



Vol. 4 Issue 7 July 2021

# IMPACT UPDATE

## Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan

Boyd K. Rutherford

Colonel Woodrow W. Jones III

Governor

Lt. Governor

Superintendent

## Contents

Flight Paramedic Earns  
“Unsung Hero” Award

MADD Honors Rockville  
Troopers For DUI Work

Bel Air Trooper Reunites  
With Rescued Motorist

Troopers Remember  
Fallen Heroes

Youth Law Enforcement  
Seminar Set For August

Cumberland Barrack  
Opens New Building

Law Enforcement Torch  
Run Returns For SOMD



Maryland State Police joined state transportation officials and AAA Mid-Atlantic to announce plans to address impaired driving concerns prior to Memorial Day weekend.

## Troopers Targeting Impaired Drivers As Summer Season Kicks Off

With traffic expected to surge this summer as life begins to return to pre-pandemic routines, Maryland state troopers will be working to keep traffic moving, respond quickly to highway incidents and take appropriate enforcement actions when violations are observed that threaten the safety of travelers.

This will include various initiatives in which additional troopers will be working overtime assignments funded by highway safety grants from the Maryland Department of Transportation’s Motor Vehicle Administration’s Highway Safety Office.

For example, troopers made 93 DUI arrests, issued more than 2,700 citations and more than 2,700 warnings over the Memorial Day weekend.

Troopers also worked with Maryland Transportation Authority Police and Baltimore Police as part of a combined task force to operate sobriety checkpoints in Baltimore City last month.

These efforts have already showed dividends. Through May, troopers have arrested approximately 2,700 impaired drivers. That is 700 more than at this time last year.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Flight Paramedic Honored With ‘Unsung Hero’ Award For Life Support Work During Pandemic

The 70 troopers and 65 pilots from in the Maryland State Police Aviation Command do heroic work every day.

From performing life-saving emergency care to aerial rescues, searches for missing persons or assisting law enforcement agencies, these men and women face potential dangerous conditions on every shift to ensure the well-being of the public.

To do that work requires not only trust in their abilities and each other, but also their equipment. Ensuring there is enough equipment and that the equipment is up to the various tasks is not a visible job, but it is arguably as important as work done on the front line.

Much of that work has fallen most recently to Corporal Kristie Peterson. Corporal Peterson, a nationally registered paramedic who has been a sworn member of the Maryland State Police for nine years, was honored with the “Unsung Hero Award” by the State Employees Risk Management Administration (SERMA) for her dedication to the Aviation Life Support Equipment program. Corporal Peterson’s hard work was evident over the past year as she ensured every member of the Aviation Command was ready to perform the Agency’s life-saving emergency care, aerial rescues and law enforcement missions, in



addition to tackling the demands associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Corporal Peterson was not initially assigned in any capacity to the Aviation Life Support Equipment (ALSE) shop. However, she voluntarily accepted the challenge after the previous ALSE manager retired. She took it upon herself to completely restructure and reorganize the program, to include promoting a supply tracking database, which continuously updates daily.

When the Coronavirus arrived in Maryland in early March 2020, Corporal Peterson went into overdrive to ensure sworn and civilian members of the MSPAC were properly outfitted with enough personal protective gear to conduct their lifesaving mission, while they were protected from the invisible and deadly virus.

Corporal Peterson’s exemplary management style promoted calm in the midst of the worldwide chaos. She literally moved thousands of items within the command to warehouse unexpectedly and critically-need COVID-19 supplies.

Corporal Peterson found ways to save a great deal of money for the agency by making use of different shipping methods, reducing overstock, formulating rotation plans for time-sensitive items, all without compromising integrity or safety.

In part, her efforts helped guarantee no Maryland State Police Aviation Command section was out of service as a result of the pandemic.



# IMPACT UPDATE



## MADD Honors Rockville Barrack Troopers For Work Combatting Impaired Driving

(ROCKVILLE, MD) — The pandemic forced just about everyone to operate in a different way than just about any time in history.

Many people had the option of working remotely over the past 14 months in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Frontline workers did not have that luxury. Maryland state troopers were among those who had to balance their traditional responsibilities while working in the new reality. This included keeping the roads safe from impaired drivers.

Several troopers from the Rockville Barrack were recently recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for their outstanding dedication to removing impaired drivers from Maryland's roadways during 2020. Despite COVID-19, these troopers remained focused on the Rockville

Barrack's goal of reducing DUI-related collisions and making Maryland's roadways safer.

Together, Senior Trooper Joseph Ekani, Trooper First Class Zachary Campbell and Trooper First Class Lyle German arrested 100 impaired drivers and accounted for approximately one-third of the total barrack DUI arrests last year. In 2020, TFC German was assigned to the Montgomery County Holiday Task Force to target impaired drivers during the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays. He also worked to reduce DUI-related collisions as part of an allied agency task force made up of police agencies throughout Montgomery County. As a result, the Holiday Task Force made 260 DUI arrests, issued 17 alcohol-related civil citations, conducted 17 DRE evaluations, and conducted over 2,100

traffic stops.

Last year, TFC Campbell volunteered to patrol DUI-related "hot spots" and focus his attention on impaired drivers. In May 2020, TFC Campbell arrested an impaired driver who possessed a loaded handgun and drug. This stopped highlighted how he looks beyond the initial traffic stop.

In 2020, S/Tpr. Ekani remained vigilant on all shifts and removed impaired drivers from the roadway regardless of what shift he was working.

Thank you MADD for recognizing the dedicated efforts of our troopers!



# IMPACT UPDATE



(L to R) Harford County Sheriff Jeffrey Gahler, Eboni Peterson, Harford County's Sheriff's Deputy Vincent Denardi and Maryland State Police TFC William Mott at a recent HCSO Awards Ceremony.

## Bel Air Barrack Trooper Reunites With Rescued Motorist

(BEL AIR, MD) — Eboni Peterson knows she is lucky to be alive.

On Sept. 16, 2020, Peterson was involved in a vehicle crash in the area of Mountain Road and Old Joppa Road in Harford County. She suffered serious injuries after striking the windshield of her vehicle because of the crash.

Peterson required immediate medical care, and would be flown by a Maryland State Police helicopter to Shock Trauma in Baltimore. She underwent surgery at Shock Trauma and survived her injuries.

The medical care provided by the flight crew and by the medical staff at the hospital helped save Peterson's life.

However, the doctors who cared for her at Shock Trauma admitted that Peterson would likely not be alive today had it not been for the quick thinking of Trooper First Class William Mott and Sgt. Vincent Denardi of the Harford County Sheriff's Office.

TFC Mott and Sgt. Denardi were both on the scene of the crash not long after it happened. Their quick response to the crash site and their immediate care before paramedics arrived, ensured that

Peterson made it to the hospital alive, doctors said.

Recently, TFC Mott and Sgt. Denardi were recognized for their work at the Harford County Sheriff's Office Award Ceremony. It was there that the pair was reunited with Peterson, who was able to thank them personally for their efforts.

In addition, TFC Mott was also recently presented with a Maryland State Police Lifesaving Award and a Superintendent's Salute.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Troopers From Forestville, Easton Barracks Pay Respect To Fallen Heroes

The Maryland State Police take time to honor all of the department's fallen heroes with an annual ceremony each May.

Several troopers recently took that a step further by recognizing individual fallen heroes from their respective barracks on the anniversary of their End of Watch.

Maryland State Police troopers from the Forestville Barrack visited the grave of Trooper First Class Wesley Brown .

TFC Brown was shot and killed early on the morning of June 11, 2010, while working an off-duty security detail at a Forestville restaurant. TFC Brown had served with the Maryland State Police for just three years. He had begun a mentorship program for young people and had impacted the lives

of many. He was working off-duty to raise money to support the mentorship program. He was only 24 years old.

Troopers from the Easton Barrack offered a similar tribute to Trooper First Class William P. Mills Jr.

TFC Mills was fatally shot on June 8, 1979.

While investigating a domestic complaint involving neighbors, TFC Mills was shot with a .38 caliber pistol. He fell to the ground and attempted to get his service revolver, when he was struck in the chest area with a bullet from a high-powered rifle.

TFC Mills died a short time later at Peninsula General Hospital. The incident occurred at a trailer site in Brookview, a small town next to Rhodesdale, MD. TFC Mills was 32 years on and had served in the Maryland State Police for nine years at the time of his death.

Learn more about Maryland State Police's Fallen Heroes: <https://mdsp.maryland.gov/Pages/FallenHeroes.aspx>



Troopers from the Forestville Barrack pay their respects to TFC Wesley Brown, who was fatally shot on June 11, 2010.



A trooper from the Easton Barrack pays his respects to TFC William P. Mills Jr. who was fatally shot on June 8, 1979.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Youth Leadership & Law Enforcement Seminar Set For Next Month At MSP Academy

(PIKESVILLE, MD) – The Maryland State Police’s second annual Youth Leadership & Law Enforcement seminar is set to take place next month in Carroll County.

The free event will be held to train, develop and teach future generations of young men and women about the benefits of a law enforcement career.



The two-day, action-packed, conference will take place from Aug. 13-15 at the Maryland State Police Training Academy in Sykesville.

High school and college students interested in starting a career in law enforcement will be invited to learn about “Maryland’s Finest” from troopers who specialize

in a wide range of expertise.

Attendees will learn about Maryland law, military drill and ceremony, fitness, defensive tactics and explore the many facets of a career in law enforcement. They will learn how to protect themselves and take part in a variety of training workshops geared toward a greater understanding of leadership, character development and life skills.

Troopers and civilian employees from various specialized units will be on hand to share their experiences about life as a state trooper or as a civilian employee in a law enforcement career.

Along with this exciting opportunity, food and lodging will be

provided on the campus of the Maryland State Police Academy. Each barrack commander will select one applicant to represent their respective county, including Baltimore City.

To qualify for enrollment, applicants must have submitted either a two-minute self-taped video or a written essay to explain why they are interested in a career in law enforcement.

For more career opportunities, visit <https://mdsp.maryland.gov/Careers/Pages/default.aspx>



# IMPACT UPDATE



## Cumberland Barrack Opens New Building

(CUMBERLAND, MD) — The Cumberland Barrack transitioned all its operations to the new barrack location on May 19.

The newly constructed Cumberland Barrack is located at 1125 National Highway in LaVale, Maryland. A formal commissioning ceremony is set for this summer.

For 2 1/2 years during the construction phase of the new barrack, state troopers and civilian support staff temporarily relocated to the Allegany County Emergency Operations Center at 11400 Pittsburgh Plate Glass Road, located about 12 miles east of the National Highway location in LaVale.

## MSP Podcast: Golden Ring Commander Discusses Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is an insidious crime that crosses all segments of our society. While much has been done to bring this issue into the light, many victims still suffer in silence and, either don't know where to turn for help, or are so afraid they are hesitant to seek help.

Lt. Diane Hansen, a Maryland State Police barrack commander, is also the Department's domestic violence liaison and training coordinator. In this episode of the Maryland State Police Program, Lt. Hansen talks about specific ways police investigation of this crime has progressed, to include the importance of the lethality assessment and new legislation that aids in the prosecution of domestic violence offenders.

Lt. Hansen also details how many people are available to help domestic violence victims, from around-the-clock counselors, emergency shelters, a statewide network, to the Office of the Governor. She encourages victims to seek help and provides information about how to do that.

If you are a victim of domestic violence, or know someone who is, please take immediate action to change your situation. You can do that by listening to this program, or forwarding the link to someone who needs this information.

There is help. There is hope.

### Maryland State Police Podcast



Guest: Lt. Diane Hansen, Golden Ring Barrack Commander, MSP's Domestic Violence Liaison/Training Coordinator



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Troopers Support Special Olympics Maryland With Law Enforcement Torch Run

After a year away, the Summer Games for Special Olympics Maryland took place June 12-13 at Towson University.

Even though attendance was down and several sports did not take place due to pandemic-related safety protocols, athletes from across the state competed in several sports, including track, bocce ball and cheerleading.

As has been the case since 1986, the Maryland State Police joined with other law enforcement agencies in support of the games and the athletes. This included the return of the in-person

Law Enforcement Torch Run.

In Prince George's County hot weather was no match for the Flame of Hope as Maryland State Police troopers from the Forestville and College Park barracks joined police officers from the Maryland Natural Resources Police, Bowie Police, Prince George's County Police, Cottage City Police and others for their leg of the Maryland Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

Chief John Nesky, of the Bowie Police Department, is the chairman of the Maryland Law



Troopers from the College Park and Forestville Barracks were among those who participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run .

Enforcement Torch Run Council, which represents thousands of police officers across the state who, since 1986, have participated in the Torch Run, as well as a variety of other events that raise money to support the athletes of Special Olympics Maryland.

Also, the Maryland State Police Training Academy Class 152 received a big "thank you" from Special Olympics Maryland athlete Josh Smith, just before their leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

The trooper candidates and their instructors ran through Eldersburg during their five-mile Torch Run. The members of

this class have raised more than \$30,000 for Special Olympics Maryland since January.

Special Olympics Maryland provides free year-round sports training and competition to children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Caring police officers in Maryland and around the world are proud to be the official Guardians of the Flame, who keep the Flame of Hope burning brightly for Special Olympics athletes.



MSP Training Academy Class 152 has raised more than \$30,000 for Special Olympics Maryland.