ST. LUCIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Dedicated to the Memory of Sergeant Gary J. Morales

ST. LUCIE COUNTY SHERIFF
http://www.stluciesheriff.com
Ken J. Mascara
To the people of St. Lucie County:

Since I was first sworn in to serve as your Sheriff in 2001, every year has had its unique challenges. But year 2013 was the most challenging and traumatic year yet for the members of your Sheriff’s Office.

2013 was the year when two of our deputies were shot by criminals. In one case, the injuries were minor, and Deputy Paul Pearson quickly returned to work. The other claimed the life of Sgt. Gary Morales, who served the people of St. Lucie County for 12 years before his untimely death.

Sgt. Morales greeted everyone he met with a warm smile and a personal touch that made strangers feel like old friends. His professionalism and relentless dedication to excellence set a high standard for everyone he worked with.

I had promoted him to Sergeant 41 days before he made an apparently routine traffic stop just south of Fort Pierce on the morning of February 28, 2013. The subject he stopped jumped out of his car, ran over to Sgt. Morales’ patrol car, and mercilessly shot him to death before Sgt. Morales could unholster his gun.

A few minutes later, the assailant was arrested by Sgt. Morales’ fellow members of Squad C, jailed and subsequently indicted for murder.

We have dedicated this annual report to the memory of our brother, friend and fallen comrade, Sgt. Gary Morales. It is my sincere hope that the people of St. Lucie County and the members of the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office will never again have to mourn the loss of a Deputy Sheriff.

Deputy Paul Pearson was part of a U.S. Marshals Task Force on November 20, 2013, that surrounded a home in Sebring to serve federal warrants on several drug dealers. As the task force members prepared to enter the home, the drug dealers fired gunshots through the door, wounding Deputy Pearson in the shoulder and injuring a Federal Marshal in the hand. The officers fired back and quickly subdued their targets. Deputy Pearson was treated by a surgeon and went safely home to his family later in the day.

Sgt. Morales was the sixth member of the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office to die in the line of duty and one of 111 federal, state and local officers killed nationwide in 2013. Ironically, this was the smallest number of officer line-of-duty deaths in America since 1959 and the lowest total of firearms-related officer deaths since the 1800s.

It was a chilling reminder that a police officer’s life can end abruptly at any time.

In October, we remembered Sgt. Joe Hover, who died in 2005 from surgical complications following an injury he suffered in a training exercise. Sgt. Hover was the first member of the Sheriff’s Office to specialize in the investigation of stolen vehicles. We dedicated the airport substation, where auto theft crimes are investigated, to Sgt. Hover’s memory.

Happily, the Sheriff’s Office experienced many successes in 2013. We shut down more than a dozen methamphetamine labs and arrested two dozen people who illegally combined volatile chemicals to manufacture the drug. We arrested drug dealers and...
drug distributors throughout St. Lucie County.
We obtained a no-contest plea in the case of Timothy Cozart Stiers, 45, who had run fake charities in St. Lucie County purporting to benefit underprivileged youth but only benefitting himself.

In October 2013, a federal appeals court denied a series of challenges by convicted killers Daniel Troya and Ricardo Sanchez, Jr., who six years earlier murdered Jose Luis Escobedo, his wife and two small children, dumping their bodies beside Florida’s Turnpike in St. Lucie County. Your Sheriff’s Office was joined by a host of local, state and federal agencies in the investigation of this crime and the arrest of the killers and their accomplices.

We investigated dozens of burglaries to vacant homes in the Spanish Lakes community while the homeowners were out of town. The prime targets of a small group of thieves were high-definition TV sets, many of which were pawned from Fort Pierce to West Palm Beach. Detectives arrested three suspects believed to have committed the burglaries and sold the stolen property.

A series of shootings in northern Fort Pierce brought the Fort Pierce Police Department and St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office together to investigate the crimes and calm neighborhood residents. Federal and state investigative resources also were dedicated to arresting the criminals, many of them gang members, who committed the crimes. The year concluded with trials pending for these defendants.

We made creative use of our Facebook page (facebook.com/stluciesheriff) where we began posting pictures of wanted criminals and details of their crimes. This paid off several times when people who followed us on Facebook gave us information about where we could find the suspects.

In May, your Sheriff’s Office raised $60,000 at our annual Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Golf Tournament to benefit the displaced and troubled young people of our state.

For the seventh time since 2006, we were named one of St. Lucie County’s “Best Places to Work” for employers of more than 250 workers.

Our jail earned two perfect scores from inspectors in November 2013. One was from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care which inspected the operations of our jail medical services provider, Corizon. The other was by a committee of the Florida Model Jail Standards, which gave jail operations its eighth perfect inspection score in a row.

Every day of the year, the 680 professionals of the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office do their best to protect the lives and property of county residents in their homes and businesses, on the streets of our community and in our court buildings. I want to thank you for the support and encouragement you give them as they do this difficult, challenging and often thankless work.

Ken J. Mascara
Sheriff of St. Lucie County
A lean organizational structure and clear lines of responsibility ensure efficiency, effectiveness and accountability.

**CHIEF DEPUTY GARRY R. WILSON**

As second-in-command and chief operating officer of the Sheriff’s Office, Chief Deputy Wilson is responsible for implementing Sheriff Ken J. Mascara’s vision for the agency. He directly supervises the Departments of Detention, Law Enforcement, Administration, and Finance and Technology. In addition, he directly supervises the work of the General Counsel, Internal Affairs Unit, Public Information Officer, fleet maintenance and facilities management as well as the Indian River Regional Crime Laboratory.

**MAJOR MICHAEL J. GRAVES – Department of Administration**

Major Graves supervises risk management, training, the School Resource Deputy Unit, Court Security Unit, Sheriff’s substations, preparation of civil and criminal court documents, service of civil papers, crime prevention and Sheriff’s Explorer Post 400. He also directly supervises the Professional Standards Division, which includes accreditation, background investigations of prospective employees, human resources, records and recruitment.
MAJOR DAVID THOMPSON – Department of Law Enforcement

Major Thompson is responsible for all law enforcement functions of the Sheriff’s Office, including patrol operations, detectives, bomb and explosives disposal, crisis negotiations and special weapons and tactics for handling non-conventional threats to the safety of the public.

CAPTAIN CHARLIE SCAVUZZO – Patrol Operations

Captain Scavuzzo is in charge of the Sheriff’s Office’s first responders: the uniform patrol deputies who are on duty throughout the county every day and night of the year. Captain Scavuzzo also supervises aviation and marine deputies, canine teams, the Traffic Unit, reserve deputies and the Underwater Search and Recovery Team.

CAPTAIN JERRY ROTHMAN – Criminal Investigations

Captain Rothman gives supervision and direction to the detectives of the Sheriff’s Office, who investigate crimes against persons, property crimes, agricultural crimes and vehicle-related crimes. He also supervises the Special Investigations Unit which investigates cases of narcotics, prostitution and other vice crimes. Captain Rothman’s division also includes crime scene analysis and other technical services.
TOBY LONG – Department of Finance and Technology

Mr. Long oversees all financial responsibilities of the Sheriff’s Office, including the preparation and administration of the budget, grant preparation and administration, and purchasing. He also supervises the information technology office.

MAJOR F. PATRICK TIGHE – Department of Detention

The St. Lucie County jail, supervised by Major Tighe, houses incarcerated persons. Jail staff members are responsible for their care, custody and control. This includes objective classification to determine housing assignments. Jail staff supervise the private contractors who handle food preparation and medical and mental health services. Detention deputies are in charge of detainee work details, and transportation of detainees to and from court appearances and the state correctional system, as ordered by members of the judiciary.
**THE YEAR IN REVIEW:**

**JANUARY 4:** Sheriff’s detectives concluded a year-long investigation with the arrest of Miami truck driver Lazaro Jimenranez, 29, for stealing a truckload of frozen shrimp, clams and other seafood worth $230,000 in 2011 from H&M Bay Seafood of Federalsburg, Md. Jimenranez told deputies he was asleep at the Flying J Truck Stop in St. Lucie County when the seafood was stolen. The truck’s onboard trip recorder showed a 235-mile discrepancy between the truck driver’s mileage claim and what he actually drove, eventually leading to his arrest.

**JANUARY 9:** Eric Lishon Rayborn, 28, of Port St. Lucie, denied stealing anything from his friend’s home while the friend was away on December 27, 2012. Then Sheriff’s investigators showed him a video taken by the friend’s laptop computer showing Rayborn rummaging through the friend’s bedroom and stealing a money box. Rayborn asked for an attorney, and detectives arrested him for burglary. The laptop computer was left on to catch Rayborn in the act.

**JANUARY 14:** Fort Pierce Police Chief R. Sean Baldwin and St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara announced that deputies and police officers made 199 arrests and seized 18 firearms in a recently completed concentrated enforcement effort in northern Fort Pierce and surrounding incorporated areas. The five-week operation concentrated on street-level criminals.

**JANUARY 17:** Timothy Cozart Stiers, 45, pleaded no contest in circuit court to racketeering and was sentenced to eight years in state prison and fined $130,000 for his part in running fake charities in St. Lucie County and pocketing the money he was supposedly raising to benefit underprivileged youth. Stiers and co-defendant Geoffrey Brock Walter were arrested in March 2012 and received the same sentence as Stiers. The two spent the money raised by the “charities” on themselves.

**JANUARY 31:** Sheriff’s investigators arrested 33-year-old St. Lucie West Centennial High School teacher Elizabeth M. Hatzidakis for contributing to the delinquency of a minor, possession of a controlled substance and marijuana possession. The investigation showed she bought drugs from a 17-year-old male student of hers and consumed the drugs and alcohol with him at her home.

**FEBRUARY 4:** Sheriff’s fraud detectives arrested Christopher Rosario Sidote, 36, of Port St. Lucie on three charges of grand theft of nearly $100,000 from bank customers older than 65. Sidote was an employee of PNC Bank. His victims were elderly bank customers with accounts at PNC. In one of the cases, Sidote was accused of stealing $16,550 from an 84-year-old woman who banked at PNC. The accounts were long-term certificates of deposits.

**FEBRUARY 8:** Sheriff Mascara announced that in an eight-month period, Sheriff’s detectives shut down 13 methamphetamine labs and arrested 21 people. The makeshift labs were in residential neighborhoods and constituted a clear danger to residents due to the volatile chemicals used to make “meth.”

**FEBRUARY 26:** New report writing and dispatching software was put into service by the Sheriff’s Office, including mobile dispatching software for patrol deputies. The new system made much more information available to deputies on the road and to dispatchers of the 9-1-1 system.

**FEBRUARY 28:** Twelve-year veteran Sgt. Gary Morales was murdered while making a traffic stop just south of Fort Pierce. Deputies immediately arrested a 25-year-old resident of the neighborhood where the traffic stop took place and charged him with murder. Sgt. Morales became the sixth member of the Sheriff’s Office to lose his life in the line of duty. (For photos, please see page 12 & 13)

**MARCH 24:** A dry and windy day in northern St. Lucie County sparked a huge wildfire that consumed 120 acres. Deputies evacuated more than 100 homes, and members of the Indian River and St. Lucie County Fire Districts joined the Florida Forest Service to fight the fire. Fort Pierce police assisted deputies to evacuate homes and set up roadblocks. Fortunately, only four homes were damaged by the fire, which continued to smolder for three more weeks.

**APRIL 11:** Sheriff Mascara announced the results of Operation Dry Spring in St. Lucie County, which was part of a statewide effort by the Sheriffs of Florida to prevent underage youth from buying and using alcohol, tobacco and synthetic drugs during the spring break school holiday. Deputies in St. Lucie County checked 157 stores and arrested 42 store employees for illegally selling alcohol to those under 21.

**APRIL 27:** Deputies collected 10 boxes of unwanted and unused over-the-counter medication turned in by members of the public on a Saturday during National Drug Take-Back Day.
Deputies collected the items at Sheriff’s Office headquarters on Midway Road and at St. Lucie Medical Center in Port St. Lucie. People can drop off unwanted medications at a secure dropbox in the lobby of the Sheriff’s Office Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**MAY 2:** At a ceremony in front of the Sheriff’s Office on Midway Road to observe Law Enforcement Memorial Week, Sheriff Mascara unveiled lettering on the headquarters building rededicating it in honor of his fallen deputy. The building was rededicated as the Master Deputy Steve Roberts Building, named after the Traffic Unit Deputy who died in the line of duty March 3, 1999, at age 38. (see pg. 15)

**MAY 11:** The 27th annual Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Golf Tournament at the Legacy Golf and Tennis Club raised $60,000 for the displaced and troubled youth of St. Lucie County. Sheriff Mascara staged the tournament in which 117 golfers took part. Since the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office began the tournaments, more than $872,000 has been raised to support the Youth Ranches, established more than 50 years ago by the Sheriffs of Florida. Information is available at youthranches.org.

**MAY 29:** A law enforcement task force under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Marshals Service with members from the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office and other local law agencies, tracked down 27-year-old state prison fugitive Christopher Reyna along with his 26-year-old accomplice Victor Diodato. The two were driving to a strip club in Stuart. The next day, Reyna was back in state prison. He had escaped from a state prison halfway house in Broward County six months earlier. He was serving a three-year prison term following his conviction for stealing money from Bruno’s House of Chocolates north of Fort Pierce in 2011.

**JUNE 4:** Sheriff Mascara announced the arrest of Rodney Lance of Port St. Lucie for stealing a loaded pistol and a pickup truck from a resident who lives near Lance’s home. Lance had been released from the St. Lucie County jail two weeks earlier. Deputies were investigating a rash of car thefts in the neighborhood.

**JUNE 22:** A week-long statewide Sheriffs Explorer conference began, bringing 250 Sheriffs’ Explorers and adult advisors to St. Lucie County. Sheriff’s Explorer Post 400 planned and hosted the conference at the PGA Hilton Garden Inn, St. Lucie West.

**JUNE 25:** Broward County resident Brian Lavince Mathis topped off a St. Lucie County traffic court appearance by ignoring a judge’s warning not to drive on a suspended license and wound up with five new charges and a trip to the county jail. Court Security Deputies noticed a lanyard around Mathis’ neck as he stood before County Court Judge Clifford Barnes. The lanyard held a set of car keys. Deputies followed Mathis outside after his court appearance and saw him get into his car and drive away. They stopped his car and arrested Mathis, who had half a pound of marijuana, 2.7 grams of cocaine, some pills and a scale in his car.

**JUNE 27:** Deputies arrested Brian Alan Hart, 20, of Plant City, for shining a laser pointer at a Sheriff’s helicopter which was in flight at the time. Hart’s actions put the pilots in jeopardy, but they managed to follow Hart’s car from the air and call in its location to ground-based deputies who arrested him on I-95.

**JULY 5:** Detectives arrested Jonathan Wainwright Mayfield, 66, of Port St. Lucie, for looting the bank account of a 97-year-old hospice-bound woman by writing himself a $20,000 check from the account. The woman had designated Mayfield as her medical surrogate. Hospice employees notified the Sheriff’s Office when they obtained the woman’s records and discovered Mayfield had written the check to himself. Mayfield admitted spending some of the money on a plane ticket for his wife to fly to Russia.

**JULY 7:** Deputies arrested 15-year-old Demetrius Jermaine Osborne, of Fort Pierce, for shooting 17-year-old Devontae Dukes to death the day before. Detectives, assisted by the Sheriff’s SWAT Team, found a black and silver pistol under Osborne’s mattress in the bedroom of his home.

**JULY 8:** Deputies of the Sheriff’s Office worked with officers of the Port St. Lucie Police Department and Fort Pierce Police Department when three banks in the county were robbed between 9 and 9:30 a.m. Authorities arrested five people in the robberies that took place at the Sun Trust Bank, 700 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, PNC Bank at 4156 Okeechobee Road, Fort Pierce, and the PNC Bank at 5493 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie. Two days later, another suspect surrendered, solving the Virginia Avenue Sun Trust bank robbery. All six suspects were indicted July 30 on federal bank robbery charges.

**JULY 10:** Nine days after posting Yvette McClain’s name on the Sheriff’s Office Facebook page as one of the agency’s “most wanted” for a February kidnapping, responses to the Facebook post
paid off with the arrest of McClain, 25, of Vero Beach. Her name was posted to the Facebook page after detectives had exhausted their leads in the case. The Sheriff’s Facebook page can be found at facebook.com/stluciesheriff.

**JULY 21:** Adam Peavy, 22, of 3305 Avenue N, Fort Pierce, shot his father, Roy Peavy, to death in the morning, then went on a shooting spree, wounding two others and killing Shane Patrick Streeter, 27, of Fort Pierce. That night, Peavy shot himself to death while sitting in his pickup truck in the 1400 block of North 45th Street, less than one mile from where he had killed his father.

**JULY 24:** Sheriff’s drug investigators teamed up with Port St. Lucie Police Department and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration detectives to shut down a marijuana growing operation at a home on Navion Drive within the Treasure Coast Air Park in southern St. Lucie County west of Port St. Lucie. Arrested was 52-year-old Murray Ronald Chinners. Detectives seized drugs with a street value of more than $1 million.

**JULY 25:** Sheriff Ken J. Mascara and Fort Pierce Police Chief R. Sean Baldwin took to the streets of northern Fort Pierce and nearby unincorporated areas to talk personally with residents in the wake of a number of shootings in the area. The actions by the Sheriff and Chief were their contribution to a broad-based community response including a series of meetings that brought together people in the affected neighborhoods, business leaders, elected governmental officials at the state and local levels, members of the clergy and law enforcement leaders.

**AUGUST 6:** Senior staff members of the Sheriff’s Office visited 19 neighborhoods throughout St. Lucie County to observe the national partnership between law enforcement and neighborhood residents known as National Night Out Against Crime, a program that originated in 1980 in Pennsylvania.

**AUGUST 7:** Detectives charged Mark Anthony Terrien, 33, with leaving the scene of an accident three months earlier that took the life of his girlfriend, Rachel Robles. The two lived together west of Fort Pierce. Robles’ body was found near their home. Terrien admitted that he was drunk that night and left the scene after the accident because he was afraid he’d be arrested. His original cover story didn’t convince Sheriff’s detectives due to its many inconsistencies.

**AUGUST 27:** Sheriff’s investigators arrested four Port St. Lucie residents on drug charges and seized eight pounds of marijuana. The case included a traffic stop on one of the defendants that turned up one pound of marijuana in the trunk of his car.

**SEPTEMBER 4:** The U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, with members from the St. Lucie County and Indian River County Sheriff’s Offices, arrested 23-year-old Jarvis Gaskin at his home just west of Fort Pierce. He was wanted for three counts of attempted second-degree murder, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and illegal discharge of a firearm. The charges stemmed from an August 24 shooting in Indian River County.

**SEPTEMBER 6:** Sheriff’s drug detectives arrested 43-year-old Daniel Graz, of Monterrery Lane, Port St. Lucie, on seven drug charges and seized more than $18,000 cash and drugs after neighbors complained to deputies that the Graz home was the scene of rampant drug dealing. The day of the arrest, deputies staked out the home and saw Graz throwing gallon-sized plastic bags over the rear fence of his home. The bags contained several pounds of marijuana packaged for sale, 18 marijuana plants Graz had just uprooted from his growing operation inside his home, 18 grams of cocaine, 68 Xanax pills and 24 grams of MDMA, also known as “Ecstasy” or “Molly.”

**SEPTEMBER 27:** Sheriff Mascara thanked more than 200 clergy members and lay volunteers for ministering to inmates at the St. Lucie County jail. The occasion was the annual Sheriff’s Office appreciation luncheon for the volunteers and clergy which took place at Westside Baptist Church.

**SEPTEMBER 27:** For the seventh time since 2006, the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office was named one of St. Lucie County’s “Best Places to Work” for employers of more than 250 employees. The St. Lucie County Human Resource Association does the judging and sets the criteria for the award.

**OCTOBER 3:** A federal appeals court in Atlanta, Ga., rejected a series of appeals by condemned killers Daniel Troya and Ricardo Sanchez, Jr. The two were sentenced to death for murdering Jose Luis Escobedo, his wife and their two sons ages 3 and 4 in 1986. The St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office was the lead investigative agency in the case, assisted by several other local, state and federal agencies. The bodies, riddled with bullet holes, were found beside Florida’s Turnpike in St. Lucie County, in the case. Investigators determined the murders were drug-related. Two other
defendants are serving 15-year federal prison terms in the case.

**OCTOBER 4:** Sheriff’s detectives begin their investigation of 60 burglaries to homes in the Spanish Lakes I manufactured home community in which burglars stole H.D. televisions, cash and jewelry, mostly from homes that were vacant while their owners were vacationing out of the area. Over the next few weeks, detectives arrested three suspects on 20 charges of burglary and dealing in stolen property. One of the suspects lived in Spanish Lakes. Another suspect was his friend. A third suspect who lived in Palm Beach County pawned a number of the stolen items in that county. The Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office arrested that suspect on several charges of dealing in stolen property.

**OCTOBER 8:** Sheriff Mascara dedicated the Sheriff’s Office’s airport substation to the memory of Master Deputy Joe Hover, the agency’s first auto theft investigator. Hover died in 2005 following complications from surgery to repair injuries he received during a training exercise. The substation houses the Sheriff’s Office’s Agricultural Crimes, Auto Theft and Sex Offender units.

**OCTOBER 11:** A St. Lucie County Circuit Court jury convicted 35-year-old Thomas Barnard of the first-degree murder in 2010 of his employer, tax attorney Ashley Pollow. Sheriff’s investigators testified that Barnard choked Pollow to death because he was threatening to report Barnard’s girlfriend, who also worked for Pollow, for stealing from him which would have sent her back to prison for probation violations. Detectives said Barnard tried to obscure evidence in the crime by dousing Pollow’s lifeless body with sulfuric acid after stuffing him into a storm shelter on Pollow’s property next to his home. On November 15, Barnard was sentenced to life in prison.

**OCTOBER 12:** The body of homeless north-St. Lucie County resident, Reason Jacob Young, Jr., 54, was found in some woods behind a gas station. The investigation by Sheriff’s detectives indicated that another homeless man, James Adrien Westberry, 55, beat Young to death in a dispute over panhandling near the gas station. Deputies arrested Westberry the day after Young’s body was found. Westberry’s alibi, rejected by investigators, was that a serial murderer committed the crime.

**OCTOBER 20:** Deputies on I-95 near Midway Road pulled over Jeffrey Alexander Martin, 27, of Broward County, after he drove recklessly in the northbound lanes. They smelled marijuana and confiscated a small amount of the drug from Martin’s Dodge Avenger. During an inventory search of the car, deputies discovered 48 stolen gift cards with credit card account numbers that didn’t match credit cards in Martin’s wallet. This resulted in 96 identity theft-related charges and bond of almost $966,000.

**NOVEMBER 6:** Between calls for service, day-shift Deputy Eva Macias was surveilling the Hess gas station at 8580 South U.S.1 from a concealed location. The gas station had been the scene of several burglaries to SUVs while the drivers pumped gas and went inside to pay. Deputy Macias saw 34-year-old Hubert Singley of Port St. Lucie get out of a black Toyota Corolla, open the passenger side door of an SUV parked at the gas pumps, grab something, then jump back into the Toyota which drove away. This led to Singley’s arrest for a string of a dozen similar car burglaries.

**NOVEMBER 20:** Deputy Paul Pearson, who was working as a member of a U.S. Marshals task force serving warrants on several drug dealers at a home in Sebring, was shot in the shoulder when the drug dealers opened fire from inside the home the officers were preparing to enter. A Deputy U.S. Marshal also was shot in the hand before the drug dealers surrendered. Pearson’s wound was not serious, and he eventually returned to active duty with the Sheriff’s Office.

**NOVEMBER 22:** Sheriff Mascara announced that the St. Lucie County jail’s medical operations received a perfect score from a national inspection team for the second year in a row. The National Commission on Correctional Health Care’s team inspected the operations of Corizon Health Care’s Operations at the jail. Corizon is the jail’s health care service provider under a contract with the Sheriff’s Office. One week earlier, a committee of the Florida Model Jail Standards gave the entire jail’s operations a perfect inspection score for the eighth year in a row.

**NOVEMBER 22:** Sheriff’s detectives arrested 42-year-old Maria Daley, the caregiver for an incapacitated 88-year-old woman, on charges that Daley stole $162,200 from the elderly woman, diverting the money to her personal use. The fraud came to light when the elderly woman’s son carefully examined her bank records.

**DECEMBER 2:** A patrol deputy staking out the parking lot of Planet Fitness, 6666 South U.S.1, the scene of eight car burglaries in the past month, spotted three men who circled the parking lot three times in a rented Nissan before one of the men crouched suspiciously next to an unoccupied car in the parking lot. Deputies converged on the trio, and detectives of the Sheriff’s Office and several
other law enforcement agencies quickly linked them to more than a dozen car burglaries at fitness center parking lots from Vero Beach to Stuart. Willie E. Williams, 21, and Marquell Shellman, 25, both of Miami, and Derrick L. Mangham, 29, of Fort Lauderdale, used credit cards stolen in the burglaries at area stores and restaurant, investigators determined.

December 20: Sheriff Mascara announced the arrest of 29-year-old elementary school teacher Quotaysha Jones of Port St. Lucie, on charges of having sex with a boy under the age of 18. In interviews with detectives, she denied the sexual activity, but the boy confirmed it in his interviews.

December 21: A four-year investigation that began with the Port St. Lucie Police Department, and joined later by the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office, resulted in the arrest of two marijuana suppliers and three others. One of the suppliers, 25-year-old Broward County resident Christopher Vanderlowen, was bringing marijuana in bulk for distribution in St. Lucie County, according to detectives.

30th Anniversary Law Enforcement Torch Run benefits Special Olympics

- 2013 marked the 30 Anniversary of the Florida Law Enforcement Torch Run, the signature event of the law enforcement community’s year-round support of Special Olympics.
- The Torch Run began its existence as the S.O.M.E. (Special Olympics Mileage Event) Run, when a handful of officers ran the “Flame of Hope” throughout the state in an exhausting, non-stop run. Soon, the S.O.M.E. Run gained momentum and law enforcement agencies throughout Florida became involved and the S.O.M.E. Run would go on to become the “Florida Law Enforcement Torch Run.”
- Every year, for 30 years, the “flame of hope” has traversed Florida in an intrastate relay of simultaneous routes throughout the state, covering countless thousands of miles. The torch was carried by local and state law enforcement officers all the way to the opening ceremonies of Florida’s annual State Summer Games, which took place at Disney’s Wide World of Sports Complex on May 17, 2013.
- The Florida Law Enforcement Torch Run is the largest annual public relations and fund raising event amongst Special Olympics Florida and law enforcement agencies. Statewide, the participating chiefs, officers, sheriffs, deputies, agents and cadets from virtually every branch of federal, state, county and municipal law enforcement, represent a total of over 300 different agencies.
- Funds are generated through the sale of the popular Torch Run T-shirts, hats, and through various local fundraising events.
- The public can support Special Olympics Florida and local law enforcement agencies by taking part in one of the many fundraising events held throughout the year or by buying this year’s special edition Law Enforcement Torch Run commemorative t-shirt or hat.
- All around the world, Special Olympics has a formidable and caring legion of protectors and supporters: the law enforcement community. Virtually every nation in the world that has a Special Olympics program holds a Law Enforcement Torch Run.
- In Florida, Chief Deputy Dave Sklarek of the Osceola County Sheriff’s Office, serves as the volunteer State Director of the Torch Run.
- To learn more about Special Olympics Florida, visit www.specialolympicsflorida.org
- To learn more about the Florida Law Enforcement Torch Run, visit www.specialolympicsflorida.org and search “Torch Run.”
Two Less Boots are on the Ground

Dedicated to Sgt. Gary Morales S.O. #166

By Joseph Martin Apicella
Contributed by Cedric V. Sotomayor

A warrior's heart, a smile radiant and round.
A life cut far too short and through a grim report,
A brother in green is down.
Now precious time must sort:
Two less boots are on the ground.

It was on the last day, on the shortest month of the year.
When a light that burned so bright, was eclipsed by a coward’s fear.
A husband, a father, a lawman sworn to right.
His infectious laughter now fades into the night.
A partner, a leader, no longer to be found, now comes the sad translation:
Two less boots protect this thorn filled ground.
The highest price he paid;
For a risk that was well known ...
And as the sunset fades, all here will go home
A comedian, a hero, a dry eye can’t be found,
Through the realization:
Two less boots will strike this ground!

A Parent’s endless devotion,
What more can I say?
It is beyond emotion for two
Little girls I pray.
That a mother’s unconditional love
Will always be their crown.
And bearing the jewels of knowing:
Daddy’s boots stand the rain quenched ground!

Gone but not forgotten,
His soul now Heaven bound.
Yes life can seem so rotten,
But wait, I hear the sound
Of Badge Number 166 and his Boots pounding the perilous ground!
A new, easy-to-use, high-tech way St. Lucie County residents and businesses can protect their property was the subject of St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara’s news conference May 9, when he introduced “CopDots” to the public.

CopDots is an inexpensive way people can mark their property, Sheriff Mascara said. The CopDots President, Shawn Andreas, joined the Sheriff to discuss CopDots. The Treasure Coast is the first area where CopDots are being introduced in the United States. It will soon be a nationwide program, Andreas said.

Members of the public can buy the CopDots kit, including the applicator, instructions and window decals, at any Lowes store in Florida.

“CopDots are tiny discs about the size of a grain of sand that contain a unique personal identification number (a ‘PIN,’) Sheriff Mascara said. “The home or business owner applies Cop Dots with a small applicator which glues the CopDots to the item being marked. The user then creates an account at copdots.com and registers as the owner of items with the PIN.” Deputies will be able to read the CopDots PIN with an ultraviolet light reader provided to the Sheriff’s Office by the CopDots company. This will allow identification of someone’s stolen property. The readers will also be given to area pawn shop proprietors.

As additional Treasure Coast law enforcement agencies adopt the CopDots system into their operations, this will make the Treasure Coast more secure when people use CopDots.

More information is available at the CopDots website: copdots.com.

St. Lucie County Sheriff Mascara dedicates Curtis King Boulevard substation in memory of Master Deputy Joseph S. Hover

On October 8, 2013, St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara dedicated the Sheriff’s Office’s Curtis King Boulevard substation to the memory of Master Deputy Joseph S. Hover, one of six Sheriff’s Office members who lost his life in the line of duty.

The substation is located at 2850 Curtis King Boulevard, Fort Pierce, at the entrance to the airport.

Sheriff Mascara said:

Master Deputy Joe Hover faithfully served the people of St. Lucie County as a member of the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office from 1981 to 2005.

Joe had a distinguished 24-year career with the Sheriff’s Office in Road Patrol, the K-9 Unit, Detective Division and School Resource Deputy Unit.

Joe was injured during defensive tactics training and tragically lost his life as a result of complications from surgery to treat his injury. We honor him today, on the anniversary of his death, as one of six Sheriff’s Office members to lose his life in the line of duty.

We also honor Joe’s memory for another reason. He was the first deputy of this agency to specialize in the investigation of motor vehicle theft. He took an interest in these cases long before law enforcement agencies made this a specialty area of law enforcement.

Joe also was for many years a specialist in the investigation of criminal activity in the agricultural areas of our county.

For these reasons, I am dedicating the Sheriff’s Office airport substation to the memory of Master Deputy Joe Hover. This building houses the Agricultural Crimes Unit, Auto Theft Unit, Warrants Unit and Sex Offender Unit.

From now on, this substation will be known as the Master Deputy Joseph S. Hover Substation.
At the May 2013 law enforcement memorial service at the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office, Sheriff Ken J. Mascara rededicated the headquarters building as the Master Deputy Steve Roberts Building to honor the memory of all six of the Sheriff’s Office’s fallen heroes.

Master Deputy Roberts was a member of the Sheriff’s Traffic Unit who died March 3, 1999, at age 38 from injuries sustained 20 days earlier when a careless motorist struck Roberts’ motorcycle as he was heading to a traffic crash north of Fort Pierce.

Chaplain David Thompson and surviving family members of deceased deputies placed a wreath at the memorial marker in front of the Master Deputy Steve Roberts Building, which now displays his name in large letters above the front door. The new lettering was unveiled at the service.

The Sheriff’s Office suffered its most recent line-of-duty death on February 28, 2013, when Sgt. Gary Morales was shot and killed during a traffic stop just south of Fort Pierce. Earlier this year, Sheriff Mascara named the Sheriff’s training complex on Coolidge Road after Sgt. Morales.

At the service, St. Lucie County Commission Chairman Tod Mowrey read a proclamation in honor of Law Enforcement Memorial Week.

St. Lucie County Sheriff Mascara prevents Grinch from ruining 9-year-old River Park girl’s Christmas

A Grinch, identity unknown, tried to steal Christmas from a 9-year-old River Park girl in unincorporated St. Lucie County.

On Christmas Day, the Grinch stole Kylee Stevens’ brand new bike, which she received as a Christmas present, from the front porch of her home in the unincorporated River Park neighborhood, according to Sheriff Ken J. Mascara.

“When I read the incident report, I was appalled that someone would victimize a little girl on Christmas morning,” Sheriff Mascara said. “When I shared the story with my command staff, we agreed that there was only one solution: We had to reach out to Santa to get the bike replaced.”

This morning, Sheriff Mascara, filling in for Santa, gave Kylee a brand new bicycle.

The Grinch, foiled in his pathetic attempt to ruin a little girl’s Christmas, remains at large.
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago representatives visit Indian River Crime Laboratory

Three government officials of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, accompanied by a representative of the U.S. Department of State and a representative of the U.S. Embassy in Port of Spain, Trinidad, paid a visit to the Indian River Crime Laboratory on May 20, at the Treasure Coast Public Safety Training Complex at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce.

The purpose of the visit was to study the operations of the crime laboratory, including the new facility design and Laboratory Information Management System, in preparation for the consolidation and streamlining of forensic services for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, as they prepare for international accreditation.

The State Department’s Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs organized the visit. The Indian River Crime Lab is one of seven internationally accredited crime laboratories the Trinidad and Tobago officials will visit as part of the U.S. State Department’s Caribbean Basin Security Initiative.

The Indian River Crime Laboratory serves the Sheriff’s Offices and Police Departments of Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee counties and is funded by those law enforcement agencies. It is governed by a regional Board of Directors with administrative support provided by the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office.

Information on the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative is available at the State Department’s website at http://www.state.gov/p/wha/rt/cbsi/.

Information about the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors is available at the society’s website: http://www.ascld-lab.org/.

St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office’s Donna Carmichael earns designation as a Certified Latent Print Examiner

Eighteen-year St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office veteran Donna Carmichael has earned the prestigious designation of Certified Latent Print Examiner, according to St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara.

“The public has good reason to be proud of Ms. Carmichael,” said Sheriff Mascara. “She is one of less than one thousand people worldwide who is a Certified Latent Print Examiner. This certification ensures that she meets the highest level of professional standards. It also enhances the credibility of her testimony in court to convict criminals.”

The International Association for Identification, a professional association established in 1915, has conferred the Certified Latent Print Examiner designation on Ms. Carmichael.

In addition to more than 300 hours of formal training and eight years of full-time experience, Ms. Carmichael was required to pass a rigorous eight-hour written examination and a thorough review of a detailed written presentation of a criminal case by experts in the field of latent print identification.

After earning her certification, she becomes one of four Treasure Coast Certified Latent Print Examiners.

She and Detective Richard Young also have attained certification as Crime Scene Analysts through the International Association for Identification.

Ms. Carmichael joined the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office in 1994 after seven years with the Fort Pierce Police Department. She has been a member of the Sheriff’s Office’s Crime Scene Unit since November 2004.
Sheriff Ken J. Mascara  ★  St. Lucie County

St. Lucie County Sheriff Mascara’s garage mechanics and jail work crew convert aging, government surplus bus into modern, well equipped jail transportation bus

Talented St. Lucie County Sheriff’s garage mechanics and a closely supervised jail inmate work crew have converted a 21-year-old, 40-foot government surplus bus into a modern, well-equipped jail transport vehicle, according to St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara.

“We got the Blue Bird diesel-engine-powered bus from government surplus for a $3,000 transfer fee,” said Sheriff Mascara, “and we installed a $6,500 wheelchair lift to accommodate handicapped jail inmates. That’s less than $10,000. A new bus equipped like this would cost more than $150,000. The Sheriff’s Office was able to put a jail transport bus into service for a fraction of that amount.”

In addition, Sheriff Mascara said the wheelchair-lift-equipped bus will save money because it will no longer be necessary to pay a private ambulance service to transport handicapped jail inmates to and from medical and court appointments.

“My goal and that of my administration is to find alternatives to using taxpayers’ dollars for capital outlay, and the jail bus project is a prime example of that,” Sheriff Mascara said.

Sheriff’s officials are registered with the U.S. Bureau of Federal Property Assistance and found the bus using the bureau’s online research tools. Sheriff’s staff members traveled to Starke, northeast of Gainesville, and drove the bus to Fort Pierce 10 months ago.

The jail inmate work crew designed, fabricated and installed security grates on the windows, confinement doors and other security equipment in the interior of the bus, modified the seats to accommodate the security equipment. “This was a complete custom installation,” Sheriff Mascara said.

Other improvements included securely covering the heater and air conditioning units so they can’t be tampered with.

“All the design work, fabrication, repairs, security modifications, installation of the wheelchair lift, painting and mechanical improvements were done in-house,” Sheriff Mascara said. “The result was a huge savings to taxpayers.”

Sheriff Mascara, Fire Chief Parrish, former Port St. Lucie Councilman Kelly lose their hair to support Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County

To help raise money for the Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County, Sheriff Ken Mascara, Fire Chief Ron Parrish and former Port St. Lucie City Councilman Jack Kelly offered to have their heads shaved.

The goal was to raise $150,000 to support guidance programs by the Club for hundreds of county teenagers.

The fund drive was successful, and on March 23, 2013, the trio fulfilled their promise at the county’s Mets stadium after a spring training game. The top bidder to shave Sheriff Mascara’s head was Faye Outlaw, St. Lucie County Administrator.

Those who wish can learn more about the Boys & Girls Club at www.bgcofslc.org or by calling 772-460-9918.
The St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office, children’s advocates and Treasure Coast media outlets launched a campaign to educate parents and caregivers of the dangers children face when left alone, especially as summer vacation approaches. This year’s annual NEVER LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED® public service campaign was launched prior to the 4th of July holiday.

“We geared up our annual campaign to coincide with the 4th of July weekend,” said Don Kryak, who co-founded the campaign with his wife, Amy Kryak. “Child safety is a year-round issue, but when kids are out of school, the risk of injury or death from being left unattended increases.”

The Kryaks launched the NEVER LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED® campaign in 1993, in the wake of three drownings and five near drownings over a period of a few months. Since then the annual awareness event has grown, and is now supported by a variety of agencies who publicize the dangers of leaving children unattended for even just a few minutes around water, in a vehicle, in a store or at home.

As part of this year’s campaign, the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office distributed posters, which reminded parents of the hazards that can befall unsupervised children, and how quickly deadly accidents can happen.

“A child can move unexpectedly fast when a parent or responsible adult’s attentions are divided,” said St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara. “As a father, I have seen this firsthand. That’s why this awareness campaign was so important. Members of the Sheriff’s Citizens Observation Patrol and Crime Prevention Unit distributed posters to remind people of how important this is. Also, posters were be available at Sheriff’s Office headquarters at 4700 West Midway Road.”

The annual campaign intensifies each year in the summer, a time of year that brings increased attention to the risk of drowning.

“Supervision of kids is extremely important,” said Don Kryak. “You can’t risk leaving children unattended and unsupervised anywhere near water – not even for a second. Pool alarms, fences or floatation devices are no substitute for direct supervision.”

The Kryaks point out the NEVER LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED® campaign does not only apply to drownings. Hot Florida summers bring an increased risk of children being left unattended in cars.

“Leaving a child unattended in a car is not only unsafe, it’s illegal,” Kryak, a former police captain pointed out. “Serious injury and death from heat stroke can occur in a matter of minutes, and child abduction can occur in a matter of just seconds.”

While on summer vacation, the Kryaks urge families to check hotel balconies and pools. Families with small children who can fit through balcony railings should asked to be moved to a room without a balcony. Kids should also be familiarized with hotel pool depths and other water risks that may be overlooked.

For more information on the NEVER LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED® campaign, call 772-878-8878.
Veteran Court Security Deputy George King earns national recognition as 2013 Jefferson Award winner

St. Lucie County Deputy Sheriff George King’s tireless efforts on behalf of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have earned him recognition as a 2013 Jefferson Award recipient.

King, who joined the Sheriff’s Office in 1995, has worked on behalf of developmentally disabled people for 18 years. He is a member of the Sheriff’s Court Security Unit.

The Jefferson Awards are a prestigious national recognition system honoring community and public service in America. Awards are presented at two levels, national and local. The program began in 1972 to create a Nobel Prize for public service.

Deputy King is a regional director for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics, covering an eight-county region that stretches from Indian River to Palm Beach counties on the coast and west to Glades and Hendry counties. When the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners eliminated the paid position of Special Olympics Coordinator in the county, Deputy King stepped in on a volunteer basis and saved the program, which now involves more than 180 athletes.

Deputy King as a member of the Board of Directors of ARC of St. Lucie County, which assists the intellectually and developmentally disabled residents of St. Lucie County.

He also has served on the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council.

He is an adjunct professor at Indian River State College where he teaches criminal justice. He is working toward his doctoral degree in criminal justice. He has completed all his class work and is now writing his doctoral dissertation.

Deputy George King, 2013 Jefferson Award recipient, is a member of the Court Security Unit.

Deputy George King displays his support for the Special Olympics Torch Run with this tattoo.

Deputy George King, 2013 Jefferson Award recipient, is a member of the Court Security Unit.

St. Lucie County’s Officers of the Year honored at 24th annual St. Lucie County Hundred Club banquet

St. Lucie County’s Officers of the Year are pictured with Hundred Club President Jane Rowley (center, back row) and agency leaders. Front row, left to right: Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Tony Kingery, Fort Pierce Police Detective Benjamin Thayer, St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Master Deputy Ron Stickney, St. Lucie County Fire District Lt. Lewis Clanton and Port St. Lucie Police Officer Richard Giaccone. Back row, left to right: Florida Highway Patrol Capt. John Cataldo, Fort Pierce Police Chief R. Sean Baldwin, St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara, Hundred Club President Jane Rowley, St. Lucie County Fire Chief Ron Parrish and Port St. Lucie Police Chief John Bolduc. Far right: Florida Department of Law Enforcement Special Agent Michael Bartus, his daughter Kaitlyn (age 8) and Special Agent Rich Piccininni.
Awards ...

St. Lucie County Sheriff Ken J. Mascara presents Master Deputy Stickney as his agency’s officer of the year.

Sheriff Mascara and three new Sergeants (left to right): James Willingham, Jason Wheeler and Petri Hayes.

Administration/Law Enforcement Supervisor of the Quarter

1st – Kevin Dietrich
Kurt Mittwede
2nd – Charlie Scavuzzo

3rd – Andy McIntosh
4th – Chris Cicio

Civilian of the Quarter

1st – Sallyann Kelly
Shirley McMillon
2nd – Kim Briglia

3rd – Kayla Lee
4th – Russ Cullum

Detective of the Quarter

1st – Rob Valentine
2nd – None

3rd – Troy Norman
4th – David Blatchford

Detention Civilian of the Quarter

1st – Dayatra Ragin-Bryant
2nd – Genynne Rodriguez

3rd – Solange Dorsainvil
4th – None

Detention Deputy of the Quarter

1st – Ellis Alexander
2nd – Clinton Williams

3rd – Stan Mazanoski
4th – Jennifer Perkins

Detention Supervisor of the Quarter

1st – Jason Wheeler
2nd – Doug Laury

3rd – Gary Deshon
4th – Jeff Jackson

Patrol Operations Deputy of the Quarter

1st – Matt Brewster
2nd – Paul Pearson

3rd – Heather Tucker
4th – Eva Macias

Patrol Support Deputy of the Quarter

1st – Diederich Hueck
2nd – Francis Avril

3rd – James Abel
4th – None

Volunteer of the Quarter

1st – Warren Alford
2nd – Jerri Anicito

3rd – Dottie Viguolo
4th – 4th Nick O’Halloran
YEARLY AWARDS

Civilian Supervisor ......................... Lori Pereira
Civilian .................................... Kim Briglia
Detective ..................................... Rob Valentine
Detention Civilian .......................... Dayatra Ragin-Bryant
Detention Deputy ......................... Jennifer Perkins
Detention Supervisor ..................... Doug Laury
Patrol Operations Deputy ............... Paul Pearson
Patrol Support Deputy ..................... Diederich Hueck
Volunteer .................................. Warren Alford

MEDAL OF HONOR
Clarence Bennett

COMBAT INJURY
Paul Pearson

COMBAT CROSS
John Brady • Matt Briglia • Efrem Neal • Chris Jadin • Mark Sarvis • Cedric Sotomayor • Nate Stubley

MERITORIOUS SERVICE
Clarence Bennett • Dan Pack

EXCEPTIONAL DUTY
Sgt. Ezell Cooper • Sgt. William Hedges

LIFE SAVING
Wayne Anderson • Joseph Baptiste • Roxanne Bourbonniere • Joseph Brennan • Scott DeMichael
Edward Gonzalez • William Hedges • Sgt. Jeff Jackson • Justin Jackson • Clifford Lamm
Johnathon Lasasso • Jason Lyda • Mitchell Mazanoski • Sharon McClelland • Corey McCuen
Jason Meizinger • Stephen Mochan • Michael Morales • James O’Brien • Lt. Ron Pallack
Justin Parker • Michael Profitt • James Soto • Teresa Stanton • Andrew Stewart • David Streeter

LIFE SAVING (CITIZENRY)
Chris Campbell • Madison Hassler • Jackie Sterns • Jonathan Pickett

COMMENDATION
Joe Bell • Clarence Bennett • Keita Bennett • Matt Brewster • Matt Briglia • Frank Byrnes
Donna Carmichael • Sgt. Chris Cicio • Dennis Devaney • Lt. Kevin Dietrich • Matt Dietrich
Matt Gerdes • Gary Gonsalves • W. T. Hamilton • Lt. Bob Hasse • James Jennings • Sgt. Grant King
Tad LeRoy • Lt. Sidney Long • Santiago Martinez • Sgt. Kurt Mittwedel • Dwayne Newton
Nelson J. Ojeda • Evens Paulvil • Lt. Willie Perry • Sgt. Victor Sands • Mark Sarvis
Brian Shackley • Michelle Sifers • Cedric Sotomayor • Brooke Southard • Leah Stephens
Andrew Stewart • Ron Stickney Nate Stubley • Ed Walko • Ken Waters • Ron Wentz
Clinton Williams • Brian Witherow • Richard T. Young
Eagle Award
Jose Angulo • Anthony Pierce • Jeffrey Serafini • Todd Hogan

Distinguished Service
Sal Anicito • Daniel Arcentales • Joe Bell • Matt Briglia • Deron Brown • Steve Byrne • David Caglioni
Dennis Devaney • Lt. Kevin Dietrich • Fred Fernandez • Lt. Adam Goodner
Chris Gordineer • Sgt. Doug Laury • Kevin Lindstadt • Nelson J. Ojeda • Sgt. John Parow
Keith Pearson • Charles Presnell • Sgt. Brian Rhodes • Tony Savage
Cory Speicker • Leah Stephens • Andrew Stewart • Rick Stuhr
Lt. Chris VanDeventer • Sgt. Jamie Wills

Unit Citations
Transportation:
Daniel Arcentales • Steve Byrne • Lucius Harris • Johnny Hubbard • Sgt. Doug Laury
Richard Medina • Dexter Scott • Robert T. Wolff • Kimberly Tipton
Corey Todd • Sgt. Jason Wheeler

Training:
Sgt. Brian Hester • Sgt. Gary Morales (posthumous) • Tommy Johnson
Kevin Lindstadt • Deb McKenna • Tina Speicker

Miscellaneous Awards
Sheriff’s Office – Business & Industry Award by the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce
Sheriff’s Office – Award in Law Enforcement by the Florida Council on Crime & Delinquency Chapter 10
Chris Cicio – Medal of Valor/Deputy of the Year by the National Sheriff’s Association
Nate Evans – 100+ DUI Arrests by Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Adam Goodner – Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the Fort Pierce Athletic League
Gregg Hayford – 100+ DUI Arrests by Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Glenn Hoffman – Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the Moose Lodge of Lakewood Park
George King – 2013 Jefferson Award

Deputies honored for their actions on February 28, 2013: At the Sept. 17 awards ceremony, these deputies were honored for their valor and professionalism on February 28, the day Sgt. Gary Morales was murdered in the line of duty. The deputies honored included the members of Squad C (Sgt. Morales’ squad), as well as Detective Scott DeMichael (second from left) and Sgt. Grant King (third from left.) Others pictured are (back row): Nelson Ojeda, Tad Leroy, Mark Sarvis, Joe Bell, Matt Briglia and Ron Stickney; (front row): Lt. Kevin Dietrich, Evens Paulvil, Cedric Sotomayor, Clarence Bennett, Leah Stephens, Nate Stubley, Supreet Cheema and Sgt. Kurt Mittwede. Dennis Devaney, then a member of Squad C, is not pictured. These deputies are pictured with Sheriff Ken J. Mascara (far left) and Major David Thompson (far right.)
Members of the Sheriff’s Office and community volunteers wrapped hundreds of presents for 91 needy St. Lucie County families with 233 children as part of the annual Christmas Families charity drive that began more than 25 years ago. Members of the public and businesses donate gifts and money year round to the St. Lucie County Crime Prevention League, organized under the 501(c)(3) provisions of the U.S. tax code, making the deductions tax-deductible. People can donate by check or money order to Christmas Families Drive, c/o Dorothy Shaw, St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office, 4700 West Midway Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34981-4825.

**Phone Numbers...**

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http://www.stluciesheriff.com
St. Lucie County Sheriff Mascara thanks clergy and volunteers for ministering to inmates at the St. Lucie County jail

Sheriff Mascara acknowledges the work of the religious leaders and volunteers who assist the St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office, Department of Detention with religious programs, individual counseling.

“This program has been vital to many of those incarcerated in the St. Lucie County jail,” Sheriff Mascara said. “For many, spirituality is the first step to improve themselves and admitting to the issues that led them to jail. I want to thank the clergy members and volunteers who give of their valuable time to mentor to these individuals.”

Sheriff Mascara said, “Just as members of law enforcement commit to upholding the law and keeping the community safe no matter what, clergy will also stand for what is right no matter the cost or how hard the fight, keeping the faith.”

Sgt. Gary Morales training aid completed.

No, this is not a compact patrol vehicle but rather a training aid that Sgt. Gary Morales envisioned. During his time in the Training Unit, he wanted to create a portable vehicle that could be used at our training facility, which Sheriff Mascara named after him in March 2013.

Deputies would use the vehicle to practice traffic stops and extractions. Sgt. Morales suggested converting a damaged patrol vehicle instead of purchasing a similar training aid.

He enlisted the help of Larry Melton and Ed Walko of the Sheriff’s Office’s Fleet Maintenance Unit. Ed Walko was able convert a patrol vehicle that had been totaled during a flood into a training aid. The vehicle even has working lights and siren.

And it certainly is eye-catching.