrence and Crawford may have to get used to spending time behind bars—if they don't raise \$2,400 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association by March 7.

WANTED

LAWRENCE & CRAWFORD





UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

- * **\$2.00 Dress Down Fridays**
Feb. 10 and Feb. 24
- See Lawrence or Crawford in Programs to Participate
- * **Breakfast Sale**
February 17 7:00-9:00 a.m.
- * **\$1.00 Shamrock Pins Sold in Programs**



Above: Sheriff St. Lawrence posed with Lawrence and Crawford and helped support their hot dog sale to raise money for the MDA.

Photos by: Michelle Gavin

Troopers Whip CCSO Honor Guard into Shape

Looking sharp, moving with precision, exuding a sense of honor—that’s what being a member of the Chatham County Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard is all about.

These deputies represent the Sheriff in parades, at funerals and community ceremonies and it’s important that they are at the top of their game. That’s why Chief Deputy Roy Harris and Honor Guard coordinator Lt. Shawn Taber brought in instructors from the Georgia State Patrol’s Honor Guard to help sharpen their skills.

“This was the first time these men and women have received formal, structured training like this. This solidified what they were already doing and taught them some new techniques as well,” Taber said.

For three days in January the GSP instructors trained 15 members of the CCSO Honor Guard on everything from marching, drill and ceremony, hand saluting, flag folding and much more.

Sheriff St Lawrence said, “I have always been proud of our honor guard and now this training will only make them that much more impressive.”

Article by: Michelle Gavin



Left: The Sheriff, Chief Deputy Harris and Lt. Taber showed their appreciation to the three GSP Honor Guard instructors.

Below: The CCSO Honor Guard stood at attention during one of their training exercise.



Project Lifesaver

includes 12 children who are Autistic or who have Downs Syndrome and 21 senior citizens diagnosed with Dementia or Alzheimer’s Disease.

Sgt. Moore is Chatham County’s Project Lifesaver coordinator. “The Sheriff’s Office has a great deal of sympathy for the caregivers of these individuals,” he said. “We understand how terribly frightening it can be to have a loved one become lost or wander off. Project

Lifesaver has brought a great deal of peace for our clients and we are proud to offer this service to the citizens of Chatham County.”

“We are proud to offer this service to the citizens of Chatham County.”

The Chatham County Sheriff’s Office currently has the funding to add another 17 clients. Anyone who would like more information on Project

Lifesaver in Chatham County can contact Sgt. Moore at 912-652-3771.

Article by: Michelle Gavin

Welcome to Our Team!

Deputy Gene Harley (CNT)

Officer Tiniesha Cochran

Officer Navnett Kapoor

Officer Adam Pringle

Officer Robert Lipovsky

Under Budget, Ahead of Schedule



Above: Cpl. Smith is dwarfed by the new four-story inmate housing tower. The towers stand 45 feet high.

Photo by: Michelle Gavin

It's the most you can hope for on any construction project—coming in ahead of schedule and under budget. So far the Chatham County Detention Center Expansion Project is just that.

Construction began in March 2011 and contractors are now saying the entire new construction phase of this project could be done as soon as December. Then it will take several more months to complete the renovations of the existing buildings.

"I am very pleased with how things are going," said the Sheriff. "Between my staff working on the project and the county engineer who is on site every day I am confident we are getting a top-notch facility."

Several CCSO deputies and staff will be packing up their desks to move into their new digs very soon.

The Video Visitation Center will open in late February. Crews just finished installing the monitors in the new building and they

are in the middle of hooking up the equipment in the inmate housing units.

When the visitation center opens, so will the adjacent parking lot, freeing up more parking near the main entrance for employees.

The new Enforcement Bureau and muster room could be finished as early as June or July.

In order to join that new building to the existing Street Operations area, crews will start doing demo work in the hallway by the old employee entrance. That means the locker room will be shut down for a short period of time and workers will cut out a new entrance to the Muster Room.

As for the impressive four-story inmate towers that are being stacked up, construction officials estimate they could be finished by September.

Article by: Michelle Gavin



Above: The Detention Center Expansion Project is moving full steam ahead. This massive construction project will nearly double the inmate housing capacity and create larger workspaces for street operations, booking, medical, programs, the kitchen, warehouse and administration.

Photo by: Chief Deputy Roy Harris



Top Left: The new Enforcement Bureau is taking shape. It will house the Street Operations Unit and a new muster room.

Middle Left: The new Muster Room will be twice as big as the current one. It will have auditorium style seating and a stage.

Bottom Left: This section of the new Enforcement Bureau will include a new squad room and office space for the Street Operations Unit.

Photos by: Michelle Gavin



Top Right: Landscaping is complete for the new Video Visitation Center which is set to open for visitors in late February.



Above: Video monitors are in place in the Visitation Center. Crews are working to hook up the equipment in each inmate housing unit.

Left: Family members and friends of inmates will now visit their loved ones electronically on these monitors and will be limited to 20 minutes of talk time.

Photos by: Michelle Gavin



Left: The Chatham County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard proudly led the MLK, Jr. Day parade down East Broad Street.

Above: Chatham County Human Resources Manager Van Johnson, Sheriff Al St Lawrence and Jail Administrator Col. Terry Enoch posed for a photo pre-parade.

Photo by: Dep. Rhonda Bryant-Elleby

Sheriff Celebrates Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in Savannah

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office led the way for the one of the county's largest Martin Luther King, Jr. Day parades.

Sheriff Al St Lawrence, the Honor Guard and members of Explorer Post 876 participated in the 33rd annual parade on January 16 in Savannah.

Deputy Naomi DeLoach marched with the honor guard. "It was a great experience. It shows the young kids watching that we are a team and we are always going to be there for each

other. It shows pride and respect for each other," she said.

The Sheriff has participated in this parade for many years. "I have seen it grow over the years; it has really come a long way. It's important to celebrate this day." "Dr. King was a great leader and advocate for peace and equal opportunity," St Lawrence said. "Those ideals have not diminished and they are ideals I try to uphold at the Chatham County Sheriff's Office."

"Those ideals have not diminished and they are ideals I try to uphold at the CCSO."

There were more than 300 entries in this year's parade. And thanks to the beautiful sunny weather, thousands of people and school children lined the streets in downtown Savannah to cheer on Dr. King's dream.

Colonel Terry Enoch also rode in this year's parade. He said it's important for the department, and him personally, to take part in this event.

"Savannah's MLK, Jr. Day parade reminds of Dr. King's important messages and it inspires all mankind to be hopeful," said Enoch.

Article by: Michelle Gavin



Left: Members of the CCSO Honor Guard posed with the Explorers before the parade.

Lower left: Cpl. Ruth Brown drove Sheriff Al St Lawrence in the parade.

Lower right: Members of Explorer Post 876 stood at attention. For most of them this was their first time marching in a parade.

Photos by: Dep. R. Bryant Elleby



 Check out these stories and more on the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Facebook page. "Like" the page and you'll receive news and photos about Chatham County's finest at work and at play!

www.facebook/chathamcountysheriff.com

Right: Col. Enoch couldn't get enough of the parade. First he rode in uniform in a Sheriff's Office car in the front of the parade, then he put on street clothes and marched with 100 Black Men of Savannah toward the end of the parade. Enoch is currently the president of 100 Black Men of Savannah.



Sheriff St Lawrence to Ride in St. Patrick's Day Parade for 48th Year



Above: Lt. Tommy Tillman drove the Sheriff and the Sheriff's friend John Routh in the 2000 St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Sheriff Al St Lawrence said he has never seen Savannah's St. Patrick's Day parade as a spectator. For nearly five decades he has ridden in the parade.

Starting in 1964 the Sheriff used to drive former Chatham County Police Chief O.F. Love in the parade. In 1972, a few month after St Lawrence became Chief of Police, someone started driving him in the parade. In 1992 St Lawrence was elected Sheriff and the tradition continued.



The Sheriff said every year he hopes for warm, dry weather. "One year, in the early 90s, I was riding in a Cadillac convertible when it started to pour down rain. We put the top up but the top had so many holes in it we all got drenched!"

The crowds have grown significantly since St Lawrence started riding in the parade. "I love seeing all the families and children that come out to watch. It's a spectacular event," he said.

Article by: Michelle Gavin

Date Set for 12th Annual Poker Run

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office isn't going to let the massive construction disruptions on site disrupt its 12th Annual Poker Run which raises money for the Georgia Sheriff's Association's Boys and Girls Ranch.

This year's event will take place Sunday, April 29 in one of the new parking lots on the north side of the Sheriff's Office.

As many as 700 motorcyclists have participated in past poker runs raising as much as \$30K for the youth homes.

Colonel John Wilcher started the event in 2000.

"I think it's important to continue to help the kids at the Ranch to have a Christmas," Wilcher said. "The Poker Run has become a tradition here, the riders look forward to it and they, like me, enjoy helping the children."

This year Wilcher and Poker Run coordinator Gretchen Derryberry have a few

new ideas up their sleeves. They are working to bring in a live band to play at the Poker Run, the menu is changing and the Sheriff will be on hand the entire day taking pictures with the bikers and other supporters.

If you would like to help participate in this year's Poker Run contact Derryberry at 652-7635.

"We want everyone to know how much we appreciate the volunteers and riders for the years of support they have given the Poker Run," Derryberry said. "We are always looking for new people to get involved in the activities we put on—not



Left: Col. Wilcher has kicked this year's Poker Run into full throttle. The annual event will take place April 29.

Photo by: Michelle Gavin

just the fundraisers but the events that involve the children too. We have an opportunity to be positive role models in their lives."

For more information on this year's Poker Run visit www.chathamsheriff.org.

Article by: Michelle Gavin

Sheriff's Office joins Metro Police in Honoring Fallen County Officer

Sheriff St Lawrence was the Chief of the former Chatham County Police Department when Officer Doreen McCumber was killed in the line of duty on November 4, 1988.

McCumber was killed at the intersection of Highway 17 and Quacco Road while directing traffic on a rainy night.

The 47-year-old served on the force for 13 years.

On January 27, members of the Garden City Regional Police Academy, the Chatham County Sheriff's Office and the Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police

Department participated in a "Run to Remember".

Several members of McCumber's family were there—including her two daughters.

The Sheriff said, "I am proud of my deputies for participating in this event. I think it's important to always remind ourselves of the sacrifices officers like McCumber made and I think it's important to show the family that we are still here for them."

"Doreen was a fine officer and I will never forget her service to Chatham County," the Sheriff added.

Article by: Michelle Gavin



Left: A wreath was placed at the intersection of Hwy. 17 and Quacco Road where McCumber was killed.

Below: The Sheriff spent time catching up with McCumber's family .

Photos by: Michelle Gavin



Top left: The new recruits, deputies and officers ran 1.5 miles down Highway 17 in the "Run to Remember" on January 27.

Top right: Thirteen members of the CCSO took part in the run. In 2011 the GC Regional Police Academy began the "Run to Remember" as a tribute to those officers who preceded the incoming recruits.

Below: The runners posed for a group photo at the run's starting location near the Wal-Mart on Highway 17.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
February 2012			1 LaDonna Wright	2 Lorraine Lovett	3	4 Steven Cobb
5 Jack Drossopoulos Sharleen Simmons	6 Darryl Hilton Precious Smith	7 Andrea McPherson -Gray	8 Shawn Taber Alice Walker Fr. Patrick O'Brien	9 David Lamb Seth Massie Jill McCall	10	11 Mark Carpenter Julie Hauser Daarina Munir Kelly Newcomer
12 Ivy Orr	13 Rusty Smith	14 David Clayton Shakeem Jefferson	15	16 Toby Hodges Raymond Smith	17 Stephen Robbins	18 Stephanie Bush James Patterson
19 Tyrone Warren Tom Sexton	20 President's Day	21	22 Glenn Johnson Guy Bolinger Stephen Williams	23 David Wilcox Gregory Williams Dustin Medsker	24 Linda Williams	25 Richard Hall Eva Hicks-Perkins
26 Jo McCutchen	27	28 Daniel Mares Larry Morris	29 Marcus Smith, Jr.			

BIRTHDAYS AND EVENTS

March 2012

				1 Dean Ray	2 Janell Rhett-Belton	3
4 Hugh D'Anna	5	6	7 Ed Garvin Isacc Johnson	8 Deon Gibson Raymond Alston	9	10 Rossie Williams
11 Beverly Rowe	12	13 Denise Brown Margaret Miles	14 Herbert Murphy	15 Angelina Jackson	16 Felicia Williams Louis Vasquez	17 St. Pat's Day Ronald Rogers Benjamin Smith
18 Inga Castain-Smith	19 William Thomas	20 Nathaniel Gibbons Cynthia Kight Kendall Newton	21 Edward Gray	22 Rocco Martin	23	24 Elijah Powell Octavius Anderson Bobby Irvin Franklin Rollins Linda Jenkins
25	26 Melvin Washington	27	28 Herb Harley Patricia Phipps Bobby Ancrum	29	30 Ava Lucas	31 Ruth Brown Brian Anderson Denise Chisolm-Suggs

Who am I?

(Hint: They are all on the birthday calendar!)



I am about three years old in this photograph. This picture was taken outside a St. Petersburg, Florida hotel in 1940. I was born in Jacksonville and later moved to Georgia. My favorite restaurant is Longhorn Steakhouse. My favorite movies are Indiana Jones and James Bond movies—and I think Sean Connery played the best Bond. I joined the CCSO in 1997. I am an automobile enthusiast and I enjoy target shooting. Who am I?

I am 5 months old in this picture. I was born in Vidalia. My favorite food is seafood. I enjoy watching game shows on television, Family Feud is my favorite. My favorite actor is Morris Chestnut. I have worked for the CCSO for 23 years and I am one of the only women the Sheriff will ride shotgun with! I enjoy shopping and I love nice handbags. Who Am I?



I am 6 years old in this photograph. I was born in Boston, Massachusetts. My favorite TV show is M*A*S*H*. My favorite actor is Robert Duvall. One of my most memorable vacation was going to Captiva Island, Florida. I've worked for the CCSO for 25 years. I enjoy spending time with my wife and dancing. Who am I?



“Who Am I” answers from last edition



Dep. Ernest Frazier
Court Services



Lamiles Hill
Unit 5, and CERT



Stephanie Parker
Corrections Admin

Anniversaries

25 Years

Thomas Gilberg

20 Years

Inga Castain-Smith

Robert T. Lewis

Curtis Rewis

Pat Barbee

10 Years

Nelson Hall

Leroy Smalls

Justin Garrison

5 Years

Sharlene Brown

James Evans

Herbert Murphy

Alicyn Whaley

Employees of the Month

December

Deputy Darrin Harvey (Fugitive Squad)

Pvt. Betina Richards (Unit 2)

Fr. Patrick O'Brien (Chaplin)

Beverly Thompson (Records Manager)

January

Pvt. Shavon Herrington (Unit 2)

Deputy Demetrius Jelks (Court Services)

Deborah Stokes (Dispatch)

Reginald Eastering (Mental Health

Counselor)

WORDS OF WISDOM

"It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed."

—President
Theodore Roosevelt



- **The Sheriffic News** is a publication of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office and is produced by the Director of Public Information Michelle Gavin.
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 - Sgt. F. Williams at 651-3756 or fvwillia@chathamcounty.org
 - Diane Sasser at 652-2712 or dsasser@chathamcounty.org
- Check us out on the web!
www.chathamsheriff.org

In Other News....



Left: Several members of the CCSO's Explorer Post 876 helped park cars during an event for U.S. Congressman Jack Kingston at Ottawa Farms on Jan. 14.

Photo by: Res. Deputy Tom DeMaio

Right: Corey Harper smoked dozens of hams for "Feed the Needy" at the range last December. Paula Deen cooked all the turkeys for the charity event.



Photo by: Dep. Rhonda Bryant-Elleby

Right: Sgt. Sheila Allen, Lt. Eva Perkins and Pvt. Joel McDaniel organized a room full of toys and clothing to help make Christmas brighter for several Savannah families.



Photo by: Dep. Rhonda Bryant-Elleby