

Community Partnership Connection



KNPB Reports on Success of Sheriff's Forensic Mental Health Team



Lieutenant Adam Hopkins of the Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau will be part of an hour-long television special examining efforts to improve the mental health system in Nevada **airing at 9:00 p.m. this Thursday, May 30, on local public television station KNPB Channel 5.**

Lt. Hopkins was interviewed by KNPB Reports host Brent Boynton about recent steps taken by the Sheriff's Office and the State of Nevada to launch a multi-partner collaboration known as the Forensic Mental Health Team.

The Team's goal is to implement new partnerships that maximize the resources available to help keep mentally ill persons out of jail, and from returning to jail through improved case management and service referrals at release.

Lt. Hopkins describes how the Forensic Mental Health Team concept emerged from a chance meeting between himself and Dr. Tracy Green of the Nevada Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services. Their conversation led to a collaborative effort that is now a statewide model for addressing problems that create a revolving door for the mentally ill and detention facilities.

In this arrangement, the State of Nevada is providing a psychiatric case worker who operates on-site in the Washoe County Detention Facility as well as case managers who provide post-release support to this population within the community. The state has also reallocated chronic-care mental health system beds for use in acute care, providing an alternative to incarceration for persons who need 24-hour care. The Forensic Mental Health Team model is already showing signs of success. This means better treatment for the mentally ill and greater savings to taxpayers. As a result of that success, the model is being implemented in other counties across the state.

Sheriff's Office participates in teddy bear drive for victims of sexual assault



The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is taking part in the Crisis Call Center's drive to collect donated teddy bears for victims of sexual assault during the first week of June.

The Crisis Call Center provides support to victims of sexual assault in northern Nevada through their Sexual Assault Support Services.

"One small way we provide support is to offer a teddy bear to the victim," Sexual Assault Services Program Assistant Alane Thomas said. "We need fuzzy, cuddly bears that are at least one-and-a-half to two-feet long. They should be new or very gently used."

The Teddy Bear Drive takes place from June 3 to June 7, 2013. During that week, donated bears may be dropped off at the Sheriff's Office at 911 Parr Blvd. A collection box is located in the public area of the Sheriff's Records/Civil Division just off the main lobby.

Additional drop off locations include:

Smith's Grocery Store, 1255 Baring Blvd., Sparks, NV 89434

Smith's Grocery Store, 175 Lemmon Dr., Reno, NV 89506

Smith's Grocery Store, 750 S. Meadows Pkwy., Reno, NV 89521

Achieve Fitness, 600 S. Center St., Reno, NV 89507

CrossFit Initiative, 9410 Prototype Dr., Reno, NV 89521

The Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS) advocacy team provides immediate crisis intervention services for survivors of sexual assault, their family members and friends. The SASS program can provide information regarding medical treatment and reporting to law enforcement. They are also able to assist with referrals for financial assistance and long term counseling services. All services provided by the SASS program are free and confidential.

Other Crisis Call Center services include confidential 24/7 services provided by the Suicide Prevention and Crisis Hotline, and Nevada 2-1-1 programs. All services provided by Crisis Call Center are free of charge and available to anyone in any crisis situation. For more information, visit crisiscallcenter.org.

Sun Valley Residents encouraged to attend Neighborhood Watch classes

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office wants to strengthen its partnership with the residents of Sun Valley.

As part of our efforts to work directly with our communities to reduce crime, the Sheriff's Office will offer a series of classes at the Sun Valley Community Center to provide information that will help keep the public safe and provide the tools our Sun Valley communities need to set up a neighborhood watch program.

Reserve Lieutenant Teresa Aquila will be facilitating the first of these neighborhood watch meetings on **Saturday, June 22nd at 10am at the Sun Valley Community Center** (the big blue building located at 5360 Sun Valley Blvd.)

Neighborhood Watch deters criminal activity, helps neighbors to connect and reduces the risk of becoming a victim of crime. All residents of Sun Valley are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call Lt. Aquila at (775) 240-2308.



Pictured left to right: Sgt. Pat Robinson, Deputy Sita Singh, Sheriff Haley, Detective Greg Sawyer, Ret. Deputy Candice Potts

Sheriff's Office staff recently attended the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., at Judiciary Square, which honors the more than 19,000 U.S. law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty throughout history.

Sheriff's and TMFPD's Guns and Hoses golf tournament raises nearly \$12,000 for the NNCCF



Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County Sheriff staff present a check for \$11,835 to Debbie Strickland (center, in white sweater), Executive Director of the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation following the first annual Guns and Hoses fundraising golf tournament sponsored by Hidden Valley Country Club. Holding the check are Washoe County Assistant Sheriff Tim Kuzanek (left) and TMFPD Captain Zach Larkin

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District's inaugural Guns and Hoses Golf Tournament raised \$11,835.00 for the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation. Eighty golfers from the Sheriff's Office and TMFPD took time off work to compete in the tournament on Monday, May 20. The idea for the tournament was first suggested by the Hidden Valley Country Club.

"When Hidden Valley Country Club approached us with the idea of hosting an event to thank first responders we saw an opportunity to give back to our community," Washoe County Assistant Sheriff Tim Kuzanek said. "We know that just about everyone has been touched by cancer so tournament organizers from the Sheriff's Office and Fire Department chose to support the Children's Cancer Foundation to show our great appreciation for the invaluable service they provide to children with cancer and their families."

The competition was extremely close, with this year's tournament trophy going to the Sheriff's Office. However, the real winners are the children who receive support from the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation.

The Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation's vision is to reach every family affected by childhood cancer in the Northern Nevada and Eastern Sierra regions. Their mission is to enhance the quality of life for children with cancer and their families by providing financial assistance and compassionate support programs while advocating for increased research funds and raising public awareness. For more information, visit www.nvchildrenscancer.org.

Thanks to the members of the Hidden Valley Country Club's complete sponsorship of the tournament, 100 percent of the player's entry fees went directly to the NNCCF. Local businesses and organizations donated additional sponsorships and raffle prizes to increase fundraising efforts. Sponsors and donors included the Washoe County Sheriffs Supervisory Deputies Association, Washoe County Sheriff Deputies Association, Local 3895 – Truckee Meadows Firefighters, Verdi Volunteer Fire Department, Joe Fretz and Greg Sawyer, Sierra Meats, Carrie Sieben of LL Realty, Triad Technologies, Lee Brothers Vehicle Sales and Leasing, Sierra Nevada Port of Subs, Mae Anne Avenue Port of Subs, Mayberry Athletic Club, Hollylocks, Nevada Insurance Agency, Liberty Mutual Insurance, District Court Judge Scott Freeman, Hot August Nights, Lahontan Golf Community in Truckee, Wolf Run Golf Course, Stacy Kennedy of Liberty Mutual Insurance, Scheels, Cabela's, Western Nevada Supply, Summit Ridge Home Depot, Principal Financial Group, Carson Tahoe Hospital, The Smile Shop, Eldorado Hotel Casino, Jon and Carrie Sieben, Mark Fore and Strike, Eikelburger Awning and Drapery Company, Southern Wine and Spirits, The Fowl Life/Banded Nation with Chad Belding, The Prepper Store in Sparks, Titan Ammunition, Rufwood Clothing, Victoria's Secret, Perfect Balance Therapies, Nothing Bundt Cakes Reno, Bill Steward, All Seasons Window Tinting, Uniformity of Nevada. Golf Headquarters. and the Ross-Herrera Memorial Golf Tournament.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office- Community Relations

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***Dedicated Service in
Partnership with our
Community***

Sheriff's Office receives \$5,000 donation from AAA Insurance Sparks Galleria Branch



Employees from the Sparks Galleria Branch of AAA Insurance Nevada presented a \$5,000 check to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office this month. The donation will be used to purchase ballistic shields for patrol vehicles, increasing safety for our staff and the public we serve.

AAA branches throughout Nevada, Northern California and Utah have chosen to honor and support local first responders through AAA's Rescue Today philanthropic initiative. The initiative focuses on supporting first responders and rescuers. Sparks Galleria Business Branch Manager Venus Koski said the employees of her branch wanted to support the Washoe County Sheriff's Office out of appreciation for the public safety services we provide as a regional law enforcement agency.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Citizen Corps is offering a free emergency preparedness and response training academy beginning June 6.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Academy provides residents with the information they need to help save lives and reduce trauma in the event of an emergency. CERT Academy training includes disaster preparedness, emergency medical techniques, fire safety, search and rescue, disaster psychology, and terrorism awareness education.

Training is conducted by Citizen Corps staff and volunteers along with appropriate subject matter experts. The training is free and trainees are not required to become a Citizen Corps volunteer to participate.

The CERT Academy offers a total of 24 hours of training during six sessions over two consecutive weekends. Training takes place at the Regional Public Safety Training Center located at 5190 Spectrum Blvd. Academy dates are:

Thursday, June 6 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Friday, June 7, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., and Saturday, June 8 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

And

Thursday, June 13, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Friday, June 14, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 15 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

No special skills are required. Children 12-15 may participate with parent's supervision, teens 16-17 with parent's permission. To sign up for training, call CERT Program Coordinator Derek Russell at (775) 325-6928 or email:

drussell@washoecounty.us