

The Maryland

T r o o p e r

Volume 9 Number 6 Colonel Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins, Superintendent Nov/Dec 2003



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Effective December 10, 2003, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., appointed me as Superintendent of the Maryland State Police. I am honored to accept this challenging opportunity to return to the Maryland State Police, where I spent more than two decades as a trooper.

I am excited to have the chance to again work with the dedicated men and women of the Maryland State Police. You are among the finest law enforcement professionals found anywhere in our nation.

The Maryland State Police is a great Department not because of our reputation or tradition. We are a great Department because of you, the men and women behind the badge and you who work in civilian support. You are our most precious asset and I pledge never to forget that as I lead you in the days ahead.

My immediate goal as Superintendent is to ensure the continuity of law enforcement operations. This must be a smooth transition and one that does not impact negatively on our ability to serve and protect our citizens.

Under my leadership, the Maryland State Police will continue to move forward. I do not anticipate making major operational changes in the immediate future. I will make assessments throughout the coming months and changes will be made where appropriate. My priority is to ensure we are doing all we can to protect the people of Maryland and provide outstanding law enforcement.

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HUTCHINS APPOINTED SUPERINTENDENT

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. appointed Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins as the Superintendent of the Maryland State Police on December 10, 2003.

Colonel Hutchins is not new to the Maryland State Police.

He is the third superintendent who has served as a trooper and progressed through the ranks.

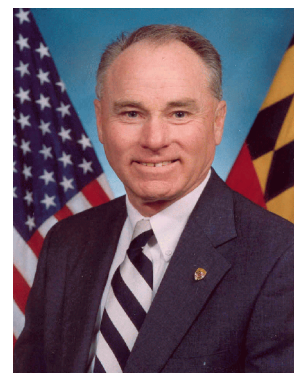
From 1973 to 1994, he served with the Maryland State Police, retiring with the rank of Captain as the

Commander of the Training Division. During his tenure, he was responsible for restructuring several police agencies. Additionally, one of his tasks was developing a strategic plan for the training of uniformed and civilian employees.

Colonel Hutchins worked statewide in the Field Operations Bureau. While assigned there, he was instrumental in developing the Special Tactical Assault Team Element to confront the rising number of high threat situations. Colonel Hutchins was also assigned to the Special Operations Bureau and assisted the Maryland Port Authority Police, functioning as their Chief of Operations. Later, he was detailed to restructure the Maryland Department of General Services Police and commanded that Department. Colonel Hutchins' assignments in the Administrative Services Bureau included working in the Staff Inspection Unit, the Telecommunications Division and in his last assignment as Commander of the Training Division.

In 1994, Colonel Hutchins was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates. He represented 125,000 citizens of Charles County, Maryland and, from 2000 until his departure, served as the ranking Republican member of the Judiciary Committee.

During his political career, he worked with representatives at all levels of government, both nationally and internationally. From 1994 to 1999, he participated in the



Colonel Thomas E. "Tim"
Hutchins
Superintendent

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CIVILIANS HONORED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROMOTIONS

Colonel Edward T. Norris honored civilian employees with service and promotion certificates on November 7, 2003, at a special ceremony at Headquarters. The following individuals were honored for their commitment to the Maryland State Police and the State of Maryland:

40 Year Service Award
Frederick J. Kirckhoff
Forensic Sciences Division

35 Year Service Award
Philip M. Draper
Commercial Vehicle
Enforcement Section

Gilbert V. Eiker
Automotive Safety
Enforcement Section

David L. Goodwin
Westminster Barracks

Robert C. Honeycutt
Commercial Vehicle
Enforcement Section

Franklin R. Milburn
Information Technology
Development
Division

H. Frank Rayne
Personnel Section

Patrick E. Stetina
North East Barracks

Michael W. Strohm
Automotive Safety
Enforcement Section

Joseph E. Teipe
Motor Vehicle Section

Norman L. Wright
Cumberland Barracks

30 Year Service Award
John B. Banzhoff
Forensic Sciences Division

Stephen Bunker
Aviation Division

James W. Daucher
Electronic Systems Division

Leslie J. Fortson
Administration Bureau

Thelma A. Guzman
Forensic Sciences Division

Arlene S. Hammond
Hagerstown Barracks

Donald E. Hoffman
Legal Affairs Section

Deborah G. Jeffries
Rockville Barracks

Raymond M. Kellar
Automotive Safety
Enforcement Section

Robert D. Timmons
Automotive Safety
Enforcement Section

John J. Tobin
Forensic Sciences Division

Stephen F. Vail
Motor Vehicle Section

John T. Wills
Information Technology
Development Division

Judy K. Woofert
Annapolis Barracks

25 Year Service Award
Harry L. Bradley
Office of the State Fire
Marshal

Melody L. Brooks
Waterloo Barracks

Jean M. Busick
Centreville Barracks

David W. Cantrell
Facilities Management
Section

Edwyn V. Corley
Forestville Barracks

Philip N. Fister
Waterloo Barracks

Sheila L. Fitzgerald
College Park Barracks

Carol L. Grace
Automotive Safety

Enforcement Section

Emily E. Graves
Central Records Division

Robin M. Guy
Leonardtown Barracks

Philip E. Hoffman
Aviation Division

David B. House
Management and Finance
Division

Dana M. Hudson
Berlin Barracks

Marlene F. Jenkins
Management and Finance
Division

Mary A. Sanders
Medical Unit

Denise V. Scherer
Central Records Division

Linda C. Smith
Office of the State Fire
Marshal

Lina Wiley
Bel Air Barracks

20 Year Service Award
Jonathan L. Beam
Quartermaster Section

Carol S. Billian
Special Operations Section

Kimberly R. Creamer
Frederick Barracks

Robert L. Kile
Motor Vehicle Section

Roxanne Meekins
Information Technology
Bureau

Joan A. Neisser
Automotive Safety
Enforcement Section

Ingeborg R. Ritchie
Office of the State Fire
Marshal

Gerald C. Robey
Aviation Division

Kathleen A. Sentelle
Hagerstown Barracks

Cynthia A. Spindler
Office of the State Fire
Marshal

David M. Wood
Leonardtown Barracks

15 Year Service Award
Melissa A. Althoff
Centreville Barracks

Richard G. Bernhardt
Electronic Systems Division

Mark H. Bowen
Legal Affairs Section

Angela P. Cannady
Forestville Barracks

James K. Cleland
Aviation Division

George A. Dingle
Aviation Division

Wayne T. Frisby
Westminster Barracks

Regana R. Fontaine
Berlin Barracks

Angela T. Gross
Forensic Sciences Division

Sandra J. Hartsock
Forensic Sciences Division

Christopher A. Howe
Motor Vehicle Section

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SERVICE AND PROMOTIONS (*contd.*)

Richard J. Jacobs
Commercial Vehicle
Enforcement Section

William J. Jones
Leonardtown Barracks

Sasikala Kambhampati
Forensic Sciences Division

Shirley L. Long
Education and Training
Section

Jacqueline F. Penny
Personnel Services Unit

Teresa L. Peterson
Motor Vehicle Section

Thomas R. Przybyla
Facilities Management
Section

Sharon L. Rutzebeck
Technology Management
Division

Jacqueline Silver
Forestville Barracks

Rebecca J. Wimmer
Westminster Barracks

10 Year Service Award

Lisa A. Busick
Easton Barracks

Sherry D. Campbell
Central Records Division

Earl E. Finzel
Motor Vehicle Section

Cynthia A. Graf
Technical Investigation
Division

Larry G. Hedrick
Commercial Vehicle
Enforcement Section

Valerie A. Hicks
Analytical Section

Vonzella C. Johnson
Forensic Sciences Division

Kimberlynn A. McFadden
Central Records Division

Berta Melamed-Tsimerman
Forensic Sciences Division

Nicki K. Patel
Management and Finance
Division

Edward S. Sakowski
Commercial Vehicle
Enforcement Section

Edward A. Stevens
Motor Vehicle Section

Promotional Award
Lavon 'de Alston
Police Communications
Operator II

John B. Banzhoff
MSP Breath Test
Maintenance Specialist

Joan E. Berman
Administrative Aide

Lorie Blevins
Administrative Aide

Frances L. Campbell
Management Associate

Sherry D. Campbell
Office Supervisor

Debra R. Cogan
Employee Selection Specialist
II

Clare J. Conley
Administrative Aide

Gary L. Crouch
MSP Breath Test
Maintenance Specialist

Ellen F. Davis
Management Associate

Gary D. Davis, Jr.
Administrator II

Latoya D. Dobson
Office Services Clerk

Glenn E. Ernst
MSP Civilian Helicopter Pilot
II

Edward R. Fernandez
Transportation Inspector II

Mildred R. Fernandez
Administrative Aide

Timothy P. Fluharty
Transportation Inspector II

James F. Forsythe, Jr.
Radio Technician II

Patrick R. Franz
Maintenance Chief I, Non-
Licensed

Kelley E. Galyen
Forensic Chemist Supervisor

Jennifer M. Gauntt
Forensic Chemist II

Luis A. Goicochea
MSP Breath Test
Maintenance Specialist

Thelma A. Guzman
Administrative Aide

Royce A. Hedrick, Jr.
Transportation Inspector II

Lisa R. Hutchins
Police Communications
Operator II

Paul E. Jackson
Transportation Inspector II

John E. Johnson
Occupational Safety/Health
Compliance Officer III

Joyce E. Klink
Data Entry Operator Lead

Francis J. Konzal
Computer Network Specialist
Supervisor

Katherine H. Kosiorek
Office Supervisor

Sharon A. Kreitzer
Administrative Specialist III

Deborah A. Landaker
Administrative Aide

Jody E. Lewis
Administrator I

Carol A. Moore
Police Communications
System Technician II

Catherine F. Nadwodny
Office Secretary III

Robert J. Nilles, Sr.
Plumber

Dianita R. Offer
Office Services Clerk

Mary L. Ogle
Communications Supervisor
Law Enforcement

Charee D. Pouncey
Supply Officer III

Thomas J. Reppe, Jr.
Radio Technician II

Kyle R. Robinson
Computer Network Specialist
II

Barbara J. Royle
Administrative Aide

Catherine A. Savage
Forensic Chemist II

Joyce D. Seidenzahl
Management Associate

Kelly M. Sparwasser
Administrative Officer II

Carol A. Stevens
Administrative Aide

A. Marie Taylor
Personnel Specialist III

Kristine A. Thomas
Communications Supervisor
Law Enforcement

Robert D. Timmons
Administrative Officer I

Alyson Turner
Administrative Officer I

Richard M. Tyler
Radio Technician IV

Mary K. Webster
Crime Scene Technician II

Dale E. Williams
MSP Breath Test
Maintenance Specialist

Ida J. Williams
Program Manager II

*Thank you for your
dedication and service
to the citizens of the
State of Maryland.*

MSP MAKES BIG SPLASH FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND

Rangers were on the alert for hundreds of bears rumored to be headed for Point Lookout State Park on Saturday, December 6, 2003 for a bizarre, but very successful annual ritual to benefit Special Olympics Maryland.

Maryland State Police Operations Bureau Chief, Lieutenant Colonel Steve Chaney; Major Andrew McAndrew, MSP Region III Commander; and Captain Mike Spaulding, MSP Leonardtown Barracks Commander joined with St. Mary's County Sheriff David Zylak, members of the Charles County Sheriff's Office, Calvert County Sheriff's Office and hundreds of other chill seekers for the 5th Annual Maryland State Police St. Mary's Splash.

Each splasher brought at least \$50 in pledges to registration. In return, they received a high quality commemorative sweatshirt, a free Outback Steakhouse lunch, free Seattle's Best coffee from Saucy Salamander Catering, a color photo of their daring day and eligibility for other great prizes.

Dressed in swimwear or a unique costume, preferably with a holiday theme, and wearing some types of shoes or surf mocs, 180 splashers took a very quick dip in the chilly waters of the Potomac at 2 p.m.

Prizes were awarded for the most money raised. Winners included Cpl. Rhett Calloway, Charles County Sheriff's Office, \$4,086; Raynold Miller, State Highway Administration, \$2,075; and Tom Bayne, Special Olympics Maryland-St. Mary's County, \$1,355.

Over \$30,000 was raised at this year's event. The money goes directly to support year-round sports training and competition for the 10,000 athletes of Special Olympics, Maryland. These athletes are children and adults with learning disabilities who train and compete with the same, and sometimes more, spirit and enthusiasm of professional athletes.

The St. Mary's Splash is sponsored by Outback Steakhouse, 98.3 Star FM/WKIK FM, GMP Cable TV, Harley Davidson of Maryland, the Pennysaver, Toyota, Saucy Salamander, SMECO, BAE Systems, Seattle's Best Coffee and the Hampton Inn Lexington Park. The event is organized by a committee of representatives from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, Charles County Sheriff's Office, Calvert County Sheriff's Office, State Forest and Park Service Police, Natural Resources Police, Anne Arundel County Police, U.S. Coast Guard, State Highway Administration, Department of Defense Police at Patuxent River and the Maryland State Police.

JOIN US FOR MORE FUN!!!



**January 24, 2004
Sandy Point State Park
Annapolis, Maryland
Registration 11 a.m.
Plunge at 2 p.m.**



**February 21, 2004
Deep Creek Lake
McHenry, Maryland
Registration 12 noon
Dunk at 2 p.m.**



Sheryl Kohl (center), Rt. 40 Business Association President and board member John Silbernagel present a \$6,000 check to (from L to R) TFC Francis H. Vass, Captain Raymond Clasing, First Sergeant Boyd N. Trantham and Cpl. Earnest Ford of the Bel Air Barracks for the M.S.P.A.L. Center.

OPERATION SLOW DOWN PILGRIM YIELDS SIGNIFICANT RESULTS

Whether headed for Ocean City, Deep Creek Lake, the Chesapeake Bay or Plymouth Rock, motorists saw plenty of Maryland State Police enforcement activity throughout the Thanksgiving holiday.

Troopers statewide launched *Operation Slow Down Pilgrim*, a high profile enforcement effort aimed at keeping Maryland highways safe during the Thanksgiving holiday period. Troopers aimed their enforcement at speeders, aggressive drivers, drunk drivers and those who failed to use safety belts or child safety seats. Criminal enforcement was also a top priority.

More than 140 people were arrested for various criminal violations. Four people were arrested for transporting loaded handguns and 51 for possessing illegal narcotics. Troopers investigated three fatal crashes.

Other Operation Slow Down Pilgrim Statistics

Speed

Citations	4,779
Warnings	2,846

Seat Belt

Citations	609
Warnings	236

MARYLAND STATE POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE HELPS HARFORD COUNTY KIDS

by Corporal Earnest Ford, Bel Air Barracks

Four years after its inception, the Edgewood Maryland State Police Activities League (MSPAL) is supporting Harford County's children by providing a safe after-school program. Maryland State Police personnel donate their time, money, and additional personal resources to ensure the needs of the children.

Recently, the Route 40 Business Association, Incorporated presented a \$6,000 check to MSPAL for the operations of the center. The association is comprised of businesses who have an interest in Harford County's communities and the MSPAL Center.

This year, the MSPAL also received the Governor's Award for Outstanding Proactive Crime Prevention in Maryland because of the untiring efforts of dedicated MSP personnel.

In 1999, Maryland State Police entered into a partnership with the Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation to create the nation's first state police operated police athletic league center. The MSPAL focuses primarily on the growing needs of young people living in disadvantaged communities. They have a higher rate of poor school performance, juvenile arrest, physical abuse, neglect, teen pregnancy, inadequate supervision, substandard living conditions and drug and alcohol abuse.

The non-profit organization is an extension of school with structured activities. In providing a safe and wholesome environment, state troopers, recreational personnel and volunteers from the community strive to create positive relationships between at-risk youth and adult role models. Their goals and objectives include:

- reduction or elimination of substance, alcohol or physical abuse;
- discipline, respect and teamwork;
- emphasis on caring for property and equipment;
- respecting and following rules;
- building self-esteem; and
- increased school performance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued)

I have several key values. They include:

Loyalty - to your nation, state, governor and superintendent;

Duty - meaning do the job you have taken an oath to do;

Respect - I demand equal respect of everyone in the Department and respect for the people we serve;

Selfless service - I expect commanders to go without if it means they can provide their troopers with more or better resources to do their jobs;

Honor - We must be honorable in all we do;

Integrity - This means I am of my word and I am above reproach; and

Personal courage - I expect each of us to be a person of courage, regardless of the circumstances.

As members of the Maryland State Police, we provide a service - a very important and many times lifesaving service. I believe constituent service is everything. We can never forget that. Whether it is flying an injured child from a crash, or expediting the movement of traffic around that crash, or writing a citation to the aggressive driver who caused the crash, we are providing around-the-clock constituent services to our citizens.

Courtesy in the performance of those services is paramount. We must deal with people fairly and justly. We will use the appropriate force when it is justified, but I expect you to be professionals who are known for courteous service, compassionate care and ever-vigilant enforcement.

I am both proud and humbled to be given the opportunity to return to the Department I love and serve as your Superintendent. I am ready to serve side-by-side with you in the days ahead as we work to keep Maryland safe.

HUTCHINS *(continued)*

Partnership for Peace Program under the Departments of State and Defense working with the government of Estonia, in military affairs, law enforcement and economic development. During this time, Colonel Hutchins was involved with George Washington University and the White House in the George C. Marshall Legacy Symposium.

In his capacity as a legislator, Colonel Hutchins was able to serve as a constant reminder to his colleagues of the strategic role that the Reserve components have in our national policy objectives. The Colonel lobbied for funding, tuition assistance and support by employers for those who have taken on the added responsibility of serving their country as citizen soldiers.

Prior to his appointment as Maryland State Police Superintendent, Colonel Hutchins served as the Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs. He has also served for more than 37 years in the Armed Forces of the United States—on active duty for two and a half years with the United States Army and for 35 years in the Maryland National Guard. Currently, he is the Command Sergeant Major of the Aviation Brigade 29th Infantry Division (Light). He has served in numerous countries around the world—Viet Nam, Panama, West Germany, Estonia, Cuba and the United Kingdom—both in war and in peace.

2004 Calendar of Events

JANUARY

National Crime Stoppers Month

- 1 New Year's Day Holiday
- 14 Maryland General Assembly Begins
- 19 Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday Holiday
- 24 Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics

FEBRUARY

Black History Month

- 1 Super Bowl XXXVIII
- 8-14 National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week
- 21 Deep Creek Dunk for Special Olympics
- 22-24 Special Olympics Winter Games

TATTLE TALES OR LIFE SAVERS?

Parents of teen drivers stopped for traffic violations by Maryland State Police will now be hearing about the stop immediately, not a year or so later when it shows up in the form of increased insurance rates.

Whenever a juvenile is stopped for a motor vehicle infraction, seatbelt violation, violation of his/her provisional license, or is "at fault" in a motor vehicle collision, troopers will request the juvenile's parents' names and contact information. Troopers will then inform the juvenile driver that his/her parent or guardian will be notified.

This is a unique effort to keep teen drivers alive and help make them safe drivers. Parents of teen drivers will be effective partners with us in our efforts to address the fact that the leading cause of death among 16 to 20-year-olds is motor vehicle crashes. It is hoped that by involving parents in our enforcement and education efforts they will provide additional supervision and instruction for their children that will help us make our roads safer.

Troopers will immediately inform the duty officer at the barracks that they have cited a juvenile. The duty officer will attempt to contact the parents or guardians and inform them of the infraction for 24 hours. If they are unsuccessful, the barracks commander will send a letter.

In addition to these steps, barracks commanders will track, on a monthly basis, all motor vehicle collisions involving juveniles. This will aid in locating trouble spots for enforcement and efforts to reach out to teens to educate them as to the danger and ramifications of inappropriate driving. Ninety youths under the age of 18 died on Maryland roads and thousands more were injured in 2001 and 2002.

COPS HOSTS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Santa Claus managed to take time from his busy schedule on Sunday, December 7, 2003 to join the Maryland Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) for their holiday celebration for the children of police officers killed in the line of duty.

After a buffet luncheon, the children enjoyed a magic show, face painting and musical entertainment. The biggest attractions were Santa Claus and the Grinch. Admission to the party was a non-perishable food item. The food was donated to a nearby homeless shelter.

The Maryland Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) is an organization dedicated to helping families of police officers who made the ultimate sacrifice.



The Prothero children, with the help of one of Santa's elves (AKA Major Pat Guidash), pulled the winning raffle ticket for a new BMW motorcycle donated by BMW of North America. Baltimore County Police Sergeant Bruce Prothero was killed in February 2000. (MSP PHOTO BY AMY HAGER)

12-HOUR SHIFT WORK PILOT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED

Seven Maryland State Police barracks have implemented the 12-hour shift work pilot program for all uniformed patrol personnel ranked sergeants and below and first sergeants serving as duty officers.

The program has five objectives: (1) to provide a longer work day coupled with fewer workdays per year; (2) to provide an outlet for rest by reducing an inherent accumulation of fatigue; (3) to reduce overtime and sick leave usage; (4) to enhance employee job satisfaction and productivity; and (5) to reduce commute mileage on patrol vehicles as a result of fewer work days resulting in a cost savings.

For the next six months, the program will be monitored to determine achievement of objectives.

Congratulations to John J. Tobin, Forensic Sciences Division Director, for his first place victory at the Great Floridian Triathlon National Ultra Championship held on October 25, 2003 in Kissimmee. Tobin holds the title of National Champion in the 55-59 age bracket.



TFC Charles D. Leas, Special Operations Division (L) and Trooper David S. Whipp, Prince Frederick Barracks, carry the Maryland State Police Flag with them while serving in Iraq.

As we begin a new year, let us not forget the members of the Maryland State Police who are serving in the United States armed forces protecting our freedoms and fighting terrorism:

Corporal Mark E. Bailey
Trooper Anthony C. Borruso
Trooper Edward A. Brooks
PCS Angela P. Cannady
TFC Jeffery B. Claycomb
Trans. Insp. I Keith A. Comer
TFC Matthew W. DeValk
TFC John G. Fleetwood
TFC George A. Fockler
TFC Keith T. Greggs
Trooper Gregg M. Harrington
Trans. Insp. II Royce A. Hedrick
TFC Steven O. Jones
Civ. Hel. Pilot Scott M. Kapes
TFC Georgios A. Karatzas
TFC Charles D. Leas
Trooper Gary M. Masimore II
TFC Patrick H. McAllister
TFC Patrick M. Metzger
Auto. Serv. Spec. Terry A. Mitchell
Trooper Salvatore L. Pollara
TFC Kevin D. Sherwood
Trooper Barbara R. Shingleton
Trooper Warner W. Shingleton
TFC Ronald M. Stevens
Cpl. Benjamin L. Townes
TFC Justin T. Trojan
TFC Anthony D. Washington
Trooper David S. Whipp
PCO I Robert C. Willey

MSP MEMBERS RUN MARINE MARATHON

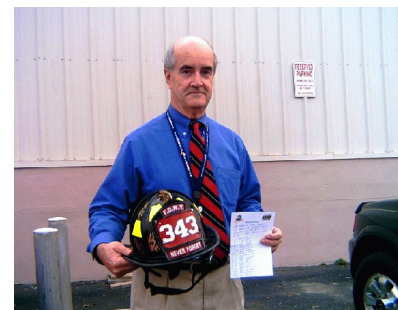
On Sunday, October 26, 2003 the 28th running of the Marine Corps Marathon occurred in Washington, DC. The 26.2-mile course took runners past the Pentagon and our national monuments. The race began with 16,456 runners--15,965 runners finished.

Several of Maryland's Finest participated in the Marine Marathon. Sergeant John Morton, 38 years old, from the Prince Frederick Barracks represented MSP. This was his third marathon. Sergeant Morton finished the race in 4 hours and 28 minutes. This was his personal best time. Deputy Fire Marshal Donald Brenneman, 54 years old, represented the local Fire Marshal's Office. This was his sixth marathon. Brenneman finished the race in 4 hours and 11 minutes. Brenneman is a retired TFC who devoted 28 years to the department. Runners were able to return to duty a little sore, but injury free.

The 2004 Marine Corps Marathon will be held on October 31, 2004. Prospective runners are encouraged to start training now.

RETIREE WINS SIGNED NYPD HELMET

Sergeant (Ret.) Patrick J. Byrne simply wanted to support the Middleborough Volunteer Fire Department when he bought his raffle ticket several months ago. But when he received the call that he had won first place, he was elated. He won a NYPD fireman's helmet signed in gold by NASCAR drivers Rusty Wallace, Terry Labonte, Matt Kenseth, Bobby Labonte, Tony Stewart, Jimmy Johnson, Kurt Busch, Jeff Burton and many more.



Sgt. (Ret.) Patrick Byrne proudly displays the NYPD helmet he won recently.

MARYLAND'S SEATBELT USAGE IS HIGHEST ON EAST COAST

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announced recently that Maryland motorists are buckling up in record numbers, giving the State the highest seat belt compliance rate on the East Coast and one of the highest in the country. Eighty-eight percent of Maryland motorists are now using their seat belts as they travel, a full two percent increase over last year's seatbelt usage rate representing the fact that 75,000 additional Marylanders are buckling up. That is more people than can be seated in the Baltimore Ravens' M&T Bank Stadium.

"Buckling your seat belt is the difference between life and death," said Governor Ehrlich. "While we are pleased to see progress being made in Maryland, we must continue our public education efforts and enforce Maryland's seat belt laws to ensure that not one life is lost from failure to use a seat belt."

Maryland's seat belt usage results were obtained from observational surveys conducted at more than 100 sites throughout the State. Passenger car occupants were observed to buckle up 90 percent of the time, while pickup truck drivers and passengers buckle up less frequently at nearly 78 percent of the time for a combined use rate of 88 percent. Safety belt use across the United States also reached an all-time high of 79 percent this year. In fatal crashes analyzed over a nine-year period from 1994-2002, more than 47 percent of drivers and 54 percent of passengers killed in car crashes were not in seat belts.

Maryland's increased seat belt usage rate also can be attributed to a strong seat belt law, which allows for primary enforcement of seat belt violations, along with a comprehensive enforcement and educational campaign launched after the passage of the law in 1997. Maryland is one of only 20 states with this type of seat belt law. A primary enforcement law allows police officers to stop a vehicle if the driver or a front seat passenger is not wearing a seat belt.

WE APOLOGIZE

In the September/October 2003 issue we misidentified the winner of the Superintendent's Pistol Match-Retirees Category. The winner was Cpl. (Ret.) John Hopf.

BOYS OF SUMMER

by TFC Brian Smith, Frederick Barracks

For over two decades, the Maryland State Police Softball Raiders have competed in local and national softball tournaments across the nation. Players from previous teams and up and coming new players again propelled the team to be competitive in every tournament entered. The team experienced both high and low points during the 2003 season.

The team kicked off the 2003 season with a trip to Jacksonville, Florida during the last week of April and brought home a third place finish out of 21 teams. TFC Chuck Hill, Steve Jurgens and Brian Smith were selected to the all-tournament team for exceptional play throughout the tournament.

Nashville, Tennessee was the second stop for the team during the first weekend in June, and again, another solid third place finish out of 26 teams for the boys from Maryland. Captain Marty Knight and TFC Kevin Ringgold led the team and were named to the all tournament team.

During the third weekend in June, the team competed in the 19th Annual Law Enforcement Memorial Tournament in Montgomery County, Maryland against 18 teams. Newly retired First Sergeant Bill Brooks organized members from teams past and current team members to bring home an impressive second place finish behind the New Jersey FOP/Team Mizuno.

With two solid showings, the team was ranked second in the Law Enforcement Softball Association National Point Standings heading into the 33rd Annual National Championships in Dayton, Ohio in mid-July. This tournament is the showcase for law enforcement softball and consistently draws between 45 and 65 teams from across the nation. Local media and public officials support the tournament and it is heavily attended by Dayton residents. The double elimination format tournament forces a team to be on top of its game from the beginning. A decisive opening round victory over St. Louis, Missouri set up a second round bout with the New Jersey State Police, another A+ team and one that MSP has battled with for years. After trailing by as many as 12 runs, the MSP team battled back to tie only to lose a

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BOYS OF SUMMER *(continued)*

heartbreaking 23-22 defeat. The team then reeled off wins against the Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio teams and the Virginia Lawmen to set up a showdown with the number one ranked team in the nation, Wayne/Oakland, Michigan. Again, the MSP team played catch-up, but didn't quit. The lead changed hands several times only to find MSP on the short end of a 19-18 defeat. Two one-run losses left the team devastated.

The team made its routine appearance at the local Anne Arundel County tournament in mid-August coming in as the defending champions, competing against 22 teams. Injuries and poor commitments were a factor and the team finished in fifth place. Playing against Suffolk County, New York, the team again experienced the highs and lows that competition can bring. Trailing by six runs going into the top of the 7th, the team rallied to score 13 runs with two outs and nobody on, only to see New York score eight runs in the bottom of the 7th to win by one.

The team concluded the year with their annual trip to Orlando, Florida, during the first weekend of October. Five days before the team left, not knowing if they would have enough people to play, the team came away with an impressive third place finish. The tournament of 18 teams was probably the most competitive tournament the team played in several years with the top eight teams capable of winning any tournament they played. MSP got a little revenge in the first game by beating the New Jersey State Police in extra innings 25-19.

Impressive wins over Miami, Florida; Warrick, Rhode Island; the Ohio Lawmen; and a last inning victory over Delaware left the MSP as one of the two undefeated teams playing against Kentucky. MSP led most of the game until a big 4th inning for Kentucky left the team unable to recover. The team was eliminated by this year's national champions from New York Metro. Corporals Jimmy Russell and Pete Spaulding and TFC Rob "Ollie" North were chosen for the All Tournament Team for their exceptional play throughout the tournament.

Team members included:

Major Don Lewis Commander, Aviation Division	Cpl. Rich Poffenberger Hagerstown Barracks
Captain Marty Knight Commander, Centreville Barracks	Cpl. Steve Bowman Glen Burnie Barracks
Captain Mike Spaulding Commander, Leonardtown Barracks	TFC Rob Fischer CVES
Lieutenant Ray Wojcik Criminal Investigation Division	TFC Kevin Ringgold Glen Burnie Barracks
Lieutenant Don Knott Retired	TFC Chuck Hill Golden Ring Barracks
First Sergeant Bill Brooks Retired	TFC Steve Jurgens North East Barracks
Cpl. Pete Spaulding Security Services	TFC Frank Fornoff Westminster Barracks
Cpl. Jim Wobbleton Glen Burnie Barracks	TFC Mike Evans Retired
Cpl. Jimmy Russell North East Barracks	TFC Brian Smith Frederick Barracks
	TFC Rob North Frederick Barracks
	Trooper John Edelen Forestville Barracks

NEW YEAR
Greetings

RETIREMENTS

Carr, Jerrell M., TFC, Prince Frederick Barracks, December 1, 2003, 6 years and 4 months of service

Diggs, Jay, Sergeant, Aviation Division, December 1, 2003, 29 years and 11 months of service

Gilbert, John C., TFC, Waterloo Barracks, December 1, 2003, 4 years 11 months of service

Herron, Vernon R., Captain, Motor Vehicle Section, December 1, 2003, 27 years and 4 months of service

McCumbie, Sonis, Personnel Associate III, Personnel Services Unit, November 1, 2003, 29 years of service

Rayne, Barbara J., Administrative Aide, Technical Investigation Division, November 30, 2003, nearly 30 years of service

Sellers, Gerald L., TFC, Firearms Registration Section, November 1, 2003, 13 years and 4 months of service

Snyder, Roger, TFC, Criminal Investigation Division, November 1, 2003, 21 years and 11 months of service

Vogt, William H., Sergeant, Electronic Systems Division, December 1, 2003, more than 33 years of service

Wisnom, Brian D., Sergeant, Easton Barracks, December 1, 2003, 13 years of service

Wooten, Sidney "Ray", Corporal Paramedic, Aviation Division, November 1, 2003, 14 years and 3 months of service

BIRTHS

Blades, Brooke Leigh, born October 21, 2003 to TFC Chasity D. Blades (Drug Enforcement Command) and her husband, Cpl. Gary Blades of the Dorchester Sheriff's Office

Harper, Alexis Marie and Victoria Lane, born October 31, 2003 to Tpr. Drew Harper (Easton Barracks) and wife

Romano, Michael Anthony, born November 12, 2003 to TFC Anthony J. Romano (Berlin Barracks) and wife, Lori

DEATHS

Booth, Marion D., October 23, 2003, mother of TFC Wayne Johnson, Bel Air Barracks

Broseker, H., December 2, 2003, son of Supply Officer R. Wayne Broseker, Quartermaster Section

Corbett, Peggy, November 2, 2003, mother of Personnel Associate II Mary Ann Sanders, Medical Unit

Crouch, Alice R., October 23, 2003, mother of Sgt. Ron Crouch, Easton Barracks

Darmafall, Paul, October 27, 2003, father of Sgt. Jody Ressin, Golden Ring Barracks

Diehl, Orpha L., December 4, 2003, mother of Transportation Inspector James F. Diehl, CVES

Gaument, Colette, November 6, 2003, volunteer, Berlin Barracks, served the MSP for seven years

Gosnell, Jack, December 9, 2003, former Trooper and a Past President of the Maryland State Police Alumni Association

Graham, Richard J., Sr., November 30, 2003, father of Sgt. (Ret.) Richard J. Graham, Jr. and grandfather of Sgt. Richard J. Graham III, Cumberland Barracks

(continued on next page)

DEATHS (continued)

Hardy, Janet, October 26, 2003, daughter of TFC Richard Hardy, North East Barracks

Leyrer, William M., November 27, 2003, Clerk (Ret.), served the MSP from 1940 to 1970

Mabble, William, November 19, 2003, brother of Maintenance Chief James Mabble, Facilities Management Section

Mathew, Mary, November 18, 2003, mother of Radio Technician III Jose Mathew, Electronic Services Section

Patchell, Adelaide, November 14, 2003, mother-in-law of Administrative Officer Ralph A. McCardell, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Section

Plante, Richard L., September 15, 2003, brother of TFC Russell A. Plante, Hagerstown Barracks

Maryland State Police
Media Communications Section
1201 Reisterstown Road
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Ritchie, Erma Cooper, November 19, 2003, mother-in-law of Sgt. Douglass Doak, Operations Bureau

Robey, Henry, November 12, 2003, uncle of Susan L. Kandel, Licensing Division and brother-in-law of Ann Robey, Criminal Investigation Division

Schramm, Harold, November 11, 2003, grandfather of TFC Brian Broadwater and TFC Eric Schramm, McHenry Barracks

Sowers, Susan Marie, November 5, 2003, mother of PCO I Mary Conn, Bel Air Barracks

Stansbury, Charles, December 3, 2003, grandfather of Cadet Timothy Swigert, CVES

Ward, Barbara Jean, November 16, 2003, mother-in-law of PCO II Philip Fister, Waterloo Barracks

Ziegler, Robert K., December 11, 2003, father of Robert K. (Ken) Ziegler, Jr., Governor's Office

The *Maryland Trooper* is published bimonthly by the Maryland State Police Media Communications Section, 1201 Reisterstown Road, Pikesville, MD 21208-3899, 410-653-4239. Articles or suggestions can be forwarded to the editor, or call us at our toll free number, 1-800-525-5555.

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Michael S. Steele
Lieutenant Governor

Colonel Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins
Superintendent

Major Gregory M. Shipley
Commander, Media Communications Section

Denise K. Masimore
Editor

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