



THE 'NEW' NEWS

We are coming into the new age with an electronic version of the VIP news. This requires new formatting into a common software that can be e-mailed to VIP's through YCSO e-mail system. The Secretary, **Pat Colston**, will be e-mailed the news through regular channels. She will then e-mail it to herself at YCSO e-mail, and distribute it to all VIP;s. She is also able to e-mail it to others interested in receiving the news, so contact her or **Dennyse Loll** to have your name and e-mail address placed on the distribution list.

CONGRESS/YARNELL - BUSY, BUSY

An LE Special Olympic Torch Run was held again this year on April 30th. On bikes were **Ken Ashby, Dennyse Loll, Sgt. Luis Huante** and his son, and **Ursula Ashby, Jeff Loll, John Shannon** and **Ron Derry** as VIP drivers. This picture was taken in Skull Valley while taking the torch from Prescott Police Department. The Congress length of the run is from Skull Valley to Yarnell. Afterwards there was a nice BBQ in the Park in Yarnell.



NORTH RANCH MARDI GRAS

SKP (escapee) is a national chain that is very community involved. They perform fundraisers and donate to various non-profit organizations. The VIP's do housechecks for North Ranch on a regular basis.



Ursula and Ken Ashby wear Mardi Gras beads—yes, with their uniform - to keep the theme of the North Ranch fundraiser. North Ranch has an annual fundraiser, complete with a parade. The VIP's are always in their parade and this year were the lead car. North Ranch also donates to the VIP organization from the fundraiser profits.

GOLD RUSH DAYS IN WICKENBURG

Wickenburg has their annual Gold Rush Days and requests the help of the VIPs to close side streets and hold traffic. They also help with the U.S. 93 and Vulture Mine Road traffic control. Helping this year was **Roger Neff, Ron Derry, Ken and Ursula Ashby**. The parade ends around noon, so lunch followed immediately. They felt their perk for the occasion was having a front row view of the parade.

SUBMIT ARTICLES to Pat Williamson

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Deadlines: May 1 for June, Nov. 1 for Dec.

LARRY LEFORTE RETIRES



Sheriff Waugh presents the plaque to **Larry LeForte** on his retirement. While Larry retired in November, the presentation wasn't done until February, 2009.



Larry shows his plaque. Congratulations, Larry, but we will miss you.

BLACK CANYON CITY NEWS

The Black Canyon City Group has also been busy closing streets and directing traffic at the White Cane Parade and also assisted at the Mayer Daze

Parade. They do the usual housechecks and have set up the radar trailer in various locations throughout Black Canyon City. With people seeing their speed, many become more aware that they have been going too fast. This also helps with the people complaining about speeders on their street.

BLACK CANYON CITY GETS NEW SERGEANT

Sgt. **Luis Huante** is assigned to Southern Area Command and works from Black Canyon City. He has been well received. He is very visible and meets with businesses and townspeople, attends community meetings and lets people know that YCSO is there. Welcome, Luis.

NEW SOUTHERN AREA COORDINATOR

There is also a new Southern Area Coordinator, **Andy Kollmer** is replacing John Shannon, who is on leave. Welcome Andy, and we hope to hear from you for more news items.

HANDGUN TRAINING & AMMO BY VIP'S

Three VIP's have attended the ASPOST instructor's course and are responsible for handgun training and qualification. With the squeeze of reduced budgets, the VIP's purchase the ammunition. **Paul Murray**, **Paul Dickerson**, and **Ken Ashby** provide the instruction, which makes training and qualification dates more flexible for the VIP Group.

SEDONA/CAMP VERDE AREAS

This northeastern group is doing much as the other areas. They have local events where they provide traffic control, parades, Western Days, etc. Sorry, no pictures available.

This is the group that is usually at the end of the transport relays. Their job is extremely important, as they ultimately drop off the transported person at the Verde Jail.

VIP WEB SITE

There is a VIP website that has recently come under the care of **Jon Martinez**. To reach the site, go to www.YCVIP.org. You must log in with a user name and password. If you have a problem, contact Jon on internal e-mail and he'll help you. Right now there are only two pages, one is the calendar and the other is a For Sale page. There are charges to maintain the web page and while posting of the newsletter was a consideration, e-mailing internally was the most economical.

MAYER DAZE PARADE

Ursula Ashby lead the Mayer Daze Parade while



Lt. Marc Schmidt (above) kept things under control with cell phones, radios, etc.

Many area participated in the Mayer Daze Parade. There are many side streets, and this event has been a fixture in Mayer for many years, bringing in the crowds as spectators. If your unit wasn't spotlighted, please provide pictures and information so you will be in the next issue.

PRESCOTT JAIL CLOSURE

The closure of the Prescott jail has had quite an impact down the line. On the front line are the VIPs and their transports. Estimates from the various areas are that just transports have doubled, and this doesn't count the number of relays, as they try to keep VIPs in their usual areas. Well, we know that doesn't happen. When you are needed a long way from home, you just go there.

One good thing that happened is the use of the orange handcuffs and belly chains. A VIP used to use their own handcuffs and chains, then when transferring a suspect, the receiving person had to place their handcuffs on and return the current handcuffs to the person finishing their part of the relay. Sometimes this didn't happen and it was difficult to find where your handcuffs went so you could retrieve them. Now each area has two sets of vividly marked orange.

Not just the additional transports have happened. It is a long way to the Verde Jail from many locations, and even with relays, the hours stretch out there. So many days have added hours to the VIP's schedule. Seligman has quite a distance to go to the Verde Jail. They estimate about 4 hours for a round-trip.

This is almost half a shift for a deputy, who must do it if a VIP is not on duty to at least start a relay to another area. And again, if the next area doesn't have a VIP on duty, the Seligman VIP must continue on to either meet an on-duty relay, or to the Verde Jail.

Needless to say, the active VIP is a great asset to the Sheriff's Office and to their communities.

There is another impact - on the jail itself

It stands to reason that when a jail closes, the staff has to go somewhere. And even with transferring them to the Verde Jail, there would be a few too many. So in anticipation of this happening, they didn't fill current openings. Then with natural attrition and a hiring freeze, they now have just three people over the projected number. Not bad at all for making such a large move.

Add to that the fact that you need only one kitchen, one infirmary, etc., and you can see where the numbers were pretty high when you delete the personnel from the categories other than detention officer.

The current jail is completely operational, all pods are in use and fully manned. In fact, there are 100 beds set aside for the U. S. Marshall's office, who continually use about 80 beds, counting new incoming, and releases.

When I asked about additional discontent and riots with so many more people in the jail, Captain Cicero stated nothing more than usual. With the various classifications, they are able to provide the exercise yard, visitation, and everything else with no more problems than they had previously.

The only big problem was transportation of people to and from Prescott, Phoenix, Flagstaff, etc. So two large 48 passenger busses were purchased to shuttle people back and forth. The busses have enough space to handle the number of people that must be shifted to court, jail, etc. Since they were specifically purchased for this purpose, they are safe and secure, making the transports easier to do.

The picture in the next column shows the new luxury transports. All they need now is the large picture windows of the tourist bus. Joking aside, these certainly make the transport of inmates much easier and more economical.

So with careful planning, good follow-through, and great teamwork, the closing of the Prescott Jail is working out for VIP's and deputies.



New YCSO bus. Photo courtesy of Mary Proffer,

Tall Tales

Don't Fence Me In

A gentleman with a peculiar tongue twisting name called in stating that a vehicle just drove through his front yard taking out part of his barbed wire fencing. VIP **Andy Kollmer** was on site, and was first to respond. Mr. Tongue Twister pointed the direction the offending vehicle was traveling, and in short order there were about 5 vehicles searching the area. As flashlights brightened driveways and vehicles, one was conspicuous with about 100 ft. of barbed wire trailing behind it.

Needless to say, trying to get the driver out of bed was difficult as he had already started sleeping it off. They don't call them Dumb Crooks for nothing!