



For Immediate Release
May 8, 2019

Contact: Lt. Pete Ritchie, HPD Public Information Officer
(540) 434-2314
hpd-pio@harrisonburgva.gov

National Police Week 2019: Honoring and Remembering Our Fallen Law Enforcement Officers

Harrisonburg, VA – Again this year, communities across the United States will come together during National Police Week—May 12-18, 2019—to honor and remember those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as the family members, friends and fellow officers they left behind.

This year, the names of officers killed in the line of duty are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. These officers include 144 officers who were killed during 2018*, plus other officers who died in previous years but whose stories of sacrifice had been lost to history until now.

Harrisonburg City and Rockingham County officers lost in the line of duty:

- Sergeant Manuel Trenary – Harrisonburg Police – End of Watch 10/8/1959
- Patrolman Wayne Stoutameyer – Bridgewater Police – End of Watch 05/25/1976
- Deputy John Rafter – Rockingham County Sheriff’s Office – End of Watch 02/07/1983
- Chief William Davies – Grottoes Police – End of Watch 07/21/1988

All fallen law enforcement officers from Rockingham County and Harrisonburg City will be remembered during Police Week services:

To open the week, HPD will be at the Harrisonburg Farmers Market on **Saturday, May 11th from 9am-noon** with demonstrations from the motor units, bike team, and K9 team. McGruff will be on site, helping hand out blue light bulbs and window decals to kick off the week and help “Paint the Valley Blue.”

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There will be a **Flag Ceremony in front of the Public Safety Building, 101 N. Main Street, Tuesday, May 14th at 9:00 am**, immediately followed by Coffee with a Cop hosted by the Salvation Army Harrisonburg Corps. Another Coffee with a Cop event will be held on Thursday, May 16th from 9-11am at the Starbucks inside Target on East Market Street.

Other events are being planned throughout the week, including “Cone with a Cop” at Kline’s Dairy Bar on South Main Street, Tuesday, May 14th from 3-5pm, and again on Thursday, May 16th from 4-8pm at Kline’s Dairy Bar on South Main Street. The week will conclude with a private annual Police Valor and Awards Banquet on Saturday, May 18th. Downtown businesses are encouraged to decorate storefronts and window displays with blue lights, wreaths, ribbons, etc. The Oasis Art Gallery has donated use of the Water Street side window during the month of May. The Harrisonburg Police Department will have photos of their officers in action, taken by department photographer Allen Litten, on display.

In partnership with the Harrisonburg City Schools, “Rookie” Police Officers and the Chief will attend the Waterman Elementary School kindergarten lunch during “Cookie with a Rookie” on Friday, May 17th.

Note to the media:

You are invited to attend the public events!

On May 15th each year, the Fraternal Order of Police and the Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary host a ceremony on the west steps of the U.S. Capitol to honor fallen law enforcement officers and their families. HPD and the young Police Explorers will take a trip to D.C. to observe this ceremony.

In tribute to American law enforcement officers and at the request of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Public Law 103-322 designates May 15th National Peace Officers Memorial Day, which is one of only two days each year during which government agencies, businesses and residents are to fly their U.S. flags at half staff.

For more information about National Police Week, please visit <https://nleomf.org/programs-events/national-police-week>.

For more information about the local events, visit www.harrisonburgva.gov/police/National-Police-Week or Facebook.com/HarrisonburgPoliceDepartment

***statistics from National Law Enforcement Officer Fund, www.LawMemorial.org**

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