



# LAFAYETTE SHERIFF



**“Serving the community with courtesy, professionalism and respect.”**

*Law enforcement working together with the community to prevent and solve crimes is a tough barrier for criminals to overcome.*

## “Are You O.K.?” Service To Assist Elderly

Within the next few months, the Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office will launch a new service to assist elderly citizens living independently in our community. “Are You O.K.?” is a computer generated Telephone Reassurance System that phones subscribers daily at a pre-determined time to make sure all is well. The system assumes that you are ok if you’re able to answer the telephone. If the computer calls and gets no answer, an alarm sounds at the computer terminal housed in LPSO communications, signaling a possible emergency. At the time of the alarm, the computer also generates information submitted by the subscriber at registration, the subscriber’s address, medical history, doctor, and next of kin. Dispatchers take steps to contact the subscriber, family members/neighbors and/or dispatch emergency personnel to assist if necessary.



This system is designed to assist the elderly who may still be active and healthy, but live alone and need a safe way to remain in contact with someone to ensure that all is well. Sheriff Neustrom commented, “This is an opportunity for our office to provide an additional free service for elderly citizens. We hope that subscribers feel safer, knowing that they will receive a daily call to confirm that all is well, and if there is a problem, they will have an opportunity to seek assistance. We feel that this service will also benefit family members of subscribers by providing an additional support system for their loved ones.” At this time, the system is being tested, and Sheriff Neustrom and other LPSO officials are meeting with area law enforcement officials to educate them about the program. The Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office is hoping to offer this program to Lafayette Parish residents this spring.

If you would like to participate in this program, or if you have a friend or family member who could benefit from this service, contact the Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office at 337-232-9211. Look for additional updates about this program on our website at [www.lafayettesheriff.com](http://www.lafayettesheriff.com).

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## Message from Sheriff Michael W. Neustrom

Happy New Year!

As we move forward in 2004, I encourage you to make a special effort to improve safety for yourself and your loved ones. Safety and awareness should be a habit – and as we all know, consistently practicing an action leads to habit. Join your local Neighborhood Watch program! Our crime prevention officer, Chief Albert Glaude (236-5613), is available to assist the community with Neighborhood Watch programs and other crime

prevention tips.

This spring, our office will offer an opportunity to bring additional comfort and security to elderly citizens of Lafayette Parish with the *Are You Ok?* Phone assurance program. I encourage you to review the article about this program in this issue of our newsletter and contact our Elderly Assistance Program at 231-6340 or 232-9211 if you would like to sign up, or if you would like



additional information. *Are You OK?* is another program designed to effectively team technology and law enforcement to make Lafayette a safer place for everyone.

The 2004 Sheriff Neustrom Open is scheduled for Monday, May 3, 2004 at Hebert Municipal Golf Course. Contact our office at 236-5614 for information about sponsorship opportunities. This tournament is a fundraiser for



Sheriff Michael W. Neustrom

youth programs offered by the Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office, including our annual Youth Golf

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## LPSO Staff Inspections

The CALEA staff of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office's Administrative Services Division has been busy conducting Staff Inspections during January. Staff inspections involve a team of inspectors from throughout LPSO visiting each section, conducting interviews, inspecting various equipment, forms, work areas, vehicles and weapons.



Deputy Randy Mata conducts a weapon inspection as part of LPSO Staff Inspections as Detective Carol Clavelle stands by to answer any questions.

The inspections are conducted in order to ensure compliance with LPSO General Orders and Policy and Procedure. After completion of the staff inspections, team leaders are responsible for submitting reports, with documentation, to Major Roy Frusha regarding compliance as well as a suggested plan of action for any deficiencies that were determined during the inspection. Major Frusha will forward his report to the Division Heads responsible for any suggested plan of action and subsequently submit a final report to Sheriff Neustrom. As with many other CALEA procedures, Sheriff Neustrom and his administrative team use Staff

Inspections as a method of evaluating personnel, facilities and equipment in order to determine whether any adjustments need to be made in order to improve our ability to serve Lafayette Parish with "courtesy, professionalism and respect."

## Zerangue Fundraiser



Sheriff Mike Neustrom, Deputy Pat Faul and Sgt Greg Kirsch visited Sgt Gervis Zerangue recently to present him with a check to assist with medical and living expenses as he recovers from a motorcycle accident. The Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office along with the Lafayette Police Department, Lafayette City Marshal's Office, LA State Police, and the Lafayette Clerk of Court joined forces with the community to raise funds to assist Sgt Zerangue by offering a fundraiser dinner and raffle this past November. Raffle winners were 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - Sonny Stutes; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - J. Prather; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - Mike Bodin, Jr and 4<sup>th</sup> Prize - Modine Landry. We extend our thanks to all who contributed to this event!

## Award Winners

**LPSO Deputy of the Quarter Winners**  
for the period of  
October, November, December, 2003 include:

*Administration*  
**Deputy Yvonne Gary**

*Corrections*  
**Lt. Kevin Broussard**

*Enforcement*  
**Deputy Tom Stith**



Deputy of the Quarter winners: (l-r) Deputy Tom Stith, Yvonne Gary, Sheriff Neustrom, Lt Kevin Broussard.

## Recent LPSO Retirees Honored

**Deputy Sanford Menard**  
Corrections, 15 Years of Service

**Sergeant Bonnie Boudreaux**  
Civil & Tax, 23 Years of Service

**Sergeant James Walters**  
Corrections, 18 Years of Service

**Detective Don Cobb**  
Enforcement, 30 Years of Service

**Deputy Warren Guilbeau**  
Enforcement, 19 Years of Service

**Deputy James Picard**  
Corrections, 31 Years of Service

**Deputy Eddie Estillette**  
(Deceased)  
Corrections, 20 Years of Service



Recent Retirees include - James Walters, Sanford Menard, Warren Guilbeaux, and James Picard shown here with Sheriff Mike Neustrom at the January award ceremony.

## LPCC Construction Update

(Lafayette Parish Correctional Center Construction Update – Phase I is 85% complete – Phase II and III 5% complete)

### Maintenance Building and Food Service Storage Building

Work continued on the new loading dock that will be located between the Maintenance and Food Service Storage Buildings of the LPCC. The Loading Dock is a much needed addition for this facility due to the high number of deliveries of materials necessary to run this 814 bed facility that operates 24 hours a day 365 days each year. The old canopy between the two buildings was removed, and the slanted walkway was replaced. (See pictures). Electricity has been installed in both the Food Service Storage Building and the Maintenance Building, the doors have been hung on the frames, the security glazing has been placed into the windows, and the HVAC and plumbing are nearing completion. All of these improvements will improve the operating efficiency of this area as well as provide some badly needed dry storage space for the facility.



### Windows

The replacement of windows throughout the facility is officially complete. As stated in previous updates, window screens were placed on the inside of the new



windows in order to reduce access and vandalism, and a new opaque Lexan glazing was placed on the outside of the window. We have received many compliments about this portion of the renovations, specifically about the improved look of the Correctional Center, as well as the reduction of noise and traffic on the perimeter of the facility.

**Pod 1C** - Considerable progress was made in the 1C housing area this quarter. Walls were put in place, a handicap accessible shower and toilet were installed, and Inmate Workers painted the area, under the supervision of LPCC Deputies. This area will be opened for housing after the completion of the HVAC system and ceiling.



**Phase II and III** - The bid for the doors and locks has been awarded, and pre-construction meetings have been conducted to coordinate installation. Inmate workers and LPCC Maintenance Staff will be responsible for a portion of the work necessary for installation of the doors and locks.

**Items left outstanding** - The sprinkler system and security controls package (cameras, intercoms and door locking devices) are currently in various stages of the bid process. The contract for the Video Visitation System was recently signed and work will begin on this project within the next couple of months.

All of these improvements will enhance the operating efficiency of the facility, which will make the facility more cost efficient to operate, and consequently a better utilization of tax dollars. The project is funded with revenue generated through a parish wide, voter approved bond sale in July 2001.

## Babin Promoted to Captain

Sheriff Mike Neustrom is pleased to announce the promotion of John Babin, to the rank of Captain, effective December 15, 2003. Babin, a 20-year veteran of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, will lead the Metro Narcotics Task Force for the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, together with Captain Mark Lambert who is assigned the same role with the Lafayette Police Department.

Captain Babin, who joined the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office in 1984 as a Corrections Deputy, has previous work experience in Metro Narcotics as part of the Street Team and as an Investigator where he received the prestigious 100 Club Award in 1994. He has also worked in Patrol, Warrants, and most recently as an Investigator in the Crimes Against Persons Section of the Enforcement Division. Captain Babin lists his most memorable achievement to date as the investigation that led to the arrest and conviction of Kenry Lewis for the murder of Tiffany Ulmer. According to Captain Babin, "Lewis was someone who needed to be taken off the streets."

As he begins his assignment



Captain John Babin

with Metro Narcotics, priority areas for Captain Babin include improved staffing of the Task Force and an expanded working relationship with neighboring agencies throughout Acadiana. Babin is excited about his new assignment, and is eager to work with Sheriff Neustrom, other members of the Metro Narcotics team, and the community to keep illegal narcotics out of our area.

According to Major Art LeBreton, "Captain Babin has the knowledge, skills and ability to advance the Metro Narcotics Task Force. His experience encompasses a variety of assignments that enhance his diverse law enforcement background. He is committed to his chosen profession and displays a passion to serve the community."

## Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch, according to the National Sheriff's Association, is undoubtedly one of the oldest and most recognized crime prevention concepts in history. While the modern day concept of Neighborhood Watch came into prominence in the late 1960s in response to an increasing burglary rate, its roots in America can actually be traced all the way back to the days of Colonial settlements when night watchmen patrolled the streets.

The National Sheriff's Association (NSA) took this crime prevention concept a step further by making it a national initiative — the National Neighborhood Watch Program. Law enforcement leaders were looking for a crime prevention program which would incorporate citizen involvement, and which

would address the increasing number of burglaries taking place, especially in rural

and suburban residential areas. Sheriff Neustrom agrees with and strongly supports this crime prevention concept. "Law enforcement working together with the community to prevent and solve crimes is a tough barrier for criminals to overcome. Our Neighborhood Watch groups have proven to be effective, therefore we hope to significantly increase the number of participants in 2004."

Chief Albert Glaude, Community Liaison/Crime Prevention Officer for

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## Neighborhood Watch – continued

the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office is currently working with fourteen different Neighborhood Watch Groups throughout Lafayette Parish. Chief Glaude assists neighborhoods as they develop their Neighborhood Watch Groups,

communicates regularly with Neighborhood Captains and Deputies about activities in each area, and attends meetings to further discuss potential problems and solutions.

If you are interested in starting

a Neighborhood Crime Watch program in Lafayette Parish, or if you would like to obtain more information about the process, contact Chief Glaude at 337-236-5613.



### LAFAYETTE PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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### Congratulations to the following LPSO Deputies who have completed at least 40 hours of fitness at the LPSO Fitness Center during 2003.

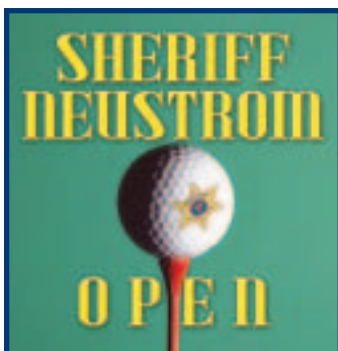
**Barbara Joe, Patty Denais, Amelia (Vanessa) Cormier, Chad Canezaro, Marjorie Hough, Willis Arceneaux, Linda Peterman, Susan VanKerkhove, Francis Green, Trudy Rackliffe, Brian Louviere, Dale Thomas, Glenda Prejean, Ella Benoit, Pat LeBouef, and Cindy Overfelt.**

Each Deputy who completed at least 40 hours, and recorded their time properly on their fitness record, received a LPSO "Body for Life" t-shirt for their accomplishment. Keep up the fitness in 2004!

### Sheriff's message –

Clinic and Tournament that is held each summer.

I welcome your comments and suggestions about all Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office activities and programs. Contact us with your comments at 232-9211 by phone, or via email at [lpsoinfo@lafayettesheriff.com](mailto:lpsoinfo@lafayettesheriff.com).



### Mark your calendars!

**2004 Sheriff Neustrom Open is scheduled for Monday, May 3, 2004 at Hebert Municipal Golf Course. Contact the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office at 236-5614 for information about sponsorship opportunities.**

## Detective William "Don" Cobb Is Retiring from the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office after 30 Years of Service

Detective William "Don" Cobb began his LPSO career under Sheriff Listi and has worked under four different sheriffs. Detective Cobb's latest duty with LPSO was Investigator assigned to the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney, however he has also served as Patrol Deputy, and CID Detective (Burglary and Theft and Crime Against Persons Sections). Detective Cobb's duties with CID also included Supervising the first Internal Affairs Section of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office in the late 80's and work with the Lafayette Parish Correctional Center handling Disciplinary Matters.

According to Don Cobb, his most memorable assignments included "investigative work assisting other agencies involved with three different serial killer investigations that stretched across several states during the 1980's," security for President Ronald Reagan during his visit to Lafayette, and security for Governor Edward's Inauguration that was held at Cajunfield.

Don Cobb is an exceptional cook who routinely volunteers with the Cooks Behind the Badge to cook at various charity events in our community. He and his wife Delores also travel throughout the country to participate in cooking competitions – he has won national honors in several "invitational only" events. Cobb lists barbequing as his area of expertise and his latest award winning creation is Chicken Stuffed Chicken. (We hope to see Don around the office with samples from dishes that he has prepared now that he has more time to spend on cooking). Other planned activities during retirement include traveling, and spending more time with his two children and three grandchildren.

Congratulations on your retirement, and thanks for your many years of service to Lafayette Parish!



Sheriff Mike Neustrom and  
Detective William "Don" Cobb