



FROM THE SHERIFF

Lewis County Law & Justice Center
345 W. Main Street
Chehalis, WA 98532-1900

OFFICE OF THE LEWIS COUNTY SHERIFF
SHERIFF STEVE MANSFIELD

“COMMITTED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

Quarterly E-Newsletter ★ June 2009

Phone: 360-748-9286

Fax: 360-740-1476

E-Mail: Sheriff@lewiscountywa.gov

FROM THE DESK OF SHERIFF MANSFIELD



OFFENDER WATCH PROGRAM

When I took office in 2005, three of the biggest concerns relating to law enforcement efforts plaguing our community were methamphetamine, fraud/ID theft and sex offenders. Action plans and programs were put into place to deal with these emerging challenges. For the past four and a half years, we have aggressively pursued enforcement and educational efforts in each of these areas.

Currently, there are over 21,000 registered sex offenders in Washington State. Unfortunately, 440 of them live in Lewis County. Of the 440 registered sex offenders, they are classified and broken into the following three categories:

Level 1: 367 individuals who are deemed a low risk to reoffend and pose the least amount of threat to our community. They are most often known to their victims.

Level 2: 55 individuals who are considered a medium risk to reoffend, often have more than one victim and are not known to their victims. These individuals pose a more significant threat to our community.

Level 3: 18 individuals who are a significant threat and danger to this community. Their likelihood to reoffend is significant, they have multiple victims and their offense often involves violence. They deserve our attention and commitment in order to keep the citizens informed and safe.

Managing the sex offender population, by informing the public about the dangers presented by these individuals, developing accountability solutions and tracking them for the reporting requirements, has been one of my top priorities. The Lewis County Sheriff's Office currently conducts address verifications on all registered sex offenders and requires those classified as level two and three to report in person to my office every 90 days. We also conduct community notification when a level three sex offender moves into a new neighborhood. The notification consists of information, a picture of the offender, and the 100 block where the offender lives.

I am proud to announce on top of the reporting, community notification and address verification programs, Lewis County has a new program that allows the Sheriff's Office to quickly share information on sex offenders living within our county. The new program is called Offender Watch and we were the first agency in the state to implement this program.

One of the biggest advantages of the program is it allows the citizens to search for offenders living within a two mile radius of their home. Offenders often move frequently so if you want to be notified immediately when the information changes, you can sign-up for the free e-mail service and receive immediate notification whenever the informa-

tion changes. The service is free and provides another way to share information concerning registered sex offenders within our community. You can register addresses to your home, school, business, friend's house or wherever you like. It's a great way to stay informed so you can help stay safe.

To access this new service, go to my website at www.lewiscountywa.gov/sheriff and click on the Offender Watch link. There are instructions that guide you through this simple process.

Stay safe and remember, if you see something, say something!

Sheriff Steve



CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY SAFELY & LEGALLY

Take time now to educate every member of your family about fireworks and safety!



Each year during the 4th of July holiday someone is severely burned or hurt as a result of improper use of fireworks. Adult supervision around fireworks is the most important way in keeping children safe. Only adults should light fireworks and handle matches and lighters. Set family boundaries and talk with your children about celebrating safely. Fireworks should not be readily available to tempt the curiosity of young children and should be stored in a secure location to prohibit their access.

Use care in selecting the area for discharge of fireworks, and the type of fireworks appropriate for that area. Weather conditions make grasses and other vegetation dry and vulnerable to fire.

Use caution in purchasing fireworks. Be sure the fireworks you purchase are legal to possess and discharge. Just because you can buy it doesn't mean it is legal. Be especially careful of fireworks you can buy from tribal land. They do not operate under the same laws as fireworks stands off the reservation.

**SPARKLERS
BURN AT OVER
1,200 DEGREES
AND ARE ONE
OF THE LEADING
FIREWORKS
INVOLVED IN
INJURIES.**

State legal fireworks can be discharged in areas with no ban or restrictions** during the following dates and times:

- June 28th—Between 12:00 Noon and 11:00 PM
- June 29th through July 3rd—Between 9:00 AM and 11:00 PM
- July 4th—Between 9:00 AM and 12:00 midnight
- July 5th—Between 9:00 AM and 11:00 PM
- December 31st—Between 6:00 PM and 1:00 AM

**Cities within incorporated Lewis County with fireworks restrictions include the cities of Centralia and Vader.

Fireworks are not allowed in state or federal parks or on Department of Natural Resource lands.

Be prepared before you light fireworks

- Use legal fireworks, available at licensed outlets.
- Store fireworks out of children's reach.
- Keep pets safe indoors.
- Always keep water handy.



**M-80'S OR
LARGER CAN
CAUSE
AMPUTATION OF
FINGERS OR
EVEN A HAND.
THEY ARE
EXPLOSIVE
DEVICES AND
ARE ILLEGAL TO
POSSES
ANYWHERE IN
THE NATION.**

Be safe when lighting fireworks

- Only adults should light fireworks.
- Only use outdoors.
- Do not throw fireworks or hold in your hand.
- Protect your eyes.
- Light one firework at a time and move away quickly.
- Never relight a "dud".
- Be considerate of your neighbors and pets.

Be responsible after you finish lighting fireworks

- Soak used fireworks in water.
- Be considerate—clean up used fireworks.
- Keep matches and lighters away from children.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY



Thank you to the citizens and businesses who supported the Crime Stoppers of Lewis County 14th anniversary dinner and auction held

on March 21st. This event was a huge success with over \$29,000 raised to keep this vital program functioning in our community for many years to come.

The success of our local Crime Stoppers program is significant. Since the program's inception in 1995, over \$37,000 in rewards has been paid to anonymous

tipsters, 287 arrests have been made and 334 cases solved. Also, \$2,972,943 in narcotics and stolen property have been recovered. The Crime Stoppers program really does work to make Lewis County a safer place to live, work and go to school.

To report an anonymous tip, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-748-6422, or go on-line at www.lewiscountycrimestoppers.org to report a tip through the new on-line submission form.

Remember, you never have to leave your name!

MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES ON THE RISE

Motorcycle riders are the only category of driver on Washington roads whose fatality rate is trending upward. Half of all rider fatalities are over 40 years old; over 90% are male. Most rider fatalities take place in the summer months and during daylight hours from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

According to the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, between 1997 and 2008, in the state of Washington, motorcycle registrations increased 136%. Motorcycle fatalities increased 189%. Nearly half of the fatal motorcycle crashes were single-vehicle collisions, and one-third of fatalities involved an unendorsed rider.

While you are traveling our roadways this summer, keep an eye out for motorcycles. If you plan on purchasing that dream motorcycle, make sure you get the proper endorsement and training. Riding a motorcycle properly is a skill you learn, not something you are born with. Wear a quality helmet, eye protection, bright clothing, and protective gear. Make sure your headlight works and is on both day and night. And, if you are going to drink, don't even think about riding.



Deputy Brady Taylor with Cub Scout Pack #519 tour the Lewis County Sheriff's Office.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office Association, a non-profit organization comprised of commissioned law enforcement and corrections officers, and support staff of the Lewis County Sheriff's Office, again are providing three scholarships for youth in our community. Members of the Association contribute monthly dues that fund our scholarship program.

Our three scholarship recipients for the 2009/2010 school year are:

★ **\$1000 Scholarship — Blake Teitzel**

W. F. West High School Graduate
Plans to attend Centralia College for two years and then transfer to Western Washington University to pursue a degree in the engineering field.

★ **\$500 Scholarship — Kyle Saari**

W. F. West High School Graduate
Plans to attend Washington State University and major in mechanical engineering.

★ **\$500 Scholarship — Rachel Hardin**

W. F. West High School Graduate
Plans to attend Olympic College to earn her Associate's Degree and then transfer to either University of Washington or University of Pennsylvania.

2009 SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE



Over 700 search and rescue personnel from across the United States and Canada turned out for the 2009 Washington State SAR Conference held at Dragon's Sphere Recreation Park in Randle, Washington, on May 15th—17th.

An awards ceremony was held Saturday night, followed by a live band performance by the Swamp Daddies, a local Chehalis band comprised of county employees from Facilities and Public Works.

The person awarded for traveling the furthest to the conference was



Lewis County Chief Deputy Gene Seiber, 2009 SAR Coordinator, and Chris Long, Washington State SAR Coordinator.

Don Franklin from Somerset, Kentucky. Best camp display award was presented to the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office for their parade of vehicles and nighttime light show.

Special awards were also given to the US Navy for their assistance in K-9 hot load training, and to Yakima County Sheriff's Office for the use of their equipment during the conference.

Lewis County was recognized by the State of Washington Search & Rescue Volunteer Advisory Council (SARVAC) for their dedication to SAR training and development through hosting the 2009 Washington SAR Conference.

Coordinator of the event, Chief Deputy Gene Seiber, expressed his appreciation to the members of the Lewis County SAR Council, and Sheriff's Office SAR Coordinators Alan Stull, Bob Nel-

son, Rob Withey, Brady Taylor, Gabe Frase and Tim English for their outstanding efforts in planning and organizing this successful SAR training event.



US Navy crew members assist SAR volunteers practicing K-9 hot loads.



Local Civil Air Patrol Cadets help with meal service.



Longtime Packwood SAR volunteer Martha Garoutte (left) assists inventorying food trucked in to feed conference attendees.

SWIFT WATER RESCUE

By Detective Dan Riordan

My story begins with a conversation between myself and Sergeant Alan Stull about the need for a group of deputies to specialize in swift water rescues due to our recent multiple 100 year floods in Lewis County. We both agreed there was a need for this team so we could better deal with the dangers of flood related rescues.

Those selected for the team were Alan Stull, Rob Snaza, Rick Van Wyck, Kevin Engelbertson, Brady Taylor and myself. Sergeant Stull was able to obtain grant money to gear the team and Wave Trek Rescue, a company that specializes in swift water rescue training, donated some slots for this costly training. We had no idea what we were about to undertake!

During the month of April, the team is called together and we get sized for dry suits, helmets, boots and gloves. About a week before the training, some of our equipment arrives but there is a snag with our dry suits. Some of the team members were sent loaners for the class and the rest of us would have to wait until the day of the training class for our dry suits.

Day One – Well, our first training day arrives and we head to the classroom at the SAR Conference in Randle. All the stu-

dents gathered in the room - volunteer dive team members, local firefighters and even some independent river guides. The group appeared very motivated about the training we were about to receive. As the lead instructor and owner of the company, Chris Cooper, began the classroom portion, I became aware this class was going to test us physically and mentally beyond what we all expected.

We learned about hazards of moving water, strainers, low-head dams, and multiple other things that kill the victims, and the rescuers. As we sat there listening to what goes wrong and how bad it could get, I realized that the old adage of "ignorance is bliss" is so true. I learned I had placed myself in several perilous situations during past rescue attempts.



about rescue situations, and how to read the water. We were all excited about doing

hands training on the swift water of the Cispus River (okay, maybe not all of us as the weather was cold and nasty). Oh, yeah, then Brady and I got our dry suits. Brady's suit was just like the rest of our team's, mine was...purple. Now don't get me wrong, I like the color purple. I grew up with Donny Osmond and his purple socks, but when you're with a group of firefighters and cops, this just had "bad" written all over it.

Day Two – Sporting my purple dry suit, I met with the other deputies on the team to caravan to the river location. As I got out of my patrol vehicle, I hear the laughter begin. Once everyone gained control of themselves, we meet with our instructors at the on-site training location. Next thing I heard was instructor Chris call me "Barney the dinosaur" from the kids' television show. Then someone began to sing the theme song for the show. I knew at that moment I was going to be known as "Barney" the rest of the week!



SWIFT WATER RESCUE CONTINUED

During the hands-on portion of our training, we learned how to use a “throw bag” from shore to rescue a victim in the river, move as a single rescuer and a team through the rapids, and swim effectively through the river. Our instructors kept reminding us the number one thing we needed to get out of our training was the knowledge and ability to *self rescue*. At the end of the day, we were happy to start heading home as we were cold from the river temperature, rain, hail, and snow that briefly fell as we were in the river.

Day Three – The third day began as the second one did; we met up with rest of the class, some “Barney” comments were made, and we caravan to a new location on the Cispus River. We arrived at the new location and observed the river was moving faster and definitely had more hazards in it. We broke up into our teams and rigged up lines across the river for “ferrying” personnel and equipment back and forth. This meant we needed two people from both teams to swim across the river to set anchor ropes. Of course Alan and I put our hands up to be two of the four. The others were picked and we headed up river to jump in. Once into the river, it was an eye opener on how much you have to do physically and mentally just to swim across *Class 2-3 rapids*. We made it across to the other side and set our anchors and lines for the system. We then worked on throw bags again, belay’s (live bait rescuers), floating the rapids, and

crossing over strainers (log jams).

By the end of the day, we were all exhausted. The instructors wanted everyone who hadn’t



swam the river to try it. Of course they said we “didn’t have to do it.” They also told Alan and I that we did not have to swim the river again. There were a lot of looks of exhaustion from the other students. Me being me, I said I would swim the river again if anyone wanted to do it. Unfortunately for me, other students decided to swim the river. Kevin, Brady, and I went up to the bend to get ready to jump in. Kevin was not totally onboard with this because he was tired. I encouraged him to give it a go and told him if he was too tired to just roll over onto his back into the rescue position and the other students would throw *multiple* rope-bags to him to get him into shore. Well, I decided to go first and with one mighty leap I was swimming through the rapids towards the eddy break. When I got to the eddy, I was exhausted from the day’s earlier swims. I rolled over onto my back and got into the rescue position. As I passed the first of many students, *no one threw me a rope-bag!* Next thing I see is one of our diver’s tied onto a rope and he jumped into the water and began swimming to me. Without

telling me the other students decided to try a “live bait” rescue swimmer. The diver had jumped in a little late so I had to try and swim to him. Remember, I am exhausted and having

to swim up river towards the diver. We touch fingers and that was it. I was on my own heading down the Cispus River towards a set of big rapids and a sharp bend. Any other time this probably wouldn’t have bothered me, but I did not feel like finding out what was around the bend. So, I took a deep breath and began swimming for the shore. After exerting everything in my body, I finally made it to the water’s edge—on the wrong side of course. While I was catching my breath, instructor Abe showed up with a canoe. I told him I was fine and began walking up the river bank towards our training location. When I broke out of the shoreline, everyone cheered and I gave them some choice words about not throwing me a rope-bag. So there I stood on the wrong side

of the river. I waded back into the river, swimming out into the rapids and then rolled onto my back to the rescue position. As I passed the guys on the shore, I was bombarded with rope-bags. Soon after that I was on the correct shore. The many students, sure I was okay and then said, “You know now you can rescue yourself!” That ended day three.

Day Four – Day four was the

classroom portion of high angle rope rescues. The day was about learning riggings and knots getting us ready for the next day at the falls.

Day Five – We hiked our gear up to some falls and rigged up a highline rescue system. We have to give thanks on the rigging system to one of our own. Kevin had the systems down and we had the high-line up and running. Kevin was the first rescuer to be pulled out over the 50 foot ravine above the water and then lowered down to secure the patient. It was pretty cool.

After we broke the system down and hiked the gear back to our vehicles, we reflected on what we had accomplished the past five days. We all agreed this class was a needed asset for the Sheriff’s Office and it opened our eyes that it was just the tip of the iceberg. It was obvious we would need to train on a regular basis to retain what we learned and become better at our techniques. The partnerships we created with other agencies and personnel will also help us be better prepared for rescues on the waterways and during flood events in Lewis County.



Deputies Rick Van Wyck and Dan Riordan practicing a high angle rope rescue.



CONTRACT SERVICES: A CRITICAL ELEMENT OF THE JAIL OPERATION

PART ONE — MEDICAL SERVICES

By Lieutenant Jim Pea

Jails are often compared to small communities. Jails have their own “restaurant”, health clinic, “laundromat”, school, counseling offices, and of course their very own police force. But while Corrections employees comprise the largest percentage of the work force, the jail relies on professional contracted services for critical areas of operation.

The two largest service contracts for the jail are Food Service and Health Care. In 2008, 5,110 people passed through the doors of the Lewis County Jail, with an average stay of 11 days. That’s a lot of people to provide a wide range of services, particularly meals and medications.

MEDICAL:

Practicing health care in a correctional setting is a unique specialty not every health care provider can handle. In addition to their professional expertise, health care providers in a jail must possess an ability to deal with a variety of challenges not normally associated with the general practice of health care. Most obvious is the continuous alertness to security and safety concerns. But that is just the beginning. They must also constantly be aware of being manipulated.

Jail health care providers are dealing with a unique clientele, many of whom by nature are not necessarily the most honest or health conscious individuals. When practicing health care in most environments, the health care provider does not have to consider at the onset of contact with a patient if the patient is lying or faking an injury. In the jail setting, the legitimacy of the particular medical complaint of the patient is one of the first and foremost things to be considered, unless there is obvious injury or illness, or the situation involves an inmate with a condition already known to medical staff. Even in those situations it has to be considered, as it is not uncommon for an inmate to take advantage of their known medical problems to manipulate a situation.

There are a variety of reasons an inmate might fake a medical emergency, but jail health care providers must be wary of an inmate’s possible desire to escape, or being placed in a potential hostage or other dangerous situation. If escape is the intent of the inmate’s ruse, putting themselves in a situation to get outside the facility, even in the company of armed corrections personnel, provides a slightly better chance to carry out their plan.

Other reasons to fake a medical situation are numerous, but include attempts to obtain contraband, a chance to just get some fresh air and interact with different people, an opportunity to get more or more potent meds than they are receiving, the potential of staying in a more comfortable hospital setting as opposed to the jail, or for some, simply something to relieve the boredom of their incarceration. Jail health care personnel must provide service to inmates and remain vigilant of safety and security, and be able to quickly assess a situation to ensure legitimate situations are provided proper care. While all medical professionals must be concerned with liability related to their practice, medical care is one of the most litigated areas of jail operations.

Dealing with mentally ill or seriously depressed individuals is another hazard involving contracted medical care providers. While that is no different from general health care practice, the jail has a constant and increasingly large population of mentally ill inmates who often require extensive medications and special services.

Jail inmates represent a large percentage of high risk health situations, whether due to lack of attention to their general health, or high risk lifestyle practices. This segment of the jail population represents a higher probability of health care needs while in custody, and a greater health risk exposure to other inmates and jail personnel.

The jail also deals with a transient population. Coupled with this and the high risk inmates, (often one and the same), the jail must be alert and proactive in health care issues. During the recent initial stage of Swine Flu, the jail quickly implemented pandemic disease control protocols and took steps to be as prepared as possible for what might develop. Immediately, during intake procedures, jail staff added specific medical questions beyond the normal screening in an effort to detect any possible Swine Flu symptoms. As the Swine Flu outbreak concerns lessened, jail staff phased out the heightened protocols and returned to the normal screening process. (Only one case of possible Swine Flu was referred for testing and was negative.) Dealing with the Swine Flu situation involved a collaborative effort of contract staff, County Health Department and Providence Centralia Hospital.



Long-time contracted Steck Clinic Nurse Mary Briggs.

Jail medical care is provided through a long existing contract with Steck Clinic in Chehalis. Steck provides 126 hours per week of nursing coverage. The medical staff assigned to the jail includes four full-time and two part-time nurses, a nursing supervisor and a consulting physician. In 2008, the jail clinic saw 10,135 inmate visits. Approximately 120 of those contacts resulted in referrals for outside care. The medical team provided by Steck provides outstanding service in a very challenging environment.

The citizens of Lewis County are well served by the contracted services for health care at the jail. The vendor provides cost containment and reduced liability risk as a result of the high quality, professional service provided.

See our next e-newsletter edition for Part II of Jail Contracted Services.

LEWIS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Exercising Our Partnerships

During the past four years, Emergency Management has coordinated four drills, six tabletops, six functional, and ten full-scale or EOC activations during emergencies/disasters. Federal and state regulations require at least one tabletop per year, one functional every three years, and one full-scale exercise every four years (activation during a real event counts for a full-scale exercise).



Emergency Management Deputy Director Ross McDowell reviews a checklist with Napavine Fire Chief Kris Weiland during a functional flooding and earthquake training exercise.

THE PARTNERS . . .

Emergency management **partnerships** are important to all phases of natural and technological disasters. Federal, state, local governments, businesses, and local non-profit or-

ganizations are the **partners** in emergency management. The Lewis County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Division coordinates the **partnership** activities to maintain plans, provide training and exercises, and coordinate response and recovery tasks after actual events.

THE PLAN . . .

The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) contains information on how citizens and property are protected in a disaster. It details the tasks to be carried out by specific **partnership** organizations based on established objectives, assumptions, and a realistic assessment of capabilities. (Emergency Management coordinates the updates to the CEMP and 10 annexes.)

Once a plan has been adopted by all response **partners**, it must be tested. The most effective way to test the plan, and all the other capabilities of the emergency management **partnerships**, is by simulating a real emergency to exercise personnel and procedures.

THE EXERCISES . . .

There are four different types of emergency management exercises. Each is progressively more realistic, more stressful, more complex and more difficult to conduct.

1. **Drill** - Single response exercise.
2. **Tabletop** - Informal discussion without time pressures, low stress.
3. **Functional** - Stressful, realistic simulation but field equipment not deployed. Takes place in real time and the EOC is activated.
4. **Full-Scale** - Coordinates many agencies, tests several emergency functions and deploys equipment. High stress and set time frame. Activates EOC.

The Public Service Spectrum Includes:

- Law Enforcement
- Fire Services
- E911
- Emergency Medical Services
- **Emergency Management**

For emergencies and disasters that cross jurisdictional lines, Emergency Management facilitates coordination between Lewis County's 67 response entities and state/federal agencies.

FEATURED PARTNER: CENTRALIA STUDENTS' TRAINING PUT TO USE

Five students from Centralia High School put their recently acquired Medical First Aid training skills into practice. A student fell out of a moving pickup truck and received a serious head laceration and concussion. Jess Harris, Mariyah Ashmore, Brandy Lamb, Paul Anderson and Jordan Hull quickly jumped into action. They used clothing to stop the bleeding, called 911, secured the injured student by using in-line stabilization, performed crowd control, and flagged down EMS.

These students were part of 20 Sports Medicine students that received their first aid training from Lewis County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Deputy Director Ross McDowell for an April Functional Earthquake Exercise. McDowell coordinated school staff and students through writing a plan, learning roles, completing training, and participating in an actual exercise on April 18. "Preparedness really works," stated teacher Jessica Elder. "The knowledge they received prepared them to take immediate action to assist one of their fellow students."

"**Partnership** building between schools, fire districts and emergency management is a new relationship recently required by federal legislation," declared Ross McDowell. "This is an example of how the entire community wins when we work together to be prepared."

Mission Statement

Lewis County Emergency Management shall seek to minimize the impacts of disasters and emergencies on people, property, and the environment of Lewis County through strong partnerships that promote mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery efforts.