

## Horstman, Carrie

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**From:** Polk County Sheriff's Office <theresa@polksheriff.ccsend.com> on behalf of Polk County Sheriff's Office <dwood@polksheriff.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:04 PM  
**To:** Horstman, Carrie  
**Subject:** The Cyber Star - February 2015



February 2015

Friend,

Sheriff Grady

Thursday, January 15, 2015, four violent suspects began a crime spree that spread across our county. It was a difficult 24 hours, but ultimately the suspects were captured and all four will answer for heinous acts of violence.

While their violence changed the lives of one family forever, partnerships between various local communities ensured the suspects were held within a perimeter and apprehended. This unified law enforcement effort was possible because of partnerships built well before this single event.

The Sheriff's Office began joint dispatching communications with both the Auburndale and Haines City Police Departments in March 2010. And while this economical initiative has been an effective tool for saving tax dollars, of even greater value, has been the ability of the city police officers and deputy sheriffs to hear all calls for service on a shared radio frequency. This practice has proven to enhance the safety and security of officers and of Polk County's citizens. The apprehension of the four suspects in Haines City is a perfect example.

Through the joint communications system, the PCSO, APD and HCPD were able to communicate directly with each other about the suspects as the incident unfolded. Officers who first responded were able to immediately relay information among each agency involved. That direct communication was vital in bringing these fugitives to justice.

The fluid and adapting response law enforcement provided was coordinated from the beginning. Radio transmissions were monitored by supervisors to ensure the suspects' possible locations were communicated to responding deputies and officers.

The involving incident was then shared with residents asking that neighbors remain in their homes as deputies and officers went door to door searching for the suspects. Residents phoned our emergency communications center providing information that also aided in tracking the suspects.



Join Our Mailing

incident is a perfect example of how critical it is that we work together as a community to fight crime. Law enforcement cannot fight crime alone. It was a community effort.

The success of a joint communications system is a direct result of professional training and collaboration. We have highly trained men and women who are dedicated to keeping our community safe and our communications center is an integral part of that effort. As you may know, in March 2014, the PCSO Emergency Communications Center received re-accreditation from the Public Safety Communications Accreditation Program, and along with it an "Accreditation with Excellence" award. Our ECC received a total of 858,613 9-1-1 and administrative calls in 2014. That means the center rang every 37 seconds on average. We strive to treat each call we receive with the same professionalism as the calls involving the four Haines City suspects. Every call can mean the difference in someone's life.

The PCSO contracts law enforcement services with six municipalities, Eagle Lake, Fort Meade, Groves, Polk City, Dundee, and Mulberry. Additionally, the PCSO contracts to provide dispatch services for Auburndale, Haines City, Lake Wales, Davenport, and Winter Haven.

by Judd, Sheriff

Save the Date!



The 2015 Polk Sheriff's Charities, Inc., "Bustin' Clays with Sheriff Grady Judd" event will be held Saturday, March 7, 2015, at Tenoroc Shooting Sports located at 3755 Tenoroc Mine Road, Lakeland.

This widely popular annual event is the primary funding source of PSCI and proceeds from the event help to support the charities' efforts.

Download the event brochure and learn more about "Bustin' Clays" by clicking this link: <http://bit.ly/1zE6CHw>

Department of Law Enforcement Changes



Congratulations to **Chief William Jasper "WJ" Martin**, the Chief of the Department of Law Enforcement for the past six years, who is retiring after 35 years of dedicated service to the Polk County Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Polk County. WJ was hired in 1979 as a deputy sheriff and was promoted to Sergeant in 1989. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1995, then to Captain in 1998. He was promoted to Major in 2008, then to Chief of the Criminal Investigations Division in 2005. Sheriff Judd then promoted WJ to Chief of the Department of Law Enforcement in 2009. Chief Martin leaves behind a legacy, one filled with a vast amount of experience and knowledge in investigating and supervising criminal investigations, including extensive undercover operations in narcotics, organized crime, and computer crimes, as well as robberies, crimes against children, and homicides. Many colleagues came to his January 21<sup>st</sup> retirement party, including

state, and federal law enforcement officers and agents, whose respect he has earned over the past three decades as a standing investigative mind and tenacious leader. We wish WJ a long and happy retirement with his wife Lisa (seen here with his kids and grandkids). Thank you, Chief Martin, for your selfless service to the people of Polk County! You will be



Congratulations to **Chief Joe Halman, Jr.**, who was promoted to Chief of the Department succeeding Chief W.J. Martin. Chief Halman was hired as a deputy sheriff in 1985, promoted to Sergeant in 1993, then Lieutenant in 1998. He became a Captain in 2002, and was promoted to Major in 2005. Chief Halman has experience as a supervisor in nearly every facet of law enforcement, particularly criminal investigations and special investigations. He has a Master's degree in ministerial leadership from SEU and a Bachelor's degree in organizational management from Warner Southern University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, and holds a Certified Public Manager certification from FSU. He and his wife, Debra (seen here with Sheriff Judd), are pastors at Greater Works Ministries in Winter Haven. They have three daughters, Shena, Ashley, and Chelsea.

**e Scam Alert**





Two recent scams you should know:

1. Caller with 863 area code tells you there's a warrant for your arrest, for not reporting to jury duty; calls may appear to come from PCSO non-emergency line (863-298-6200) in an attempt to appear valid; PLEASE BE AWARE there are tools scammers use to disguise their numbers - it's called "spoofing" - you will NOT receive a call from PCSO telling you that you have a warrant for your arrest for not appearing for jury duty!

From the Clerk of Courts FB page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/polkcourtclerk/photos/a.132514443586170.25834.131911>

481/385992031571742/?type=1

TELEPHONE SCAMS: File a complaint at [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov). and with [www.FTC.gov](http://www.FTC.gov).

identifies himself as a "tax crime investigator" and threatens bodily harm if the victims don't pay up. In one 2014 scam artist told the victim that he would come to her house and kidnap her if she didn't pay money she "owed" to. The 92-year-old woman paid out \$8000 before reporting it to PCSO.

IRS website: If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, here's what you should do: If you owe taxes or you think you might owe taxes, call the IRS at 800-829-1040. The IRS employees at that line can help with a payment issue - if there really is such an issue.

[www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact\\_report\\_scam.shtml](http://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact_report_scam.shtml)):

TELEPHONE SCAMS: File a complaint at [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov). and with [www.FTC.gov](http://www.FTC.gov).

## Others Are Saying



"Words cannot express the thanks and gratitude we have towards those persons involved in your Inmate Work Program. With only one daytime custodian, who is responsible for our grounds and any other duties assigned to him during the day, it is very difficult for him to keep the grounds manicured at all times. We have received compliments from our staff, students, parents, visitors, and people who live in the community, thanks to your program. - Sincerely Carol E. Griffin, Assistant Principal Rochelle School of the Arts."

"Recently, the Tuscan Hills community experienced a rash of burglaries and thefts. As a member of the Board of Directors, I

ed Lieutenant Dan Cone of the Northeast District for assistance. He, along with Detective Frese, responded to our community center and discussed the crimes with man of our homeowners in attendance. Both officers offered suggestions and recommendations in preventing future burglaries. Recently, Lt. Cone contacted me with information about arrests made in these cases. As a former State Police Commander in Maryland, I can assure you both these men are a credit

department and represented you well. - Richard H. McGee"

August 19, 2014, the Polk County Sheriff's Office assisted the Department of Children and Families with a child neglect involving a young lady who was abandoned by her father for a week and no means to locate. The child had no food, clothes, or a place to stay. The coordination with the Sheriff's Office was outstanding. Examples of the compassion and Lieutenant Garcia's purchase of a book bag and school supplies, Deputy Hermelbracht ensured she had food that day, and Sergeant Debbie Hamilton appeared with a cash donation at the Dependency Shelter hearing from the Special Unit to purchase school clothing. Ongoing visits are being made to the child by the deputies. Often, the general public does not see the compassion of the deputies. Kudos to Lt. Garcia, Deputy Brett Hermelbracht, Deputy Michael Hewitt, Deputy Christina Wright, Deputy Susie Long and Sergeant Debbie Hamilton. - Julia Hermelbracht, DCF Community Support Administrator"

## Seeking State Certified Law Enforcement Officers



State Law Enforcement and Corrections Officers: We value your service and we offer you a \$2,000 bonus, a fast hiring process, competitive compensation, and great benefits. The Polk County Sheriff's Office is hiring deputy sheriffs and probation deputies. The Polk County Sheriff's Office will pay a \$1,000 bonus upon hiring and a \$1,000 bonus at the end of the successful completion of probationary status (about a year).

The proposed state budget includes no raise for state law enforcement and corrections officers. Frankly, this offers us a great opportunity. I need help filling our vacant positions and it costs Polk County taxpayers much less money to hire well-trained and experienced law enforcement and corrections officers, saving us thousands of dollars in academy costs. We offer hard working state law enforcement officers and corrections officers a great new career at a professional level in an accredited agency with top notch training and equipment, competitive salary, and a \$2,000 bonus to help them transition from the state to the Polk County Sheriff's Office. We are looking for top notch officers ready to go to work." -- Sheriff

For more information regarding application procedures and the \$2,000 bonus for qualified Florida state law enforcement officers and Florida state corrections officers, or to obtain an application by mail, contact the Polk County Sheriff's Office's Human Resources Division directly at 863-298-6440, toll free 1-877-477-7276, or email [hr@polksheriff.org](mailto:hr@polksheriff.org). An application can also be downloaded from [www.polksheriff.org](http://www.polksheriff.org) under the careers tab. The Polk County Sheriff's Office is an EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/D/V.

iff Shutterbug!



Most would agree that Sheriff Judd is quite comfortable in front of a camera, he enjoys being behind one as well. Sheriff Judd always had an interest in photography, but a few years ago he turned that interest into an outlet from the daily stresses of a high adrenaline job. Armed with a Canon 7D and professional grade lenses, Sheriff Judd hunts for the ultimate subjects - wildlife, plants and landscapes that he can capture in an image to be shared for generations to come. His personal favorite is seen here - a roseate spoonbill he captured perfectly.

Sheriff Judd's photography was featured in three publications in 2014, and we are excited to announce that for the entire month of February 2015, the Lake Wales Public Library will display Grady Judd's photography. The public is invited and encouraged to visit the library during their normal operating hours to see his artwork firsthand. They are located at 290 Cypress Lane in Lake Wales (<http://www.facebook.com/LakeWalesPublicLibrary>).

During the month-long display, we will bring the artwork to our main operations center in Winter Haven where it will decorate our staff's cafeteria.

Thank you, Lake Wales Library, for selecting Sheriff Judd as February's featured artist!

**Like Jogging?**



**The Judd Jog**  
BENEFITING THE UNITED WAY

**LIVE UNITED**™

**April 18, 2015** Registration begins at 8 a.m.  
(at Polk State College, Lakeland Campus, in the LTB building)  
the run begins at 9 a.m. at the  
**Fort Fraser Trail** 4120 US Highway 98 South  
Lakeland, FL 33801

Please visit [www.active.com](http://www.active.com)  
— search "Judd Jog" to sign-up.  
If you would like to be a sponsor or donate call Felipe Garces at 863-298-6319.

**2015 Sponsorship Information  
for The 5K Judd Jog**

**The Judd Jog**  
BENEFITING THE UNITED WAY  
APRIL 18, 2015

**Sheriff Level**

- Contributions and Donations equal to \$500\*
- Opportunity to have a table on site to promote your business during the event
- Opportunity to speak to the participants at the award ceremony
- business logo on back of the Judd Jog Benefiting the United Way I-Shirts
- Verbal recognition on the day of the event
- Two (2) participant registrations to include I-shirts
- One (1) Polk County Sheriff's Office 150 Years of Service Commemorative Coin

**Chief Level**

- Contributions and Donations between \$276 - \$499
- Business name printed on back of the Judd Jog Benefiting the United Way I-Shirts
- Verbal recognition on the day of the event
- One (1) participant registration to include I-shirt
- One (1) Polk County Sheriff's Office 150 Years of Service Commemorative Coin

**Major Level**

- Contributions and Donations between \$100 - \$275
- Verbal recognition on the day of the event
- One (1) participant registration to include T-shirt
- One (1) Polk County Sheriff's Office 150 Years of Service Commemorative Coin

**Individual**

- Sign-up at active.com, search "Judd Jog" \$25 before April 8<sup>th</sup> or \$30 after April 8<sup>th</sup>
- One (1) participant registration to include T-shirt

*If you would like to be a sponsor or donate call Felipe Garces at 863-298-6319.*



**0 Detective Recognized by Polk County Police Chiefs Association**



oundale Police Chief Chris Nelson and Detective Barry Schnable

arrant charging the suspect with two counts of capital sexual battery and the distribution of obscene materials to a

On Friday, January 15, 2015, at the associations' annual meeting and awards program, the Polk County Police Chiefs Association (PCPCA) presented awards to Polk County law enforcement officers: (presented other awards to other officers/PDs)

**2014 Distinguished Service Award; large agency: Detective Barry Schnable, Polk County Sheriff's Office**

Detective Barry Schnable was tasked with investigating the alleged sexual abuse of two girls under the age of twelve. One of the victims revealed to Detective Schnable facts regarding her abuse that had occurred over several years. In a subsequent recorded conversation, the suspect made admissions of sexually abusing the two victims and asked one of the victims to tell authorities that nothing had occurred. Schnable developed probable cause

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spect fled Polk County to avoid arrest. Detective Schnable contacted the U.S. Marshal's Task Force and asked for their  
nce in the apprehension of the suspect. On March 19, 2014, the suspect was located in another state and arrested.  
re Schnable traveled to where the suspect was in custody and obtained admissions from the suspect of his heinous  
actions.

re Schnable's subsequent work on this case resulted in nine search warrants related to downloading child  
aphy. These search warrants resulted in the arrests of two roommates, one a registered nurse for the Department of  
and another the Director of Music at a Lakeland church. Resulting from these two arrests, Detective Schnable  
ed an additional investigation which resulted in another arrest of a suspect for sexually battering two young boys on  
occasions.

e of Detective Schnable's hard work and persistence five men have been held accountable for their sexual exploitation  
en.

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