



# Essex County Sheriff's Department

## Frank G. Cousins, Jr., Sheriff



NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2013

A message from Sheriff Frank G. Cousins, Jr.

As we begin 2013, let me extend my best wishes for the New Year to the Essex County Sheriff's Department employees and their families, the correctional and law enforcement professionals and all the residents of Essex County.

Members of the ECSD team can be proud of the work we have done in 2012. We had over 8,000 inmates committed to our custody which included safe keeps, pretrial and sentenced individuals. Our reintegration staff, through programs, classes and occupational training, have worked diligently to prepare the over 2,000 sentenced inmates, who were released, for life after incarceration.

In partnership with District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett's office, the ECSD has continued to support Essex County elders through the **Triad Program** as well as the children of Essex County through the Sheriff's **Youth Leadership Academy**. Under the direction of Superintendent Joseph Furnari, the staff at the Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center "CAC" provided and supported a work program which allowed approved inmates to work in the community.

Congratulations to the Department's Women In Transition "WIT" facility, under the supervision of Assistant Superintendent Kim Murtagh, and the Middleton facility, under the supervision of Superintendent Michael Marks. Both facilities passed their most recent American Correctional Association "ACA" audits, thereby maintaining ACA accreditation.

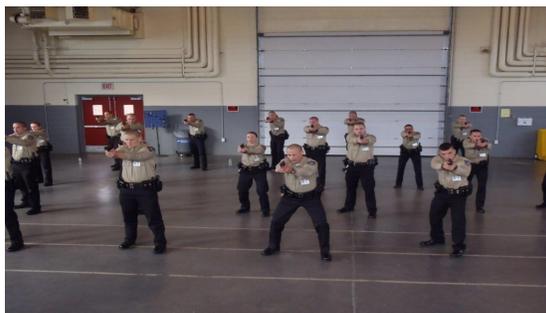
In addition to working within the correctional facility, our K-9 Division assisted local and state law enforcement with drug searches, missing person searches and apprehensions. The K-9 unit also provided demonstrations throughout Essex County and hosted the 2012 United States Police Canine Association Region Four's Canine Certification Trials.

In the face of extreme budget cuts, which began in 2009, we have maintained an exceptionally well run department, providing outstanding care and custody for inmates while insuring the security of the citizens of Essex County. In addition, we have the second lowest cost per inmate of all county correctional facilities in the state. For this, I say, "thank you" to all ECSD employees. To our fellow correctional and law enforcement personnel, we are committed and look forward to maintaining our positive and effective working relationship. To the people of Essex County, I speak for all ECSD staff when I say we look forward to serving you in 2013.

## Officers on Duty



New Director of K-9 Training, Sgt. Donald Evans with K-9 Blitz. See full article in our next newsletter.



Members of BTA Class 12-02 receive firearms instruction. See full story on page 4.



## 911 - WHAT IS YOUR EMERGENCY?

During the early 1990's then Massachusetts State Representative Frank G. Cousins, Jr. envisioned a state that would embrace the regionalization of services. The 911 service, in its infancy, did not materialize quickly in Massachusetts. Years later, now *Sheriff Cousins* was approached by Topsfield Fire Chief Ronald Giovannacci and others to develop a vision that would result in the implementation of regionalized 911 services for Essex County.

In 2008 six communities decided to pursue a regional 911 dispatch project and signed an agreement to work together to establish one public safety answering point (PSAP) to their 80,000 residents. The communities of Amesbury, Beverly, Essex, Middleton, Topsfield and Wenham outlined their vision and supported the need for this center. With Sheriff Cousins' office as the administrative arm of the project, it allowed for economies of scale and prevented duplication of administrative services (e.g. human resources and payroll). The communities used a new state law encouraging regionalization to move their vision forward.

After a nationwide search, Thomas K. Dubas was hired as director of the center. Tom comes from Lackawanna County, PA where he served as director for eight years in a consolidated 911 center. Prior to this, he served for 22 years as Police Chief in Blakely, PA and four years as Chief of Detectives for the District Attorney's Office in Lackawanna County. For four years prior to the groundbreaking for the center, Tom served, in a part time capacity, as an advisor to Sheriff Cousins' Office in the planning stage of this project. Tom resides in Peabody.

With the state Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) as overseer of the project and State 911 Department monies used to construct the project, a groundbreaking took place in 2011 for the center on the property of the correctional facility in Middleton. A certificate of occupancy was issued in December 2012 for the state-of-the-art facility with a "go live" date scheduled for the summer of 2013.

The center features redundancy in all aspects of the operation, from dual generators which back up the city supplied power to the redundant boilers so heat in the center will never be an issue. The operation also features two large uninterruptable power supplies (UPS) battery units designed to run all critical components in the event of catastrophic failure – with one unit backing up the other.

The agreement signed by each member community provides for a Police Advisory Board and a Fire Advisory Board, each consisting of the six member police and fire chiefs who will then oversee policy and procedure development respective to their departments. Additionally, there is a Financial Advisory Board which will oversee all budgetary issues. An Executive Committee made up of the chairs of the three committees was also established. Initially, member costs are set at \$16.26 per capita for member communities. Some financial support as well as technological assistance is received from the State 911 Department. Budget projection will confidently keep that member contribution consistent for several years.

Should the need arise, this facility was built for future expansion, and it is envisioned that the center can support call taking for a population base of approximately 200,000 people. A formal ribbon cutting and open house are planned for the spring.



Standing in front of the new Regional Dispatch Center, L to R: Middleton Police Chief James DiGianvittorio, Center Director Tom Dubas, Sheriff Frank G. Cousins, Jr. and Topsfield Fire Chief Ron Giovannacci

## AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION ACCREDITATION GRANTED

The Department's Women In Transition (WIT) facility and the Middleton facility have both passed **American Correctional Association (ACA)** audits, thereby maintaining ACA accreditation. The WIT scored 100/100 for both non-mandatory and mandatory standards in their most recent inspection during December, 2011, while Middleton scored 98.62/100 for non-mandatory standards and 100/100 for mandatory standards in their most recent inspection during October, 2012.

ACA is designed to improve the operation of a correctional facility by implementing both standards and review processes. Assistant Superintendent Kim Murtagh, who oversees the WIT, explained that ACA is very thorough. A.S. Murtagh stated that the review team examines areas such as inmate services, programs, legal, sanitation, canteen and food service, inmate discipline, physical plant, fiscal, personnel, training, as well as emergency and security procedures. When asked about the WIT's high marks, A.S. Murtagh praised her staff, stating it was, "...an unbelievable team effort that began long before the auditors came."

Middleton Superintendent, Michael Marks praised the accreditation process, stating, "Having a fresh set of eyes auditing the facility every three years keeps people engaged and reduces complacency." He feels that the audit team can, "tell us what we are doing right and what we can do better." Always proud of his staff and the Department, Superintendent Marks stated that all employees "want to show outside auditors what a good job we do at the ECSD."

ACA's website ([www.aca.org](http://www.aca.org)) explains that accreditation improves staff training and development, assesses programs' strengths and weaknesses, helps defend against lawsuits (as the participating department demonstrates documentation and willingness to improve conditions), provides measurable criteria for upgrading operations, improves staff morale and professionalism, facilitates a safer environment for staff and inmates, provides for reduced liability insurance costs and facilitates performance-based benefits for employees.

## ✠ Cardinal Visits ECSD – Officiates Mass ✠

This past November, Cardinal Sean O'Malley and his staff visited ECSD's Middleton facility. During the visit, His Eminence met with Sheriff Cousins and received a tour from Assistant Superintendent Michael Frost. Cardinal O'Malley was kind enough to pose for photographs with several employees. The highlight of his visit took place in our chapel where Cardinal O'Malley officiated over a Catholic Mass for inmates and employees. During the Mass, Cardinal O'Malley offered the Sacrament of Communion.



Religious Education Staff enjoy lunch with Sheriff Cousins and Cardinal O'Malley. L to R: Aldrina Regan, Lorraine Leonard, Sheriff Cousins, Marilyn Chigras, Cardinal O'Malley, David Norris and Cory Norris

# DISCIPLINE - INTEGRITY - COURAGE

## BTA CLASS 12-02

In the 5am darkness of October 1<sup>st</sup>, the “fun” began. With whistles blowing and voices screaming, Commandant Michael McAuliffe, Drill Instructor Lt. Christopher Mansur and Drill Instructor Allisson Hernandez introduced themselves to the 29 members of BTA (Basic Training Academy) 12-02. It was, as they say, a sign of things to come.

For the next ten weeks, the 23 men and six woman of Class 12-02 would eat, drink, walk and talk Essex County Sheriff's Department rules, regulations and protocol. ECSD recruits are taught the very basics of academy life: how to address superiors, the importance of education, organization and endurance through advanced physical fitness training. The recruits are also taught drill, ceremony and all other aspects of correctional officer training.

While difficult, the ECSD academy is extremely thorough. In addition to intense academics, recruits must qualify in Fire Safety, First Aid/CPR, Massachusetts General Laws and ECSD policies and procedures. The recruits receive instruction in defensive tactics and handcuffing as well as use of the expandable baton and OC (pepper) spray. In addition, each recruit must complete firearms week and qualify on the range.

Recruits came from all walks of life including a former Friendly's employee, a Syracuse University football player, a Naval Second Lieutenant, a Dental Hygienist and an Army Drill Instructor; and included 12 military veterans. Most academies have a turning point – that time when the members of a class become one working unit. That point for Class 12-02 came in week five. The drill instructors were not happy and class members were beginning to falter. Recruit Wayne Rodgers stepped up and gave his fellow recruits what would become sage advice: “Just do as you're told.” His fellow recruits took the advice to heart, and pulled together. The result: all 29 recruits graduated with zero DORs (Drop Out on Request). Well done, Class 12-02.

### **Following are Awards received at the December 19, 2012 graduation of Class 12-02**

Sheriff's Leadership – Wayne Rodgers

Physical Fitness – Matthew DeFonte

Academic Achievement – John Cassidy

Class Banner – Benjamin Roberge

Top Gun – Michael Stenclik

Over/Under (combined academic and physical fitness) – Danielle Bower

Drill Instructor Award – Wayne Rodgers



Drill Instructor Allisson Hernandez (front right) leads members of BTA Class 12-02 on their 6-mile *Pride Run*, while Assistant Superintendent (and former DI!) Michael Frost (white hat) keeps a watchful eye.

# YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

**Mission Statement:** *“To bring together youth, ages eight to 15, from throughout Essex County to a safe environment that supports personal growth, appropriate risk taking, decision making and leadership development.”*



Sheriff Frank G. Cousins, Jr. is pleased to announce that, thanks to a grant from New England HIDTA **“High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas”** (please see related article page 6) the Youth Leadership Academy will be held again this year. The Youth Leadership Academy is a non-profit educational service that challenges children, from the ages of eight to 15, both physically and mentally. Each program is designed to be within the capabilities of any participant who is in reasonably good health. The Junior Youth Academy serves ages eight to 11 and the Senior Youth Academy serves ages 12 to 15.

Youth Leadership Academy 2012 was very successful in that we provided services for over 600 youths from Essex County. We had encouraging feedback from parents regarding our program: from parents Deb and Steve, “...our son had a wonderful experience and thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the week. All of the adults involved were supportive and positive, acting as excellent role models for our children.” From parent, Richard, “...the Junior Leadership Academy is a refreshing and valuable program for our community. Our son thoroughly enjoyed the many experiences and strong role models this program provided and has already asked to attend next year. We have already spread the word to other parents...”

This year you will note a change in the listing of communities. While all communities have always been welcome, it is our hope that by listing all the communities by region, it will be less confusing for everyone. Activities planned for this year are: Laser Quest, rock wall, ropes course, fishing trip and many other fun games and programs. Again this year, a graduation and cookout will be held on each Friday and parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

It is encouraged that each participant attend the week in the community in which he/she lives. However, due to the tremendous response in some communities, there are situations when a participant will be placed on the list for an alternate community week. Our mission is to permit each applicant a chance to attend and make use of this educational and positive experience. It is our hope that each participant will take away with him/her the qualities of cooperation, team building and teamwork.

All information and application will be placed on our website in February. Applicants are chosen on a first come first serve basis. So get your child’s application in soon!

**For more information please visit the Sheriff’s website [www.mass.gov/essexsheriff/community](http://www.mass.gov/essexsheriff/community)  
OR E-mail us at: [ya@eccf.com](mailto:ya@eccf.com)**



## SHERIFF'S YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The Essex County Sheriff's Department, in collaboration with New England HIDTA "**High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas**" received the 2012 National HIDTA Award for "Outstanding Prevention Effort." Through a grant from New England HIDTA, and in conjunction with Project Adventure, the Department held the Youth Leadership Academies for children eight to 15 years of age. The program is free of charge for all participants. In 2012, the Youth Leadership Academies served over 600 children in Essex County.

Sheriff Frank G. Cousins, Jr. cited the work of Department employees as a key to the program's success, stating, "We feel it is important to serve all citizens of Essex County, but we have a very special responsibility to our young people. Our Leadership Academies allow us to promote a healthy lifestyle for local children."



Sheriff Frank G. Cousins, Jr. congratulates Essex County Sheriff's Department staff on their HIDTA award. HIDTA staff include (from left): Commandant Michael McAuliffe, Officer Allisson Hernandez, Maintenance Officer Eric Lingerman, Executive Assistant Mary Picariello, Assistant Superintendent Christine Arsenault, Officer Laura Dow, Officer Jeffery Cruz, Executive Assistant Judy Lacroix and Assistant Superintendent Jason Ebacher. Looking on are Special Sheriff Richard Roaf, HR Director Joanne Marks and Superintendent Michael Marks.



## HIGH FIVE

On November 10, 2012, Danvers Police were dispatched to Market Basket on Endicott Street for an armed robbery, where the assailant had brandished a handgun and made off with a bag of money. Since that time, Danvers Police had been searching for the suspect's identity. In hopes of identifying the suspect, an email containing photos and details of the robbery was sent to employees of the Essex County Sheriff's Department. ECSD employee, Lieutenant Steven Driscoll, recognized the suspect as an inmate who had recently entered the jail and was being held on an unrelated charge. Lieutenant Driscoll then immediately notified his superiors. His vigilance and quick-thinking led to charges being brought against the inmate for the Market Basket armed robbery.

## **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT SCOTT SCHARFFENBERG GRADUATES FROM FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY PROGRAM**

The U.S. Department of Justice and The Federal Bureau of Investigation announced in December 2012 that Scott Scharffenberg, Assistant Superintendent of the Essex County Sheriff's Department, graduated from the FBI's prestigious **National Academy Program** in Quantico, Virginia as a member of the 251<sup>st</sup> Session. Scharffenberg, Assistant Superintendent at the Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center, has been with the Department since 1990.

The **National Academy Program** graduated 259 law enforcement officers. The 251<sup>st</sup> session included members of law enforcement agencies from 49 states, the District of Columbia, 29 international countries, four military organizations and six federal civilian organizations.

Known internationally for its academic excellence, the **National Academy Program** offers 11 weeks of advanced investigative, management and physical fitness training for selected officers who have proven records as professionals within their law enforcement agencies. On average, these officers have 19 years of law enforcement experience, and often return to their agencies to serve in executive level positions. Our congratulations to Assistant Superintendent Scharffenberg!



Superintendent Scott Scharffenberg with Sheriff Frank G. Cousins, Jr. at FBI Headquarters in Quantico, Virginia



## **PROMOTIONS**

The following promotions were announced at the Department's  
December 19, 2012 Graduation and Promotional Ceremonies

Assistant Superintendent IV Mark Cassola  
Security Investigations Officer Jerome Jellison  
Reintegration Officer Nicholas Eaton

Security Investigations Officer Jose Hernandez  
Security Investigations Officer Michael Roach  
Maintenance Officer Eric Lingerman

### **LIEUTENANT**

Amanda Burnham  
Lauren Cammarata  
Mark Chaklos  
Jeffrey Gallo  
Rand Nichols  
Karen Paluzzi  
John Pickles  
Robert Raymond

### **SERGEANT**

Alexander Baez	Stephen Pomerleau
Wilbert Duperval	Justin Sarofian
Joseph Festa	Michael Smolski
Patrick Marks	Mark Swiniarski
Timothy O'Leary	Annette Tucker
Demetrios Paragios	Greg Turner
Paul Perkins	John Zaccari



## TOUCHING ONE LIFE ACROSS THE MILES



This past November the employees of the Essex County Sheriff's Department touched the life of a six year old boy from Rustburg, Virginia. Nathan is fighting a rare form of brain cancer and his special request was to receive Christmas cards from police officers. The request to Nathan's local Police Department went viral. Sgt. Jonathan Credit, Sr. CO Jonathan Campbell, Sr. CO David Earle and many others were quick to act. An e-mail was sent to all employees and many responded, so much so that a picture on Nathan's face book depicts rooms filled with many kinds of memorabilia and good wishes from all over the country.

Cards and letters were signed with personal messages. Badges, emblems, t-shirts, hats and many other items were collected and forwarded to Nathan. With Sgt Jon Credit's assistance, (see photo) the Essex County Sheriff's Department was able to make Nathan an Honorary Deputy. In a letter sent to Nathan, good wishes were included along with encouragement and support for Nathan and his family. He was told to "keep up the good fight" and that he and his family were "admired for their strength and resilience."



With the donation of so many items, this effort evolved and developed into a mission of hope and support. On Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, approximately 275 law enforcement personnel from Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Connecticut left from the Burlington Mall in 100 marked vehicles and traveled in formation with blue lights activated for the entire 13 hour trip to Rustburg Virginia. State Police provided the convoy with an escort through each of their respective states. Officers that were on duty and not part of the convoy positioned their cruisers along the highway, stood at the position of attention and saluted each cruiser as it passed. Sr. CO Jonathan Campbell and Sr. CO David Earle represented the Essex County Sheriff's Department.

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, all officers arrived at a local college where Nathan was surprised to see everyone. Nathan's parents kept the event a surprise. Officers gathered in formation and Nathan gave commands to form up and even to jump on one foot. Each agency had the opportunity to meet individually with Nathan and his family.

Congratulations to all. This effort has been a positive show of support for Nathan, his family and many other children and their families. To quote Sgt. Jonathan Credit, "If you have ever seen or been with a child going through this, you would understand how much it means to see them smile."

### ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER January - 2013

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Please visit our website for Programs and Community Services  
[www.mass.gov/essexsheriff/](http://www.mass.gov/essexsheriff/)

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