



MCCAAA Informant

Montgomery County Citizens Academy Alumni Association News

2022, ISSUE 2

The Editor's Desk

The Montgomery County Citizen Academy Alumni Association has completed step one of the Care for Cops Project by providing one hundred care packages to the Patrol Officers in District 6 located in Gaithersburg. Thank you to Captain Eric Stancliff, Commander of 6D, for his support of the project. Thank you to Program Officer Zoie Mir and our Activities Officer Andrea Paredes-Herrera for organizing this effort and to our members for assembling the bags and delivering to the 6D station. Andrea and Zoie were awarded Board member of the Quarter for their leadership. We are now allowing our members to advertise their business, or just to send greetings or best wishes to someone where 100 percent of the proceeds will help support the Care for Cops Project.

The September 15 MCCAAA meeting was held in person at the academy featuring guest speaker Lee Williams, the Alcohol Tobacco Enforcement Specialist from the Montgomery County Alcohol Beverage Services. ABS is celebrating its 70th anniversary. Program Director Rachel John's is shown presenting Lee with a thank you gift at right.



Thank you,

Ken

Ken Freeman

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Renew your Membership

Need to renew or join MCCAAA membership?

Use our handy [online form](#) to do it now!

Link not working? Copy and Paste this URL into your browser.

https://www.mccaaa.org/images/MCCAAA%20Annual%20Renewal%20Form%203_17.pdf

Send your completed application with a \$15 check, made out to MCCAAA, and a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) to MCCAAA, PO Box 8884, Gaithersburg MD 20898-8884, Attention: Membership



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Special points of interest

- Renew your Membership
- Successful launch of Care for Cops (COP) Program (reprint)
- Advertise in the Informant - Support Care for Cops



From the President

September is here! The summer is disappearing right before our eyes, and my hope is that it is going reasonably well for everyone.

As we get set to launch our new season of monthly meetings – the first to be held on Thursday, September 15th – the structure of our Association has changed since our Annual Meeting this past May.

We said farewell to two outstanding Board Members who decided not to seek re-election: our Program Officer Zoie Mir and our Activities Officer Andrea Paredes-Herrera. They have served our Association well and while wishing them the best, we hope they do not go too far.

There are some fresh faces on our leadership team to mention. Elected to the Board in May were:

Ken Freeman, Vice President
Rachel Johns, Program Officer
Melissa Johns, Activities Officer

A “welcome aboard” to all, and I look forward to collaborating with you toward the fulfillment of our Association’s mission.

As we head toward our September meeting, I have taken some measures to ensure that our meetings will be as accessible to as many of our members as possible. One of those measures is my appointment of a Tech Committee, headed by Chairperson, Alan Fisher.

This committee will be researching the continued use of Zoom and incorporating Microsoft Teams for the purpose of implementing hybrid monthly meetings. Also, the committee will be researching how we may be best able to accommodate members of our Association who are hearing impaired.

As you know, our Association consumes itself with conducting activities that support the MCPD. In that vein, I formed another committee: the Activities Committee, headed by Chairperson, Missi Johns. There is a lot on the plate for this committee. They work in support of arranging social, community, and police-related activities.

Of utmost importance would be the continuation of the “Care for Cops” project. With the help of so many, we got off to a rewarding start. We were able to deliver a Care Package to every Officer stationed at the Gaithersburg station. But there is much work to be done! Our ultimate goal is to provide a Care Package to every Officer of the MCPD.

There is another activity I desire to see re-implemented, one interrupted by the pandemic – that being providing Thanksgiving dinner to the Officers at a selected station. We previously did this at the Gaithersburg and Germantown stations, and it was so well received! For that one brief moment in time when you were with those Officers, they truly were like family!

In closing, the MCPD is observing the 100th Anniversary of their existence. Our Association sends a sincere and heartfelt thank you to the heroes who have served. Over the years, so many moments of proud joy, some moments of tears shed.

God bless the MCPD and its current leader, Chief Marcus Jones. We are here for you, just call us.

Respectfully,
Jerry
Jerry Mullarkey

Care for Cops

Project Co-chairs Zoie Mir & Andrea Paredes-Herrera

30 Volunteers assembled

100 Care Packages

Officers from District 6 HQ received

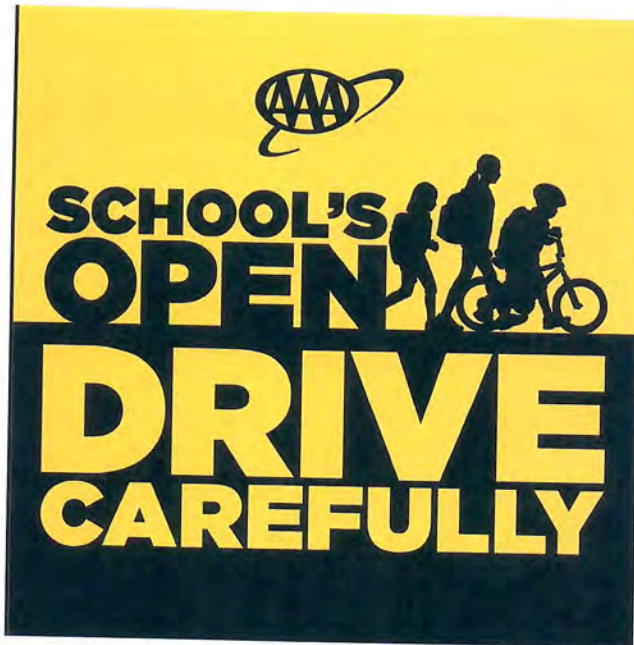


Care for Cops Project, reprinted from Issue 1

One hundred care bags were delivered to District 6 in April thanks to you! When we pitched the idea for the Care for Cops Project we were hopeful that it would be welcomed by the association but did not imagine the overwhelming response we received. Your monetary contributions made it possible for us to purchase all the items needed to put together the first set of bags and will allow us to start working on our next district in the next few months. On Saturday March 19, 2022, approximately 30 MCCAAs members joined us at the academy, and we were able to put the care packages together in no time! Each bag contains savory and sweet snacks, a drink, a gift certificate for a free sandwich at Mission BBQ, a flashlight, and a handwritten thank you note, among other things. Special thanks to Vivian Wolpers for providing the gift certificates, to John Lewis with Private Client Services who donated the flashlights, and to Crescent City Charities who sent us a generous monetary donation.

We are so happy with the opportunity to give back to our officers and show our appreciation to them, this would not have been possible without your donations, time, and support. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

See picture on Page 5



AAA Offers Seven Safety Tips

WASHINGTON, D.C. (August 26, 2022) - With the majority of Maryland and Washington, D.C. students heading back to school, AAA is providing tips for everyone's safety – and a special gift for our teachers, who often go the extra mile to support their students.

"First and foremost, AAA is reminding drivers to be aware of the increase in traffic around school zones including pedestrians and bicyclists making their way to and from school," says Ragina C. Ali, spokesperson for AAA Mid-Atlantic in Maryland and Washington, D.C. "AAA encourages everyone to slow down, limit distractions and look out for each other during this busy time."

This time of year is particularly dangerous due to young, inexperienced drivers, school buses, student pedestrians and bicyclists all sharing the road in the early morning and afternoon hours. Through its annual 'School's Open – Drive Carefully' public awareness campaign, AAA aims to help reduce fatalities and injuries among child pedestrians and others during this time of increased risk.

AAA Offers Seven Lifesaving Lessons for Back-to-School Safety

Eliminate distractions. Drivers AND pedestrians should limit distractions. The beginning of the school year is the perfect time to have a conversation with children about looking up and looking out for motorists when crossing the street.

Brake for buses. In a typical school year, more than 600,000 students ride school buses in Maryland. It is against the law to pass a school bus when red lights are flashing and the safety bar is extended.

Slow down. Speed limits in school zones are reduced for a reason. A pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling at 25 mph is nearly two-thirds less likely to be killed compared to a pedestrian struck

Watch for bicycles. Children on bikes are often inexperienced, unsteady and unpredictable. Expect the unexpected.

Back up with caution. Every vehicle has blind spots. Check for children on the sidewalk, driveway and around your vehicle before slowly backing up

Come to a complete stop. Research shows that more than one-third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods.

Talk to your teen. Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States

AAA Back to School Safety

*Eliminate distractions

*Brake for buses

*Slow down

*Watch for bicycles

*Back up with caution

*Come to a complete stop

*Talk to your teen

Source:

<https://patch.com/district-columbia/washingtondc/school-s-open-drive-carefully>



Grow your Business — Advertise in Informant

Funds raised by MCCAAs make a difference

MCCAA supports public service agencies—police, fire & rescue

MCCAA revenue comes from dues, donations, and advertising in the Informant

Advertise in the Informant to grow your business and support MCCAAs' goals

Rates:

Business Card—\$25/issue

1/4 Page—\$35/issue

1/2 Page—\$50/issue

Full Page—\$75/issue

The Vice President's Report

One of my jobs as the newly elected Vice President of the Montgomery County Citizen Academy Alumni Association is growing the membership. To this end, I would like to resume offering refreshments to the Citizen Academy classes and during their graduation ceremony. I will also encourage attendance at the Citizen Academy graduation by the greater membership.

I want to welcome the graduates of the Citizen Academy's 67th session. President Jerry Mullarkey, Secretary Phil Gilbert and I were at their graduation. We took the opportunity to inform the graduates about the Alumni Association.

Terry Harbonic, our treasurer is recovering in rehabilitation after a procedure on his hip. We wish Terry a full recovery and hope to see him soon.

I will continue to contact past graduates of the Citizen Academy and encourage them to join the Alumni Association to expand our membership. I hope to see everyone at our in-person meetings at the new training academy.

Best Always,
Ken

Ken Freeman

Vice President, MCCAAs

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Member Spotlight

Meet Andrea!

Andrea Paredes-Herrera is the former activities officer for MCCAAs and enrolled as an active member.

Andrea was born in Peru and moved to Maryland at the age of eleven. She is the proud product of Montgomery County schools attending, South Lake Elementary School, Montgomery Village Middle School, and Watkins Mill High School. She holds a Bachelor of Arts, International Studies, from American University.

Andrea Paredes-Herrera is an Interlibrary Services specialist at the American University Library. She is responsible for facilitating interlibrary borrowing requests and document delivery services to students, faculty and staff. She is also the interlibrary Services contact person for students enrolled in Distance Learning programs.

During her scarce free time, between watching her boys sporting activities and competitions and volunteering, she enjoys solitary activities like caring for numerous plants, feeding the wildlife that visit her yard and an occasional boogie-down in her living room.



Grow your Business

The funds raised by the MCCAAs support the police as well as other public services agencies such as the fire and rescue service. We do this through dues, contributions to specific initiatives such as Care for Cops, plus advertising in the Informant. Couldn't your small business benefit from exposure to hundreds of potential new clients at fair rates? Or perhaps you have a friend, neighbor, or family member who's a realtor or a skilled tradesperson. How about the accountant who prepares your taxes or the lawyer who drafted your will? Please let them know about this initiative and encourage their support. Please send your check made out to MCCAAs and photo-ready copy to MCCAAs, PO Box 8884, Gaithersburg MD 20898-8884, Attention: Care For Cops Project

Care for Cops, continued from Page 3



Pictured left to right

Assistant Chief Dinesh Patil

Chief Marcus Jones

Sergeant John Mullaney

MCCAAA President Jerry Mullarkey

*"Of utmost importance would be the continuation of the
"Care for Cops" project",
MCCAAA President Jerry Mullarkey*

Dinner to recognize the outgoing and incoming MCCAAA board

Left side front to rear:

Phil Gilbert - Secretary
Ken Freeman - V.P.
Rich Leota - Guest
Alan Fisher - Tech Committee
Missi Johns - Activities Director

Right side front to rear:

Eileen Broderick - Advisor
Diane Platt - Advisor
Zoie Mir - Outgoing Program Director
Jerry Mullarkey - President
Rachel Johns - Program Director
Sgt John Mullaney - Guest



Session 67 Graduates



Citizen Academy News**

The 67th Session of the Montgomery County Police Department's Citizen Academy graduated an additional 22 Montgomery County citizens with two members of the Policing Advisory Commission in attendance. The students were inquisitive, engaging and asked a lot of thought-provoking questions throughout the 15-week course. The use of force night was an eye opener for them as expected and they really enjoyed all of the instruction per the feedback I received from them. Many thanks to the MCCA AAA board who participated in the graduation, too.

The 68th Session started on September 6th and there may be room for additional participants. Please direct anyone interested in attending to send in their applications to citizen.academy@montgomerycountymd.gov. As graduates of the program you all are my best recruiters and together we can continue to broaden the experiences of the citizens of Montgomery County. As always, feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about the program or the training we are conducting at the police academy.

Stay Safe. Sergeant John Mullaney



--The Citizen Academy has been in existence since 1994 and serves to increase resident awareness of the function of the police department. Participants will learn about criminal law, traffic law, investigations, etc. The Montgomery County Citizen Academy Alumni Association (MCCA AAA) is for graduates of the Citizen Academy. MCCA AAA meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday from September through May with speakers on subjects related to

What NOT to say when you get pulled over

1. *No, I did not know how fast I was going, the needle stops at 180.*
2. *Yes, I know my driving is not 100%, but you must agree it is pretty good for someone who is drunk.*
3. *Can you come back in 5 minutes; I am in the middle of a conversation? I need a license to drive?*
4. *I thought you had to be in pretty good physical condition to be a police officer.*
5. *Are you Andy Taylor (Andy Griffith) or Barney Fife (Don Knotts)?*
6. *Could you hold my beer so I can reach for my license?*
7. *Come on let us have a bit of fun like the car chase scene from the Blues Brothers.*
8. *Did the doughnut shop close early today?*
9. *I was speeding, what about you?*
10. *Your kind of short to be a police officer?*