



THE LAKELAND BEAT

MARCH 2010

www.LCPAAHome.org

Issue 58

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Kristen Hess



This month's Member in the Spotlight is Kristen Hess who is a recent graduate of CPA Class 24. Kristin was born in Gloucester, Massachusetts and moved to Lakeland in September 2002. She is the Counseling Director for the Keystone Challenge Fund. We understand that she was a robbery victim back in April 2009 and we can thank Anna Ricks for bringing Kristin to the LCPAAA. Most all CPA classes were interesting to Kristin but she enjoyed the class on gangs the most. This was presented by Dan Jonas and we would have to agree that he makes an excellent presentation. Kristin is involved with other community organizations such as the Lakeland Citizens Academy which she is now attending. In her limited free time she enjoys photography, genealogy, scrapbooking and reading. We are very fortunate to have Kristin as a member in the LCPAAA where she has accepted the position of Hospitality chairperson. This is a very important office and we are certain that she possesses all of the capabilities to do an excellent job.

Thank you, Kristin, for all that you do!

**Happy
St. Patrick's Day!**
March 17, 2010

Don't forget to wear your green!



UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 9th:
LCPAAA General
Membership Mtg
LPD 2nd floor @ 7pm

March 30th:
LCPAAA Board of
Directors Mtg LPD
3rd floor @ 7pm

April 13th:
LCPAAA General
Membership Mtg
LPD 2nd floor @ 7pm

2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LOOK WHAT'S INSIDE

Page 2.....Kiwani's Pancake Festival
Page 3.....Census 2010

2009 Crime in Lakeland

- Asst Chief Bill LePere

The 2009 Report on Crime in Lakeland, containing our final 2009 UCR data, is now released to the public. Overall crime in Lakeland declined by 4.5% in 2009 compared to 2008. Violent crime was down 7.8% and all property crime declined by 4.1%.

Every category except burglary either decreased or remained the same from the previous year. Burglary rose by 21% in 2009.

The next logical question to ask is why did most crime categories drop during a recession?

It is fair to say the police do not control crime - if we could do that, it would be easy to say why crime declined. At best it can be asserted the police may have an impact on crime, but working together with the community to address the known causes of crime seems to be effective once again. This is the second year in a row that crime has decreased in Lakeland. Total crime is down 47% from a previous high mark in 1993.

As we noted months ago on Twitter, evidence to prove that crime will rise when the economy declines is weak at best. It may very well be a combination of things are working to reduce crime during these bad economic times. I am referring to things like longer prison or jail sentences, offender-targeted enforcement of known repeat violators, hot-spot policing based on Compstat strategies, collaborative problem-solving with the community; the list of strategies is long.

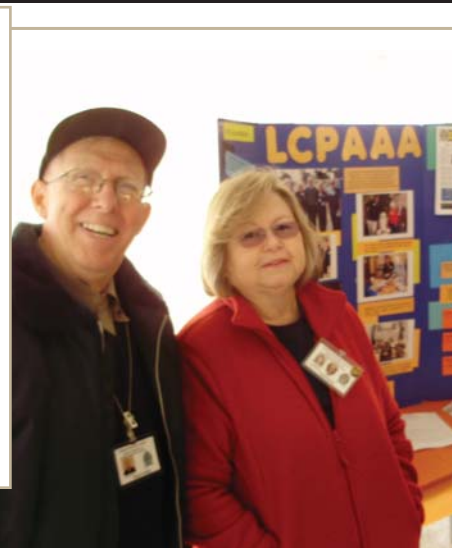
I will leave the question of "why" to the criminologists who study crime in depth. For the rest of us, what we are doing may very well be impacting on our crime rate, so we will continue with what appears to be working.

2010 KIWANIS PANCAKE FESTIVAL

SWAT Team Display



George Edwards & Lolita Berrien



Charlie Burdette & Shirley Mobley

United States® Census 2010

It's in our hands!

When: April 1, 2010 (6 survey questions mailed in March)

- We will lose \$2,000 in federal funding per year for 10 years for every person not counted.
- \$400 billion in Federal funds distributed every year, including for:
 - Job Training, Schools & Daycare; Housing Assistance
 - Health Programs/Facilities & Medical Research
 - Transportation Needs (Bus Systems & Road Construction)
 - Emergency Management & Equipment - FEMA
- Safe and Confidential: Information cannot be shared for 72 years with ANY other governmental agency.
- Determines The Number Of Congressional Seats For Florida

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR CENSUS SURVEY & BE COUNTED!
IT'S SAFE, EASY & IMPORTANT**

**¡ DEVUELVA POR FAVOR SU ENCUESTA de CENSO y SEA
CONTADO! ES SEGURO, FACIL, IMPORTANTE PARA TODOS!**

www.2010census.gov



2009 Annual Awards

*Ceremony to be held
Thursday, March 18, 2010, at 7:00 P.M.*

Medal of Valor

Officer Mark Eby
Sergeant Russell Longaberger
Officer Bryan McNabb

Life Saving Medal

Officer Todd Edwards
Officer Todd Edwards
Public Safety Aide Darlene Melius

Meritorious Service Award

Former Officer Joseph Valente
Officer Jose Bosque
Officer Scott Kercher
Officer Scott Weaver
Officer Talya Frazier
Officer Jerry Monroe
Sergeant M. Eric Watson
Officer Aaron Peterman
Sergeant Robert Rist
Crime Prevention Practitioner Cynthia Clifford
Crime Prevention Practitioner George Butler
Crime Prevention Practitioner Anna Ricks
Crime Prevention Practitioner Cynthia Sharp
Dr. Gregory Robinson
Detective Russell Hurley
Officer Scott Kercher
Detective Bradley Grice
Detective Nicholas Marolda
Detective Derek Gulledge
Detective Eddie Benitez
Detective Jason Perez
Detective Kathy Chin
Detective Marvin Tarver
Detective Drake Mackey
Detective James O'Neill
Sergeant Brent Addison
Officer Mark Eby
Officer Jasper Yzaguirre
Officer Bryan McNabb
Officer Chad Whitaker
Officer Rawn Haynes

Officer of the Year

Officer Mark Eby

Detective of the Year

Detective James O'Neill

Co-Civilians of the Year

CPP Anna Ricks
CPP Cynthia Sharp

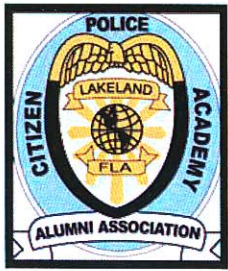
***Congratulations to each
award recipient!***

Deepest Sympathy

to Celia Roustio and
her family.

Celia's husband
passed away on
Monday, February 8, 2010





Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association
P.O. Box 1904
Lakeland, FL 33802

"Effective Crime Control is a Team Effort."

Lakeland Police Department's **OPEN HOUSE** to focus on Cyber Safety!

On Saturday, March 20th the Lakeland Police Department will open its doors to the public for their annual Open House. This free event gives citizens the opportunity to go behind the scenes with Lakeland's finest. Tours will be given of the police station including the crime lab, communications center and the emergency operations center. Equipment displays and demonstrations from the SWAT Team, K-9 units, DUI unit and Hostage negotiation will be on hand, just to name a few. There will be lots of fun and educational activities for the kids.

So come out and support one of the communities greatest assets. It is a great opportunity to get a first hand experience of what the Lakeland Police Department does everyday to help keep Lakeland a safe and attractive community.



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