



SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

Summit County Prosecutor

Newsletter

November 2009

53 University Avenue
6th Floor
Akron, OH 44308
Phone: 330-643-2800
Fax: 330-643-8277

Message from the Prosecutor



Prosecutor
Sherri Bevan Walsh

In 2004, my office established the Community Relations Committee (CRC). The purpose of the committee is to promote outreach and charitable activities in our community and is made up of prosecutors, victim advocates, Child Support Enforcement Agency staff, and members of my administration. The group meets on their lunch hour to plan activities

and is funded by fundraisers and dress down days, when employees pay a nominal amount to dress down.

The CRC works with a number of organizations and groups:

- Providing and serving food several times a year to those who are hungry at O.P.E.N. M and St. Bernard's Church;
- Collecting gently used clothes and supplies for the Battered Women's Shelter and the Rape Crisis Center;
- Coordinating office staff to serve as "Bell Ringers" for the Salvation Army;
- Collecting running shoes for the annual "Home Run for the Homeless;"
- Supporting "Stand down for the Homeless and Disabled Veterans;"
- Providing gift baskets for auction to benefit the Pregnancy Care Center, Victims Assistance Program and the Catholic Commission to name a few;
- Collecting non-perishable goods for the annual Harvest for Hunger campaign; and,
- Working with O.P.E.N. M to adopt families at Christmas who need some extra help.



Front Row (from left): Shelly Parker, Felicia Easter (Chairman), Jean Workman, Lisa Vitale; Back Row (from left): Mike Todd, Sherri Bevan Walsh, John Galonski, Angela Williams

This group has quietly gone about its business for more than five years and has spent a total of almost \$20,000 on charitable organizations.

Thank you CRC team for all you do! We are lucky to have people working in our office who are so devoted to our community... you make a difference!

Tough Prosecution

On November 10, 2009, Michael Hendricks, 43, of Akron, was sentenced to nine years in prison on numerous drug charges and child endangering.

Akron Police went to Hendricks' home in Akron to follow up on complaints of methamphetamine labs. The fumes from the meth lab were so bad, one neighbor took her car to the shop several times for exhaust issues. Police found a methamphetamine lab in the basement. Three children lived in the home, ages 16, 11 and 2.

Michael Hendrick's wife, Jill Haas-Hendricks was arrested at her workplace. On July 7, 2009, she received a three year prison sentence.

It is unknown what long-term effects these children will suffer from living in a meth home.

And the winners are... It's Safety Kids Calendar Time!



Since 2001, Prosecutor Walsh has sponsored the Safety Kids Calendar contest as a way to educate our youth about staying safe. This year, 1,486 students from 24 different schools participated.

There were 48 total winners — and the first-prize and grand-prize winning posters will be used in our **2010 Safety Kids calendar**. See who else won and TV vignettes with the kids on our website at www.co.summit.oh.us/prosecutor.

If you would like a 2010 Safety Kids Calendar, please contact Melanie Hart at (330) 643-2800.

Questions? E-mail Laurie Cramer:
cramer@prosecutor.summitoh.net

We're on the Web!

www.co.summit.oh.us/Prosecutor/Index.htm

Top Cops!



Det. Richard Munsey, Bath Police
Det. Daniel Lance, Bath Police
Det. Debbie Yarcheck, Bath Police

Nominated by: Chief Counsel Mary Ann Kovach
State vs. Steinberg, et al.

Usually nursing homes are the last place one would expect a violent ruckus. Unfortunately in this case, Bath Detectives Munsey, Lance, and Yarcheck had to respond and handle just such an unusual series of events.

A prominent, wealthy physician suffering from dementia was placed in a nursing home facility. Probate court proceedings to determine the father's competency and guardianship had begun. Although the physician's daughter did not like her father being placed in the facility, she agreed in court not to remove him. However, when she changed her mind and recruited her husband, two lawyers, and two retired police officers to move her father, a free-for-all broke out. The daughter and her team manhandled the father out of the facility against the efforts of the staff. Although 911 had been called, two staff members were injured trying to keep the cars from leaving the facility with the father.

The detectives communicated with the group while they drove to Michigan on back roads to evade police. Detectives got statements from all involved, went to Michigan for the probate proceedings, and returned to do follow up work. Officer Munsey got this statement from one of the fleeing lawyers, "It's all about the money."

A statement such as this makes our work easier. Various team members pled to Aggravated Riot or Riot; the two lawyers were sentenced to 30 days in jail; and the detectives had their first conviction on a case such as this one.

Way to Go, Top Cops!



GUILTY at TRIAL!

Congratulations to Assistant Prosecutors **Teri Burnside, Jay Cole (2), John Green (2), Kevin Mayer, Greg Peacock, Dustin Roth, Jennie Shuki (2), Brian Stano, and Mike Tripi**, who all had **GUILTY** at trial in the month of **October**.

MEET ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR TOM KROLL

Hire date: Originally hired - August, 2005, Triumphant return - June 30, 2008

Hometown: Garfield Heights, Ohio

Law degree: University of Akron



Background: Graduated from Trinity High School in Garfield Heights, Undergraduate Degree in Psychology, Cleveland State University, Masters Degree in Social Work, Case Western Reserve University. Worked as Assessment Specialist for Dept. of Justice Affairs in Cuyahoga County doing chemical dependency and mental health evaluations prior to law school. Wife - Tracy, expecting first child, a baby daughter, due January 27.

Little known fact: Once narrowly escaped being eaten by a grizzly bear.

Most memorable case: Last year, I had a two co-defendant gang/robbery case. While the case was on-going, I had a separate involuntary manslaughter case. As these cases went on, I learned that the mother of one of the co-defendants in the gang case just happened to also be my primary witness in the involuntary manslaughter case. After her son was convicted of two counts of robbery and participation in a gang, our prosecutor-witness relationship got a little rocky. Fortunately, she eventually decided to do the right thing and testify in the manslaughter case. All ended well.

That's Outrageous!



There are few things as frustrating as a trusted employee who steals from you. An employee stealing from a charity is like stealing from all the people who donated to support its cause.

The Humane Society of Greater Akron had \$30,115 stolen by its bookkeeper. She wasn't depositing donations, was withdrawing money from the ATM without authorization, was writing herself checks, and was allowing her boyfriend to use the bulk mailing machine. Like all thieves, she was eventually discovered.

Christina Barnby, 38, of Cuyahoga Falls, pled guilty on November 3, 2009 to Grand Theft and was sentenced to two years of prison, suspended, and two years of community control. She was ordered to pay full restitution to the Humane Society.

Now that is Outrageous!