



Leesburg Police Citizens Support Team

Monthly Newsletter October, 2012

Prez Sez

Keep those cards and letters coming to our Support Team member George Panos at the Fairfax Hospital. George is recovering from major surgery and I'm sure would like to hear from you. September proved to be a busy month even though there were not many events on the schedule at the beginning of the month. Events just popped up unexpectedly and the Police Department solicited help in administrative duties several times as well. Expect the same for October and be ready to volunteer! We are still experiencing thefts from vehicles and vandalism in town, as well as shoplifting. If you have some free time, get out there on the streets and in the shopping centers and patrol.

Goodie Bag Stuffing Party

Linda Drake, Sandy Kane, Maggie Longhurst, and Ed Boland gathered at 1300 hours at police headquarters on September 6 to stuff the Support Team goodie bags for future outreach events. Many hands made for a quick and easy task. Thanks to all who helped!

ST Members Man a DNA Kit and Safety Info Table for a "First Friday" Leesburg Event

Coldwell Banker Realty had the ribbon cutting for their new downtown Leesburg office on Friday evening, September 7, 2012, and invited the Support Team to set up a safety information and child DNA identification kit table in their storefront. Coldwell Banker had a Moon Bounce inside for the kids along with popcorn, cake (white and chocolate!), and cold soda. A band played throughout the evening in the office. Maggie Longhurst & Ed Boland had the Support Team DNA table in the front window and gave out safety information and our goodie bags for the kids. Mayor Kristen Umstattd did the ribbon-cutting honors and there was quite a crowd in attendance. There was a lot of interest in the DNA kits as many parents felt better that they had control of their children's DNA by keeping the samples themselves. Maggie and Ed gave out 21 DNA kits and a little over 50 goodie bags. Lots of questions were fielded on the Support Team, as many people have never heard of us. It was a very productive evening. Kathleen Hunt, the office manager, was very pleased with our display and said that they are planning more of these events in the future.

Steve Hood Represents the Team at Town 9/11 Ceremony

On the evening of September 11, Steve Hood donned his Support Team uniform and represented the team at a moving ceremony on the Town green to remember the victims of the terrorist attacks eleven years ago.



Administrative Support to Leesburg Police Department

On short notice, Support Team members Ed Boland and Jan Hepburn assisted Officer Michael McDonald with some training-related administrative work on the afternoon of September 19. Ed and Jan combed through dozens of officer training records to identify and log FEMA-related training that had been completed. Ed and Jan helped with administrative duties again at the Leesburg Airport office of the Police Department one day during the last week of September.

Car Seat Safety Check Event at Costco

The Leesburg Police Department had a "Child Car Seat Check", Thursday and Friday, September 20 and 21, 2012, at the Costco store in Leesburg. The event was well attended and many were turned away on Thursday due to the large number of people. Friday there was also a long line waiting prior to the 1300 hours start time and the line stayed full until 1500 hours, at which time it slowed to one or two cars waiting until closing. The Leesburg Police Department is one of only a few local police departments to do this community service for parents as the County no longer provides this service. Leesburg residents may call the PD and set up an appointment any time but others must wait for the public offering by the department.

On Thursday, Lora Tacey (ST-11) and Maggie Longhurst (ST-3) helped with the paperwork and car line-up and Friday, Maggie and Ed Boland (ST-6) kept things moving.

Car seat safety coloring books were provided by the PD for the older children. The Support Team members also handed out info on the Drug Take Back Day, September 29, 2012.

Costco Safety Event

The Support Team had two DNA events at the Costco store on Tuesday, September 25 and Thursday September 27. There was a good turnout both days and much interest was shown in our DNA child identification kits. Maggie Longhurst, Raymond Kirkpatrick (ST-9), and Ed Boland manned the table on Tuesday and Raymond and Ed repeated their service on Thursday. Many people inquired as to when we would be doing this again as they didn't have cash with them, just credit cards and we advised them that we are at many local events. We received \$ 98.00 in donations on the two days!

Perfect Weather for an Air Show, Record Crowds Attend

Saturday, September 29, the Leesburg Air Show was held with the Leesburg Police Citizens Support Team assisting with traffic control. Team members Steve Hood (ST-4), Maggie Longhurst (ST-3), and Ed Boland (ST-6) augmented many members of the Leesburg Police Department as they expertly controlled a record number of cars and people attending the event. Ed, Steve, and Maggie's duties primarily consisted of pedestrian control at busy intersections as air show goers crossed streets filled with vehicles. Thanks to all who helped.