

Government Services Center
601 Westtown Road | Suite 012
West Chester PA 19380



The Responder

An informational source for the Emergency Responders of Chester County

Public Safety Training Campus

137 Modena Road
Coatesville, PA 19320

April 2016

K-9s to track scent of success in Chesco

Written By: Kathleen Brady Shea

Posted by ChaddsFordLive on March 6th, 2016

Chester County is hosting the U.S. Police Canine Association's (USPCA) Region 6 scent certifications from March 14 to March 16, according to a press release from the Sheriff's Office.

"We are expecting up to 80 canine teams attempting to certify during the trials, which makes it the largest scent certification event ever hosted in Pennsylvania," Chester County Sheriff Carolyn "Bunny" Welsh said in the release. "All of the Sheriff's Office K-9 teams are competing, and we are the only agency with at least one canine in every specialty. After this, we hope that our teams will advance to the national trials in Philadelphia in June, to compete against the best in the world."

So far, more than 40 narcotic teams have registered as well as 20 explosive teams, nine cadaver teams, and one accelerant team, Welsh said.

The USPCA is the largest and oldest active organization of its kind and Region 6 is comprised of canine law enforcement agencies across Pennsylvania and parts of New Jersey. Chester County will also host the USPCA Region 6 Police Dog Field Trials in August. There are already more than 40 narcotic teams registered as well as 20 explosive teams, nine cadaver teams and one accelerant team.

Welsh said Chester County's hosting of the USPCA event coincides with the 10th anniversary of the establishment of canine teams in the Sheriff's Office.

"We began with two canine teams, and now our unit has six handlers and eight canines," Welsh said in the

release. "They provide excellent service, specializing in explosives, narcotics, accelerants, and cadaver. In addition to being nationally certified in their individual scent discipline, all are nationally certified in human tracking, evidence recovery and obedience. The most recent addition to our K-9 unit is a comfort canine, used primarily in the Special Victims Unit."

Chester County Deputy Sheriff Paul Bryant Jr., the newest member of the Sheriff's Office K-9 unit, is a Level III trainer and national judge for the USPCA.

"I am excited that the Chester County Sheriff's Office is hosting this event," Bryant said in the release. "The response has been phenomenal: Large numbers like this are usually only at national events."

Along with maintaining a minimum working standard for all K-9 units, Welsh said her office works to improve the abilities of the canines in police work, a goal that results in better service to the community. Chester County Sheriff K-9 members also interact with community groups.



Chester County Deputy Sheriff, Ryan Barr trains with Murphy, his K-9 partner. Photos courtesy of JD Photography

K-9s Continued on page3



From the Director....

Project Updates & Monthly Stats

March 2016 Stats

23,653	9-1-1 VoIP, 10 Digit Calls
851	Fire Incidents
3,327	EMS Incidents
1 minute 41 seconds	Fire/EMS Average Dispatch
33,623	Police Incidents
1 minute 37 seconds	Average Police Dispatch
98%	Average of Quality Reviews

Computer-Aided-Dispatch System (CADS):

- Work is focused on response plan updates for fire departments.
- Installations have begun on the Mobile Data project. So far 409 of 700 (58%) have been installed. Network configuration is ongoing.
- CAD and Mobile Data Cutover is targeted for 23 August 2016.

Voice Radio Project:

- Harris has completed 60% of mobile installs and 31% of control station installs. All installation work is scheduled to be completed by 21 April 2016. SSC Consulting and Chester County will be following up after installations are complete at an organization to ensure everything is satisfactory. Do not call Metropolitan Communications about installation issues.
- Discussions are taking place around decommissioning the EF Johnson system.
- We are 36 months (95%) into the 28 month Implementation Phase. About 96% of the project implementation tasks have been completed. So far we have spent \$32,594,412 (72%) of the \$45,000,000 total project budget.

Telecommunicator's Week

April 10-15th

Training Facility:

- Last month we hosted 3,265 people at 106 events in the Academic Building.
- 30 training sessions were held at the Tactical Village.
- Final construction bid for the Law Enforcement Firing Range was released on 1 April. Responses are due 18 May.

See page 8 for the Prop of the Month

K-9s Continued

“Many of the residents of Chester County have met our canines and their handlers at schools and community functions across the county,” Welsh said in the release. “We think it’s very important for our citizens to see these incredible animals close up and meet their handlers.”

At the end of last year, Melody, a Labrador-Golden Retriever, joined seven German Shepherds, all of whom are trained in tracking, with specialties in drug, accelerant, explosives or cadaver detection, in the Sheriff’s Office K-9 Unit.

Welsh said Melody is available to provide “therapy services” in circumstances when children or adults experience heightened tensions. The dog’s calming presence has already proven to be helpful in relaxing crime victims, especially children, during interviews.



Chester County Deputy Sheriff, Brian Bolt is shown with his partner, Yukon. Photos courtesy of JD Photography

Pictured Below: Deputy Sheriff Paul Bryant Jr., with his partner, Don.



Pictured Above: NYPD Canine Officer at the Public Safety Training Campus.

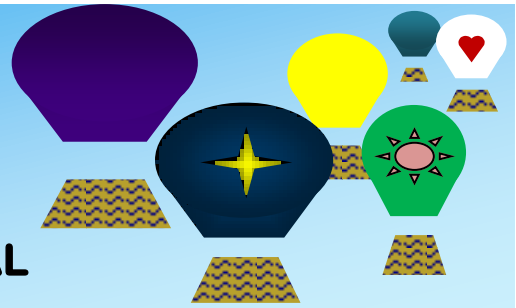
Pictured Below: Members of NYPD pose with Chester County Sheriff, Bunny Welsh in the lobby of the academic building.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

2016 CHESTER COUNTY BALLOON FESTIVAL

June 24th, 25th and 26th



For the second straight year the **Chester County Hero Fund** will be one of the benefactors of the Chester County Balloon Festival.

TO GET INVOLVED PLEASE CONTACT:

Debbie Harding at:
deb@air-ventures.com
or visit

<http://ccbaloontfest.com/>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- PARKING
- TICKET TAKERS
- TRASH/SANITATION MONITORS
- VENDOR SUPPORT
- VIP ASSISTANCE
- BALLOON CREW & DRIVERS
- CART DRIVERS
- CROWD LINE CONTROL
- SECURITY/SAFETY OFFICERS
- MESSENGERS
- INFO BOOTH
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- ELECTRICITY/GENERATOR TROUBLESHOOTERS

HAVE YOU SCHEDULED YOUR TRAINING AT THE TACTICAL VILLAGE YET?



FOR DETAILS, CONTACT
JOHN GILLESPIE AT: 610-344-4241

Does ReadyChesCo Alert You?

Sign up for Chester County's Notification System

Your Source For Emergency Information

By opting in to the Chester County notification system, you will be informed before, during and after incidents that could impact your safety.





EMS Agency Licensure – Important Reminders

For most of Chester County’s EMS agencies, going through the licensure renewal process is a routine that they are very familiar with, as they’ve been through the process many times. As comfortable as many of us are with the renewal process, it is beneficial to re-emphasize a few of the individual steps that are frequently overlooked.

Provider verification: The EMS agency is responsible to verify that no staff members listed on their roster have Administrative or Disciplinary Action on their certification imposed by the Bureau of EMS. Prior to submitting the application, they must look up each provider in the public access portion of the PA EMS Registry to verify their certification status, level, and expiration date. Any provider with a status listed as other than active requires further investigation. For example, a status listed as SSA means that the provider has a current Stipulation & Settlement Agreement in place with the Bureau of EMS and may have additional reporting requirements. In verifying Administrative Action, the Bureau of EMS maintains a listing of providers with Administrative Action on their website, however that portion is currently unavailable while being updated. If there is a question regarding a provider’s status, please contact the Field Services Division. The agency must also verify that no staff members have been excluded from participating in Federal Programs (i.e. Medicare billing activities) and can do so at <https://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/>.

EMSVO status: All EMS agency personnel who drive an EMS vehicle must be EMSVO certified. Unfortunately, the public access portion of the PA EMS Registry does not currently show a provider’s EMSVO status, and not all providers have been issued a new certification card indicating the EMSVO level. If an EMS agency has any question as to whether or not a provider is EMSVO credentialed, they can contact the Field Services Division.

Safety Committee and Quality Improvement

Committee Minutes: Effective with the new EMS Regulations in 2014, all EMS agencies are required to have a Safety Committee and a Quality Improvement Committee at the agency level. These Committees must meet at least

quarterly and produce Minutes. Validation of those quarterly Minutes has recently been incorporated into the inspection process. As this is a new item it has not previously been enforced. Effective March 1, 2016 agencies without the appropriate required Minutes will be noted as deficient in that area.

EMS Agency Medical Director: Effective with the new EMS Regulations in 2014, all EMS agencies are required to have an EMS agency medical director. The medical director must meet the requirements as outlined in the Regulations. An EMS agency medical director agreement must be on file with our office as well as on file at your station. For all intermediate and advanced level agencies, the agency medical director is responsible for credentialing all of the agencies IALS and ALS providers annually. There is no longer a need or requirement to submit the medical command authorization forms, if utilized, as was done in years past. At a minimum, a list of credentialed IALS and ALS personnel on agency letterhead signed by the medical director will suffice.

Onsite Inspection: Once the EMS agency license application is verified and all personnel are vetted, the applicable onsite inspection can be scheduled. Please make sure that all EMS vehicles being inspected have a current vehicle registration, DOT inspection, and insurance (please have copies available for all EMS units, best to copy the registration and insurance card for each unit a single paper). Ensure that all applicable equipment is in working order, anything with an expiration date is current, and in each vehicle there are applicable protocols. Remember to check fire extinguishers, flashlights, safety vests, flares, and other safety oriented equipment. Current vehicle, equipment, and supply requirements can be found in the PA Bulletin and on the Bureau of EMS website. The EMS agency licensure application is currently in revision, and in the interim the policies that are indicated as required on the application do not match the current required licensure policies outlined in the Regulations. If you have any questions regarding policies, contact Fred Wurster. Access to personnel files will be needed to verify that a random selection of personnel have the required documents on file (EMS Certification, CPR Card). Call logs for the previous year as well as a log of calls missed will need to be available for the inspection. Lastly, please print out your EMS agency application and have it ready to be signed for the day of the inspection.

Should you have questions regarding the various listed requirements or anything else relating to EMS agency licensure, please contact:
Fred Wurster: fwurster@chesco.org or 610-344-5039



Junior Public Safety Camp June 20-24, 2016

Public Safety Training Campus

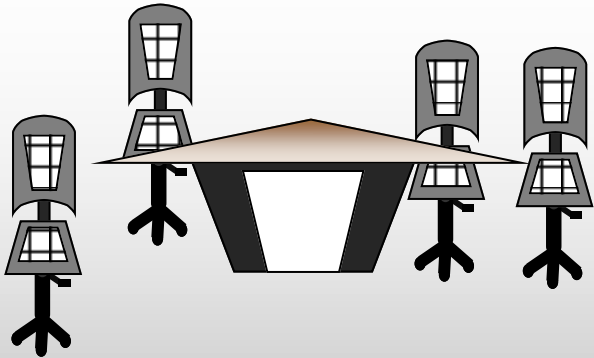
Course Tuition: \$50.00 (Registration Required) Register at destraining.chesco.org

The Junior Public Safety day camp provides classroom and practical training to further the participant's knowledge, skills, and abilities in all aspects of Public Safety: 9-1-1 Communications, Fire, Law Enforcement and EMS.

This week long camp will cover such topics as: fire safety, law enforcement, courtroom operations, K-9 handling, basic fire ground operations, hands only CPR, fire extinguisher training, hazardous materials, emergency equipment display and much more!!



FIND YOUR SEAT AT THE TABLE



MONTHLY MEETING REMINDER

VOICE RADIO PROJECT
FACE TO FACE
EVERY 3RD WEDNESDAY

UPCOMING DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- PORTABLE RADIOS
- MOBILE RADIO VEHICLE AND CONTROL STATION INSTALLATION
- TRAINING
- FINAL SYSTEM ACCEPTANCE & DECOMMISSION OF EF JOHNSON

NEXT MEETING

April 20, 2016 2:00 PM—3:30 PM

POLICE • **FIRE** • **EMS**



Fire Marshal's Report

March 2016



Investigations	March	YTD:
Intentional	1	3
Unintentional	17	31
Natural	0	1
Undetermined	2	5
Notifications	4	15
TOTAL:	24	55
Miscellaneous		
Active Arson Cases	1	3
Fire Inspections Completed	28	31
Youthful Fire Setter Programs	0	0
Reports Sent to Assessment Office	13	13
Follow-Up with Insurance Companies and Investigators	44	44
Casualties		
Emergency Services Casualties		
Fatal	0	0
Injuries	0	1
Civilian Casualties		
Fatal	0	0
Injuries	3	12

Property Type	March Totals	March Property Loss	YTD	YTD Property Loss
Assembly	0	\$0	0	\$0
Educational	0	\$0	0	\$0
Health Care, Detention, Correction	0	\$0	3	\$45,000.00
Residential	15	\$1,016,500.00	35	\$3,389,500.00
Mercantile, Business	2	\$106,000.00	5	\$217,000.00
Industrial, Utility Defense, Agricultural, Mining	1	\$0	1	\$0
Manufacturing and Processing	1	\$0	1	\$0
Storage	4	\$760,000.00	4	\$760,000.00
Outside or Special Property	2	\$3,000.00	4	\$3,050.00
Other	0	\$10,000	2	\$10,025.00
TOTAL:	24	\$247,050	55	\$4,424,575.00

Prop of the Month

The Public Safety Training Campus consists of an Academic Building and the Tactical Village. The Tactical Village includes a number of training props, an administrative pavilion, Burn Building, and Drill Tower/Scenario Building.

Prop of the month is: **Drafting/Pump Pit**

The Drafting/Pump Pit consists of a 4,000 gallon cistern below ground and two return chutes. The Drafting/Pump Pit can be used for draft training, pump tests, and pump operations training.



If you are interested in booking a classroom, or to request space for your next training, please visit www.chesco.org/des and select the Public Safety Training Campus tab to access the "Request Form" and our Fee Schedule.

Check back next month for our featured "Prop of the Month."