



THE ROLL CALL

HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, TN—JUNE 30TH, 2015

FROM THE DESK OF JIM HAMMOND

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On Wednesday, June 17th, members of the Hamilton County Commission approved Mayor Jim Copping's request for the county's 2015-2016 budget. This included the total budget of 33 million dollars for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office which is to fund all the operations of our agency including salaries and benefits, \$751,000 in capital improvements and our narcotics funding.

Increases also included a \$750.00 raise for any employee earning under \$50,000 dollars and a one and one half percent pay increase for all employees earning over \$50,000; this includes part time, skimp and FTNA employees. To be eligible for this pay raise which will go into effect 06/24/2015 for the 07/01/2015 pay, employees must have been hired by 06/30/2015 and must be off their new-hire probation. If an employee is still on new-hire probation as of 07/01/2015, they will receive the increase at their one-year anniversary.

The challenges of the 2014-2015 budget year were exceptional and varied considering the number of new hires, retirements, promo-



tions, purchases and all the related costs of operating a law enforcement agency. I also want to thank our HR and finance staff for their hard work in handling all the difficult aspects of preparing our 33 million dollar budget for HCSO this coming fiscal year.

The 2015-2016 budget year will have many challenges of its own as we seek to purchase new vehicles, lap-tops, body-worn cameras, body armor, weapons, training and ancillary equipment and supplies for the rest of our almost 400 staff of employees. Another huge challenge for us will be to provide federally approved diets, clothing and medical services for our jail's daily population of over 500 inmates. Yes, HCSO is big business, and it is one of the largest budgets in county government

Continued next page

utilizing tax dollars, grant monies, fees and narcotic court awards to sustain our operations.

As the sheriff of Hamilton

County, I want to thank all our employees for a job very well done and for what I know is your desire to see Hamilton County be a safer place in which to live, work, play and

raise your family. It is, indeed, the highlight of my career to serve as your sheriff and as an HCSO team member.

Jim Hammond - Sheriff

ON THE MEND

Leadership Briefs With Chief Deputy Allen Branum

Chief Deputy Branum has been on the recovery list from surgery lately. We will look forward to his sage leadership advice next month.



Integrity, Patriotism and Honor Defined

I would like to introduce you to Walter, a war hero from "America's Greatest Generation." Walter, whose last name is being withheld by request, just turned 92 years old. Originally from New York, he joined the Army and completed basic training at Ft. Drum, N.Y. He was then sent to Tennessee where he was taught navigation. Walter volunteered to go overseas, arriving first by ship to North Africa and then by short plane hops to Indonesia just south of the Himalaya's. He flew C47's in the Army Air Corps over the "Hump" to provide critical supplies to our allies who were fighting the Japanese. He was there for over two years until the end of the war.

What an honor to meet this man who so humbly tells his



story. He is a true American hero from an age where *Integrity, Patriotism and Honor* had true meaning. Thank you, Sir, for your service and for taking the time to share your story.

Deputy Haines met Walter at an NCAA trade show on June 18th and he was deeply moved by this true American hero. The picture and story were submitted with permission



from Walter, his family and Deputy Haines.

Deputy Bernd Haines, Sgt. Major, U.S. Army retired

Family Justice Center Opens

The grand opening of the **Family Justice Center** will be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2015 at their temporary site located at 5741 Cornelison Road (on the south loop between East Gate and Wal-Mart).

Breakfast is planned for 9:00 and the ribbon cutting will be at 10:00. Our agency is involved in this important project.

Please plan to attend if you can.

The **Family Justice Center** provides free services for victims of sexual assault, human trafficking, elder abuse, domestic



and family violence through an extensive collaboration with law enforcement, legal services and partner social service agencies, all located at one secure, comfortable location, where victims can get all the services they need to safely escape abuse. (Contact Director Bennett with any questions.)

THE ROLL CALL IS PUBLISHED
EXCLUSIVELY BY THE HAMILTON
COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE LOCATED AT
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The Cotton Tail Commentary

by John Waters



I am reminded of my introduction to traffic laws in the Orient years ago. At night, city cab drivers would pull up to a busy intersection, come to a rolling stop while turning off their head lights. While their lights were dark, they would creep stealthily into the intersection. The first cabbie in the middle would then turn his lights on and take off, horns blaring everywhere else. He had the right of way. The driving customs of the people and the law were in conflict, but custom won. America's offer of freedom brings people from all over the world. They have come with different customs and their own view of the law and law enforcement officers. To complicate matters, they are faced with American foreign policy toward their cousins they left behind. America is no longer "your father's Oldsmobile." The new mix of cultures is no longer predictable. As one World War II veteran said, "This is not the same country I fought for." However, change is inevitable, like it or not. Law enforcement has to be more educated, sensitive to unfamiliar languages and customs and more aware of how people regard police and our laws. Does "to protect and to serve" all the people equitably while upholding the Constitution call for new personal attitudes and professional skills? I think so.

L.E. Technology Can See Through Walls

DARPA is looking for ways to extract more information from light than cameras typically do, which could help troops spot hidden enemies. The Pentagon's emerging technology arm is looking into systems that could reconstruct a 3-D image of a scene from a single vantage point, including objects not visible in the line-of-sight. This technology, according to a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency announcements, might eventually help troops prepare for hidden threats hidden behind barriers, for instance.

According to Defense One, DARPA is soliciting research proposals on ways to extract more information from light particles than cameras typically do. The light particles, called photons, carry many layers of information about their surroundings, but traditional imaging systems such as cameras only gather a fraction of this information, according to DARPA. The research aims to use "mathematical methods to coax from photons a little more of a story about where photons have been and what they've seen," said Predrag Milojkovic, a program manager in DARPA's Defense Sciences office.



This technology could effectively allow "flying through the scene" without changing one's physical location. A new system could also help troops or law enforcement identify radioactive and chemical threats.

The research program, called "Revolutionary Enhancement of Visibility by Exploiting Active Light-fields," or REVEAL, has two 24-month phases. The first would determine the limits of single-viewpoint scene reconstruction, while the second would create a framework for gathering more information from photons.

iHLS News

Burglars Are Using Drones

It had to happen sooner or later

Police in the UK are now seeing incidents where burglars are scoping out potential targets using off-the-shelf consumer drones. Suffolk Constabulary has confirmed that there were 16 incidents involving the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) between January, 2014 and March, 2015.

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In 10 of the incidents, the police were called to investigate by civilians who had seen the drones flying, and in one case, a UAV was flown around a residential property in September 2014, allegedly to identify it as a potential burglary target, although no one was charged for this incident. Only one person was charged in total, for an incident where the individual got into an altercation with the owner of a drone after reporting seeing it flying in January 2015.

Over the last two years, the consumer market for drones has begun to grow as drones have become increasingly smaller. It is now easy to buy an off-the-shelf UAV that weighs between 7.5kg to 20kg and comes equipped with a sophisticated camera and remote-controlled software. While drone guidelines set out by the CAA state that drones must be flown at least 50m

away from people, buildings and airports, and must not fly any higher than 400 feet or out of the line of sight of the drone's pilot, the fact remains that this is very difficult to police, particularly in quieter rural areas outside the city.

At the SkyTech 2015 drone conference in April, the CAA told IBTimes UK that it cannot enforce drone legislation on its own, and needs other parts of the government to step in and do their part, such as the Department of Transport and the police. The National Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters announced at a conference in April that the police will soon be taking responsibility for the illegal or irresponsible use of drones away from the CAA .

iHLS News

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Be a Winner

Coach Lou Holtz on ESPN frequently talks about what it takes to make a "winner."



He says, "*Ability* is what you're *capable* of doing. *Motivation* determines *what* you do, and *Attitude* determines *how well* you do it." Ability, motivation and attitude are all ingredients of a winner, and they can't be omitted or substituted.

Likewise, the apostle Peter gives us a similar pep talk for effective Christian living in the Bible. The two main ingredients the Lord provides are *His power* in 2 Peter 1:3 and *His promises* in 2 Peter 1:4.

As we mix *His power* and *His promises* into *our own belief and walk*, God will strengthen



our abilities, inspire our motivation and empower our attitudes.

Chaplain Rich Payne

Welcome Matt Lea, PIO

New Public Information Officer

As most of you know by now, Matt Lea was chosen as our new Public Information Officer (PIO) at the end of last month. The PIO is the information and communications coordinator and spokesperson for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. His primary goal is to accurately disseminate information relating to the operation and activities of the HCSO to the media and public in a manner that will inform without jeopardizing the integrity of the office or its employees in any way.

It is our intention for Matt to also devote much attention to the public relations aspect of his position. That responsibility will include working with members of the media, elected officials, creating partnerships and relationships with various community partners and organizations, expanding the sheriff's office's mission via social media, internet and other communication avenues.

As a complement to his normal duties, Mr. Lea's background in government and public relations is important. Matt served as staff assistant to Senator Frist, and special assistant to

former City Mayor Littlefield and as Chattanooga's lobbyist to the Tennessee General Assembly. This experience will also lend him the expertise necessary to work on a large variety of special projects and programs within the sheriff's office.

Also, as many of you have observed by now, since Matt has come on board, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Facebook page has received numerous updates and the readership has increased dramatically. His focus early on will be using social media and other communication tools to support the mission and services of the HCSO and to increase community knowledge of HCSO programs and activities.

"It is my sincere goal as Public Information Officer to represent the sheriff and the many talented and hardworking HCSO employees who diligently work each and every day to protect the citizens of Hamilton County. I am honored to be called upon by Sheriff Hammond to represent this department, its values, its people and its mission to the community. I have been amazed at the support, kindness and well wishes I have received from all levels of the HCSO since being brought onboard. Every-



one has made me feel very welcome." Matt Lea, PIO

In his free time, Matt enjoys spending time with his wife, Sharon, and their three year old daughter, Madison. He is an enthusiastic sport shooter and gun collector, and he enjoys travelling, woodworking and gardening. He and his family reside in Soddy-Daisy. Matt is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

I appreciate your cooperation and support of Matt in his new challenging position. In time, he will be contacting all of you to join with him in supporting us and the HCSO. P.S. Ask him about his exotic birds.

Director Bennett

A Community Day of Caring

A special thanks to HCSO Captain Charles Lowery, Jr. and Calandra Smith (Hamilton County Coalition) for participating in the Community Day of Caring hosted by Westside Missionary Baptist Church.

On Saturday, June 20th, 2015, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Tennessee American Water Company and the Hamilton County Coalition, participated

in the Westside Missionary Baptist Church's "Community Day of Caring." Over 100 people participated in the event. During this time of celebration, residents brought their unused, unnecessary or expired prescriptions to be correctly and safely disposed of by law enforcement personnel. Furthermore, the festivities included free health screenings, food, games and door prizes.

Various organizations were represented such as Alexian

Brothers, Mary Ellen Locher, Mammogram Coach, Sound Living Counsel and more.

This event was free to everyone. Participating in community events like the Community Day of Caring helps the HCSO build support in our community and shows the residents and children of our community a positive and realistic view of law enforcement.

Captain Charles Lowery



HCSO Marine Patrol Division Participates in Riverbend 2015

This year, numerous HCSO deputies with the Marine Patrol Division, including reserve deputies, participated in the Riverbend Festival. The Marine Patrol Division, along with several other agencies including the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, the Chattanooga Police Department and the Coast Guard Auxiliary, were responsible for helping keep the Tennessee River near Ross' Landing safe and secure.

While patrolling the Riverbend festival, HCSO Marine Patrol deputies looked for suspicious and illegal activity, unsafe boating practices or boaters under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Every year, hundreds of people boat to Ross' Landing to enjoy Riverbend from the river. As the Tennessee River is an active shipping lane, it is vitally important that those in attendance stay clear of the major commercial lanes and abide by the laws set for river traffic.

Both Marine Patrol boats were present during the entirety of Riverbend. The annual Riverbend Festival is one of many events in which the HCSO Marine Division participate and play a pivotal role providing security, law enforcement and river management.



Matt Lea, PIO



Our own Jamie Gienapp, CID, sang the National Anthem at the Chattanooga Lookouts game on Friday, June 19th. Good job, well done, Jamie, you made us all proud.

By Shannon Wilson





Bennett Receives Commendation

Certificate and Challenge Coin Issued to Deputy Brandon "Josh" Bennett

On March 31, 2015, while patrolling his district, Deputy Bennett observed a Dodge truck that his information said had been being stolen. Through his determined efforts, Deputy Bennett developed further information that the occupants of the vehicle had multiple stolen vehicles and other stolen property at their residence. He was able to search their property which revealed evidence of a chop shop operation.

During the course of the investigation, two stolen vehicles and numerous vehicle parts valued at \$25,000 were recovered as well as counterfeit money. Three parties were charged with Violation of the Motor Vehicle Chop Shop Act, Altering a Manufacturer's Serial Number, Theft Over \$10,000, Setting Fire to Personal Property, Theft Over \$1,000 and Criminal Simulation.

The information Deputy Bennett obtained was developed out of his relationship with the citizens of his district. Without forming those relationships, Deputy Bennett would not have had the knowledge of these crimes. This is a perfect



example of law enforcement working with the community to help make our neighborhoods safer places to live.

Deputy Bennett's initiative, motivation, working relationship and concern for the well-being of the community he patrols reflects great credit upon himself and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and is in keeping with highest traditions of Law Enforcement nationwide. Accordingly, this Certificate of Commendation and Sheriff's Challenge Coin are awarded to Josh Bennett.



The former "Lieutenant Gene Coppinger" returned from vacation to assume his new role in the jail as Captain Coppinger. He will supervise all three shifts, security, training, policy and accreditation. Captain John Swope will supervise all the support services including kiosks, grievances, requests, commissary, sentence management, the chaplain and programs, the counsellor and finance. Congratulations to Captain Coppinger. His wife, Tammy is tasked with keeping the captain in line.





Letters



To Crisis Intervention Team,

Dear Ms. Mayes,

Just a quick note to thank you for all the help and support you have provided to our member Pete S. Little did I know that when I clicked on the “crisis intervention” button for the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office that I would find such a dedicated staff. From the officer who went to Mr. S.’s home, everyone was completely professional and courteous.

When I spoke with Mr. S. he sounded discouraged, angry and hopeless. He lived in a rural area. He had no supports. His home was in disarray (and I understand that’s putting it mildly) and he needed medical care for his eyes. His main source of pleasure was reading and he was struggling to locate transportation to an appointment for an outpatient procedure that would help.

You were able to link him with the local Disabled American Veterans Chapter, providing him with peer buddies, and much needed transportation – including picking him up at 6:00 a.m. to take him to his eye procedure. In addition, he has advocates who are helping with obtaining hearing aids, and you are involved in assisting with a phone amplifier.

Sometimes, in our work, we don’t often get to the results of our efforts. However, your intervention has made such a concrete and positive impact to change Mr. S.’s life for the better.

Thank you again,

Helen



Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Authority

June 18, 2015

Mr. Mark Williams
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
Marine Division-Patrol Services
6233 Dayton Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN 37343

Dear Mr. Williams,

On Saturday June 6, 2015, Board members from the Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway Development Authority departed Chickamauga Lake, transited the Chickamauga Lock and traveled down the Tennessee River to the City of Chattanooga. The Board members represent the Governors of the states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama and Mississippi. Following the tour, the Authority sent a letter to Assistant Secretary Darcy, USACE Civil Works, strongly supporting Senator Alexander's position on the need to expedite replacement of the Lock.

Please accept our sincere appreciation for the outstanding escort services that your Marine Division personnel provided for the tour vessels. Their efforts added significantly to the safety and overall quality of the experience. It is my understanding that Gino Bennett, Director of Support Services for the Sheriff's Department, helped organize the service and that Corporal Mathew Purvis operated your Patrol boat.

Please extend our warmest thanks to these two individuals as well.

Thanks again and kind regards,

Y. Craig Stepan
Administrator-TTWDA



Letters

June 3, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Paul Luikart and I am the director of the Maclellan Shelter for Families located at 717 E. 11th Street. We are an emergency shelter for families facing homelessness.

Tonight, at about 7:30 p.m., Deputy Rick Wolfe came to the door of the shelter. It turned out he'd come to the wrong location, as he was looking for somebody at the Homeless Healthcare Center, located across the street from us.

There were a number of families and children in the common area of the shelter, which Deputy Wolfe had to pass through to exit the building. But this is what impressed me: He took the time to engage a couple of the kids and said, "Do you guys like stickers?" Then he proceeded to give stickers to the kids who'd been out there.

His actions should be commended. I appreciate how he took the time to speak to these homeless families in a personable and dignifying way. The action of giving kids stickers might seem simple, and I guess it is, but it's about more than the stickers. By doing so, he fostered a sense of community and made a bridge between two community groups (law enforcement and homeless people) that are typically perceived as being at odds with one another.

So, thanks to Deputy Wolfe. His posture toward the people we serve here and his actions while on premises are a credit to him and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

Sincerely,

Paul Luikart, Director
Maclellan Shelter for Families

In Memory

Mathis, William L.

William L. Mathis, 65, of Tullahoma, Tennessee, formerly of East Ridge, died on Wednesday, June 24, 2015. He was born July 16, 1949 in Chattanooga. He was preceded in death by his father, Lee Roy Mathis.

He served in the U.S. Army as a military police soldier and served two tours in Vietnam. He worked for the Chattanooga Police Department for 13 years and then later retired from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department. He was a member of Knights of Columbus Council 610 and later Council 6099. Mr. Mathis was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Tullahoma. Bill was passionate about spending time with family, hunting, fishing, camping, storytelling and history.

Survivors include his wife, Tammy Mathis; children, William Christian Mathis, David Blaine Mathis, Byron Patrick Mathis, Autumn Gretchen Mathis Scealf, Tiffany Gail Mathis, Amber Brittany Mathis and Anthony Wilson Mathis; mother, Shirley Anne Mathis and seven grandchildren.



Graveside services were held on Monday, June 29, at 1:30 p.m. at the Chattanooga National Cemetery with the Reverend Brent Baughman officiating.

Obituary from The Chattanooga.com



Coming Next Month:

Awards Ceremony pictures and story
A 45-year veteran of our agency retires
Commendations and Promotions



What's Cookin' @ HCSO!

Summer Salads

Summer Corn Salad

Ingredients:

- 6 ears corn, husked and cleaned
- 3 large tomatoes, diced
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh basil
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons white vinegar
- salt and pepper to taste



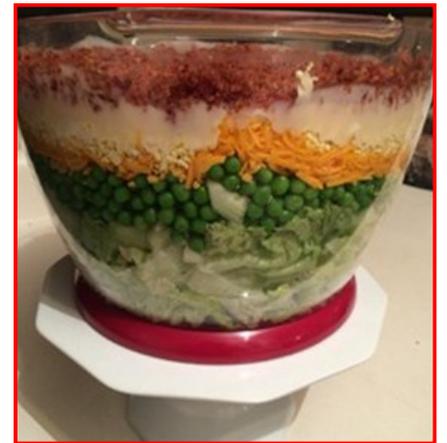
Directions

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook corn in boiling water for 7 to 10 minutes, or until desired tenderness. Drain, cool, and cut kernels off the cob with a sharp knife.
2. In a large bowl, toss together the corn, tomatoes, onion, basil, oil, vinegar, salt and pepper. Chill until serving.

Seven Layer Salad

Ingredients:

- 1/2 head lettuce, torn
- tomatoes
- 3 cups frozen peas, thawed
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
- 4 hard-boiled eggs, peeled and sliced
- 1 cup creamy salad dressing (such as Miracle Whip / Kraft Mayo)
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons white vinegar



Directions

1. Layer lettuce, tomatoes, peas, Cheddar cheese, and egg, respectively, in a 9x13-inch casserole dish.
2. Whisk creamy salad dressing, sugar, and vinegar together in a bowl until dressing is smooth; spread over the egg layer. Crumble bacon over dressing layer.