

THE INFORMANT

Remembrance Issue



Dates to remember

Gen. Meeting 6:30pm	9/14
Come at 6pm for meal	
Nat'l Night. Out	10/6
Halloween Drive Thru	10/31
Drive-thru fundraiser	11/2



Above: New York celebrates 9.11.01 in unique ways. The photo above right is made up of thousands of lights depicting the flag on the left and badges on the right. Both nice tributes! (Page 4)



Below left: Jon Siemsglusz, Richard Jares, Dorothy Antkowiak and Dale Green greet donors at the Guns and Hoses Blood Drive. (Pages 3,5,6)

Below Right: Dale Green, Dorothy Antkowiak, Sheriff Otto Hanak and Chief Ron Parker are waiting for the Grace Fellowship Church program to begin. (Page 7)

September Birthdays

Belated wishes to

Sgt. Justin Schiller	9/3
Sgt. Joe Merkley	9/20
Lt. Kelvin Raven	9/26



Thanks to the following COPs for their help at the following events:

8-8-20 Fireman's Fiesta Traffic Assignment: Dorothy Antkowiak, Annette Tiemann, Dale Green, Jon Siemsglusz, Kathleen Siemsglusz, Laura Sparks, Tony Smith, Tex Davis, Richard Jares, Ron Upchurch, Patricia Badough, Stan Ford



8-19-20 Senior Center Food Drive Traffic Assignment: Annette Tiemann, Kathleen Siemsglusz, Dale Green, Tony Smith, Tex Davis, Richard Jares, Rob Aguilar



8-21-20 Guns and Hose Blood Drive: Wanda Aguilar, Annette Tiemann, Kathleen Siemsglusz, Richard Jares, Jon Siemsglusz, Dale Green, Dorothy Antkowiak, Rob Aguilar

8-22-20 Guns and Hoses Blood Drive: Wanda Aguilar, Annette Tiemann, Kathleen Siemsglusz, Jon Siemsglusz, Richard Jares, Dale Green, Dorothy Antkowiak, Rob Aguilar



August COP Hours

Rob Aguilar	45.5
Wanda Aguilar	17
Dorothy Antkowiak	16
Patricia Badough	3
Kevin Braun	2
Sue Braun	8
Willie Brown	4
Bob Cothran	10
Michael Cowan	12
Tex Davis	10.5
Doug Feist	41.5
Stan Ford	117.5
Dale Green	16
David Holloway	2
Richard Jares	27
Steve Oneill	2
Jon Siemsglusz	17
Kathleen Siemsglusz	22
Mark Smith	4
Tony Smith	6
Annette Tiemann	28
Ron Upchurch	9.25
Darrell Weed	6
Catharine Wood	6

TOTAL 432

COPs are back to work !

Photos from Senior Center Traffic Assignment



Above: **Richard Jares**
Below: **Kathleen Siemsglusz, Annette Tiemann** at Senior Center

Above: **Dale Green, Tony Smith**. Below: **Tony Smith and Tex Davis** at Senior Center



Above: **Kathleen Siemsglusz**

The Fireman’s Training Center (FTC) was the scene of our latest Guns and Hoses Blood Drive, 2-Day Event. Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, I asked Fire Chief Ricky Boeker if we could use the FTC for both days of this event; doing away with the cramped Donor Coach at Friday’s drive. He quickly agreed, as he has always been a big supporter of the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center and our Guns and Hoses blood drives. The Blood Center also thought it was a good idea because of the size of the facility, the fact that their workers would only have to set up once, and most importantly, the number of donors can be increased when the event is in an indoor facility. Unfortunately, the number of donor appointments was capped at 55, which meant that with our great turn out, we had to turn potential donors away and not accept any walk-ins. “That’s a great problem to have”, I kept hearing from several people; and of course, I agree!

We had plenty of volunteer help from our COPs and firefighters for this 2-day event. A BIG THANK YOU to all that came out to help and to donate. And another BIG THANK YOU to our sponsors. Our local radio stations: KLTR, KWHI and KTEX did a wonderful job getting the word out about our drive. KWHI and KTEX had remote broadcasts from the FTC on both days of our drives; and they also had me down to their station for two on-air interview before the drive. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center also sent out multiple emails and texts to donors about the event. As in the past, MAX Donuts came through with tasty treats and Subway supplied us with a tray of sandwiches for both days. Of course, our COP ladies made extra stuff like chicken salad sandwiches and chili for frito-pie to add more choices to our menu. The Fire Department supplied soft drinks and we supplemented that with iced-tea. Needless to say, no one left hungry, especially our volunteers; unfortunately the phlebotomists didn’t get to eat until after 4 pm!

We advertised childcare for people who donate blood and had no takers at Friday’s drive. But on Saturday, two ladies took us up on our offer. We looked after 4-year-old Mia and 6-year-old Logan at Saturdays drive. While we were supposed to keep the kids entertained, I think we were entertained by them instead. We had fun with Mia, she was so cute; and Logan was so full of energy, but extremely polite. I am glad we thought to include childcare at the drives.

We had a couple of no-shows, that’s always expected, but managed to call some people in to take their places. After all was said and done, on Friday we had 56 total blood products and on Saturday we had 57 total units. A great couple of days, saving almost 300 lives!



Donating Blood (Above, left to right): COP **Mark Smith**, **Kristi Thomas** (from the Dispatch Office), COP **Kathleen Siemsglusz**, COP **David Holloway**, CPA Alum **Kim Hodde**.

Right: That’s CPA Alum **Carol Holloway** holding the “Gallon Mug” she had just been presented; for donating a gallon of blood to the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. She says, that most of that blood was donated thru Guns and Hoses!



We Remember

By Rob Aguilar



We vowed to remember; we made an oath to ourselves, never to forget. Never to forget what we saw, never to forget how we felt; the outrage, the sorrow, the suffering and the aftermath. It's been nineteen years since the 9/11 Attacks, but it seems like yesterday; those images still fresh in our minds.

On September 11, 2001, 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda hijacked four airliners and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two of the airliners were flown into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, one plane hit the Pentagon in Washington D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in rural Pennsylvania.

It was a clear day that Tuesday morning about 8:45 a.m. when that American Airlines Boeing 767 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center. The plane hit the 80th Floor of the 110 story structure. I was watching the breaking news on TV and thought, what a terrible accident, how could that have happened ; when a second plane hit the South Tower around the 60th Floor(United Airlines Flight 175), it became clear, we were under attack. While we were watching this horrific event, about an hour had passed when we learned that Flight 77, a Boeing 757 had slammed into the Pentagon. We would later learn that Flight 93 out of Newark, New Jersey had also been hijacked. However, the passengers and crew on that Flight had heard of the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks before their departure. A few of the passengers and crew members fought the four hijackers in an effort to foil their plot. The plot was foiled, but the plane crashed in a rural field in western Pennsylvania; all 45 persons on board were killed. The intended target was never revealed, but it is theorized that the White House, the Capitol, Camp David or one of several nuclear power plants in the area may have been the target.

It was the deadliest day in our history, loss of life was devastating; especially sad were losses to “first responders”. Close to 3,000 people were killed at the World Trade Center attack. A staggering 343 Firefighters, 23 New York City Police Officers and 37 Port Authority Police Officers and 15 EMTs lost their lives trying to save civilians from the Towers. Almost 10,000 people were treated for injuries, many were severe; of those approximately 2,000 were first responders. 125 military and civilian deaths were reported at the Pentagon attack, along with the 64 people aboard the airliner. And all 45 persons on board Flight 93 died in that field in western Pennsylvania.

Remembering isn't enough, we need to pass on this tragic part of our history to our children and grandchildren. Then, we truly will **never forget September 11th 2001.**



Thank You!



A **Big Thank You** goes out to all the COPs that came out on August 21st and 22nd to help with the Guns and Hoses Blood Drive. **Rob's Crew:** Wanda Aguilar, Annette Tiemann, Richard Jares, Dale Green, Dorothy Antkowiak, Jon Siemsglusz, Kathleen Siemsglusz.

But a **Special Thanks** to those that donated the Gift of Life!

Friday's Totals : **56** Total Blood Units

Saturday's Totals : **57** Total Blood Units

Which translates to **282** Lives Saved !!



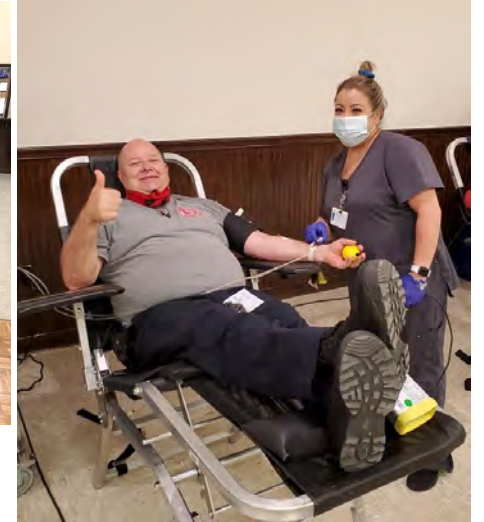
Above: Our old friend Karen Karsteter



Above: After donating blood, **Misty McCowan** hung out with our crew - **Wanda, Annette and Dorothy.**

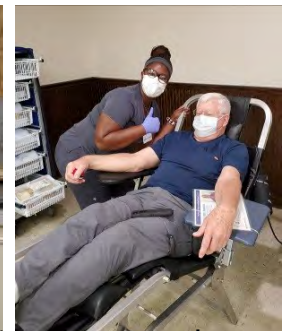
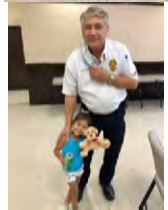
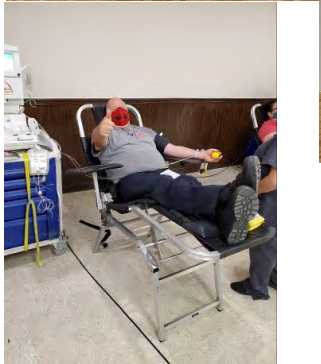


I had on a headset to do 2 interviews with KWHI/ KTEX radio personalities Craig Montana and Holly Rider the week of the blood drive. They did a great job getting the word out about the drive



As mentioned in the article, we provided childcare services to two of the cutest kids. Six year old **Logan** and four year old **Mia**. Logan was playing with his hot wheels car with Dale and Dorothy. Mia was showing off her new stuffed dog to Rob. They were fun to watch; and did I mention how cute they were!!

Above: BFD's new Chaplain, **John Paulson**, donates Dbl Red Cell Plasma, **Veronica** uses her light touch to start the process



Above: **Richard Jares** speaks with **David** and **Carol Holloway**, as they eat a little lunch.

Above: **Dorothy** slices homemade bread for sandwiches. Above Right: **Steve Oneill** gets poked by **Koeshia**.



On August 26th the Grace Community Fellowship Church offered prayers by members of its congregation to 1st Responders, city and county officials, as well as, to Blinn College and area school district officials and representatives. We here at BPD, including COPs, were cordially invited to attend. In attendance representing BPD that evening were Chief Ron Parker, Captain Lloyd Powell, Sgt. Joe Merkley, Cpl. David Dudenhoeffer, Ofc. Marley Mayo. Representing our COPs were Catharine Wood, Annette Tiemann, Dale Green and Dorothy Antkowiak. Representing the Sheriff's Office were Sheriff Otto Hanak, Chief Deputy Jay Petrash and Sgt. Mark Morales. Kristi Stamnes represented the Dispatch Office and Chief Ricky Boeker and FF Stacie Oberrender were there for the Fire Department; as evidenced by the photos that grace this page. The Prayer for Citizens On Patrol which was presented by Michala Emshoff is shared below. (Photos by: Chief Ron Parker and Annette Tiemann)

Prayer for Citizens on Patrol

We pray for our Citizens On Patrol and ask that they would know your presence is with them as they face the challenges and demands of their job. When times feel overwhelming, we ask that you bring peace and clarity of mind and we ask that your strength would flow through them as they serve, giving the endurance they need to carry on. Father we thank you for all the long hours they volunteer to make our community better and stronger. To them and their families we pray to you God for good health, protection and strength. Lord we thank you everyday for these patrol officers and what they do for our community.



Above: COPs Annette, Catharine, Dorothy and Dale. Left: Kristi Stamnes

Right: Jay Petrash, Mark Morales, Otto Hanak



Above: Ricky Boeker, Stacie Oberrender

Right: Lloyd, Marley, David, Joe

Above Rt: Chief Ron Parker, etc





Above 3 photos are of an accident in Chappell Hill, BFD, CHVFD, EMS, SO, DPS and WC Air One were all there working together.



Right 3 photo: BFD, Trooper Quentin Smith and Ofc. Tina Bruno worked the scene of an accident on Hwy 290 West near Blue Bell Rd. Those reports don't write themselves, do they Tina?



Left: We see "Ofc. Joe Smooth", I mean Ofc. Eddie Martinez trying not to look cool at an accident scene on Northview Circle. How debonair is that guy? You go Eddie!



WC Air One has been working very hard lately.



Left: Ofc. Michael Alston, IC Tank Nienstedt and Sgt. Jonathan Phipps look on as FF Kyle Bentke (Bottom Right) takes an ax to a perfectly good window.



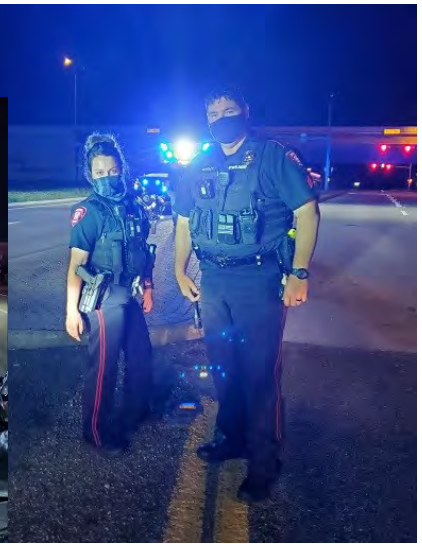
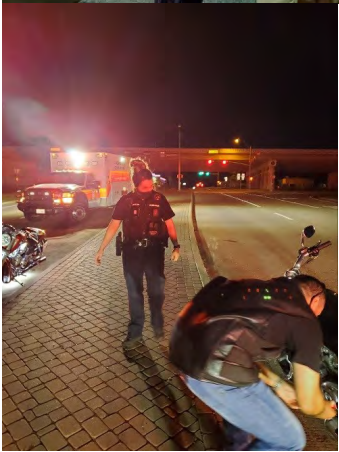


Good Job Guys!



Above left: **Sgt. Johnson** relays information to Asst. Chief **Ronald Bentke**, Captain **Josh Sebastian** and FF **Stacie Oberreender**, as the fire moves into the overhaul stage.

Above: At an 18 wheeler fire on Hwy 290 East over Chappell Hill Street, **Sgt. Terrence Johnson** was our traffic liaison, as the highway needed to be shut down in both directions for a time. S O Deputy **Nicholas Pfeffer** was also on scene to help with that.



Above 4 photos are of a motorcycle mishap at 2700 S. Market Street on September 6th. **Ofc. Marley Mayo** handled the scene with a little help from **Sgt. Joe Merkley**. EMS and BFD also made location. Just another typical shift, never a dull moment for 1st Responders!!



2020 National Night Out

Make plans to join forces with us on **October 6th** for the **37th Annual** crime and drug prevention event. This year's **theme will be discussed** at this Monday's CPAAA Meeting.



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Never Forget

