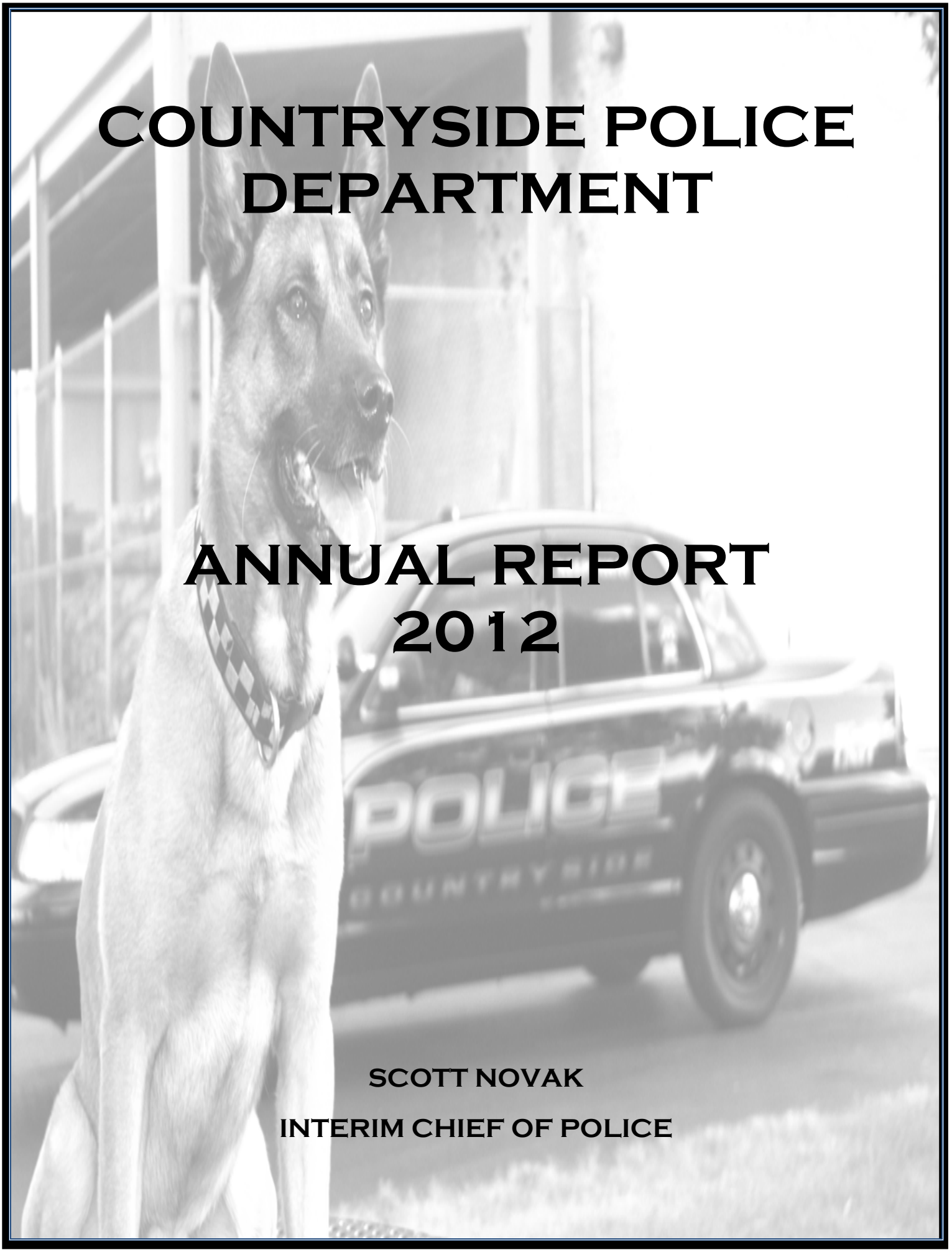


COUNTRYSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

SCOTT NOVAK

INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

City of Countryside

Police Department

March 10, 2013

Mayor Ed Krzeminski
City of Countryside
5550 East Avenue
Countryside, IL 60525

Dear Mayor Krzeminski:

On behalf of the men and women of the Countryside Police Department, I am honored to present our Annual Report for 2012. This report is a collaboration of statistical data, department programs, and enforcement activities which transpired throughout the year. This report also acts as a resource for City Officials, Law Enforcement Professionals, and the residents and guests of the City of Countryside.

In 2012, the Department responded to 6,934 calls for service which was less than a 1% increase over 2011. Although calls for service remained consistent, crime rose by 12% when compared to the statistical data of 2011. This is due in part to the dramatic increase in property crimes experienced throughout our jurisdiction during the early part of the year. Fortunately, combined enforcement efforts were able to bring successful resolution to these issues in our community.

I would like to recognize the retirement of Department members in 2012. Officer Ernest Millsap, a 25 year veteran with a distinguished career, retired in August, as did K-9 Rico after serving for 6 years. In November, 2012 Police Chief Michael Ruth resigned. Chief Ruth made great strides in the 2 years he served the Department and was instrumental in implementing the community policing philosophy within our department. I wish all of them success in their future endeavors. The retirements, along with past vacancies brought the opportunity for new faces within the organization. Officer Ryan Jakubowski and Officer Paul Lanzi were hired in October and are great assets to the organization.

The year's biggest undertaking, however, was the decision to outsource the Department's Communication Center to Southwest Central Dispatch. Although the decision to outsource did not come lightly, the move will greatly improve officer safety and police service to the community, supply a reliable communications system for officers, and provide significant cost savings to the City.

The members of the Countryside Police Department are committed to service and excellence. I would like to thank you, the members of the City Council and the citizens of this community for their loyal support of this organization and its mission.

Sincerely,

Scott Novak
Interim Chief of Police

Mission Statement

The Countryside Police Department is a professional, values-based organization where community oriented policing is a way of life. It is the foundation upon which our police department was built since it began in 1961. We are dedicated to preserving the safety and wellbeing of our community as we strive to deliver excellence to those we serve through professionalism and uncompromising integrity.

The mission of the Countryside Police Department is to:

- Deter crime and apprehend criminals;
- Maintain strong police-community relations; and to
- Continually enhance the training and expertise of each member of the police force.

VALUES

INTEGRITY ★ **COURAGE** ★ **EXCELLENCE** ★ **RESPECT** ★ **COMPASSION** ★ **DEDICATION**

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Organizational Component Summaries

1

Office of the Chief

Office of the Chief

The Office of the Chief consists of the Chief of Police, senior management team, and support staff. The role of this office is to provide leadership, direction, and vision to the Department in the fulfillment of its overall mission. Chief Michael Ruth served as Countryside Police Chief from 2010 until October, 2012. **Deputy Chief Scott Novak** is currently serving as Interim Chief of Police. **Deputy Chief Scott Novak** has served the Countryside Police Department since 1993 and leads Field Operations with the support of **Master Sergeant John Mikel** who has served since 1988. Providing critical support services is **Administrative Assistant Margaret Carey**.






Field Operations

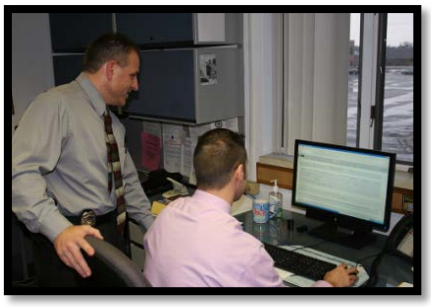
Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is the largest component of the Countryside Police Department. The Patrol Division is responsible for responding to both emergency and non-emergency calls for service from the public, handling special assignments, and proactively addressing community concerns. Patrol Officers are responsible for protection of life and property, helping to maintain peace, order and safety to all, conducting preliminary investigations, enforcing the Illinois Criminal Code and traffic laws, as well as City Ordinances. The Countryside Police Department encourages Patrol Officers to take a proactive approach to interacting with the community and its residents. During 2012, Patrol Officers responded to 6,934 total calls for service regarding criminal offenses, traffic crashes, alarm activations, disturbances, traffic complaints, and other miscellaneous events.

The Patrol Division is divided into three shifts in order to provide continuous 24-hour police service. Each shift is supervised by a Sergeant or Officer in Charge. The Department supplements traditional patrol units with Officers trained to perform ancillary functions such as that of Evidence Technicians, Field Training Officer, Elderly Services Officer, and DARE Officer.



Investigations Division



The Investigations Division is a specialized unit staffed with law enforcement professionals who possess special skills and training, generally above that of an average patrol officer. These special skills allow investigators to handle follow-up investigations and investigate crime that is complex or geographically beyond the reach and control of patrol division officers. Based on their assignment and the opportunistic nature of criminals, investigators are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The Countryside Police Department's Investigative staff is comprised of 3 investigators. Two investigators share the responsibility of conducting follow-up investigation, managing property and evidence, and augmenting the patrol division when needed. These investigators are also assigned to two mutual aid task forces, The Major Case Assistance Team (MCAT) and The South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force (SSMCTF).

A rash of "burglaries to auto" occurred in 2012. Countryside Police Detectives, along with other local departments, coordinated efforts to investigate and bring resolution to these crimes.

2012 Assigned Cases	
Homicide	**0**
Death Investigation	**5**
Sex Crimes	**7**
Burglary/Home Inv	**17**
Burglary to Vehicle	**1**
Theft	**57**
Battery/Assault	**26**
Weapons/Narcotics	**15**
Forgery/Fraud	**16**
Property Damage	**17**
Other	**30**



In 2012, the Countryside Police Investigations Division reviewed 475 criminal cases. Of these 475 cases, 191 were assigned to investigators for follow-up. Investigators dedicated 409 man-power-hours to conduct these follow-up investigations.

High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)



Our third investigator is detailed to the Illinois State Police HIDTA Unit. This unit is tasked with the investigation and interdiction of narcotics and money laundering related crimes throughout the State of Illinois. In 2012, the HIDTA Unit generated $59,797.19 in seizure funds to the police department which are used to support our law enforcement efforts. This number reflects a decrease from 2011. Disbursements of forfeiture funds can vary greatly from year-to-year depending on the seizing entity and the status of court proceedings.

Police K-9 Unit

End of an Era



After a long and rigorous interview process in mid 2003, Countryside Police **Officer Joe DiGangi** was named the department's newest K-9 handler. After 6 weeks of specialized training at Landheim Training Center in Indiana, Officer DiGangi and his new partner Dago, made their first appearance on the streets of Countryside on December 19, 2003. Dago, a 2 year old German Shepherd, was born in Germany and imported to the United States to serve as a police service dog due to his strong work drive and intelligence. Dago was a "dual-purpose" dog trained in narcotics detection, article searches, tracking, criminal apprehension, and handler protection.



Dago quickly bonded with Officer DiGangi, other members of the department, and the community. Officer DiGangi and Dago were frequent visitors to Ideal School, block parties, and other functions where they displayed Dago's many talents. Officer DiGangi and Dago were also major contributors to the success of the Major Case Assistance Team (MCAT). Because of their special skills, Officer DiGangi and Dago were often called upon by MCAT and other police departments to assist in locating narcotics, fleeing suspects, conducting building searches, and recovering evidence.

Sadly, Dago was killed in the line of duty on August 4, 2006, while searching for a felony suspect in a neighboring jurisdiction. Because of their tremendous sacrifice, Officer DiGangi and Dago were awarded the Medal of Valor and recognized by numerous law enforcement organizations throughout the State of Illinois as heroes.





A short time later, Officer DiGangi agreed to remain the K-9 handler for the Countryside Police Department and in November 2006, K-9 Rico became the newest addition to the department. Rico, also a dual-purpose dog, was a 2 year old Belgian Malinois imported from Holland. Officer DiGangi and Rico patrolled the streets of Countryside and celebrated many accomplishments until August 2012 when Rico retired from police services.



Police K-9 Unit (continued)



During Officer DiGangi's tenure as a K-9 handler, and in addition to his normal patrol duties, he and his partners were assigned to over 2,900 K-9 assignments, attended over 1,700 hours of job specific training, had over 2,000 community contacts, and were responsible for seizing almost $700,000.00 in currency. All of this was in addition to the numerous amounts of lucent narcotics he and his partners removed from our streets over the years.

The Countryside Police Department is extremely proud of Officer Joe DiGangi and the quality of service he, Dago, and Rico brought to the department and the City of Countryside, not to mention, his numerous accomplishments as a K-9 handler. Recognizing the importance of the K-9 Unit, the Countryside Police Department hopes to reestablish this unit in the near future.



This photo appeared on the front page of the September 8, 2004 edition of the Suburban Life newspaper. Though actually gentle by nature, Dago looks quite intimidating while demonstrating "attack mode" with Officer DiGangi.

Evidence Technicians

The Countryside Police Department introduced an Evidence Technician Unit in 2011. The unit consists of 3 specially trained officers who, in addition to regular patrol duties, are responsible for **recovering and processing crime scene evidence**. The Evidence Technicians utilize sophisticated equipment such as digital photography and latent fingerprint development equipment to learn the identity of criminal offenders. **2012 Evidence Technician Officers: Agostino Alonzo, Ken Goluszka, and Jim Stern.**



Our Evidence Technician/Patrol Officers originally completed a 2-week, 80 hour certification course. They receive 40 hours of additional training each year.

The Evidence Technician's duties include:

- Identifying, collecting, and preserving trace evidence
- Locating and preserving fingerprints
- Documenting crime scenes through still photography, video, diagrams, and drawings
- Field testing suspected illegal drugs
- Testimony in criminal court



Evidence Technician Alonzo processes a vehicle for latent fingerprints.



He is successful in developing fingerprint evidence.

The Evidence Technician Unit was called upon many times in 2012 to process crime scenes and serious motor vehicle crashes in Countryside. Some of the crime scenes that were investigated in 2012 include:

- Death Investigation
- Arson and Weapon Offenses
- Serious Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Burglary (residential/business/motor vehicle)
- Crimes Against Person (assault and battery)
- Home Invasion
- Damage to City Property



In 2013, the Countryside Police Department looks forward to expanding the Evidence Technician Program by adding 2 new certified officers to the program.

Bicycle Unit

The Countryside Police Department Bicycle Unit provides police patrols to areas that are inaccessible to vehicular patrol and makes officers more accessible to the public. The 2012 bicycle unit operated from May to September, with a special patrol on Halloween night. During the Halloween patrol, bicycle officers handed out candy and light sticks to kids trick-or-treating through the streets of Countryside. In addition to their regular patrols, the unit also provided security at Concerts in the Park.

The Bicycle Unit is a visible patrol asset that is tasked with making community contacts while on patrol. By employing the special patrol techniques, the Bicycle Unit was responsible for several arrests, including an arrest for child endangerment.

Our 2012 Bicycle Unit Officers were:

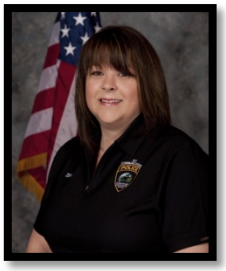
Sergeant Anthony Boyd
Sergeant John Andree
Officer Agostino Alonzo
Officer April Bisignani
Officer Kelly Kalker
Officer Nate McDonald
Officer Karl Rodey
Officer Jim Stern



Bicycle Officer Kelly Kalker
with Safety Pup

Administrative Services

Communications

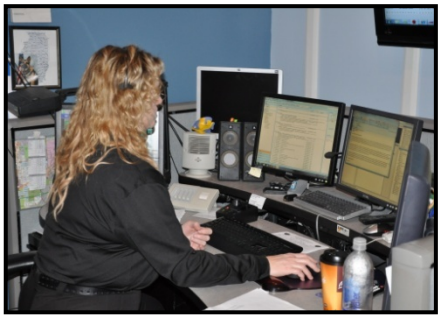


Supervised by **Communications Supervisor Patricia Littlejohn,** the Communications Center was operated by 5 full-time Desk Officers and 1 part-time Desk Officer. Communications personnel rotate 3 shifts to ensure 24/7 coverage. The Communications Center is the lifeline to the officers on the street. Desk Officers are responsible for knowing the location of officers and coordinating efforts between the officers and callers who request their assistance.

During 2012, the **Center received 20,828 administrative telephone calls and 5,793 E-911 calls**. Of the over 26,621 calls received, 6,934 calls resulted in dispatch for police, fire, or EMS services. The remaining calls were requests for information or non-emergency police or fire services.

Staffing the Communications Center during 2012, were:

Patricia Littlejohn—Communications Supervisor
Cathy Rothbard—Desk Officer
Donna Goluszka—Desk Officer
Guadalupe Hamernik—Desk Officer/Records Clerk
Lori McLaughlin—Desk Officer
Laurie Frohlich—Part-Time Desk Officer



Records Department



The Records Unit was staffed by **Guadalupe Hamernik** in the year 2012**.** This unit is responsible for the accurate reporting and archive of all reports of criminal, non-criminal, and traffic activity handled by the Department. During calendar year 2012, official police reports and documents, ranging from parking citations to crash and arrest reports, were processed and archived by the unit.

The Records Unit is also responsible for:

Compiling monthly reports
Court adjudication
LEADS coordination
FOIA requests
Subpoenas
Expungements
Red Light program
Parking Tickets / Collections

School Crossing Guards

The Countryside Police Department currently employs four part-time school crossing guards: **Angelica Alvarez, Ana Gonzalez, Lisa Garcia, and Therese Schey.** We were excited to welcome Ana Gonzalez in August, 2012. We would also like to recognize **Juana Vielma** who was hired as a part-time crossing guard to cover for an extended absence.

The responsibility of each crossing guard is to ensure safe passage of students on their route to and from school. Each crossing guard is assigned a specific location.

The locations are:

- 7th Avenue at Plainfield Road
- 55th Street at Plainfield Road
- 58th Street at Francis Avenue
- In front of Ideal School on 58th Street



Officer Rodey with Crossing Guards Angelica Alvarez and Therese Schey

Our crossing guards attended the 15th annual Township "Crossing Guard Training Session" sponsored by Lyons Township, with other crossing guards from the neighboring towns of LaGrange, Hinsdale, Hodgkins, Brookfield, and Lyons. The 2012 training session was held at the Hodgkins Village Hall. Topics included: job description, importance of their position, police assistance, child predators, and public image. Sergeant John Mikel presented on the topic of pedestrian safety at the training session.

ESDA/Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Under the direction of **Coordinator Steve Norman**, the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency of the City of Countryside continues to provide valuable additional resources and assets in supporting not only the Police Department, but also to the other departments within the City. Throughout the year the EMHS unit has been called on to provide assistance with:

- Traffic Control
- Assistance with Special Enforcement details such as Click It or Ticket and You Drink and Drive, You Lose.
- Coordinated Park Patrols
- Security at City Events— *such as the Concert Series*
- Emergency Preparedness Response
- Severe Weather Program
- Pharmaceutical Distribution Preparedness



For the 2012 calendar year the members of the Countryside Emergency Management provided 1,697.50 hours of Support and Patrol services during the year for normally schedule patrol activities at the city owned parks, at special event functions such as the Concerts In the Park series, Harley Davidson grand opening and during call out situations for severe weather, downed power lines or for flooding.

In addition, we were able to provide additional support to the Police Department with assisting in traffic control at sixteen incidents and at the various traffic safety campaigns held throughout the year. We also provided additional support, via mutual aid, to the Village of LaGrange for the Pet Parade and the Village of McCook for a tragic fatal motorcycle accident where we were called out to provide lighting for the investigation of the accident.

Also throughout the year, the unit continued to maintain the city's Emergency Operations Plan, StormReady Plan and Strategic National Pharmaceutical Stockpile Distribution Plan. The Distribution plan was also revised to allow the resources of the Village of Hodgkins and City of Countryside to consolidate efforts to be better positioned to respond should we ever need to implement the plans. EMHS took the lead to develop a Consolidated Standard Operating Procedure that both units of government have agreed to follow and that included National Incident Management System principals and that has been accepted by the Cook County Department of Public Health Community Preparedness and Coordination Unit.

Training

The coordination of training programs and opportunities for Department employees is the responsibility of ***Master Sergeant John Mikel.*** The Countryside Police Department conducts a variety of training throughout the year. Training is presented through classroom, printed materials, videos, online, and department communications. Officers also attend other classes and seminars. Other topics include: policy and procedures review, criminal law, local ordinances, and traffic law update. Additionally, many of our officers hold specific certifications.

The majority of the training comes from IRMA and NEMRT. The Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA) provides training videos and nationally accredited driving courses. These courses focus on helping officers to understand the safety and performance aspects of emergency vehicle operation.

North East Multi-Regional Training, Inc. (NEMRT) provides a wide variety of courses to our officers. Some of the courses that we completed this year:

- Crimes Against The Elderly
- Gypsy Crime Investigations
- Domestic Violence/Crisis Intervention
- Advanced DUI Enforcement Training



Sergeant John Mikel pictured with Agent Robert Grant at the FBI Midwest Law Enforcement Development Seminar—Aug. 2012

2012

Summary of Training Hours per Officer

Officer	Skill Training	Professional Development
Patrol		
Alonzo	18	116
Bisignani	41	8
Cozen	18	20
DiGangi	23	127
Floyd	26	0
Gleespen	253	0
Goluszka	101	4
Jakubowski*	22	480
Kalker	61	0
Lanzi**	0	0
McDonald	143	114
Pohle	21	16
Rodey	13	72
Sodt	159	102
Stern	21	96
Sergeants		
Andree	13	112
Boyd	13	60
Klimek	21	112
Mikel	13	120
Investigators		
Battaglia	29	24
Durell	37	72
Wherry	13	40

** New hire. Academy training included.*

***New hire.*

2012 Training Highlights

- 2252 combined hours of Department training.
- Average of 113 hours of training per officer.

Training (continued)

Specialty Units Training

Specialty Units (NIPAS, 5th District SWAT) participate in a minimum of 16 hours per month of *additional* training and a 40-hour block of skill set training twice per year. This level of training is consistent with the National Tactical Officers Association training guidelines.

Firearms Training

The Countryside Police Department currently has 5 state certified firearms training officers, as well as 3 state certified police carbine/rifle instructors. These training officers conduct firearms training with all officers as well as annual firearms qualifications to maintain compliance with state law and improve the level of individual proficiency.







Less Than Lethal Training

This training was conducted in December, 2012. Officers were instructed on proper use of the baton, OC spray, and Taser.







CPR Training

This year, all City employees received their biannual CPR training and became recertified. CPR training really pays off! Officers Cozen and Stern both received Lifesaving awards for saving a life at Rafferty's Pub, using the very techniques they were taught in Sgt. Boyd's certification course.

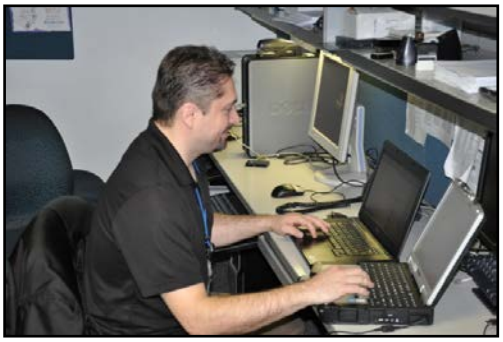
The Countryside Police Department has been committed to having its officers trained and certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) since the 1990's. At that time, department members primarily received their training from Pleasantview Fire Department. Sergeant Anthony Boyd became a certified CPR instructor with the American Heart Association in 2002 via his Air Force Reserve Unit where he was a flight medic and CPR instructor. In 2004, The City of Countryside purchased automated external defibrillators (AED) as well as CPR and AED training equipment needed to train its personnel. As a result, Sergeant Boyd became the primary instructor for the City and has trained City personnel on CPR and the use of the AED's. All City employees are trained and certified every other year.

Technology and Support

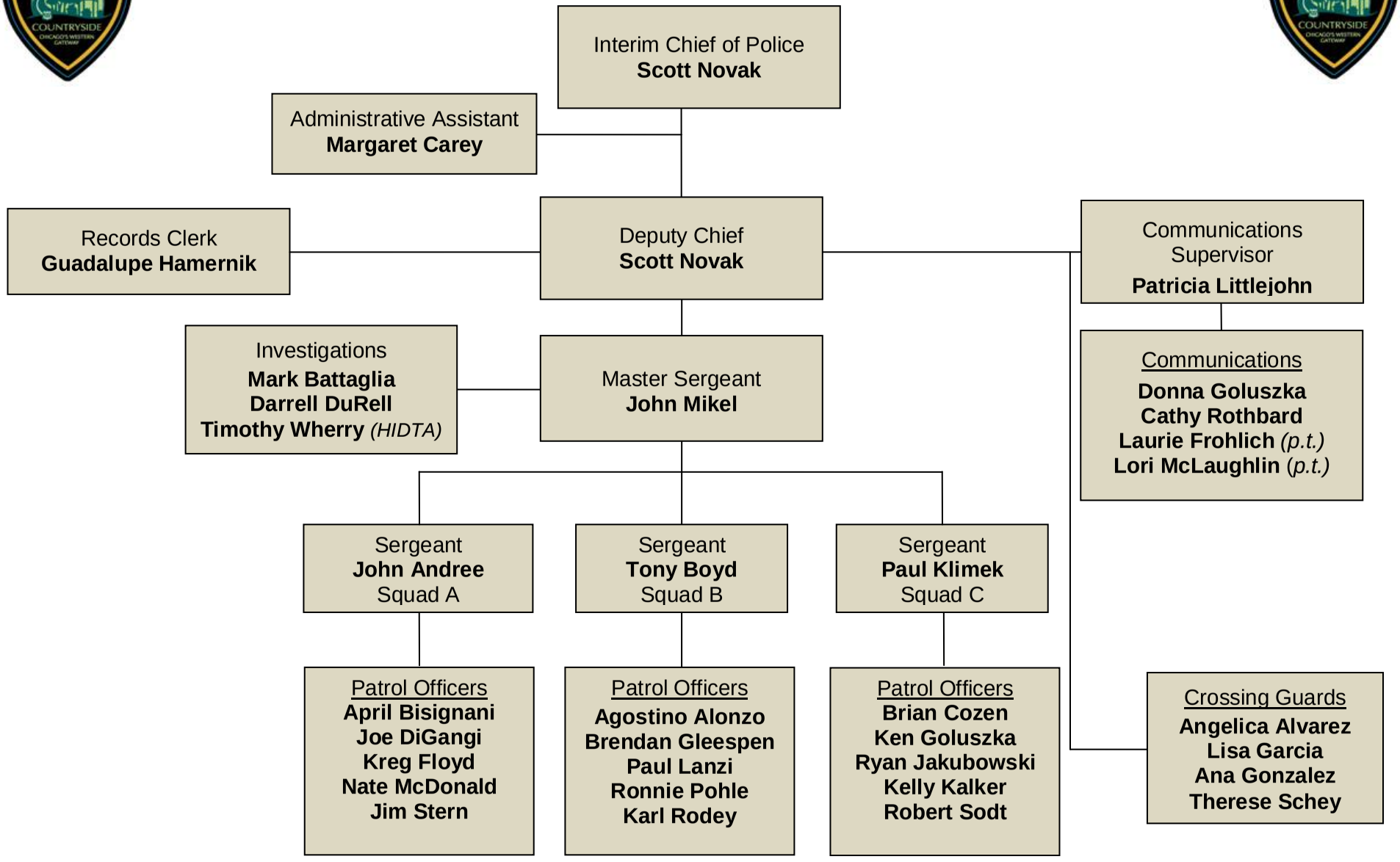


In the age of communication and technology, Countryside Police Officers rely heavily on statistical data and public safety information often generated with the use of computers. Information Technology services are provided to the Countryside Police Department by **Troy Carrigan of Merging Technologies**. He is responsible for installation, maintenance, security, and upgrade of department computer information systems, both in and out of the building. Troy's field expertise allows our police officers to be on the cutting edge of technology in the police station as well as in the field.

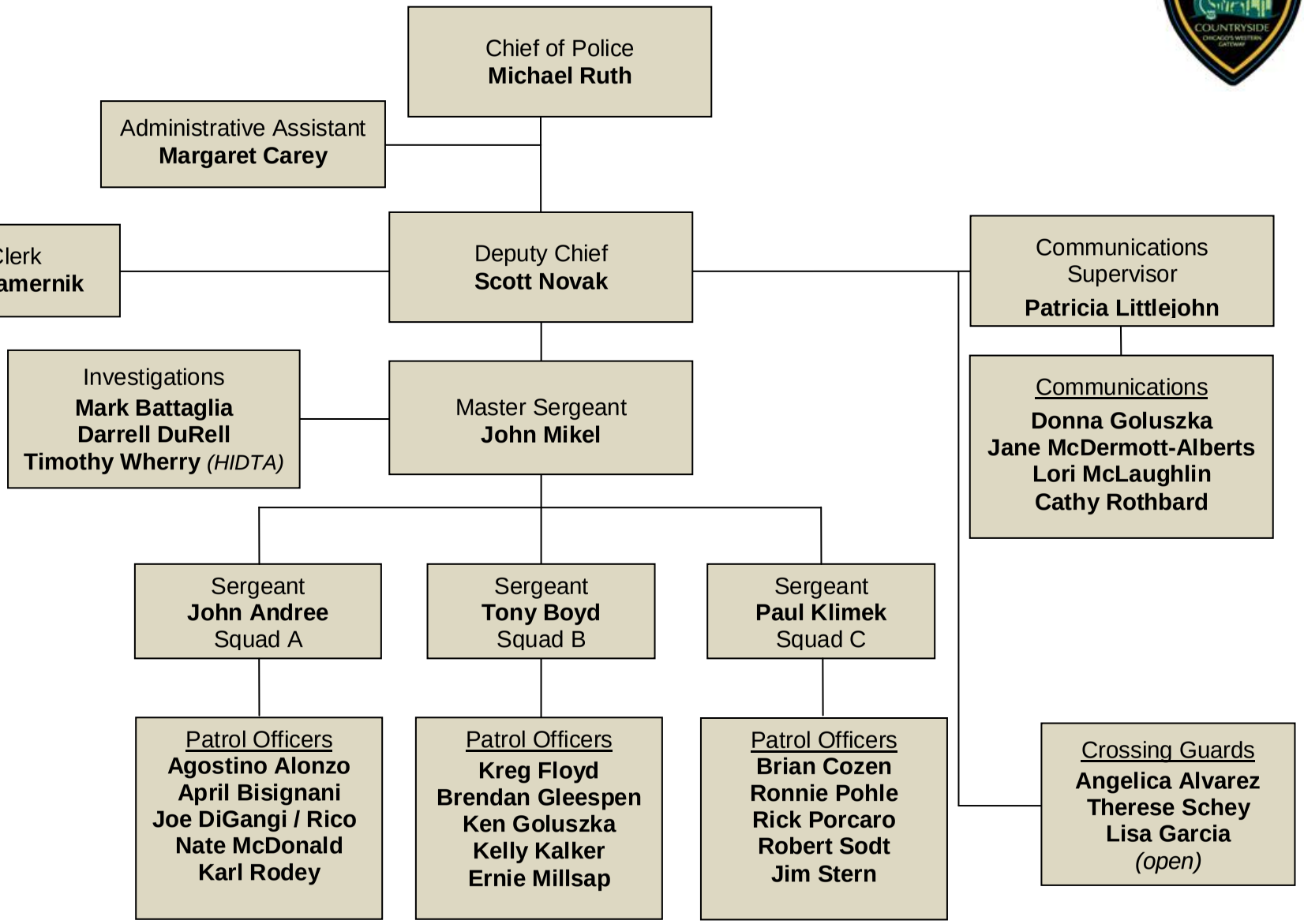




2013
COUNTRYSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT



2012
COUNTRYSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Government Structure

The Countryside Police Department is pleased to recognize the efforts and support of Mayor Krzeminski and the entire City Council for their strong commitment toward the achievement of our mission. The leadership and vision of the Mayor and City Council, along with the Police Committee and the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, are important factors in our collective effort to ensure the safety and quality of life for the residents of Countryside.

City Council



POLICE COMMITTEE
Bob Pondelicek, ***Chairman***
James Jasinski, Alderman
Karen Michalczyk, Alderman

BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION
Jerry Welch, ***Chairman***
Mark Burdett
Mary Louise Pisone

Professional Standards

Internal Affairs

To maintain the highest level of public confidence, The Countryside Police Department investigates all complaints thoroughly and impartially. Internal Affairs investigations also address instances of employee behavior that could discredit the Department or violate a Department policy, procedure or practice. Complaints are presented to the Office of the Chief of Police for a fair review and appropriate action and/or sanction, with consideration given to the complainant, the Department, the individual employee, and the public trust. In 2012, The Countryside Police Department investigated 14 incidents involving its members.

IA#	Nature of Complaint	Disposition
2012-1	Use of Force	Proper Conduct
2012-2	Improper Conduct/Altering a Police Report	Sustained/Terminated
2012-3	Performance of Duty	Sustained/Written Reprimand
2012-4	Missing Money	Unfounded
2012-5	Improper Treatment of Prisoner	Unfounded/Proper Conduct
2012-6	Squad Crash	Sustained/Written Reprimand
2012-7	Use of Force	Proper Conduct
2012-8	Use of Force	Proper Conduct
2012-9	Performance of Duty	Not Sustained
2012-10	Performance of Duty	Sustained/Verbal Counseling
2012-11	Performance of Duty	Sustained/1-day Suspension
2012-12	Performance of Duty	Not Sustained
2012-13	Harassment	Not Sustained
2012-14	Squad Crash	Proper Conduct

Source of Complaint

Administrative Policy	5
Citizen Complaints	2
Police Agency Complaints	7
TOTAL	**14**

Disposition of Complaint

Unfounded	2
Proper Conduct	4
Sustained	5
Not Sustained	3
Policy Failure	0
TOT Another Agency	0
TOTAL	**14**

Disciplinary Action

Counseling/Verbal Reprimand	1
Written Reprimand	2
Suspension	1
Termination	1
TOTAL	**5**

Definition of Dispositions

Unfounded—Allegation is not factual; did not happen.
Proper Conduct—The act of the department or officer was consistent with the agency procedures.
Sustained—The allegation is supported by sufficient evidence.
Not Sustained—There was insufficient evidence to prove or disprove the allegation.

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2012-13	Harassment	Not Sustained
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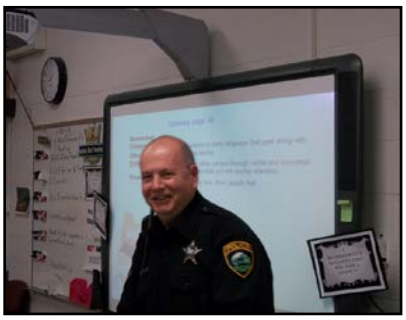
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Program & Special Assignment Summaries

2

DARE

The Countryside Police Department's Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE) began in 1991. DARE officers are required to complete an 80-hour certification course. Each year, our DARE officers teach approximately 35 Ideal School children the skills to live a drug and violence free life. **Officer April Bisignani** taught the 2011-2012 school year and **Officer Karl Rodey** taught the 2012-2013 school year.



Officer Rodey teaching a DARE class.

DARE officers present a program that challenges students to make good choices using the DARE Decision Making Model and covers topics such as alcohol and drug abuse, peer pressure, choosing good friends, and self confidence. As a celebration for the students' hard work and commitment, students were taken to the Naper Settlement in March. Officers also treated students to a walking field trip to Ledo's pizza to show how making good, healthy choices (walking instead of taking the bus) can bring great rewards (pizza)! The academic school year culminates with a DARE graduation ceremony. This is a special event that is attended by family, friends, and community members. The DARE program is a valuable tool to connect with children in the community and provides them with the education necessary to keep them safe, make better decisions, and help them to succeed.

JUVENILE OFFICER PROGRAM

The position of Juvenile Officer encompasses many different duties and responsibilities. Juvenile Officers prepare the various paperwork and filings that go to Juvenile Court on each juvenile charged with a criminal offense. Officers are also involved with investigative follow-up on more serious crimes committed by juveniles. The Juvenile Officer also acts as a liaison between our police department and the Department of Children and Family Services. Contacts are made between the two agencies, usually through the juvenile officer, and joint investigations are done when requested by the Department of Children and Family Services. The Juvenile Unit also acts to protect juvenile victims by referring them to agencies designed to assist them and their families.

We also participate in the Cook County Sheriff's "Second Chance" program. This program is designed for juveniles who have cases involving alcohol and other drugs. It is an education program for both the juvenile and the guardian.

Officer Ernie Millsap retired in 2012 as our department welcomed new Patrol Officer, Paul Lanzi. He came to us already certified as a juvenile officer, so he was a welcome addition to our program. Investigator Darrell Durell also joined the Juvenile Officer program after he was certified in 2012.

Our 2012 Juvenile Officers were:

Sergeant John Andree	Officer Agostino Alonzo	Officer Karl Rodey
Sergeant Tony Boyd	Officer Apirl Bisignani	Officer Robert Sodt
Investigator Mark Battaglia	Officer Kelly Kalker	Officer Ernie Millsap (retired 8-19-2012)
Investigator Darrell Durell	Officer Paul Lanzi	

ESO (ELDERLY SERVICE OFFICER) PROGRAM

The Elderly Service Officer (ESO) Program is sponsored by the Illinois Attorney General's Office and was developed to address the unique needs of the rapidly growing senior population. The ESO plays an active role in preventing and investigating crimes against older adults.

Officer April Bisignani became Countryside's first Elderly Service Officer in 2009. The ESO Program expanded and welcomed Officer Agostino Alonzo in September, 2011 after he completed the required 40 hour training class, certified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board. E.S.O. officers receive specialized training to understand the aging process, investigate elder abuse and neglect, recognize scams and fraud (including financial exploitation) against seniors, and effectively communicate with the elderly. Part of the officers' assignment includes close work and active participation with our local senior advocacy program, Aging Care Connections. They offer assistance programs to local seniors that enable them to stay independent longer.

The Countryside Aging Well Community Action Team, along with Officer April Bisignani and students from the community, conducted their Annual Leaf Rake Project for seniors on November 10. A total of 26 Countryside residents were assisted in this annual program. This program provides a unique opportunity to bring the youth and the elderly of our community together to improve the quality of life in Countryside.

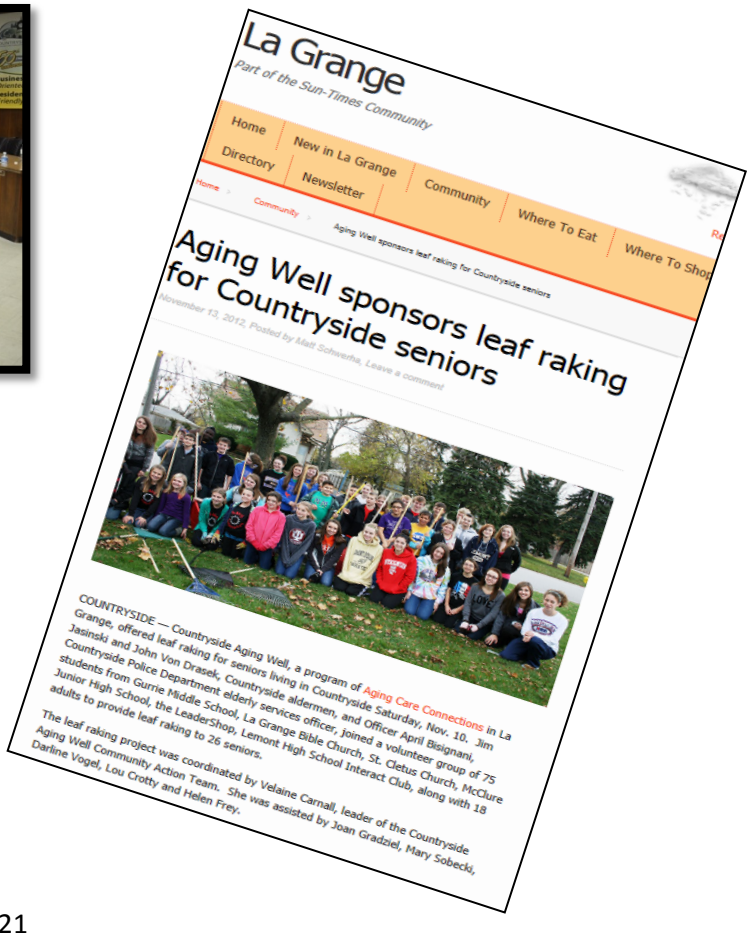
22 seniors attended a Crime Prevention Class for Seniors at City Hall in April, 2012. The class presented various crimes and scams targeted at seniors and steps they can take to protect themselves.



Deputy Chief Novak presenting at the Crime Prevention Class for Seniors—April, 2012



Aldermen Jasinski and VonDrasek with Officer Bisignani and 2 residents at the 2012 Annual Leaf Rake Project.



La Grange

Part of the Sun-Times Community

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Directory | Newsletter

Aging Well sponsors leaf raking for Countryside seniors

November 13, 2012, Posted by Matt Schwerha, Leave a comment

COUNTRYSIDE — Countryside Aging Well, a program of Aging Care Connections in La Grange, offered leaf raking for seniors living in Countryside Saturday, Nov. 10. Jim Jasinski and John Von Drasek, Countryside aldermen, and Officer April Bisignani, Countryside Police Department elderly services officer, joined a volunteer group of 75 students from Gurrie Middle School, the LeaderShop, La Grange Bible Church, St. Cletus Church, McClure Junior High School, the LeaderShop, Lemont High School Interact Club, along with 18 adults to provide leaf raking to 26 seniors.

The leaf raking project was coordinated by Velaine Carnall, leader of the Countryside Aging Well Community Action Team. She was assisted by Joan Gradziel, Mary Sobecki, Darline Vogel, Lou Crotty and Helen Frey.

CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS

BUSINESS WATCH

This program helps businesses to prevent themselves from becoming the victim of a crime. We increased our enrollment this year by including Business Watch applications with the annual business license renewal letters sent out by the Clerk's office. ***170 local businesses are currently enrolled*** in this free program. It is offered to Countryside businesses and keeps owners and employees informed of current crime trends and alerts. During 2012, Countryside businesses received **7** Crime Alerts. These alerts provided important and timely information about crime trends that were occurring in our area or to specific business types in nearby areas.

FLEET WATCH

This program utilizes public works and utility workers as an "extra set of eyes" in the community. The Police Department trains these workers to be alert for any suspicious activity. They are encouraged to take note of important information to assist officers in the event of a crime. All City of Countryside Public Works employees were trained and have joined Fleet Watch.

CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY (CPA)

This fall, the Countryside Police Department offered its 2nd Annual Citizen's Police Academy. The 12-week program kicked off on Thursday, August 23rd with 17 students. The program included weekly presentations on topics ranging from Criminal & Civil Law and Police Tactics to Processing Crime Scenes. The Academy was an overwhelming success and concluded on November 8th with a graduation ceremony.

The Citizen's Police Academy program is designed to provide our residents with a better understanding of police department functions as well as insight into law enforcement techniques. Classes are geared to assist citizens in understanding laws and police practices within our city. The program is open to anyone who works or resides in the City of Countryside. The curriculum includes information about: criminal and civil law, crime prevention, juvenile law, evidence, traffic stops, DUI enforcement, use of force, investigations, gangs and drugs, scams, and confidence crimes.

We believe that the entire community benefits when residents take a personal interest in the protection of their neighborhood. The academy also provides an opportunity for students to get to know the men and women who protect their community.



Officer Stern presents a "hands on" Evidence Technician segment.





Students learning about traffic stops.

Citizen's Police Academy—Student Survey

CPA students were each asked to complete a survey to evaluate their experiences in the program. This valuable information helps us in planning future classes. Once again this year, ***the response was positive and insightful.*** Here are some of the comments from the surveys.

Survey Comments:

"The program is great!"

"The program is a great opportunity to enlighten the public about police work."

"I enjoyed the simulator training, SWAT Team, traffic stops, and how to handle aggressive people."

"I enjoyed the diverse subject matter."

"Thank you to all who put this together. It was great. Everyone was very respectful."

"I just want to say 'Thank You' to all involved. I have a great respect for all of you."

"I enjoyed meeting members of the PD and seeing their enthusiasm and professionalism."

"The simulation training showed us how quickly our police force can be put at risk."

"Keep up the good work!"

"Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this great program."



Class of 2012
Citizen's Police Academy Graduation.

MUTUAL AID ASSIGNMENTS

When smaller police agencies, like Countryside, are exposed to major crimes or large scale incidents, their resources are quickly drained. To offer the highest quality of police service to our residents, the Countryside Police Department participates in the following mutual aid groups.

SSMCTF

The South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force is made up of more than 50 municipalities from the 5th and 6th Districts of Cook County. The SSMCTF investigates major crimes including homicide, non-parental kidnapping and other heinous, high profile forcible felonies. In 2012, investigators were activated on 4 separate occasions for homicide investigations. Investigators Battaglia, Durell, and Deputy Chief Novak dedicated 120 hours to the investigation and resolution of those cases.

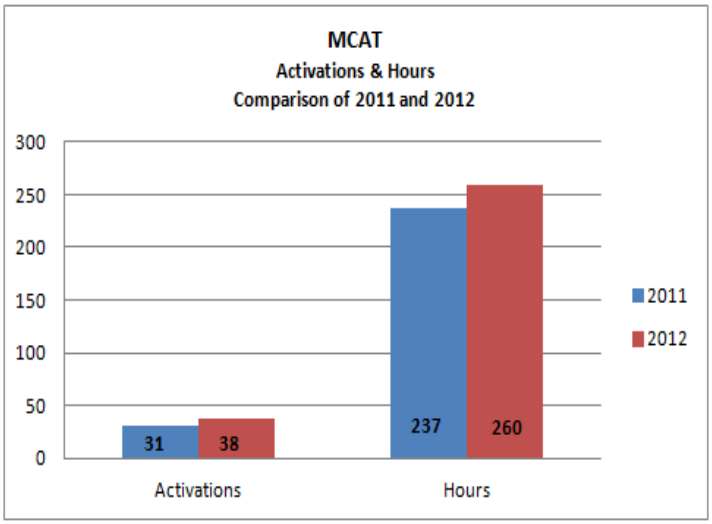
5TH DISTRICT SWAT

This unit is comprised of specially trained officers from Alsip, Bridgeview, Bedford Park, Chicago Ridge, Countryside, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Hodgkins, and Palos Heights. These officers respond to high risk situations including hostage/barricade subjects, armed offender situations and high risk search/arrest warrant service. In 2012, 5th District SWAT Officers responded to 1 callout for an armed barricaded subject in Hickory Hills and 3 high risk search warrants.

MCAT

The Major Case Assistance Team is a mutual aid organization comprised of investigators from 11 local jurisdictions including; Brookfield, Countryside, Forest View, Hodgkins, Indian Head Park, LaGrange, Lyons, McCook, North Riverside, Riverside and Western Springs. **This unit is under the direction of Deputy Chief Scott Novak and involves a combined effort from both Inv. Mark Battaglia and Inv. Darrell DuRell.**

In 2012, MCAT Investigators were **activated 38 times** and dedicated **260 hours** for various criminal investigations that included; shootings, narcotics, burglary and theft investigations. It is the mission of MCAT to work together and assist one another to solve and reduce crime by the sharing of expertise, information and the combining of resources.



MUTUAL AID ASSIGNMENTS *(continued)*

Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS)

The Countryside Police Department is a member of the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS). This group is based in Urbana, Illinois and is the largest mutual aid organization in the United States. ILEAS is responsible for coordinating statewide mutual aid responses as needed. During 2012, fortunately, the Countryside Police did not request ILEAS assistance for any incident.

ILEAS members prepared and trained for the NATO Summit which took place in Chicago in May of 2012.

NIPAS

The Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) consists of officers from over 90 communities and offers two programs. The first program is a special tactical squad known as the ***Emergency Services Team*** and the second is a crowd control team known as ***Mobile Field Force***. In 2012, Mobile Field Force expanded their training to include the use of helicopters.

Mobile Field Force had no activations in 2012, and the NIPAS EST team responded to 12 emergency calls that consisted of high risk search warrants, high risk arrest warrants, barricaded subjects, and hostage situations.

In May, 2012 NIPAS officers were called out to join the mutual aid response for the NATO Summit being hosted in Chicago. Squads of NIPAS officers prepared for the event and were staged in strategic locations throughout the suburbs to respond to any protest activity that might spill outside of the city. Fortunately, the majority of protestors remained within the City of Chicago.





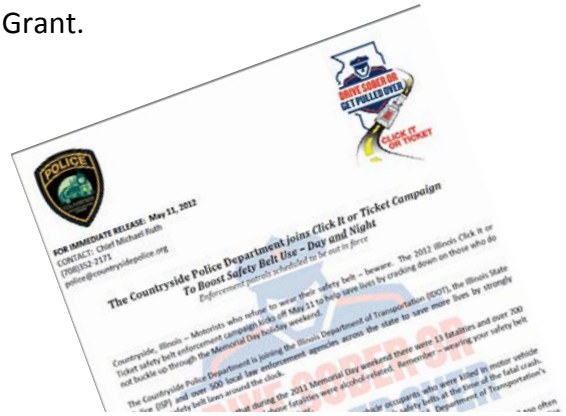
SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

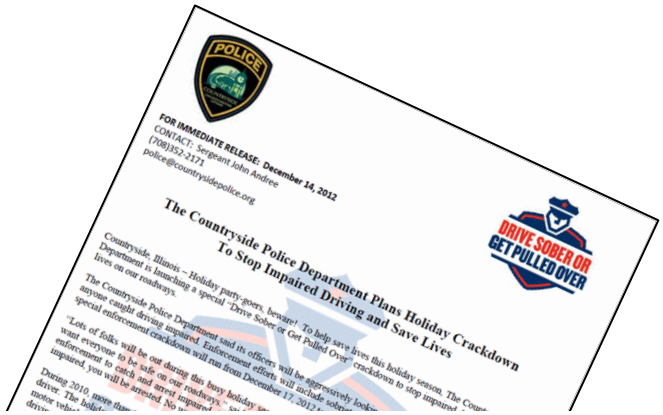
The Countryside Police Department participates in the following special enforcement programs. Funding for these programs is provided by grants issued by the State of Illinois. To qualify for a grant, our department is required to complete a detailed application and follow strict compliance guidelines.

Click It or Ticket and You Drink & Drive. You *Lose.*



These programs are highly visible, massive enforcement efforts designed to detect violators of Illinois traffic laws with special emphasis on alcohol and occupant protection. During 2012, the Countryside Police Department conducted 5 special enforcement details during the St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas holiday periods. During these special enforcement details, our officers issued a total of **204 traffic citations** and made **5 D.U.I. arrests, 1 narcotics arrest, and 9 suspended license arrests**. This program is funded by an I.D.O.T. Traffic Safety Grant.







SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS (continued)

Tobacco Enforcement

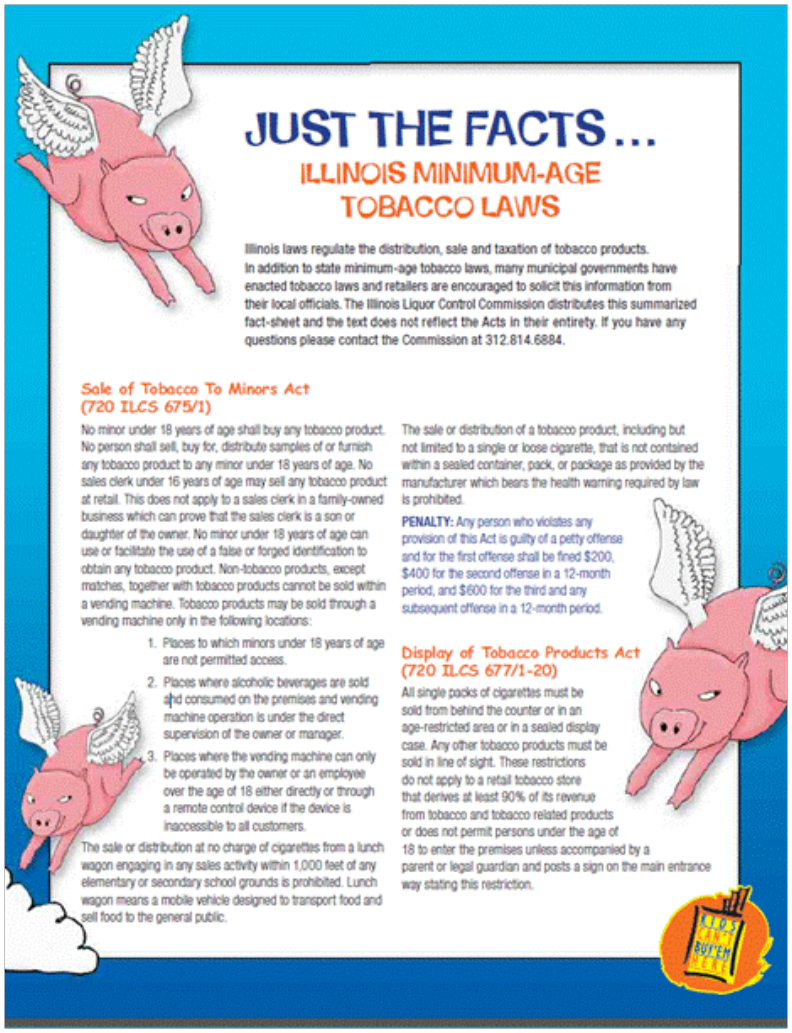
The Countryside Police Department has 4 State Certified Tobacco Enforcement Officers.



The Tobacco Enforcement Officers for 2012 were:

- Sergeant John Mikel
- Sergeant Anthony Boyd
- Officer Agostino Alonzo
- Officer April Bisignani

Our Tobacco Enforcement Program is operated in cooperation with the State Of Illinois Liquor Control Commission's "Kids Can't Buy em Here" program. Through this program, the State awards grants to participating communities to conduct retail education and enforcement programs. This program helps to support community-based efforts through the distribution of tobacco retailer kits and the completion of retailer compliance checks. The compliance checks are designed to educate retail establishments and eliminate the illegal sale of tobacco to children in our community.


JUST THE FACTS...

ILLINOIS MINIMUM-AGE TOBACCO LAWS

Illinois laws regulate the distribution, sale and taxation of tobacco products. In addition to state minimum-age tobacco laws, many municipal governments have enacted tobacco laws and retailers are encouraged to solicit this information from their local officials. The Illinois Liquor Control Commission distributes this summarized fact-sheet and the text does not reflect the Acts in their entirety. If you have any questions please contact the Commission at 312.814.6884.

Sale of Tobacco To Minors Act (720 ILCS 675/1)

No minor under 18 years of age shall buy any tobacco product. No person shall sell, buy for, distribute samples of or furnish any tobacco product to any minor under 18 years of age. No sales clerk under 16 years of age may sell any tobacco product at retail. This does not apply to a sales clerk in a family-owned business which can prove that the sales clerk is a son or daughter of the owner. No minor under 18 years of age can use or facilitate the use of a false or forged identification to obtain any tobacco product. Non-tobacco products, except matches, together with tobacco products cannot be sold within a vending machine. Tobacco products may be sold through a vending machine only in the following locations:

1. Places to which minors under 18 years of age are not permitted access.
2. Places where alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed on the premises and vending machine operation is under the direct supervision of the owner or manager.
3. Places where the vending machine can only be operated by the owner or an employee over the age of 18 either directly or through a remote control device if the device is inaccessible to all customers.

The sale or distribution at no charge of cigarettes from a lunch wagon engaging in any sales activity within 1,000 feet of any elementary or secondary school grounds is prohibited. Lunch wagon means a mobile vehicle designed to transport food and sell food to the general public.

The sale or distribution of a tobacco product, including but not limited to a single or loose cigarette, that is not contained within a sealed container, pack, or package as provided by the manufacturer which bears the health warning required by law is prohibited.

PENALTY: Any person who violates any provision of this Act is guilty of a petty offense and for the first offense shall be fined $200, $400 for the second offense in a 12-month period, and $600 for the third and any subsequent offense in a 12-month period.

Display of Tobacco Products Act (720 ILCS 677/1-20)

All single packs of cigarettes must be sold from behind the counter or in an age-restricted area or in a sealed display case. Any other tobacco products must be sold in line of sight. These restrictions do not apply to a retail tobacco store that derives at least 90% of its revenue from tobacco and tobacco related products or does not permit persons under the age of 18 to enter the premises unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian and posts a sign on the main entrance way stating this restriction.

Our department conducted 3 rounds of compliance checks throughout the year at Countryside businesses with current tobacco licenses. We are pleased to report that **in 2012 there were no violations found in all 3 rounds**. All businesses that were checked were found to be compliant with Illinois State Laws regarding the sales of tobacco to minors.

Statistical Summary 3

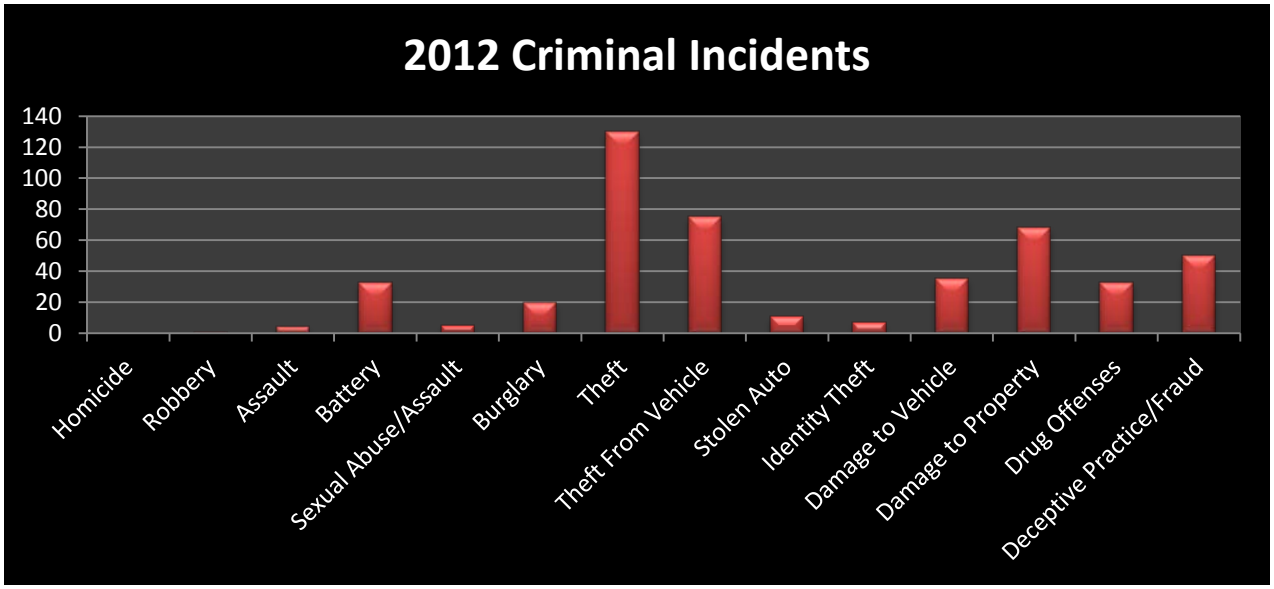
CRIMINAL INCIDENTS

This report of criminal incident statistics is a summary and is meant to highlight particular categories of crime. It does not include ***all*** categories of criminal incidents that occurred in 2012. Although we are seeing a general downward trend in number of criminal incidents reported over the past 5 years, we did experience a slight increase in 2012 from the previous year.

Criminal Incidents	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	1	1	3	4	2
Assault	4	3	6	7	9
Battery	33	40	28	28	24
Sexual Abuse/Assault	5	5	5	0	0
Burglary	20	20	9	18	24
Theft	130	117	156	189	213
Theft From Vehicle	75	64	63	81	73
Stolen Auto	11	10	9	15	10
Identity Theft	7	16	59	57	51
Damage to Vehicle	35	36	38	35	45
Damage to Property	68	40	86	78	74
Drug Offenses	33	33	39	26	35
Deceptive Practice/Fraud	50	35	-	-	-
TOTAL	**472**	**420**	**501**	**539**	**560**

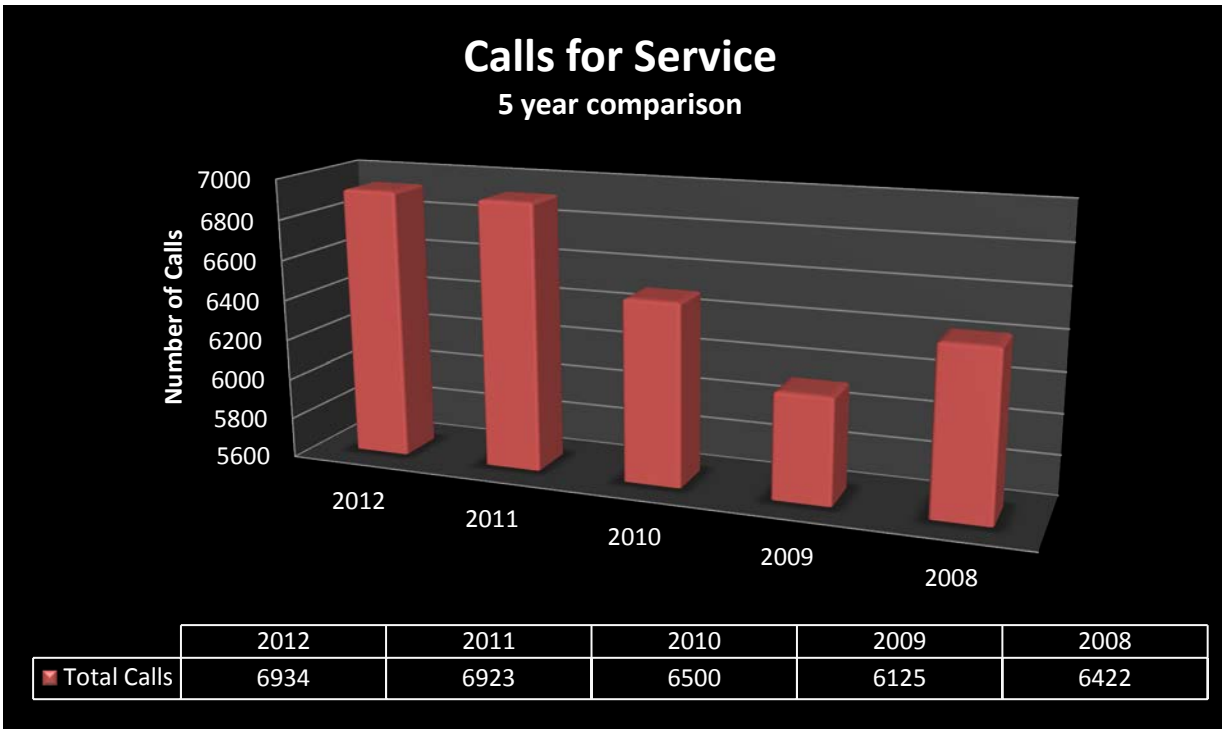
Criminal Incidents Explained

Our statistics show that "Thefts" rose in 2012 by 12% over 2011. The increase was attributed in large part to several theft rings operating in our area. With the assistance of the Major Case Assistance Team, several individuals associated with these theft rings were arrested and charged accordingly.



CALLS FOR SERVICE

In 2012, calls for service increased only slightly from the previous year.

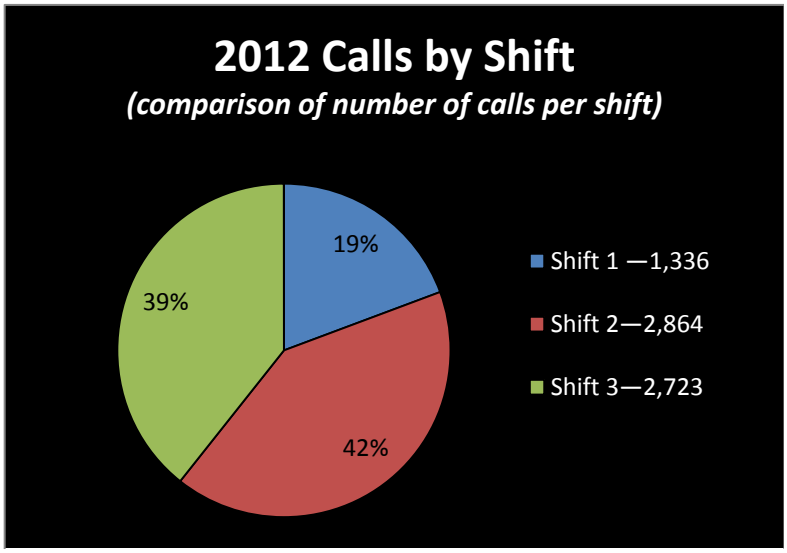


	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Total Calls	6934	6923	6500	6125	6422

Calls by Shift

The "Calls by Shift" chart illustrates the 2012 calls for service—broken down by shift. As you can see, the majority of calls occur during the 2nd shift, with the 3rd shift totals following close behind.

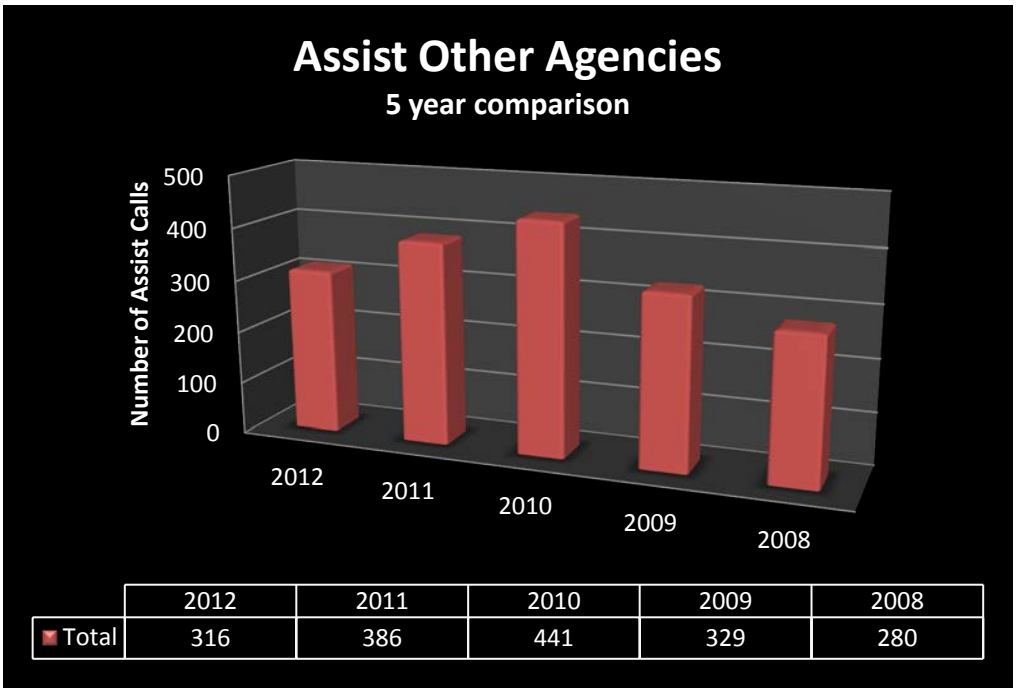
SHIFT	HOURS WORKED
1	11:00 pm – 7:00 am
2	7:00 am – 3:00 pm
3	3:00 pm – 11:00 pm



Assists & Alarms

Assisting Other Agencies

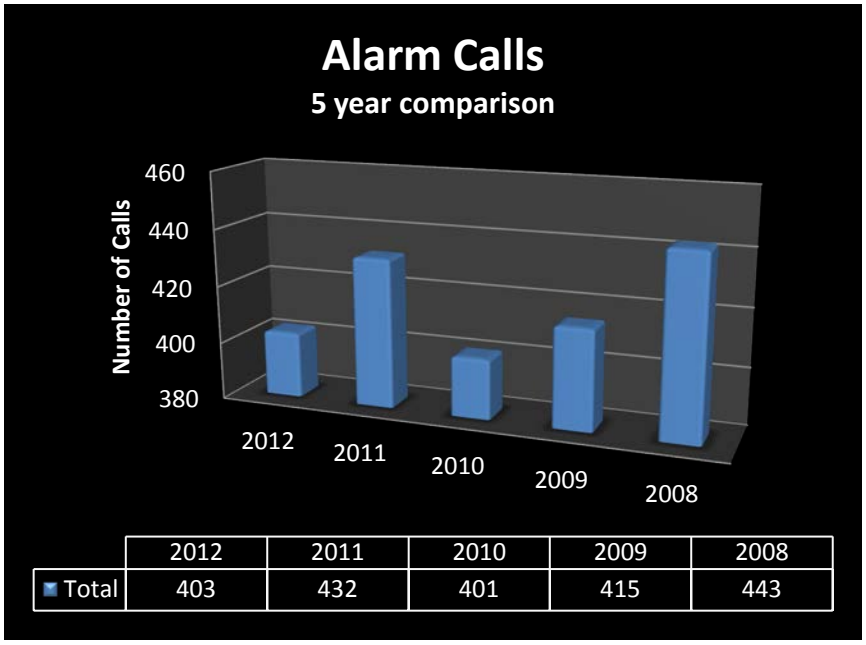
The "Assist Other Agencies" chart captures the number of officer assist requests from neighboring departments and mutual aid callouts. As you can see, there was a slight decrease in 2012 from the previous year. One element that this chart does not capture is our department's requests for assistance from other agencies.



	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Total	316	386	441	329	280

Responding to Alarms

The "Alarm Calls" chart captures the number of business, residential, and hold-up alarms that our officers respond to each year.

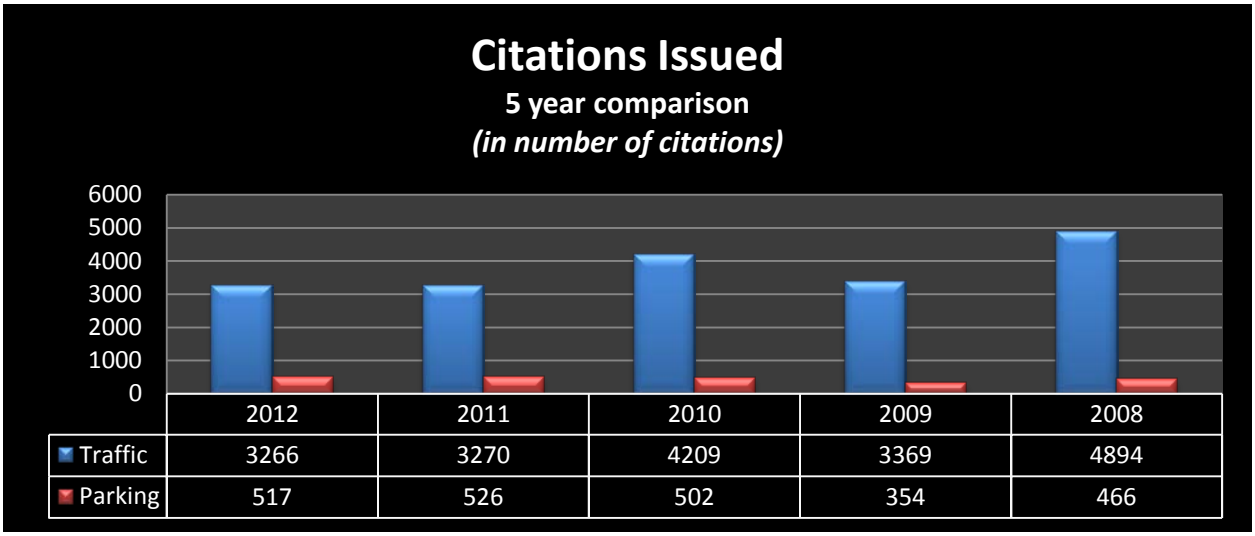


	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Total	403	432	401	415	443

Citations & Crashes

Issuing Citations

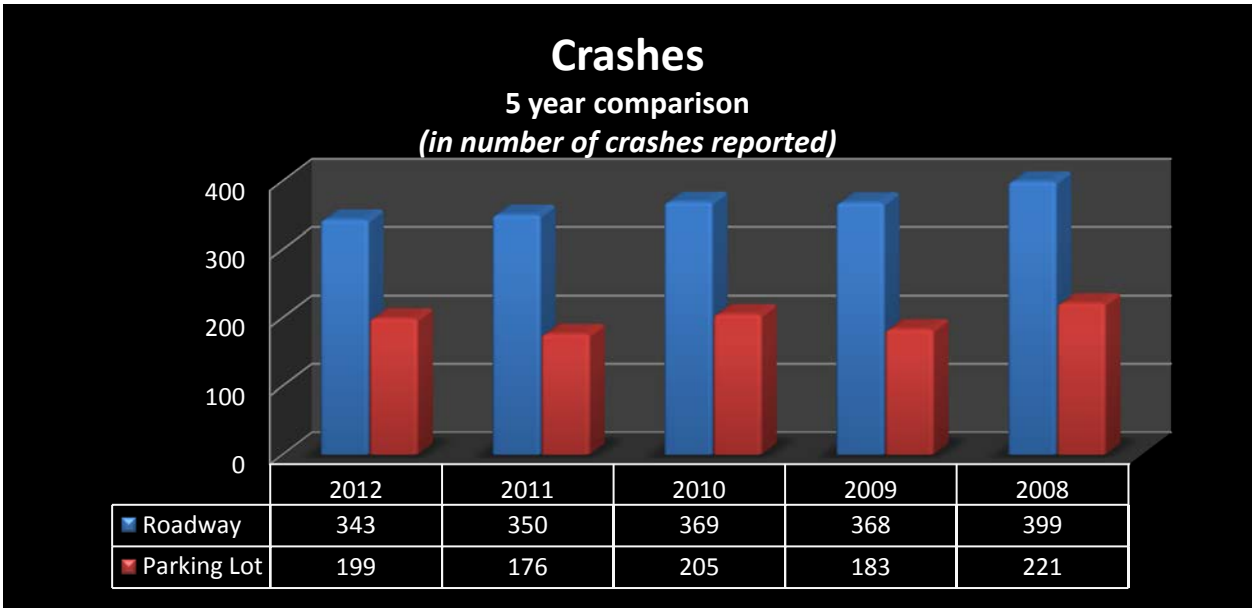
The "Citations Issued" chart shows almost no change in parking and traffic citations issued in 2012 as compared to 2011. The trend of decreased traffic citations since 2010 can be attributed, in part, to the elimination of a dedicated Traffic Detail car that occurred in 2011 due to a shortage in manpower.



	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Traffic	3266	3270	4209	3369	4894
Parking	517	526	502	354	466

Crashes Reported

The "Crashes" chart illustrates roadway and parking lot crashes. This 5 year comparison shows that roadway crashes in the City of Countryside are the lowest in 5 years, but parking lot crashes experienced a slight increase.



	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Roadway	343	350	369	368	399
Parking Lot	199	176	205	183	221

Redlight Camera Program

Redlight Violations

2012

Month	Captured & Reviewed	Citation Issued	Difference
January	435	234	53.79%
February	448	241	53.79%
March	502	273	54.38%
April	470	280	59.57%
May	576	228	39.58%
June	434	143	32.95%
July	470	252	53.62%
August	734	437	59.54%
September	574	305	53.14%
October	820	438	53.41%
November	860	448	52.09%
December	701	355	50.64%
TOTAL	**7024**	**3634**	**51.74%**

2009 - 2011

Annual	Captured & Reviewed	Citation Issued	Difference
2011	**5140**	**2852**	**55.49%**
2010	**4496**	**2080**	**46.26%**
2009	**7422**	**3648**	**49.15%**

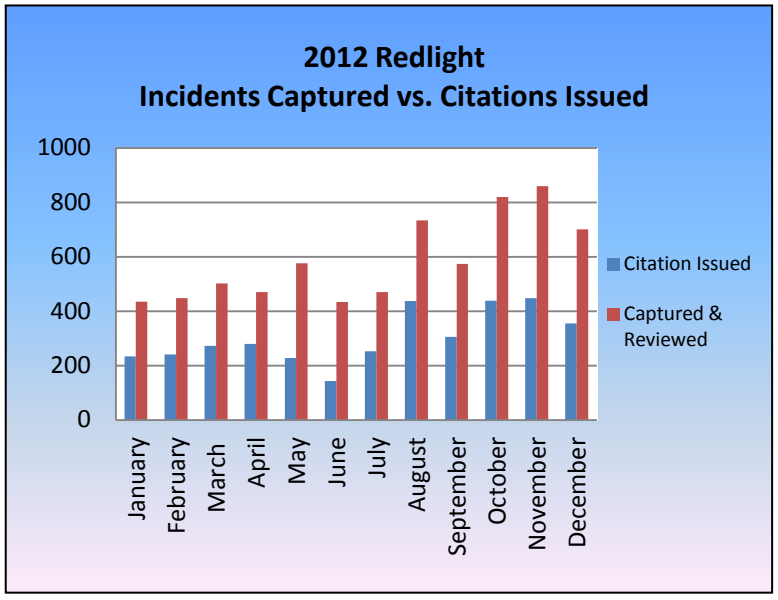
Redlight Revenue

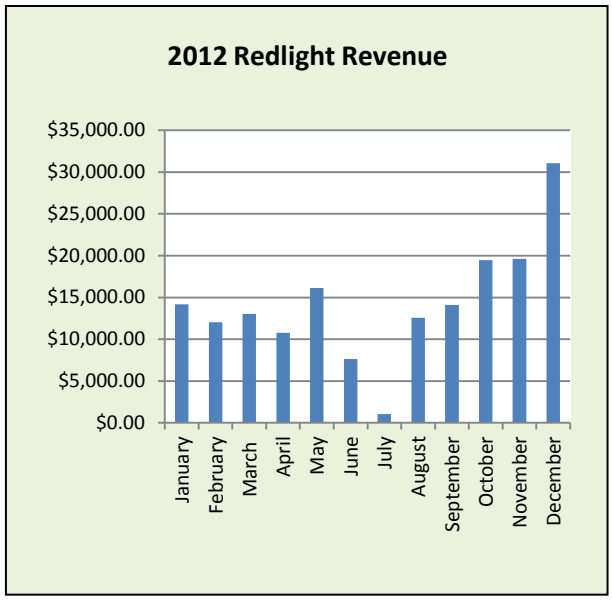
2012

Month	Amount
January	$14,187.67
February	$12,043.23
March	$13,044.80
April	$10,750.35
May	$16,126.07
June	$7,615.93
July	$1,053.21
August	$12,585.68
September	$14,100.30
October	$19,442.36
November	$19,623.07
December	$31,054.31
TOTAL	**$171,626.98**

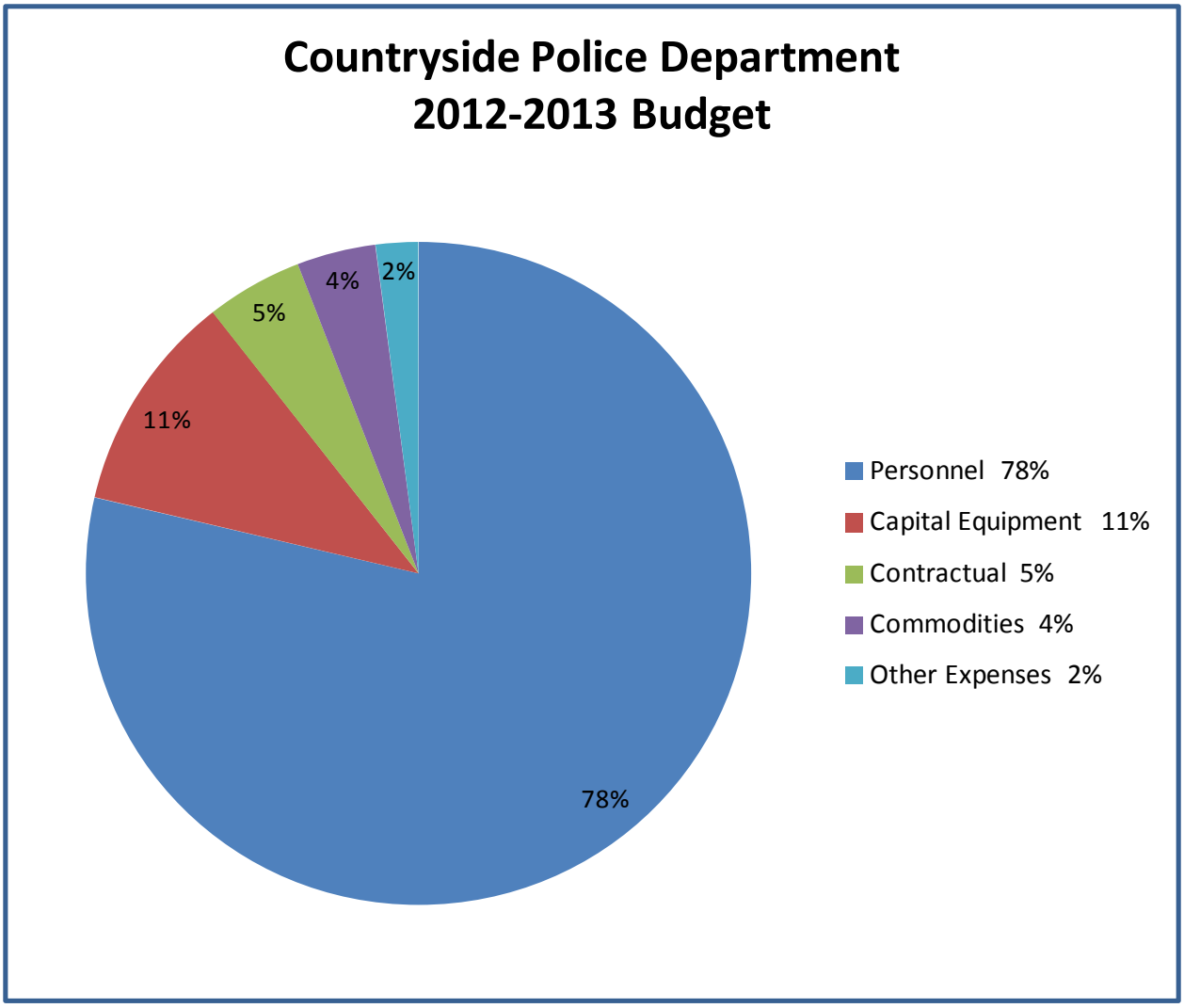
2009 - 2011

Annual	Amount
2011	**$101,385.15**
2010	**$75,954.00**
2009	**$183,716.40**





Budget Analysis 4



EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT
Personnel	$3,585,304.00
Capital Equipment	$488,320.00
Contractual	$213,768.00
Commodities	$174,680.00
Other Expenses	$94,295.00
TOTAL	**$4,556,367.00**

Countryside Police Department

2012-2013 Budget

DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	FUND	BUDGET
Salaries Full-time	Personnel	Corporate	2,444,305.00
Salaries Full-time	Personnel	Drug Forfeiture	61,149.00
Salaries Part-time	Personnel	Corporate	15,660.00
Overtime	Personnel	Corporate	167,082.00
Overtime	Personnel	Drug Forfeiture	20,000.00
Buybacks/Other Benefit	Personnel	Corporate	172,179.00
Social Security Tax	Personnel	Corporate	171,295.00
Medicare Tax	Personnel	Corporate	40,711.00
Health Insurance	Personnel	Corporate	398,026.00
Other Insurance	Personnel	Corporate	22,257.00
Employee Assistance	Personnel	Corporate	608.00
IMRF	Personnel	Corporate	72,032.00
		TOTAL PERSONNEL	**3,585,304.00**
Operating Capital	Capital Equip.	Corporate	1,800.00
Operating Capital	Capital Equip.	911	300,320.00
Operating Capital	Capital Equip.	Drug Forfeiture	186,200.00
		TOTAL CAPITAL EQUIP.	**488,320.00**
Labor Negotiations	Contractual	Corporate	150,000.00
Cellular	Contractual	Corporate	8,000.00
Contractual/Consulting	Contractual	Corporate	8,565.00
Software Maint/License	Contractual	911	6,000.00
Telephone	Contractual	911	21,300.00
Contractual Services	Contractual	911	19,903.00
		TOTAL CONTRACTUAL	**213,768.00**
Uniform Allowance	Commodities	Corporate	25,500.00
Uniform Allowance	Commodities	Drug Forfeiture	7,750.00
Subscriptions	Commodities	Corporate	1,600.00
Office Supplies	Commodities	Corporate	8,000.00
Operating Supplies	Commodities	Corporate	16,800.00
Fuel	Commodities	Corporate	75,000.00
Operating Supplies	Commodities	Drug Forfeiture	33,030.00
Crime Prevention Materials	Commodities	Drug Forfeiture	7,000.00
		TOTAL COMMODITIES	**174,680.00**
Maintenance - Equipment	Other	Corporate	13,450.00
Maintenance - Motor Vehicle	Other	Corporate	20,600.00
Conference & Travel	Other	Corporate	1,948.00
Training & Meetings	Other	Corporate	8,920.00
Professional Development	Other	Drug Forfeiture	4,000.00
Tuition Reimbursement	Other	Corporate	20,800.00
Memberships & Licenses	Other	Corporate	9,177.00
Legal Notices	Other	Corporate	800.00
Adjudications Costs	Other	Corporate	1,000.00
Maintenance - Equipment	Other	911	7,000.00
Maintenance - Equipment	Other	Drug Forfeiture	6,600.00
		TOTAL OTHER	**94,295.00**

Department Recognition 5

New to the Department

Officers Ryan Jakubowski and **Paul Lanzi** were sworn in by Mayor Krzeminski on October 10, 2012. This brings the police force to its authorized strength of 24 sworn officers.



Officer Jakubowski graduated from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy on December 21, 2012. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration from Western Illinois University.

Officer Lanzi came to us with prior police experience. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Western Illinois University.

Retirement



Officer Ernest Millsap retired on August 19, 2012. He served 25 years as a Countryside Police Officer. During his time here, Officer Millsap served as a DARE officer and a juvenile officer. He was also involved in community events such as the annual Cops vs. Kids basketball game.

Service Anniversaries

25 Years
Officer Karl Rodey

20 Years
Sergeant John Andree



15 Years
Officer Kreg Floyd

10 Years
Officer Joseph DiGangi

5 Years
A.A. Margaret Carey
Desk Officer Lupe Hamernik
Desk Officer Patricia Littlejohn
Officer Jim Stern

Educational Recognition

Graduation



Sergeant Paul Klimek graduated in July, 2012 with a Master's Degree in Public Safety Administration from Lewis University.

Degree in Progress

The following Police Department employees are currently enrolled and working toward completion of their **Graduate Degree**:

- **Sergeant Anthony Boyd**

The following Police Department employees are currently enrolled and working toward completion of their **Bachelor's Degree**:

- **Deputy Chief Scott Novak**
- **Officer Kreg Floyd**
- **Officer Jim Stern**
- **Administrative Assistant Margaret Carey**



Military Recognition



Officer Kelly Kalker is an active member of the Army Reserve—Military Police.

We proudly recognize the following employees for their contributions to past military service:



Sergeant Anthony Boyd retired from the United States Air Force in April, 2009 after 25 years of active and reserve service. Sergeant Boyd was a member of 932 Aero Medical Evacuation Squadron (AES) and served as an Aero Medical Specialist (a.k.a. Flight Medic).



Officer Brendan Gleespen served in the United States Army from 1998 to 2006. He held the rank of Sergeant. He was deployed 3 times—the last deployment in Iraq. Officer Gleespen received the Combat Action Badge and won NCO of the year in 2005.



Officer Karl Rodey served in the United States Air Force from 1977 to 1987. He held the rank of E-5 Staff Sergeant and worked in law enforcement. During his service, Officer Rodey served in Granada/Antigua, protecting the U.S. Embassy.



Officer Robert Sodt served in the United States Army National Guard from 1994 to 1999. He held the rank of Specialist and was part of the 933rd Military Police.



On September 10, 2012, military service men and women were honored at a ceremony at the William Tell Holiday Inn.

Officer Kelly Kalker with Chief Michael Ruth.

Awards and Special Recognition

The men and women of the Countryside Police Department consistently provide a high level of service and dedication to our community. We are extremely proud to recognize those officers who have gone "above and beyond," displaying extraordinary police performance and heroism. This year, we also recognized a few brave civilians from our community with **The Chief's Award.**

Outstanding Performance

Officer Karl Rodey received a **Meritorious Award** on April 6, 2012 for outstanding police performance and extraordinary personal action while responding to a serious motor vehicle crash involving a vehicle that struck an electrical pole and overturned. Officer Rodey found the driver trapped in the vehicle with "live" electrical wires present. Officer Rodey entered the vehicle and rendered aid to the semi-conscious victim for almost an hour until electricity was shut off and the victim was extricated by the fire department.

Sergeant John Andree and **Officer Nate McDonald** received a **Letter of Commendation** for the same event. These officers were commended for their attention to duty for assisting Officer Rodey by rendering aid and securing a dangerous scene until the electrical power was disconnected.

PHOTOS FROM THE CRASH SCENE





Officer Brendan Gleespen received a **Letter of Commendation** for a situation that occurred on March 10, 2012. While off-duty, Officer Gleespen observed a motorcycle crash where the rider was thrown from the motorcycle, causing severe head trauma. He immediately called 9-1-1 and began to render aid and assistance to the motorcyclist until emergency medical personnel arrived.

Awards and Special Recognition *(continued)*

Life Saving Awards

Officer Brian Cozen and **Officer Jim Stern** were each presented with a Life Saving Award at a 2012 City Council Meeting. These officers displayed outstanding police performance and extraordinary personal action while responding to a heart attack victim on August 24, 2012. The officers performed CPR and used the AED until emergency medical technicians arrived on the scene. As a result, *a life was saved*.



Mayor Krzeminski with Officer Cozen and DC Novak



Mayor Krzeminski with Officer Stern

Chief's Award

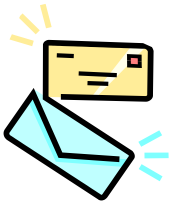


The Chief's Award was presented to civilians, **Victoria Morales, Dominick Nicosia, and Fernando Santana**, who displayed extraordinary personal action and heroism during an armed robbery at Ledo's Pizza. Morales, Nicosia, and Santana stopped and detained an armed offender as he attemped to flee. As a result, a robbery was averted.

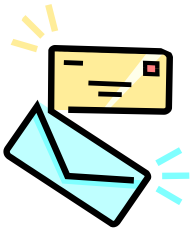
UPDATE:
The offender in the Ledo's Attempted Armed Robbery which occurred on May 19, 2012 pled guilty in Cook County Circuit Court. He was sentenced to serve 10 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections and was transferred to Statesville Prison to serve his sentence.

Certificate of Appreciation—DUI Enforcement

Officer April Bisignani and **Officer Jim Stern** each received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM). These officers made the highest number of DUI arrests within our agency during the previous year. AAIM offered their "sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks for exceptional public service."



LETTERS FROM THE COMMUNITY



These are excerpts from a few of the letters we received in 2012.

Sergeant Andree, Officer Alonzo, Officer DiGangi, Desk Officer Littlejohn: "Thank you for being so kind, quick and professional. You came through for us and we are sincerely so grateful to all of you."

Sergeant Andree, Officer Bisignani, Desk Officer Littlejohn: "Thank you for responding to the well being check of our parents. The actions of your personnel as well as the follow up of the installation of a Knox Box was greatly appreciated by the children who live out of state."

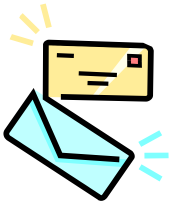
Officer Brendan Gleespen: "Thank you for noticing our garage door open and for closing it. The inside door to the house is never locked, so we doubly appreciate your kindness. Thank you to all the Countryside Police Officers and staff. You do marvelous work!"

Countryside Police Department: "Thank you for all of the extra things you do for us. You have really reached out with information, classes and an overall friendly attitude to make the citizens feel that they are important and you are right there to protect them."

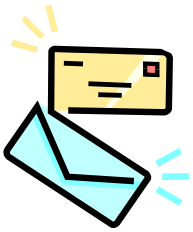
Countryside Police Department: "Thank you for your excellent work and care for the people of Countryside. We citizens do not thank our Civil Servants often enough; so I (and we) thank you, and we are keeping you in our prayers."

Countryside Police Department: "We truly appreciate your commitment to our organization and investment in our mission "*to assist persons with disabilities to achieve their highest level of independence through quality programs and services.*" Helping Hand, Countryside

Chief Ruth and Deputy Chief Novak: "Thank you so much for volunteering at the 11th annual Walk4Life. Everyone at the foundation truly appreciates your time and effort!" ALS Les Turner Foundation



LETTERS FROM OTHER AGENCIES



These are excerpts from a few of the letters we received from other agencies in 2012.

Officer DiGangi and K-9 Rico: "I would like to thank you for your department's help with the recent K9 search of Riverside Brookfield High School. Not only do these cooperative efforts help keep our schools safer, but they also afford us an opportunity to work together. Please thank Officer DiGangi [and Rico]. Their assistance was invaluable."

Chief Thomas Weitzel—Riverside Police Department

Countryside Police Department: "Please accept our thanks and gratitude for your agency's involvement with the funeral services held on May 23, 2012. Thank you for assisting us in honoring Chief Smith."

Chief April Padalik—Westchester Police Department

Officer Kelly Kalker and The Countryside Police Department: "Officer Kelly Kalker, while conducting a check of vehicles, noticed one with an open window and contacted the front desk of the Holiday Inn. Please extend my thanks and the thanks of the BNSF Railway to all of your officers for their professionalism and dedication to duty. Their action brings great credit not only on themselves but the entire Countryside Police Department as well."

Jeffrey Savage, Chief Special Agent—BNSF Railway

Countryside Police Department: "Please accept our gratitude and appreciation for the volunteers your department provided to assist us with hosting the 66th Annual Pet Parade."

Chief Michael Holub—La Grange Police Department

Officer Brendan Gleespen: "Please commend Brendan Gleespen for his efforts on our behalf and for his commitment to law enforcement in general, by being someone we can all count on as a member of NIPAS."

Chief Gary Bitler—Round Lake Beach Police Department

Sergeant John Andree: "I would like to thank Sergeant John Andree for his assistance during a disorderly conduct incident. The Countryside Police Department is made up of many dedicated individuals who are willing to assist neighboring communities when needed."

Chief Pamela Church—Western Springs Police Department

Photo Gallery 6

Crashes



August, 2012—803 Joliet Road

A vehicle traveling westbound on Joliet Road collided with another car, causing it to overturn, trapping the driver and passenger inside of the vehicle. Pleasantview Fire Department responded and successfully extracted the trapped victims from the vehicle. The driver and passenger were transported to LaGrange Hospital for medical treatment.

December, 2012—7100 Block of Pleasantdale

Countryside Police Officers responded to investigate a call about a car that drove through a fence and into a resident's backyard. Upon their arrival, officers located the driver of the vehicle who stated he was driving on 71st Street attempting to see how fast his vehicle would go. Upon reaching the "dead end" of 71st Street, the driver lost control of the vehicle, slid up an embankment, and through a wooden fence, finally coming to rest in the backyard of a residence. At the conclusion of the crash investigation, officers arrested the driver of the vehicle for reckless driving and damage to property.



Community Events

February, 2012—Chicago Auto Show

Officer April Bisignani presented information at the Child Safety Seat booth at the Chicago Auto Show. She reminded parents to keep kids buckled up every time and she also instructed about proper safety seat installation.







Community Events *(continued)*



March, 2012
Mitsubishi St. Baldrick's Event

Officer April Bisignani attended a St. Baldrick's event at the Mitsubishi dealership. She presented safety information, including information for properly installing a child safety seat. The event raised almost $7,000 for childhood cancer.

June, 2012
Cop-On-Top

Officer Karl Rodey organized the Cop on Top event at Dunkin' Donuts. Officers raised over $1,000 for Special Olympics.



Sergeant Mikel on top of Dunkin Donuts



Officer Rodey with his daughter

Community Events *(continued)*

BIKE RODEOS



May, 2012
Bike Rodeo—Spring School

Bicycle Officer Agostino Alonzo conducted a Bike Rodeo at Spring School. He spoke to students about the importance of bicycle safety, following the rules of the road, and always wearing a helmet.

July, 2012
Bike Rodeo—Countryside Park

The Countryside Police Department also conducted a Bike Rodeo on July 19 during a Concert in the Park. The Rodeo is a bicycle safety clinic featuring bike safety inspections, bicycle registration, quick tune-ups, and safety instruction about rules of the road. The kids got to test their skills on a ride-on, miniature course. Cyclists were escorted through the course by Bicycle Patrol Officers who pointed out hazards, gave safety tips, and explained how to apply rules of the road.



Sgt. Boyd with Safety Pup and Bicycle Officer Kalker



Officer Kalker escorting cyclists through the safety course.

Community Events *(continued)*

August, 2012

CPA Alumni Event—"*The John Wayne Gacy Investigation"*

Citizen's Police Academy Alumni were invited to attend a presentation at the Burr Ridge Police Department about the John Wayne Gacy investigation. Rafael Tovar, a retired DesPlaines detective, was instrumental in the investigation and arrest of John Wayne Gacy. His presentation included investigative techniques, which lead to the arrest of one of the most notorious serial killers of all time.



Rafael Tovar presents to the group.

October, 2012

Halloween Tour for Ideal Students



D.O. Hamernik & Littlejohn

Each Halloween, Countryside Police Juvenile Officers escort Kindergarten and First Grade students from Ideal school to the Police Department and City Hall. Communications Officers and Administrative staff get into the Halloween spirit too by dressing up for the kids and handing out candy. The children have a great time as they tour the department and City Hall.

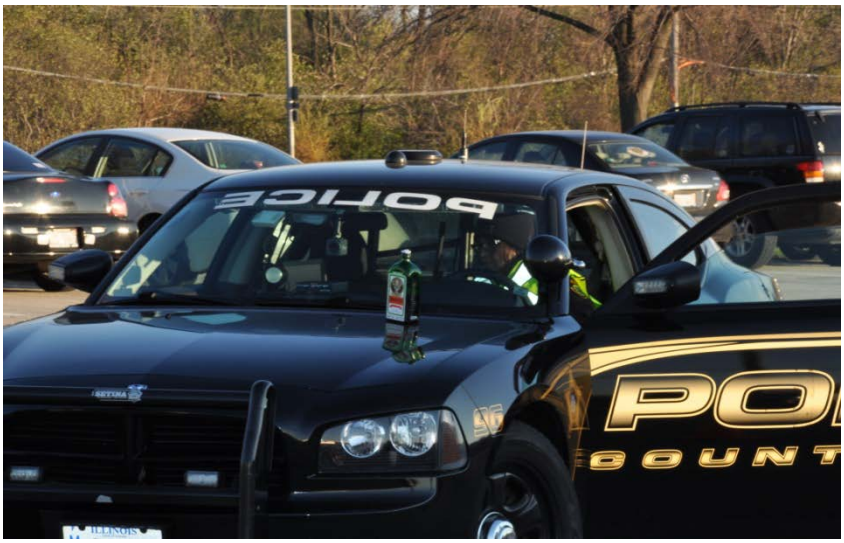
Extra patrols, including bicycle patrol, are assigned on Halloween to ensure our Trick-or-Treaters and other pedestrians are safely enjoying the holiday in our community.

Special Enforcement

Traffic Safety Checkpoint—November, 2012













Then and Now

The Countryside Police Department held their 1st Bicycle Rodeo in May, 1975.















Then and Now

Photos from this year's Bicycle Rodeo.

















Thanks for visiting!