

# WELCOME TO THE GUILDERLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual  
Report  
2012



**Carol J. Lawlor**  
Chief of Police

Administration  
Chief Carol J. Lawlor  
Captain Curtis A. Cox  
Lieutenant Daniel P. McNally



**Kenneth D. Runion**  
Town Supervisor



Welcome to the Town of Guilderland and the Guilderland Police Department.

Contained in these pages is a brief outline of the activities of your police department during 2012.

You will see that the Guilderland Police Department has continued to provide our community with a vast array of activities and services enhancing our partnership with the community.



## ***MISSION STATEMENT***

- Deter Crime and Apprehend Criminals
- Maintain strong police-community relations
- Continually enhance the training and expertise of each member

## ***GOALS AND OBJECTIVES***

- Identify criminal activity, pursue and apprehend criminal offenders and proceed in the prosecution of known offenders.
- Maintain a proactive patrol and investigative force and thus reduce the opportunity to commit crime.
- Perpetuate a sound managerial environment that focuses upon department goals and provides for career development through training, advancement and reward for exemplary performance.
- Instill public confidence in the agency by maintaining a high degree of professionalism, dedication and expertise in the development of police services.

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## GUILDERLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

**5209 WESTERN AVENUE  
TOWN HALL  
GUILDERLAND, NY 12084  
ADMINISTRATION (518) 356-1980  
COMMUNICATIONS (518) 356-1501 (NON-EMERGENCY)**

**EMERGENCY  
DIAL 911**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Dear Resident,

Welcome to the Guilderland Police Department's Annual Report for 2012. This year marks the fortieth anniversary of the department. What began in 1972 with a Chief of Police, six officers, five dispatchers and a secretary, has grown into a full service police and emergency services organization employing over sixty five people. Many changes have occurred throughout the years, but our core values remain the same. As our Mission Statement read in 1972, and still states today:

### GUILDERLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

1. Deter and apprehend criminals;
2. Maintain strong police-community relations;
3. To continually enhance the training and expertise of each member of the police force.

We continue to follow this simple statement. We are here to protect and to serve our citizens. We welcome our residents to communicate with their police department. We will provide the public with the best trained and professional police officers as possible.

The Guilderland Police Department recognizes that service to the community is our highest priority. Our dedicated staff of police officers patrols your neighborhoods twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Our staff of paramedics continues to bring you the most up to date, professional care in the Capital district. Our telecommunicators promptly answer your phone calls and get you the help you need as quickly as possible. Our Animal Control Officers maintain a healthy, clean environment for your lost furry friends and find the perfect pet for families looking to expand their numbers. The professional office staff prepares your reports and is dedicated in making sure you have everything you need when you call for assistance.

The combined personnel of the Guilderland Police Department and the Guilderland Emergency Medical Services are dedicated to help you maintain the quality of life you have grown accustomed to in the Town of Guilderland.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Carol J. Lawlor".

*Carol J. Lawlor*

*Chief of Police*



Organized in 1972, the department was formed with a chief, 6 patrolmen, and a clerk/matron. In addition, the Town of Guilderland Emergency Control Center was placed into operation so that all emergency calls within the town (police, fire and ambulance) would be answered by one agency and calls dispatched from there. Today, 35 members make up the sworn staff of the police department along with 10 telecommunicators, 3 administrative office staff members, 3 animal services members and 20, full time and part time, paramedics operating under the EMS division.

A detailed history of the department can be found on the Guilderland PBA website at [www.guilderlandpba.org](http://www.guilderlandpba.org).

#### **History of the Guilderland Police Department Shoulder Patch and Coat of Arms**



In about the same era as the inception of the Police Department, the Town of Guilderland adopted an official coat of arms which was derived from our sister town, The Province of Gelderland in the Netherlands. It includes the



motto Prospice Gelria, which is Latin for "Look Forward Guilderland". The Police Department incorporated this logo and motto onto its shoulder patch. Although the colors of the patch have changed somewhat, and the word community was removed from the department name, the shoulder patch has been proudly worn continuously on the left sleeve of the uniform.



70'S



80'S



90'S – PRESENT





For many years the door decal on the police cars reflected the original shoulder patch. The colors of the cars were a variation of green and white. In the 1980's, the green and white gave way to white cars with black lettering to resemble a more traditional black and white police car. The shoulder patch decal was eliminated from the car.



### Anniversary Recognition - New Police Car Logo Design

In an effort to bring history and tradition back to our police fleet, the original logo has been reincorporated into a new black and white design along with *"Proudly Serving Since 1972"*



### Anniversary Recognition – Historical Collage

On display in the administrative offices of the police department is a collage of pictures representing 40 years of dedicated service. This collage was prepared by telecommunicator Darlene Blauvelt.



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## TRAINING

The Guilderland Police Department Training division provides proactive, state of the art training to its members on a variety of topics. We have been aggressively training active shooter techniques for some time now and have recently added scenario based training in Crossgates Mall, Regal Cinemas and the Guilderland High School

The average officer receives approximately 32 hours of mandatory training each year. This training includes the review of New York State Laws, Guilderland Police Department policy and procedures, and range qualifications. Each officer must qualify on the following lethal and less than lethal duty weapons: 45 caliber hand gun, M-4 patrol rifle, 12 gauge shotgun, TASER, O.C Spray (pepper spray), bean bag gun, and baton. Additional mandatory training includes: Bloodborne Pathogens, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Right to Know Law, Automatic External Defibrillator Training, Active Shooter Training, Handicap Parking, and Use of Force Training.

The Guilderland Police Department continues to provide the latest techniques and theories to our specialized units. These specialized units include our Criminal Investigation Unit, Community Services Unit, Homeland Security, Traffic Safety Unit, K-9 Team, Emergency Response Team, Fire Cause and Origin Team, Sex Offender Registry, and Domestic Violence.

Often, other agencies or affiliations conduct seminars and conferences pertaining to various aspects of policing. In 2012 members attended the New York State Intelligence Summit, Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York FBI Briefing, Interviewing and Interrogation Seminar, Amber Alert & Missing Persons Cases, Cyber Investigation, Missing Persons Toolbox Training, Advanced Active Shooters Scenario Training, Law Enforcement Accreditation Program Manager Training, General Topic Instructor Recertification, Physical Fitness Instructor, Fire Investigator Seminar, Instructor Development Course, Course in Police Supervision, Social Networking Training Seminar, Breath Analysis Course, Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program, Breath Analysis Recertification, and many more.

Defending our homeland continues to be a very challenging and time consuming practice in which current, and relevant training is crucial to the safety of our residents, visitors and members of the department.



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## COMMUNICATIONS

The Guilderland Police Department Communications Division is staffed with certified 911 telecommunicators. The division is a 24 hour operation and is a vital link from the residents and business owners in this town to the emergency personnel in the field.

This year Telecommunicators received over 12,000 911 calls for service. Those 911 calls do not include non-emergency phone calls and transferred cellular 911 calls. 23,901 calls were taken for police, 4,817 emergency medical service (EMS), and 351 fire calls were received for service. This brings the total to over 29,000 calls for service for the year.



The Communications Division radio system and console replacements have been completed. Watson Dispatch consoles are designed ergonomically. The consoles are equipped with a total lift workstation where telecommunicators can raise or lower them so they may be seated in a comfortable position. They can also raise the workstation to where they can dispatch in a standing position. Pittsfield Communications installed new Motorola software which makes the radio console PC based. This adds one additional monitor to the workstation, giving the workstation a total of five. The new consoles allow Telecommunicators, “with a click of a mouse”, to dispatch all Police, Fire and EMS units. The communications workstation is equipped with the computer aided phone system, 911 mapping and a computer aided dispatch system (CAD).

The Guilderland Police Department has completely transitioned to the new eJustice portal. eJustice is a web-based entry point which police, court and other authorized criminal justice personnel can access a broad range of information, including state criminal history records, the state's wanted and missing persons files, out-of-state criminal history information, NCIC person files, Watch List files maintained by the FBI, the Department of Treasury and the Department of Commerce, the NYS Sex Offender Registry, the state's Missing and Exploited Children and a variety of other data sources. A substantial part of New York's criminal justice community is using eJustice and the number of authorized users increases each month. eJustice allows each eJustice certified Telecommunicator to have access to all information they need at their radio console.

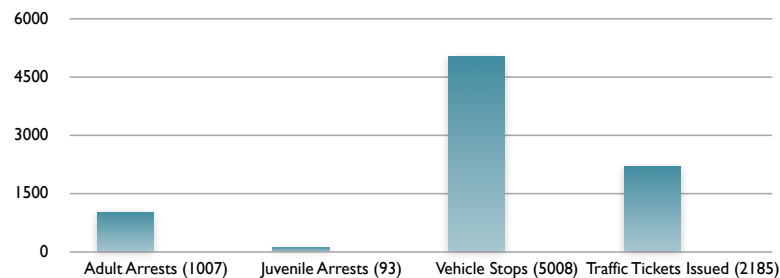


## CALLS FOR SERVICE

Police Calls for 2012		Police Calls for 2011		Percent Change
CALL TYPE		CALL TYPE		
911 ACCIDENTAL CALL	461	911 ACCIDENTAL CALL	558	-17
911 HANG-UP CALL	306	911 HANG UP CALL	366	-16
911 NON-EMERGENCY /NUISANCE	48	911 NON EMERGENCY/NUISANCE	60	-20
911 OPEN LINE	116	911 OPEN LINE	95	22
ABANDONED VEHICLE	19	ABANDONED VEHICLE	59	-68
ALARM DROP	28	ALARM DROP	58	-52
ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT	1070	ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT	1167	-8
ASSAULT	18	ASSAULT	8	125
ASSIST A PERSON	874	ASSIST A PERSON	967	-10
AUTO ACC PROP DAMAGE	1317	AUTO ACC PROP DAMAGE	1345	-2
AUTO ACCIDENT PERSONAL INJURY	71	AUTO ACCIDENT PERSONAL INJURY	97	-27
AUTO ACCIDENT UNKNOWN	45	AUTO ACCIDENT UNKNOWN	55	-18
BOMB THREAT	1	BOMB THREAT	3	-67
BOY/GIRLFRIEND TROUBLE	11	BOY/GIRLFRIEND TROUBLE	3	267
BURGLAR ALARM	1202	BURGLAR ALARM	1292	-7
BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	16	BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	21	-24
CAR BLOCKING	4	CAR BLOCKING	17	-76
CAR SEAT INSTALLATION	44	CAR SEAT INSTALLATION	40	10
CHECK A SUBJECT	949	CHECK A SUBJECT	1165	-19
CHECK A TRAFFIC LIGHT	78	CHECK A TRAFFIC LIGHT	83	-6
CHECK FOR HUNTER	25	CHECK FOR HUNTER	8	213
COMMUNITY SERVICES EVENT	11	COMMUNITY SERVICES EVENT	16	-31
COURT ORDER	36	COURT ORDER	34	6
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	1			
CROSSGATES MALL CLOSING DETAIL	2			
CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE	23	CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE	19	21
DETAIL	56	DETAIL	123	-54
DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	463	DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	548	-16
DMV REQUEST	2	DMV REQUEST	5	-60
DOMESTIC CALL	225	DOMESTIC CALL	281	-20
DRUNK ANNOYING	18	DRUNK ANNOYING	24	-25
EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	186	EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	203	-8
EMS (JUVENILE) CALL	5	EMS (JUVENILE) CALL	12	-58
EMS CALL	487	EMS CALL	459	6
EQUIPMENT REPAIR	107	EQUIPMENT REPAIR	116	-8
EXECUTING A WARRANT	20	EXECUTING A WARRANT	48	-58
FIGHT	56	FIGHT	76	-26
FILE 1 CHECK	4	FILE 1 CHECK	15	-73
FINGERPRINTS	178	FINGERPRINTS	185	-4
FIRE CALL	172	FIRE CALL	212	-19
FIREWORK	548	FIREWORKS	59	
FOUND PROPERTY	142	FOUND PROPERTY	150	-5
GAS DRIVE OFF	14	GAS DRIVE OFF	20	-30
GET A COMPLAINT	1391	GET A COMPLAINT	1062	31
GET A REPORT	1443	GET A REPORT	1830	-21
GROUP ANNOYING	12	GROUP ANNOYING	21	-43
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CALL	1	HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CALL	1	0
HOLD-UP ALARM	56	HOLD UP ALARM	40	40
JAIL RUN	11	JAIL RUN	13	-15
JUVENILE INCIDENT	54	JUVENILE INCIDENT	65	-17
JUVENILE SHOPLIFTER	47	JUVENILE SHOPLIFTER	59	-20
K-9 ACTIVITY	96	K9 ACTIVITY	87	10
LANDLORD/TENANT TROUBLE	18	LANDLORD/TENANT TROUBLE	23	-22
LARCENY JUST OCCURRED	40	LARCENY JUST OCCURRED	115	-65
LOCK OUT	111	LOCK OUT	126	-12
LOUD MUSIC	54	LOUD MUSIC	53	2
LOUD PARTY	39	LOUD PARTY	39	0
MISSING PERSON	54	MISSING PERSON	48	13
NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	27	NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	52	-48
NOTIFICATION	207	NOTIFICATION	187	11
		OFFICER(S) NEEDS ASSISTANCE	3	-100
OPEN WINDOW/DOOR	33	OPEN WINDOW/DOOR	37	-11
OTHER	445	OTHER	306	45
		P.O.P.	2	-100

PERSON ACTING SUSPICIOUS	97	PERSON ACTING SUSPICIOUS	56	73
PERSON ANNOYING	28	PERSON ANNOYING	19	47
PERSON ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	15	PERSON ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	13	15
PERSON DOWN	5	PERSON DOWN	1	400
PERSON EXPOSING SELF	3	PERSON EXPOSING SELF	15	-80
PERSON WITH A WEAPON	22	PERSON WITH A WEAPON	4	450
PISTOL PERMIT	2			
POLICE COURT	57	POLICE COURT	88	-35
POLICE INFORMATION	48	POLICE INFORMATION	44	9
POLICE WANTED UNKNOWN	21	POLICE WANTED UNKNOWN	29	-28
PROPERTY CHECK	2342	PROPERTY CHECK	1651	42
PROWLER	21	PROWLER	22	-5
ROAD HAZARD	181	ROAD HAZARD	209	-13
ROBBERY	9	ROBBERY	4	125
		SCHOOL CROSSING	1	-100
SELLING DRUGS	2	SELLING DRUGS	8	-75
		SHOOTING	1	-100
SHOPLIFTER	241	SHOPLIFTER	326	-26
SHOTS FIRED	11	SHOTS FIRED	15	-27
SNOW EMERGENCY (BIRD)	2	SNOW EMERGENCY (BIRD)	32	-94
SOMEONE IN BUILDING	4	SOMEONE IN BUILDING	15	-73
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	405	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	329	23
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	495	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	257	93
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GUILD CTR	6	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GUILD CTR	45	-87
TRAFFIC STOP	5819	TRAFFIC STOP	4958	17
TREE DOWN	37	TREE DOWN	97	-62
TROUBLE WITH A CUSTOMER	57	TROUBLE WITH A CUSTOMER	70	-19
VEHICLE ANNOYING	308	VEHICLE ANNOYING	455	-32
VEHICLE IN VIOLATION	108	VEHICLE IN VIOLATION	147	-27
VIOLENT DOMESTIC	8	VIOLENT DOMESTIC	1	700
WARRANT	310	WARRANT	336	-8
WATER BREAK	21	WATER BREAK	22	-5
WELFARE CHECK	131	WELFARE CHECK	118	11
WIRES DOWN/ARCING	35	WIRES DOWN/ARCING	82	-57
<b>Total</b>	<b>23901</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>23711</b>	<b>1</b>

## 2012 Statistics





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## PATROL DIVISION

“The importance of patrol to a community cannot be overstated. Whether it be gauged with the number of police patrol personnel, the portion of the budget allocated to patrol operations, or that the uniformed officer is frequently the most visible component of the Department, patrol is the foundation of police work. The manner in which patrol officers carry out their responsibilities affects not only the quality of justice, but also citizen perceptions of law enforcement and the criminal justice system”.

(The above excerpt is from the Guilderland Police Department Manual of Procedures)

Daily functions of the patrol division include preventive patrol, crime prevention activities, response to calls for service, preliminary investigation of crimes and incidents, arrest and processing of prisoners, traffic direction and control, traffic accident investigation, maintenance of public order, providing emergency services, developing positive relationships with citizens, and reporting of information to appropriate organizational components.

The patrol division is staffed by a Lieutenant, 4 Sergeants, 2 Senior Patrol Officers, 23 Patrol Officers and 1 Police Canine.



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### Traffic Safety Unit

The Guilderland Police Department is dedicated to keeping our roads safe through the strict enforcement of Vehicle and Traffic laws as well as deterrence and public education efforts. In 2012 members of the Guilderland Police Department conducted 5,008 vehicle stops and issued 2,302 traffic citations. This high level of enforcement effort serves the residents well as many times these vehicle stops result in arrests for crimes such as DWI (100 DWI arrests in 2012), operating with a suspended or revoked license or registration, and drug possession.



In 2012 Officer Michael A. Minette was the recipient of the Guy J. Berringer Community Service Award at the Albany County Stop DWI Awards Breakfast. This award was earned by Officer Minette due to his unyielding dedication to increasing public safety through education and enforcement of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Laws in particular his vigilant enforcement of DWI laws.

The Traffic Safety Unit is actively involved in the Albany County Stop DWI program and continues to host the Stop DWI Victim's Impact Panel six times per year. We also participate in Buckle Up New York, Operation Safe Stop Education and Enforcement Day, and the STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program) which is the aggressive enforcement of such violations as aggressive driving, speeding, and cellular phone use. We assist the Guilderland Central School District with educating young drivers by teaching the dangers of drunk and impaired driving as part of their Driver's Education program. As an active member of the Albany County Traffic Safety Awareness Committee we also participate in the annual Awareness weekend held at Crossgates Mall which is an opportunity to further educate the public as to the importance of traffic safety.

Accident investigations and reconstructions are also conducted by members of the Guilderland Police Department Traffic Safety Unit. In 2012 there were a total of no fatal motor vehicle accidents in Guilderland. There was also only one serious physical injury crashes investigated by this unit which is less than the previous year.

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## COMMUNITY SERVICES UNIT

The Community Services Unit is comprised of members of the patrol division, with specialties in youth services, crime prevention, police explorers and Guilderland's RAD Program. The main goal of the unit is to provide the residents and businesses of the community with services, assistance and presentations in an effort to keep communications open, educate on related areas, keep children safe and enhance crime prevention efforts in the Town of Guilderland.

### Youth Services

The Youth Services Staff are specially trained officers who continuously take extensive training in the area of juvenile law, sexual abuse, child abuse and maltreatment, as well as current trends in the area of juvenile delinquency. Officers are also part of many different task forces within Albany County, including the Albany County Multidisciplinary Task Force which deals with sexual crimes and child abuse, the Albany County Child Fatality Task Force and the Juvenile Justice Professionals of Albany County. Because laws related to handling juveniles are different from adults, officers of the unit are available to the department when necessary to help in dealing with issues related to juveniles and offenders. The unit works very closely with the Criminal Investigation Unit.



Officers of the unit also are certified School Resource Officers. Officer Nicholas Ingle is assigned to the Guilderland High School, while Officer Patti Stallmer assists with the Farnsworth Middle School and the elementary schools.

Youth Services Officers coordinate with other members of the community services unit to provide many different youth related programs to our community. Some of these programs include, stranger awareness, bicycle safety lectures and rodeos, fire safety, drug awareness, alcohol awareness and DWI, forensics, computer related crimes, personal safety, bullying, social networking and "sexting", criminal justice and crimes related to children.

For over 30 years the youth services unit has provided interactive educational puppet shows related to all areas of safety and are tailored for children from preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.



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## **Crime Prevention**

Officer Patti Stallmer is the crime prevention officer for the department. She coordinates with members of the community to provide crime prevention training. Some of the programs offered include personal safety, security surveys for homes and businesses, Neighborhood Watch, Mall Watch, National Night Out, and Rape Aggression Defense System (RAD).



In 2012 our RAD instructors provided personal safety training to well over 100 Guilderland High School senior girls who are going onto college. .



## **Halloween Extravaganza**



For the past 8 years the Community Services Unit has been providing the children of the Guilderland community a Halloween safety presentation called "Halloween Extravaganza". This is a program designed to give children and parents a fun night with emphasis on Halloween safety. Attendees enjoy arts and crafts, child safety ID cards, face painting, and food. The event takes place at town hall. In addition, there is a multi-media puppet show which provides children with a lesson on Halloween safety. Often the Halloween Extravaganza is used by parents as an alternative to trick-or-treating. The Extravaganza is provided free of charge to attendees with sponsoring support from many community members and businesses.

## **National Night Out**



The mission of the Guilderland Police Department National Night Out program is to bring people from all facets of the community together.

The event takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in the month of August. Police Agencies from across the country host events for the public in an effort to drive out crime and get neighborhoods and communities involved in crime prevention. With the assistance of various organizations, the Guilderland Community Services Unit hosts an event at Tawasentha Park with an open invitation for residents to come and enjoy an evening of

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fun and information for the entire family. A top local band, “The Refrigerators”, played to a packed audience. 2012 was our biggest event yet, with an estimated 4,000 in attendance. The Target Corporation is the main sponsor for this national event. In 2012, The Guilderland Police Department received an award from Target recognizing our program as one of, if not, the largest single event held in the United States! Along with the award was a grant to further expand our efforts for 2013.



By educating and providing activities and entertainment, the Guilderland Police Department promotes safety and the prevention of crime through community involvement.

### **Altamont Fair**

For the fourth consecutive year, the unit had a display at the Hometown Heroes building at the Altamont Fair. The unit, alongside other police and fire agencies, was able to provide safety information. The Guilderland Police Explorers assisted with our efforts.



### **Guilderland Police Explorer Post**

The Guilderland Police Department has an active explorer post under the direction of post advisors. Law Enforcement Exploring is a worksite-based program for young men and women who have completed the eighth grade, and are between the ages of 14 and have not yet reached their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Law enforcement explorer posts help youth gain insight into a variety of programs that offer hands-on career activities. This year, Explorers attended the Stations Day Competition with other posts from around the east coast as well as the High Stress Day, where they were put through a regiment of highly stressful police related conflicts. The members of the post also attended the Cadet Academy at the University of Hartford, a weeklong training program. Posts from all over the eastern seaboard attend with more than 400 explorers in attendance. For young men and women who are interested in careers in the field of law enforcement, exploring offers experiential learning with lots of fun-filled, hands-on activities that promote the growth and development of adolescent youth.





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### **Take Me Home**

Take Me Home is a database developed by the Pensacola Police Department for people who may need special assistance if they are alone or in times of emergency. This kind of assistance may be required if the person is unable to speak or properly identify themselves, or if they become disoriented or act in a manner that could be misinterpreted by first responders. The system includes a current digital picture, demographic information and caregiver contacts. If a person in the Take Me Home system is encountered by a police officer, the officer can query the Take Me Home system, searching by name or by the person's physical description. Once the individual's Take Me Home record has been located, the officer has the information at hand to appropriately assist the person. The "Take Me Home" program originated for children on the autism spectrum who may wander, so they will be returned safely and treated with understanding. The Guilderland Police Department implemented this program during 2012, spearheaded by Officer Joseph Mazzone.



### **State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association**

Officers assigned to the Youth Services Division of The Guilderland Police Department have been members of the State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association (SNYPJOA) since its inception in 1975. SNYPJOA is a training and advocacy organization comprised primarily of police officers and other professionals who specialize in the field of juvenile justice and prevention. The Guilderland Police Department maintains a strong presence in the association. Every member of the Youth Services Bureau has at one point represented this region as a Regional Representative, responsible for eight counties. Three of our officers rose to the level of President, three officers have been named Juvenile Officer of the Year, one officer is a consultant and a retired member currently holds the office of Training Director.



In August of 2012, Officer Nicholas Ingle, the current president of the association, was sworn in by Captain Curtis Cox at the SNYPJOA's yearly training conference held in Lake Placid.

#### **SNYPJOA PRESIDENTS**

1994 – Russell L. Carson    2010 – Brian K. Forte  
2013 – Nicholas Ingle

#### **SNYPJOA JUVENILE OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

1992 – Russell L. Carson    2009 – Roger A. Ginder  
2011 – Brian K. Forte

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## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) handles a wide variety of cases within the police department. Members of the CIU carry a case load, work on assigned tasks and assist the patrol unit when needed. The CIU primarily handles felony cases. The CIU is staffed by two investigators supervised by a Sr. Investigator. Each investigator is forensically trained to process crime scenes. Some of the CIU's additional functions are: evidence and property room supervision, accident investigation, issuing warrants, compiling photo arrays, processing of pistol permits applications, performing employee background checks, and the investigations of professional standards, bad checks, as well as criminal and drug investigations.

In June of 2012 Investigator Ken Harrison retired from the Guilderland Police Department after working in the CIU for 5 years. Ken was known as a "tech guy" and assisted with all kinds of electronic devices during investigations handled by the CIU. Investigator Harrison will be missed and we wish him well in all future endeavors.

Criminals tend to cross town boundaries making it necessary for the CIU to work closely with area agencies to have a successful conclusion to cases assigned to the unit. These outside agencies include the United States Secret Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, FBI, Capital District Narcotics Enforcement Task Force, New York State Police, New York State Narcotics Enforcement, Albany County Sheriff's



Department, Probation/Parole and other area police agencies. The CIU works with town agencies such as the fire departments, ambulances and paramedics as seen in the photo of a rescue at the Watervliet Reservoir.

The following case is the disposition for a 2011 burglary pattern. The CIU started investigating car larcenies and

burglaries from residences in the east end of the town that occurred at the end of 2011. A few of these burglaries took place at occupied residences during the early morning hours. In one burglary a DNA sample was left behind in a garage and was collected for analysis. A suspect was developed and later stopped by the patrol division and interviewed by the CIU. The suspect confessed to the crimes and a warrant was obtained for a retail business in Albany where some of the property was pawned. With the assistance of the Albany Police Department, a laptop computer was recovered. The DNA analysis by the New York State Police Forensic Lab confirmed the suspect was

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involved. The suspect pled guilty in Albany County Court and received a sentence of 5 years in State Prison.

The Following are examples of some of the significant cases handled by the CIU in 2012.

January: The CIU investigated a case of grand larceny from a residence involving a large amount of cash. The suspect was a friend of the victim's son. A large amount of money was subsequently recovered from a home in Colonie. The suspect was arrested and later pled guilty in Albany County Court. The defendant was ordered to make restitution to the victim.



March: The CIU responded to an armed robbery at Frank Adams Jewelers in Stuyvesant Plaza. Three suspects approached two employees, one of which was pepper sprayed. The employees were directed to a back room and subsequently tied up. The third suspect removed several Rolex watches by smashing the display case. The suspects left the store discarding clothing as they left. The clothing was submitted to the NYS Police Forensic Lab for DNA testing. The case is still under investigation.



April: The CIU investigated the report of a man selling pistols at his place of employment. The man was stopped in his vehicle on Carman Rd. The man had in his possession a handgun and ammunition for a gun that had been reported stolen in a burglary in Rochester, NY a few years earlier. He was in possession of an additional handgun with ammunition. The defendant pled guilty in Albany County Court and was sentenced to 4 years in State Prison.

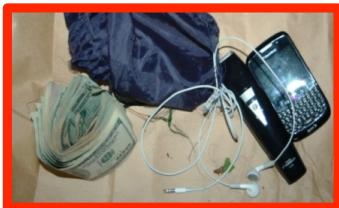
April: The CIU investigated a complaint of larceny and endangering the welfare of a child involving the victim's nanny. The victim states the suspect failed to call or show up for work to get her off the bus. The suspect took several items of property from the victim's home which were subsequently recovered. The suspect was located and gave a full confession admitting she took the victim's property. She was arrested and arraigned in Guilderland Town Court. The defendant was sentenced to probation and has been ordered to pay restitution.

June: The CIU investigated an attempted home invasion/burglary in progress in the center of town. The victim was home when she heard someone trying to get into the rear door of her residence. The suspect left the area through the backyard and the

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victim contacted police. Patrol units responded, set up a perimeter and checked the area. The victim was able to identify the suspect through photos. With the assistance of the K-9 Unit, evidence from the backyard was collected and later submitted to the State Police Forensic Lab for DNA analysis. The suspect was located and arrested for attempted burglary and possession of burglar's tools. A warrant was obtained for the suspect's DNA which matched the DNA profile from some of the items submitted to the lab. Further investigation revealed the suspect confessed to the crime and gave details only the suspect would have known. The defendant pled guilty in Albany County Court and is awaiting sentencing.

July: The CIU investigated a robbery at the Bank of America on Western Ave. The suspect passed a note to the teller, was handed money and fled the scene on foot. Surveillance photos of the suspect were recovered by bank security and were distributed to all surrounding agencies. With the assistance of State Police Aviation, our K9 unit, and other agencies, the suspect was located and arrested. The suspect



gave a full written confession and pled guilty in Albany County Court. The defendant was sentenced to 2-5 years in State Prison.

August: The CIU investigated a robbery in the parking lot of Crossgates Mall near Best Buy. The victim had left Best

Buy and was attacked by two males who took his laptop computer. The victim chased after the suspects and confronted them at a vehicle they were entering. The driver of the vehicle took off dragging the victim for a short distance. Witnesses in the parking lot were able to get the vehicle's license plate and the owner of the vehicle was located at a business in Schenectady,



with the assistance of Schenectady Police. The suspects confessed to their involvement and a third suspect was identified. Through a search warrant, a search of the vehicle confirmed the suspects were involved in the robbery. The third suspect was arrested a few months later. The defendants pled guilty in Albany County Court. One defendant was given 4 years in State Prison and the other defendant was given 7 years in State Prison. The driver of the vehicle pled guilty in Guilderland Town Court and was given probation. The defendants were ordered to pay restitution for the medical bills and the stolen property.

August: The CIU investigated a report of animal cruelty which occurred at an apartment complex in the east end of the Town. The owner of a cat had beaten, stabbed and

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drowned the domestic animal in his bath tub. When investigators arrived the animal was found deceased, wrapped in towels and placed in a plastic bag. The cat was taken to a local veterinary hospital for a necropsy to determine the cause of death. The suspect confessed to killing the cat and pled guilty in Guilderland Town Court. The defendant was placed on Albany County Probation.

October: The CIU investigated the case of a recovered semi-automatic handgun from a local residence after the death of the homeowner. The gun had been stolen from a residence in the Town of Bethlehem in 1982. Bethlehem Police located and contacted the owner. No suspects could be identified and the gun was returned to the owner.

October: The CIU investigated the report of a home health aide stealing checks from the woman she was caring for. The victim's family noticed the money missing from her account and that 3 checks had been cashed by the home health aide which the victim did not write. The suspect worked for a local health care agency. The suspect gave an account for the checks that didn't match the victim's account and was subsequently arrested. The defendant pled guilty in Guilderland Town Court, sentenced to probation, terminated by her employer, and ordered to make restitution.

October: The CIU investigated a residential burglary in the west end of the town. An unlocked downstairs window was forced open to gain entry to the residence and a large amount of jewelry was taken from inside. The next day, a patrol officer was checking the parking lots of Crossgates Mall and witnessed 2 males taking illegal drugs. After an interview and during a search of their vehicle, jewelry from the above burglary was found. One suspect admitted to picking up the second suspect in the area of the above



burglary the day it happened. The suspects pawned items at several jewelry stores going as far as a store in Clifton Park. Further evidence was recovered confirming the second suspect had committed the burglary. Jewelry was found at his residence. The suspects were arrested and one defendant pled guilty in Guilderland Town Court and was sentenced to

probation. The second defendant refused to cooperate, later pled guilty in Albany County Court and was given 4 years in State Prison.

October: The CIU investigated a report of a woman who had embezzled a large amount of money from a business in the town. The suspect was a family member, and over the course of 2 years had been taking money from the business where she was employed as the manager. Business records confirmed this theft and the suspect was interviewed. The suspect confessed to stealing money and was arrested at a later date. The defendant pled guilty in Albany County Court and served a sentence of 6 months in jail and 5 years felony probation. The defendant was ordered to pay restitution.



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November: The CIU was contacted by New York State Narcotics Investigators for people passing fraudulent prescriptions at local pharmacies. The investigator stated that a few days prior, the Pharmacy at Hannaford Supermarket filled a partial prescription for oxycodone pills and the suspect was going to return to pick up the remaining amount when more of the drug became available. Surveillance was set up in the store and the suspects returned. The transaction was witnessed and the suspects were stopped in the parking lot of Hannaford. The suspects were interviewed. After a search of their vehicle, evidence was found which supported they were involved in the passing of fraudulent prescriptions. The suspects provided information which implicated them in this crime. Based on this information and information obtained by State Narcotics Investigators, the suspects were arrested. One defendant was previously on parole and was given 6 months in State Prison and will remain on parole when he is released. The second defendant was given 2 years in State Prison.

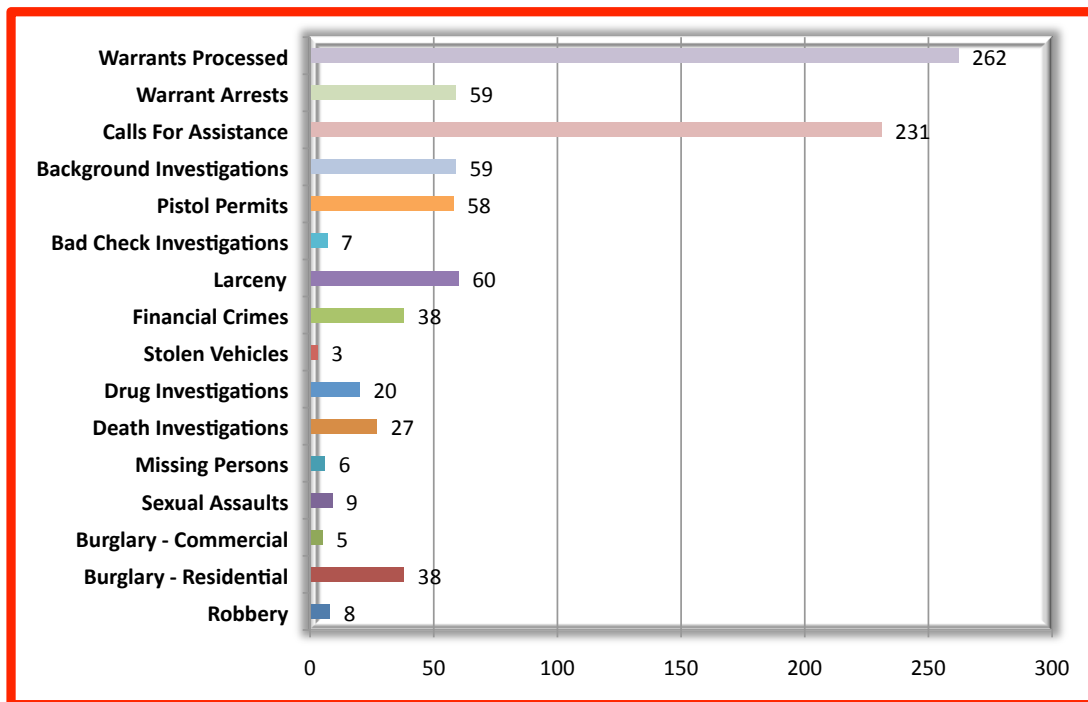
December: The CIU was contacted again by State Narcotics Investigators about a suspect that was in the Hannaford Supermarket currently passing a fraudulent prescription for oxycodone at the pharmacy. Investigators entered the store and witnessed the transaction. The suspect was stopped in the parking lot and brought to the station for an interview. The suspect's driver was stopped down the road from Hannaford and was also brought to the station. The vehicle was searched which provided information the suspects were involved with the crime. The suspects gave information implicating them and combined with the information from State Narcotics Investigators, the suspects were arrested. The defendants pled guilty in Albany County Court and one defendant was given three years in State Prison. The second defendant was given 1 ½ years in State Prison.

December: The CIU investigated the theft of a cell phone from a local fire department. The phone was tracked through phone records and a suspect was identified. The suspect was a cleaner at the fire department and his supervisor was contacted. The supervisor advised the suspect had called her numerous times from the stolen cell phone number. The suspect was contacted, confessed to the crime, was arrested and is currently waiting disposition of his case in Town court.

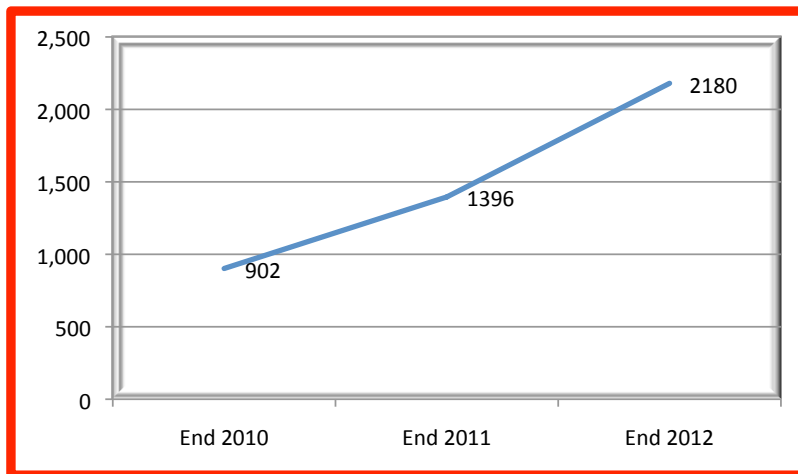
As reported in 2011, a burglary suspect from New Hampshire was identified as committing a burglary in the Town of Guilderland in 2010. This identification was made through a DNA hit from The New York State Police Forensic Lab. The suspect was returned to New York to face the crime of burglary. After a review of the evidence in this case with his attorney, the suspect pled guilty in Albany County Court. The defendant has to serve 9 years in state prison and this sentence will start after he finishes his time in New Hampshire.

In several burglaries in 2012, burglars entered residences through unlocked windows and doors to commit their crimes. The Guilderland Police need our community's assistance while we investigate these cases. Something someone saw could be important no matter how insignificant it may seem. Call the Police and pass this information along. If you see something that doesn't look right, call and let the Police check on it. This could be the break in a case the Police need or could prevent further crime before it happens.

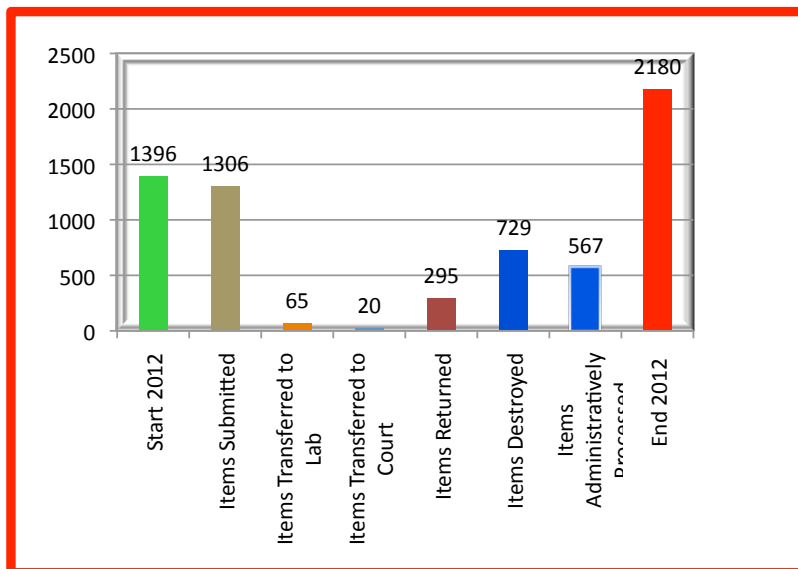
### 2012 CIU Statistics



### End of Year Evidence / Property On Hand Totals



### Evidence / Property Processed in 2012



Members of the Criminal Investigation Unit also administratively handled 5,745 items of evidence / property in 2012. This number includes moving items currently on hand between storage facilities for consolidation purposes, checking in new items submitted into evidence / property, and transferring items to an officer or other agencies for review.



### **Guilderland Emergency Medical Services**

In 2012 the Town of Guilderland Paramedic Division continued to provide its residents, business owners, and visitors with the finest advanced emergency care in the area. In addition to responding in the Town of Guilderland, Paramedics are the primary advanced life support responders to the Town of Knox, a portion of the SUNY Albany Campus, and the NYS Thruway. Over the course of the year, we responded to 5,181 emergency calls. Seven individuals survived cardiac arrest and had a return of spontaneous circulation upon arrival at the hospital. Thousands of town residents and visitors were treated for emergencies ranging from bleeding and shock to alleviating pain and suffering. Every patient requiring Emergency Medical Services in the Town of Guilderland were evaluated by a paramedic. After the initial assessment, the patient requiring advanced life support was transported in a local ambulance under the care of the town paramedic. If advanced life support was not required, the patient would be turned over to one of the basic life support ambulances for transport to a local hospital. The paramedic would then go back in service to cover the town and prepare for the next response.

#### **The Department**

**Staff –** The Paramedic Division is comprised of twenty paramedics, inclusive of a Senior Paramedic Supervisor and four Field Supervisors. A Guilderland Police Lieutenant provides general oversight and direction to the entire unit. Of the twenty paramedics, 15 are full time and 5 are part time. The paramedic unit is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and provides training and support to the local Fire, Police and community organizations. Guilderland EMS is an American Heart Association Training Center and is very active in community outreach.

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**Medical Control** – The paramedic unit provides Advanced Life Support under the medical direction of Dr. Donald Doynow. Dr. Doynow is an emergency room physician at St. Peters Hospital and Bassett Hospital. In addition, he is the Medical Director for both Hudson Valley Community College and SUNY Cobleskill's Paramedic programs. He is also a member of the Regional Emergency Medical Organization which provides medical oversight for a six county area in New York State. He is a vital part of the system and his guidance has ensured the success of the unit.

**Vehicles-** Sport Utility Vehicles (ranging in year from 2001 to 2012) are used by paramedics and the Medical Director to respond to emergency calls.

**Initial Care-** The Town of Guilderland Communications Division answers all 911 calls received for the town and dispatches the Emergency Medical Calls for the Paramedic Division. The paramedic may receive a dispatch for a non-emergency call in the town to assist the Police Department in drawing blood samples on subjects with possible substance abuse. A non-emergency call may consist of a welfare check on a senior living in the community, or a request for a paramedic to standby for a Fire Department call. In addition, several large events held in the town are provided one or more paramedics to remain onsite and provide advanced medical care.

### **AHA/NYS Continuing Medical Education**

#### ***American Heart Association***

In 2012, the Guilderland EMS American Heart Association Training Center provided training to the community and the Emergency Services Staff of the Town. The Training Center in 2012 organized and trained a total of 260 students in the various disciplines (Healthcare Provider CPR, Heart Saver CPR and Heart Saver CPR with First Aid).

In the fall of 2012, the decision was made to reorganize the program and utilize the services of a Paramedic as the coordinator. In December of 2012, Paramedic Bonnie-Jean Johnson was appointed to the position of American Heart Association Training Center Coordinator.

The Training Center has continued to provide instruction in Community CPR, Advanced Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support to the residents, businesses, and Emergency Services Personnel in the Town of Guilderland. In addition, the training center was reviewed by the American Heart Association in the discipline of Pediatric Advanced Life Support and successfully passed certification. At the time of this report; we have trained a total of 111 students in various disciplines of CPR.

In February 2012, the town of Guilderland participated in the Albany County Heart Month Initiative to teach "Hands Only CPR" to the public. This initiative was developed



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by the Albany County Executive's Office in conjunction with the Department of Health and the American Heart Association. This public access information event was held throughout the Albany County Region. The goal of the event was to provide rapid training to the public in the use "Hands Only CPR" and calling 911. This public access information event was implemented to improve the chances of survival when a person experiences a cardiac arrest. The Guilderland Training Center organized two events in the town to provide instruction and information. The events were held at Crossgates Mall and the Guilderland YMCA. Our participation resulted in 269 people trained in "Hands Only CPR" and was considered a resounding success.

During the past year, the Training Center entered into a partnership with SUNY Albany - Five Quad V.A.S. as a satellite training center. In the process of acquiring another training site, the town has gained additional instructors to support the program. This partnership will help facilitate future courses and expansion of the Guilderland Training Program.

### ***New York State***

Guilderland EMS has NYS Certified Instructor Coordinators at the paramedic level on staff, which allows the Town to be able to provide all the required national, state, and regional Continuing Medical Education requirements for the entire unit. This training allows the Town to be able to voucher New York State \$500 per paramedic upon renewal of their certification. The Paramedics continue their education throughout the year (minimum 24 hours per paramedic) to maintain their skills and increase their medical knowledge.

### **Accomplishments**

***Certified Ambulance Group (CAG)*** - After contracting with the Certified Ambulance Group (CAG), an EMS billing company, the Town changed the way it bills for paramedic services. The Town began to generate extra revenue by billing private insurance companies separately from Medicare and Medicaid. The Western Turnpike Rescue Squad and the Altamont Rescue Squad continue to bill Medicare and Medicaid for Guilderland's Advanced Life Support service which is required by federal law.

***EMS Charts*** - In 2012 Guilderland EMS upgraded to electronic patient care reporting. This charting system complies with New York State's national reporting standards and allows agencies across the nation to share key elements of their data that measure and improve patient care. The system also allows for greater data extraction and improves the town's billing recovery.

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**Equipment Upgrades-** The equipment used to monitor a patient's Cardiac Rhythm was upgraded to include three Lifepak 15's. This upgrade provides valuable information to the Paramedic while treating patients with cardiac and respiratory emergencies. These devices have internal carbon monoxide and oxygen saturation monitors, as well as, internal devices to measure the patient's vital signs. In addition, all automatic ventilators were upgraded to meet the American Heart Association's 2010 guidelines. The fleet was upgraded with a new 2012 Dodge Durango (SUV).

**Community Outreach Program-** In 2012, the Guilderland EMS Community Outreach Program continued to provide educational events to reach out to the children in the community. The goal of the Community Outreach Program is to educate the public about the Emergency Services Provided in the town and to teach school aged children the importance of 911. Over the course of the year, the Out Reach Program has attended The Guilderland National Night Out, Tawasentha Park Summer Camp and Guilderland Elementary School events to promote healthy tips and information. The children are provided valuable information in the form of coloring books to help educate them on the importance of dialing 911 for an emergency. In addition, useful information is provided to parents and the public on the Emergency Services provided by the town. This has always been a valuable program in promoting the Emergency Services Unit as well as providing information on public health concerns (Flu vaccines, proper hand washing, pool safety, etc).

In addition to public events, the community outreach program attends the annual Pine Bush Little League meeting and instructs coaches and parents on the location and use of Public Access Defibrillation and the importance of contacting 911 with the proper information needed in an emergency. This event, held every year, provides information to the public as well as enhancing the Emergency Services Dispatch center and Emergency Services response to an incident.

The 2013 goal will be to increase participation in events such as after school activities for the school district, public events such as the Altamont Fair and National Night Out and programs at day care centers. This will provide more opportunities to promote the services provided in the town and educate the young public. The continuation of this program is vital to the growth of services in the town. This program helps the Emergency Medical Services division to identify specific needs and to evaluate what type of assistance maybe required at those facilities.

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### **Reflection of 2012 Goals**

In 2012, the Town of Guilderland Paramedic Division continued to provide the highest level of Advanced Care to the residents and visitors of the Town of Guilderland. The Paramedic Unit initiated the new protocol for Cardiac Arrest Management with the use of Cold Fluid Resuscitation Therapy and continues to provide one of the most advanced prehospital procedures used to manage respiratory and airway emergencies, Medicated Facilitated Intubation.

### **2013 Goals**

In the coming year, Guilderland EMS will continue to strive for excellence in patient care under the guidance of Dr. Donald Doynow. We will also strive to educate, train, and equip the paramedic unit to the highest standards; which ultimately gives the patient the greatest chance to survive from an acute emergency event.

The unit will continue the American Heart Association's CPR courses for its staff and public, as well as, Community Outreach Program for the children and the seniors in the Town of Guilderland.

### **2012 Call Statistics by type of dispatch response**

-Bleeding Problem	49
-Falls/Fractures/Cuts	847
-Personal Injury Auto	79
-Maternity	13
-Overdose	20
-Psychiatric	93
-Heart/Breathing related	912
-Mutual Aid	387
-Medical Emergency	2430



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### Fire Service related response

-Hazardous Condition	123
-Hazardous Material	41
-Mutual Aid	15
-Outdoor Fire	44
-Structure Fire	72
-Vehicle Fire	20
-Rescue Call	36

**Total 5,181**

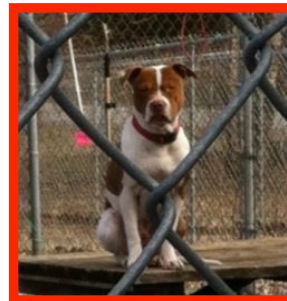
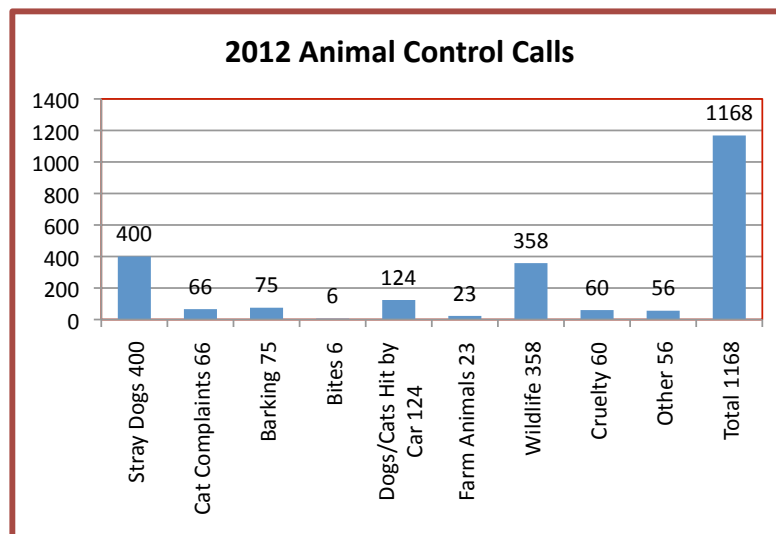
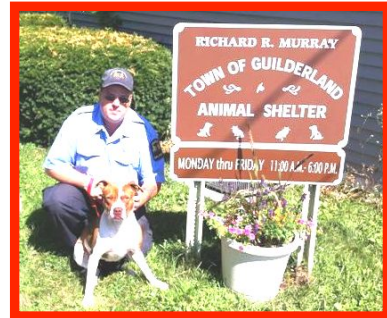


## Animal Control/Animal Shelter

The Animal Control Department conducts its operations from the Richard Murray Animal Shelter at 6363 French's Mill Road in Guilderland Center. The Shelter is normally open to the public from 10:00 A.M.- 3:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. Occasionally, emergency calls will require staff to be in other locations during those hours.

The department is responsible for a number of duties within the Town of Guilderland, including:

- Insuring pets are appropriately licensed and vaccinated
- Guarding the public against animals running at large
- Removing injured or dead animals from town roadways
- Working proactively to reunite lost pets with their owners
- Enforcing all relevant sections of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law
- Securing well-screened loving homes for orphaned animals
- Maintaining a modern and humane animal shelter facility





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## MILESTONES

In 2012 two veteran officers were promoted to the rank of Senior Patrol Officers.

These two officers become shift leaders in the absence of a sergeant, and they assist the sergeant with the daily organization of the staff. In addition, they are each assigned a special duty.



Sr. Patrol Officer Daniel Coburn joined the department in 1993 and is assigned as the fleet supervisor.

Sr. Patrol Officer James Brust joined the department in 1995 and is assigned as a department armorer.

## NEW HIRES

Officer Joseph Turoski had been a telecommunicator within our department. He was also employed as a part time police officer with the Altamont Police Department. He attended the Zone 14 police academy located at the Columbia-Greene Community College. Officer Turoski was sworn in on June 1, 2012.



Officer Joseph Devoe had been a Deputy Sheriff with the Albany County Sheriff's Department. He had attended the Zone 5 Police Academy and was a lateral transfer. Officer Devoe was sworn in on July 19, 2012.

Officer Kyle McCormick was sworn in on July 19 and immediately attended the Zone 5 Police Academy with an expected graduation date in January of 2013. He had been previously employed by the U.S. Attorney's Office as an administrative assistant.

