



Bars & Stripes

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Law enforcement personnel from across the country await the start of the candlelight ceremony during national Police Week.

Police week honors fallen law officers

Washington, DC – The names of 316 law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty — 152 of them in 2010 — were formally dedicated on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial May 13.

Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. led the lighting of candles and reading of the fallen officers' names during the 23rd annual Candlelight Vigil, held at the Memorial grounds. Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano and Linda Moon-Gregory, national president of the Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), also participated in the annual tribute to officers who have died in the line of duty, a special part of the National Police Week observance in the nation's capital.

The 152 officers who died in 2010 represent an increase of almost 25% over the number of officers who died in the line of duty in 2009. In addition, 164 officers who died in previous years, but whose deaths had been lost to history, were added to the Memorial this year. The monument in Judiciary Square now contains the names of 19,298 fallen law enforcement officers — from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, and federal law enforcement and military police agencies — who have died in the performance of duty throughout U.S. history.

“The safety of our communities and the freedoms we enjoy as a nation have always come at a price,” said Craig W. Floyd, Chairman and CEO of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, which maintains the Memorial and is one of the leading organizers of National Police Week each May. “In 2010, the price paid by our heroic and dedicated law enforcement officers was

(Continued on Page 8)

Violent crime declines nationwide; Detroit's rate among the highest

The FBI's 2010 Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report, released in May shows a 5.5 percent decrease in the number of reported violent crimes when compared with data from 2009. It also shows a 2.8 percent decline in reported property crimes.

This report is based on information submitted to the FBI from 13,007 law enforcement agencies around the country. The crimes covered are murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Detroit saw a significant decline in murders, but still has one of the highest violent crime rates in the country, surpassed only by Flint. And if Detroit's rapidly declining population is taken into account, the Motor City would have a crime rate higher than Flint's. If Detroit's reduced population of 713,717 is used, its per capita crime rate would be 2,378 violent crimes per 100,000 residents.

According to the Detroit News, the FBI figures show that Detroit had 310 murders in 2010, down from 363 in 2009. Detroit experienced 8 percent fewer robberies and 6 percent fewer aggravated assaults. Forcible rates rose to 405 in 2010 vs. 334 in 2009.

Some of the report's highlights include:

- Nationally, murder declined 4.4 percent, while forcible rape dropped 4.2 percent, robbery 9.5 percent, and aggravated assault 3.6 percent—all when compared with 2009 crime figures.

- Geographically speaking, the South saw the largest decline in violent crime (7.5 percent), followed by the Midwest (5.9 percent), the West (5.8 percent) and the Northeast (0.4 percent).

- Concerning property crime, motor vehicle theft was

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Thin Blue Line is getting thinner across USA

There is a thin blue line to protect and to serve, providing security from the disorder and damage produced by crime. In today's economic climate, one can agree that as a nation we need to look carefully at our societal priorities. But in doing this, it is vital to remember that the core responsibility of government is to safeguard the lives and liberty of the people.

Across America public safety has seen massive cuts. Empirical data show that crime increases as the number of officers on the street declines. Rank-and-file officers know this all too well. With less law enforcement in our communities, officers are left with a heavier workload, placing them at greater risk; as evidenced by this year's sharp increase in police fatalities.

To characterize the work of rank-and-file law enforcement as unique is an understatement. There is simply no private sector profession equivalent to law enforcement.

Retired officers face the challenge of a unique and not easily transferable skill set, leaving many of them with limited career, income and benefit options.

The public justly demands that officers be fit and able to protect our citizens and communities. That fact brings with it the reality that officers generally must retire earlier than private sector workers. Like it or not, it's the nature of the service. Wilford Brimley makes a great oatmeal spokesman, but that's not necessarily who you want sprinting up your apartment stairs at two a.m. to confront a burglar.

While some politicians who either don't know or ignore this fact try to drum up public envy of the retirement rules under which officers serve, those very rules are necessitated by the nature of the service the public rightly expects. A job without adequate retirement options will fail to attract the best candidates, and will lose those who have gained valuable experience. This is true of all professions, and law enforcement is no different. If we remove the prospect of a secure retirement, we as a society will find ourselves with poorer quality law enforcement at the very time we need the best we can get.

—Bill Johnson serves as the Executive Director of the National Association of Police Organizations. This letter recently appeared in *USA Today*.

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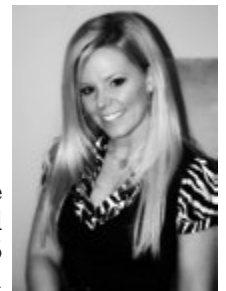
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Junetta Wynn

Over the last several months the Association reached out and met with our brothers and sisters in law enforcement in Lansing in an effort to address the attacks with legislative bills against unions, pensions and retirement plans, social security, employee health plans, ACT-312, push for emergency managers, salary reductions, and municipal partnerships.

It should be noted that while the governor and his political engine were steamrolling against the public sector employees they just so happened to miss earlier calculations in which it has been discovered that \$500 million-plus in state revenue had not been considered in balancing the budget.

Membership: The Mayor of the City of Detroit requested that all unions meet on May 2, 2011, 4:00pm at the City of Detroit labor offices. During the meeting, the Mayor stated that the City of Detroit needed concessions from everyone. The Mayor further stated that the unions and their members have already given back to the city by means of ten percent (10 %) pay cuts, furlough days, and reductions of benefits by way of negotiations and he further stated that he recognized their efforts, but it just has not provided the City of Detroit with what is needed to meet the city's obligations.

On May 13, 2011, the Executive Board members of the Association met and participated for the National Police Officers Association on the National Legal and Legislative panel along with Ohio PBA, Cuyahoga County (Cleveland) Ohio, Wisconsin PPA and New Jersey PBA sharing information in regards to public safety case issues and contract updates affecting law enforcement across this country.

On May 20, 2011, Judge Drain ruled and denied Case # D06B-0169 referencing the City of Detroit's failure to pay the three percent increases. On May 25, 2011 the City

of Detroit presented a memorandum of understanding to the Executive Board of the Detroit Police Lieutenants and Sergeants Association to consider incorporating into our Agreement regarding health care. The City requested that our Association review their proposal changes in health care provisions which were the same to all city unions, and if agreed upon would need approval by September 1, 2011.

This Executive Board notified the city that our ACT 312 was completed on April 5, 2011 and we were well aware of the State of Michigan House Bill provision's request, and that our contact was already in effect until July 2013. This Association Executive Board did not sign the memorandum of understanding.

The three percent wage hearing was heard before Judge Peltz at the Michigan Employment Relations Commission on June 16, 2011. The Judge rendered a decision to uphold the city's position and would submit his findings in writing to all parties.

Open enrollment dates for medical and dental plans have not been announced for the year of 2011 – 2012. Our Act 312 contract dated on February 15, 2011 stipulated some new changes in coverage areas, but until the City of Detroit provides members opportunity for an open enrollment period the current plans are still intact.

Finally, members need to check their beneficiaries on all insurance carriers, deferred account holders and annuity /pension documents for updating purposes. Also, let's not give in to the political machine that is attempting to change the structure and landscape of what all of us have worked hard for. Contact Lansing and Washington with regards to the attempt to change the blue fabric that runs within Law Enforcement and the United States Flag of America.

We shall continue to stand United in Solidarity.

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VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Mark Young

ACT312.

During our recent ACT 312 Hearings we constantly heard how bad the city's financial conditions were and this time there's probably more validity to it than in the past. In the past the city has always cried broke in an effort to not give the outstanding members of our department the benefits in which they truly deserved.

At several times during the hearings the city stated the financial conditions of the city were the fault of everyone but their own due to their lack of planning and vision. The City will also blame past Arbitrator's Decisions for the economic conditions but the real truth is that those Arbitrators always sided with the city. I will say this, the men and women that this Association represents deserve better, and we didn't enter into this ACT312 seeking to be rich or to purchase Mansions or Yachts!

We only sought fairness based on occupational comparables. But that would be difficult for an Arbitrator and the City because no department can compare to ours! We just do it! We make it happen with very little resources and very little fanfare! I know that many are not pleased with the ACT312 Award and neither am I! Status Quo for the brave men and women that this association represents would have been at minimum something we could live with but to accuse our members and any benefits they receive as being a cause for the city's economic hardships is deplorable!

The Men and Women we represent are trained to use fatal force; they strap on body armor and work days, afternoons and midnights in inclement weather, they work holidays while being separated from their families not because they want to but because they can't afford not to! I take great pride in saying that the only time my members step backwards is to brace themselves before they charge forward to deal with the task at hand!

Lastly, many of the awesome heroes reported for on-duty roll call and were injured severely and were not able to complete their tour of duty while others died from injuries and ailments that were duty-related. I am not a fan of Arbitration nor do I think it's a fair process because I think the Arbitrators would look at us entirely differently if they worked on shift in our shoes!

2011 - MEDICAL, OPTICAL AND DENTAL OPEN ENROLLMENT

In May the City of Detroit's Labor Director Joseph Martinico informed the DPLSA that the projected date for medical, optical and dental open enrollment will start July 1, 2011 and the changes will start September 1, 2011. During that meeting they requested that the DPLSA concede to medical concessions outside the changes already rendered in the April 5, 2011 ACT312 Award. Some of the requested concessions were to allow a limit on a member receiving (1) prescription tablet daily

also referred to as dose optimization. The city claims this will decrease the city's cost. They also talked more about what they referred to as "Pharmacy Initiatives" which would have major effects on our medical plans and the prescriptions that many of our members and their families count on everyday for their quality of life. Martinico also requested that this bargaining unit consider the city's proposal to eliminate their Optical coverage or pay for their own coverage, our simple response was NO! You have taken enough from us already!

DPLSA Members should begin examining and exploring their options as soon as possible for the upcoming medical open enrollment period for 2011. A digital version of the "Medical Handbook" will be available to assist you in making the best decision for you and your families.

CONDOLENCES.

On behalf of the Detroit Police Lieutenants and Sergeants Association we would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family, friends and co-workers of Officer Charles Edward Armour, badge # 4786, assigned to the Central District. Charles died June 11, 2011, after suffering from injuries he received just one week prior after being struck by a car in the performance of his duty. Chuck, was an outstanding father to his four year old daughter Kennedy, an outstanding individual, an outstanding law enforcement officer and a friend to many, he will be missed!

Also, a sad goodbye to Sergeant Edgar Ivan Thomas, assigned to Central District, Edgar passed away after suffering from a long bout with cancer. Edgar was an outstanding Supervisor, Law Enforcement Officer, husband, father, co-worker and friend! Edgar also affectionately called "ET" will be missed tremendously. Edgar's Wife Carrie and their entire family are in our hearts, thoughts and prayers and they need to know that they are part of our family as well!

As always if you have any ideas, concerns or suggestions please forward them to us @ youngm604@detroitmi.gov.

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~ Mark Young

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TREASURER'S NET

By Brian Harris



The attack on labor unions continues. This is not something I believe to be true but is erroneous, this is a known fact. The following are just a few examples that support the reality. These proposed laws have been introduced and some have passed the Senate and House in Lansing.

Senate Bill 7: Limits a public employer's portion of the cost of health insurance benefits and requires public employees to contribute at least 20% or more towards any health care benefits provided by their employer.

House Bill 4214 or Public ACT 4: Emergency Financial Manager (EFM) – gives complete power to the appointed individual - *This bill was signed into law by Governor Snyder on March 16, 2011.

House Bill 4522: Amends current Public ACT 312 of 1969 by adding to the criteria that must be considered by "PA 312" binding arbitration panels. These arbitrators have the power to impose contract terms between municipalities and public safety unions in the event of a collective bargaining impasse. The arbitrators would be required to consider the interests and welfare of the public and the financial ability of the community to pay. They would not be allowed to consider the ability to raise additional taxes.

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Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions or position of the Association.

The War on Labor – Anti-Labor/Union-Busting – The "Attack" continues

Before I begin, let me thank all of you who expressed concurrence with my opinion(s) stated in my previous article. And to those who opposed my viewpoint(s)? It is perfectly okay. Your opinion(s) will always be accepted and respected by me. We won't always agree and we don't have to, however, we should always show deference towards the judgment or opinions of others. By doing so, we are acknowledging with respect, the human right to speak freely. A right afforded each and every one of us.

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HOLDER OF THE MACE

*By John Kennedy
Sergeant at Arms*

Hello LSA Members,

For all of those who don't by now the 2009-2013 LSA CBA was completed and effective April 5th. A couple of the new changes to our contract is the annuity loan program and the option of pay or no pay for court appearances. Losses were the reduction in the multiplier and the loss of the escalator. The complete contract will be posted to the website www.detroitpolicelsa.org.

We the recent extermination of America's #1 terrorist threat, Osama Bin Laden, by Navy Seals, all law enforcement officers no matter where you reside, should still remain vigilant against the threat of attack. We are the front line of defense.

In Akron, Ohio, after a year and a half, the city has decided to withdraw its appeal regarding the Akron police officers receiving pay raises awarded in their contract. After reviewing fact finding reports that indicated that officers should get raises for 2011 and 2012, the city decided in the best interest of all parties to stop challenging the decision. Officers will start receiving a 1.5% pay raise next month. The average police officer salary is \$60,000 a year.

Members who work a lot of overtime should read a recent study published in "The Annals of Internal Medicine" magazine. It suggested that when assessing a patient's risk for heart disease, doctors take into account such factors as age, cholesterol and smoking status. A new study suggests an additional measure: long working hours. People who worked 11 hours or more per day were far more likely to develop heart trouble over a 12-year period, compared with similar subjects who worked seven to eight hours a day, the new study found.

Those who had reported working 10 or more hours a day were not at significantly greater risk than those who had worked less. But those subjects who had been working 11 or more hours a day were 66 percent more likely to have a heart attack or to die of one, the researchers found.

Thinking about retiring? Here are some important steps to follow: First, contact Pension and request an "estimate" which gives you an idea as to how much you will receive when you retire. Second, notify Human Resources and submit a "letter of intent" or a DPD156 (Resignation/Retirement Notification).

Please keep in mind that any layoff, A-no pay days or suspension days must be made up to ensure you receive a full 25 year service retirement. Third, give a copy of the DPD156 to your timekeeper along with the DPD156C (Request for Effective Date of Separation Form). Fourth, make sure that the original DPD156 goes to Police Personnel so it can be properly endorsed. In a couple of days call Personnel to see if the endorsed DPD156 is ready for pickup. (You will need it for your pension interview)

NOTE: At your pension meeting, if interested, you notify them of your intent to roll over 25% of your sick time towards your pension money. Fifth, Obtain the "Separation Clearance Form" this will indicate most of the places you have to go to turn in equipment: Uniform Store (HQ Bldg) (6) long sleeve and (6) short sleeve shirts, (3) pairs of

trousers, jacket, hat/rain cover, vest, flashlight, all leather gear, helmet, raincoat, whistle. Lyndon Radio: PREP, shoulder microphone, batteries, charger, if applicable and PREP leather gear holder. Fleet Control: Gas card, and any department vehicle keys, if applicable. Firearms Inventory: DPD issued weapon (with original box) magazines, ammo, handcuffs, chemical spray, PR-24, gas mask and chemical suit, if applicable.

NOTE: If you want your department-issued weapon, you must prepare and submit "A Request Service Weapon" to the Chief of Police on a Inter-Office Memorandum (DPD568) and a DPD156A (Request to Obtain Service Weapon). Your command will ensure that the (3) clearances needed (medical, disciplinary, IA) are obtained. Prior to obtaining your weapon, you must obtain a Permit to Purchase from the municipality where you reside. (Only good for 10 days).

Last: Police Personnel Unit: Turn in all clearances from the Uniform Store, Lyndon Radio, Fleet Control and Firearms inventory, along with your badge, cap shield and I.D. card. You will then receive a retirement badge and I.D. card, if applicable. You may purchase your active badge. All equipment not accounted for you must pay for by cash or check to the City of Detroit, before obtaining your lump sum payout.

On Dec. 8, 1972, Sergeant Gerald Riley was shot and killed while attempting to stop a bank hold-up in progress. The officer, who was off duty at the time, was standing in line at the bank with his two year old child when he witnessed the robbery and attempted to act. As he pulled his revolver and ordered the robber to drop his gun, the robber's accomplice whom he did not see shot him.

Sergeant Riley returned fire seriously wounding the robber whom he had told to drop his gun. Sergeant Riley then collapsed on the floor of the bank. As he laid helpless on the floor the robber who had shot him walked over and shot him in the face right in front of his child. Both suspects were apprehended after officers followed the trail of blood left in the snow. The suspect who killed Sergeant Riley was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to life in prison on March 5, 1973. He received an additional 15 to 30 years for killing a security guard during a supermarket robbery. The other suspect was sentenced to 15 to 30 years.

On Nov. 12, 1973, Sergeant Alvin Morris was shot and killed while responding to a robbery. When he arrived at the scene he found the business owner holding two suspects at gunpoint, whom he had caught stealing a radiator out of a car. As he approached, one of the men grabbed the owner and was able to gain control of the weapon. The suspect and Sergeant Morris then exchanged shots and both were wounded. Both suspects fled the scene but were apprehended a short time later. Sergeant Morris succumbed to his wounds. One of the suspects was convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to 15 years in prison. He was paroled August 5, 1982. Sergeant Morris had served with the Detroit Police Department for 29 years.

Remember the fight is over when the handcuffs are on and "Let's Be Careful Out There."



By Dan Zemaitis

We're happy to be back in Michigan, where we can get back together with relatives and our Snowbird friends.

Our May meeting had a great turnout and we had seven guests attend – Lynn Martinelli, Kirk Clayton, Patricia Kahle, retired DPD P.O. Larry Fortier and wife Nadine, retired DPD Lt. John Dwyer and wife Alma. We all welcomed them and hope they will join our Snowbird club.

At our June meeting we had retired DPD Sgt. Scott Fred Przybylski attended and we welcomed him also.

The members and friends who attended the Mackinac Island outing on June 10-11 had a good time even though the weather wasn't the best. It was a fun, relaxing and informative outing. Some even won money at the casino at night.

Our next event is our annual picnic on Aug. 14, 2011 at 12 noon at the park behind the school in Glennie – free to members and guests. Just bring a dish to pass. Brats, hot dog, corn on the cob, orange drink, coffee, games, and bingo will be provided.

Sept. 10 – we're planning the Soo Locks boat and dinner trip which is only \$30 each but we have to have 20 people for that price. Jerry and Evelyn Brehm are working on lining up overnight accommodations at the Soo. Thanks you two. If you're interested or want more information call Jey at (989) 735-3450.

Get-well thoughts and prayers go out to Bill Henahan, Walt Duwalsche and Harry Rudien. We all miss you and hope you get better. Della Roganski, we haven't seen you since your surgery and we miss you and Jerry also.

June birthdays: Mike Cherry, Marge Helzer, Bev Clayton, Ted Farquar, Barney Barnauskas and Ginny Rogers.

June anniversaries: Mike and Joann Cherry.

July birthdays: Ken Clarke, Lucille Clark. Walt Dewalsche, Bill Hanahan, Kathy Summers, Jerry Buhm, Ellie Barnauskas, Joanne Nichols.

July anniversaries: Gar and Joanne Nicholls, Nick and Pauline Zazula and Frank and Pat Samborski.

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Violent crime declines nationwide; Detroit's rate among the highest

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down 7.2 percent, larceny-theft was down 2.8 percent, and burglary was down 1.1 percent. Arson, tracked separately from other property crimes, fell 8.3 percent nationally.

- All regions of the country experienced overall declines in property crime during 2010 from 2009 rates: down 3.8 percent in the South, 2.7 percent in the Midwest, 2.5 percent in the West, and 0.5 percent in the Northeast.

- All city population groups saw decreases in violent crime.

- Cities with populations of less than 10,000 saw a significant drop in murder – a 25.2 percent decrease.

There were some specific increases noted:

- The Northeast saw increases in some violent crime categories from 2009 figures – murder was up 8.3 percent, forcible rape up 1.4 percent, and aggravated assault up 0.7 percent.

- Cities with populations of 250,000 to 499,999 saw a 3.0 percent rise in murder, while cities with populations of 500,000 to 999,999 saw a 1.9 percent increase in forcible rape, and cities between 25,000 and 49,999 saw an increase of 1.3 percent in burglary.

- The Northeast also saw an increase in burglary – up 3.5 percent.



Officers honor fallen comrades.

Police week

(Continued from Page 1)

especially high, and the loss felt by their loved ones and colleagues was heavy. These heroes died providing for our safety and protection, and their service and sacrifice will always be remembered on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial,” he said.

Between 2009 and 2010, law enforcement fatalities increased by 25 percent, a discouraging development driven by a 20 percent increase in the number of officers killed in gunfire incidents. Still, for the 13th year in a row, traffic-related fatalities were the leading cause of officer fatalities with 71 officers killed in the line of duty.

The number of officers shot and killed rose last year, from 49 in 2009 to 59 in 2010. The 2010 total included 10 officers who were gunned down in five multiple-fatality shooting incidents in Fresno (CA), San Juan (PR), Tampa (FL), West Memphis (AR) and Hoonah (AK).

Thirty-eight states and Puerto Rico experienced officer fatalities in 2010. Texas had the most officer deaths, with 16, followed by California with 11. Florida, Georgia and Illinois each had nine fatalities. Nine federal law enforcement officers also died in 2010, including three from the U.S. Border and Customs Protection and two agents from the U.S. Border Patrol.

Dedicated in 1991, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial commemorates the service and sacrifice of America's law enforcement officers. Each May 13, as part of National Police Week, the newly engraved names of officers killed in the line of duty are read aloud and formally dedicated on the National Memorial during the Candlelight Vigil. An estimated 20,000 people attend the ceremony in person each year, including surviving family members, friends and law enforcement colleagues.

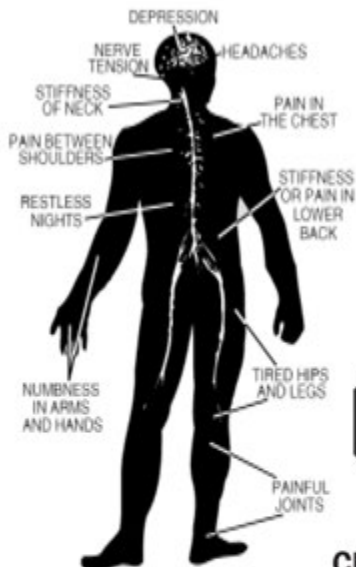
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DPLSA membership meeting set for Sept. 21, 2011

The next DPLSA General Membership Meeting will take place Wednesday, Sept. 21 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan Rd. in Warren.

Doors open at 4 p.m., the meeting starts at 5 p.m. and dinner is served at 6 p.m.



Secretary-Treasurer

Brian Harris

(Continued from Page 5)

House Bill 4059: Bans government employee union contracts that pay employees who are union officials for time they spend on the job conducting union business.

House Bill 4052: Is an amendment to PERA, which impacts all public employees. It provides that a public employee or collective bargaining organization shall not use publicly owned property, facilities, or services, including an electronic mail system, for political activities, political fund raising, campaigning for office of a collective bargaining organization, collective bargaining organizing activities, or solicitation of employees for membership in a collective bargaining organization. This prohibition does not limit the right of a public employee or collective bargaining organization to use, on the same terms as members of the general public, public property that is made available as a public forum.

House Bill 4152: Is an amendment to PERA, which impacts all public employees. It provides that when a government employee union contract has expired and no replacement has been negotiated, any seniority-based automatic pay hikes for individual employees ("step increases") may not occur.

Also, that any increase in health benefit costs above the former contract be borne by the employee, and establish that the wages and benefits under a new contract may not be made retroactive to the expiration date of the old one.

*This bill was signed into law by governor Snyder on June 8, 2011.

Senate Joint resolution (SJR) B: To be placed before voters in the next general election, a Constitutional amendment to cut state and local government, public university and school employee pay (including lawmakers) by 5 percent from the rate in effect on Jan. 1, 2012, for a three year period beginning Oct. 1, 2012. This would override existing collective bargaining agreements.

Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) C: To be placed before voters in the next general election, a Constitutional amendment to transfer all authority for determining state and local government employee health benefit plans to the legislature.

The Executive Office of the Detroit Police Lieutenants & Sergeants Association continues to work collectively with groups such as the Michigan Association of Police Organizations (MAPO), Police Officers Labor Council and other affiliate police organizations both local and statewide, to combat lawmakers as they push to pass legislation that poses a significant threat to the well-being of our members and their families.

However, it would help greatly if everyone would weigh-in. So, please reach out to Lansing and let them know that what they are doing will cause more harm than good.

Thank you and God Bless you all!

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By Nancy Schmidt

Still trying to get into the swing of the change in publication dates so some of this news will be old news to some of you. The Feb. 6th Pizza Party was good. We had 42 in attendance which included two guests. Sharon Schumacher from Bradenton Fl. She is retired from the DPD as is her husband Melvin, who is awaiting her return back to Colorado, and Robert Bloom from N. Fort Myers. Robert and his wife Vicki became new members along with Kenneth and Eleanor MacNicol from Naples, FL. We welcome you all.

Special honors were given to Al and Jo Balogh who celebrated their 65th Anniversary and also Happy Birthday to Nedra Miller.

We received donations this from Bob Baumgart, Steve Wagner and Ken Hedeem. Your generosity is well appreciated.

The 50/50 was won by Nancy Schmidt and Ron McComas. The Retiree hat went to Marv Kammer. Now for the March 6th 2011 Annual Banquet. Held at the Clearwater Country Club. There were 67 members and guests in attendance. According to the feedback we received it was a great success. Those with Birthdays were Evelyn Brehm, Maija Goosen and Steve Wagner. Ray and Audrey Kosmack celebrated another Anniversary.

Our past Presidents, Fran Maione, Jim Bateson and Ron Goosen were honored and also mentioned was Dick Luckee who passed away in Jan. Henry Macinkowicz was honored for being a past President and Trustee of the RDPFFA in Michigan. He helped in keeping us informed as to what was going on up in North. We wish you well Henry.

We would also like to thank Charlie Phillips of Royal Oak Mi. who is the webmaster of the "Seventeenth Precinct" on the Internet. He posted all the info about our Annual Dinner and how beautiful it was. Thanks Charlie. We gained new members, Kenneth and Kathleen Martin

of Bushnell, FL.

The Dinner turned out to be a huge success thanks again to Bill and Dolores Larsen. They did a fantastic job, again. Maija Goosen handled the 50/50 like a pro and also thanks to our very own "Club Photographer" Bev Kuhn. Bev, your pictures will be enjoyed for years to come. The food was good the service was excellent and the comradship was outstanding. It was good seeing new faces and old friends.

The 50/50 was won by Grace Hurley and Steve Wagner. Then Steve drew the next ticket and it was his also, so being the gentleman that he is, he drew another one which was Fran Maione's. She won the two free dinner's donated by James and Mary Thomas of Houghton lake MI. For an added bit of info, Jim and Mary did this two years ago and would you believe that Fran won that prize also. Must be Karma. The hand-made afghan donated by yours truly was won by Nedra Miller. We could not have had a more successful day without the gracious support from all of you.

On a very sad note we lost two of our members recently. Tony Klimbal passed away April 17th and we lost Joan Wooley who died in March. Not a member but a friend to many, the late Chester Kotowitz's wife Dolores died this past April, in Nevada. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Well, I hope you're tired of reading 'cause I'm tired of typing so I'll sign off. I we hope you all have a great safe and healthy summer and looking forward to the meetings resuming again in Oct. Till then, keep me informed as to what's going on out there. As always you can reach me at 352-683-7924.



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Detroit's finest honored for good service...

By Brian E. Harris
DPLSA Secretary-Treasurer

Hello everyone,

On June 8, 2011, the Detroit Police Department hosted its annual Honor Awards Ceremony. Several of Detroit's Finest were recognized for their exemplary service to the department and the citizens of the City of Detroit.



Life Saving Citation recipient Investigator Amir Smith with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.



Life Saving Citation recipient Lieutenant Ulysha "Renee" Hall with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.



Life Saving Citation recipient Lieutenant Kenneth Balinski with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.

I had the pleasure of sitting on the Honor Awards Committee and assisting in the planning of this formal event. And while that in of itself was a rewarding experience, nothing compares to the enjoyment I felt from seeing the admiration, praise and gratitude the honorees received.

This is a defining time for public safety across the nation. The challenges facing our Department alone are far greater than they have ever been. So it was only fitting that time was taken to honor our own for their selflessness and valor.

I was honored and privileged to be apart of this formal salute to our men and women who took their deeds far beyond the call of duty, often times, acting despite great personal risk and harm to themselves.

To that end, I would like to share with you photos of the Detroit Police Lieutenants & Sergeants Association Honorees taken during this glorious event.

Once again, I would like to congratulate these members for their heroic accomplishments – I have only the highest admiration for their display of hard work, strength
(Continued next page)



Wound Award recipient Sergeant Ray Saati with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.



Wound Award recipient Sergeant Carrie Schulz with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.

...Among the honorees

(Continued from Page 12)

and courage. I wish them all the best and thank them from the bottom of my heart for their continued efforts, sacrifices

and dedication to our profession.
Thank you and God Bless!



Life Saving Citation recipient Sergeant Marcellus Ball with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.



Departmental Citation recipient Sergeant Roy Harris with Police Chief Ralph L.



Life Saving Citation recipient Sergeant Brian Harris with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.



Walter Scott Distinguished Service Medal recipient Sergeant Michael Ingels with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.



Life Saving Citation recipient Sergeant Joseph Turner with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.



Walter Scott Distinguished Service Medal recipient Sergeant James Kirklin with Police Chief Ralph L. Godbee, Jr.

Traffic deaths drop to lowest level since 1949

The number and rate of traffic fatalities in the U.S. in 2010 fell to the lowest levels since 1949, despite a significant increase in the number of miles Americans drove during the year.

“Last year’s drop in traffic fatalities is welcome news and it proves that we can make a difference,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. “Still, too many of our friends and neighbors are killed in preventable roadway tragedies every day. We will continue doing everything possible to make cars safer, increase seat belt use, put a stop to drunk driving and distracted driving and encourage drivers to put safety first.”

But in Michigan, for the first time in seven years, that was an uptick in traffic deaths in 2010. During the same time the number of traffic crashes, serious injury crashes and alcohol-involved crashes all declined. While traffic deaths were up, the overall trend continues to be one of decline.

Last year, 937 people were killed in traffic crashes, an 8 percent increase from 871 in 2009. However, fatalities for 2010 are still below that of 2008 when there were 980 traffic deaths.

“Additional study will be necessary to determine what factors may have played a part in the increases or decreases that we are experiencing,” said Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning Director Michael L. Prince. “As an example, last summer was one of the warmest on

record which might have played a significant role.”

Overall, the number of U.S. traffic crashes dropped 3 percent, serious injury crashes declined 8 percent and alcohol-involved fatal crashes were down 5 percent. While alcohol-involved fatalities were down, drug-involved fatalities went up 29 percent, from 119 in 2009 to 153 in 2010.

Part of this increase is due to increased testing to detect drug-impaired driving.

The crash data also shows for Michigan:

- Motorcycle-involved fatalities increased from 105 in 2009 to 127 in 2010, the same number of deaths reported in 2008.

- Commercial motor vehicle-involved fatalities increased 25 percent, from 76 in 2009 to 95 in 2010.

- Pedestrian involved fatalities increased 6 percent, up from 125 in 2009 to 133 in 2010.

- Bicycle involved fatalities were up 55 percent, from 20 in 2009 to 31 in 2010.

- Cell phone-involved crashes decreased from 294 in 2009 to 265 in 2010. (Michigan cannot track crashes involving texting specifically.)

- The number of car-deer crashes declined 9 percent, from 61,486 in 2009 to 55,867 in 2010. In increasing our exposure in some areas such as motorcycle fatalities where fatalities increased.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA) early projections, the number of traffic fatalities fell three percent between 2009 and 2010, from 33,808 to 32,788. Since 2005, fatalities have dropped 25 percent, from a total of 43,510 fatalities in 2005. The same estimates also project that the fatality rate will be the lowest recorded since 1949, with 1.09 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, down from the 1.13 fatality rate for 2009. The decrease in fatalities for 2010 occurred despite an estimated increase of nearly 21 billion miles in national vehicle miles traveled.

“The decrease in traffic fatalities is a good sign, but we are always working to save lives,” said NHTSA Administrator David Strickland. “NHTSA will continue pressing forward on all of our safety initiatives to make sure our roads are as safe as they can possibly be.”

The Department of Transportation (DOT) has taken a comprehensive approach to reducing roadway fatalities by promoting strong traffic safety laws coupled with high-visibility enforcement and through rigorous vehicle safety programs and public awareness campaigns.

In 2009, LaHood launched a national anti-distracted driving campaign modeled on other successful NHTSA efforts to reduce fatalities, such as its Over the Limit Under Arrest and Click It Or Ticket campaigns to curb drunk driving and increase seat belt use. The U.S. DOT has launched a dedicated website, Distraction.gov, to provide the public with a comprehensive source of information on distracted driving. DOT has also hosted two national summits devoted to the issue, crafted sample legislation which states can use to adopt distracted driving laws, and initiated pilot law enforcement programs in Hartford, CT and Syracuse, NY.

NHTSA has also taken action to improve vehicle safety. The agency has urged automakers to swiftly and voluntarily report safety defects to keep the driving public safe.

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Also, you must contact the City of Detroit Benefits Division prior to your 65th birthday. Write to them at 1300 Rosa Parks Blvd., Detroit, MI 48216.

Phone (313) 224-2742. Please notify them when you begin to receive Medicare benefits.

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