



BLUECOATS OF BARNSTABLE

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER
2022

DEAR FRIENDS,

It is hard to believe that we are getting ready for yet another summer season here on Cape Cod. The days are getting longer, the weather warmer and our residents and visitors are all looking forward to all of the wonderful activities and sights that our community has to offer.

As we continue to shake off the restrictions that came with COVID we are all looking forward to our first 'normal' summer in a while. We anticipate the hum of Main St, the fun of our beaches, and the great traditions of a Fourth of July with parades, barbeques, and fireworks. But, as many of you know, there is a lot of work that goes into making our summers safe.

Right now, the men and women of the Barnstable Police Department are busy readying our mountain bikes, preparing the marine unit vessels, hiring and training our Community Service Officers, and coordinating community partners to prepare for a busy season. Of course, this is in addition to answering all of the calls for service that continue to come in each day.

But, many of you probably already knew that. What many people do not know is there is another layer to what happens here at the Police Department. While everyone sees our distinctive blue and white cruisers patrolling neighborhoods and our uniformed officers out in public, many do not hear about the work being done inside the department to support our community after the arrests are made and the reports are written.

For instance, the work of Officers and Detectives who specialize in domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking cases. Human trafficking? Here on good old Cape Cod? Yes. It does exist and that is why we partner



MATTHEW SONNABEND
CHIEF OF POLICE

with agencies like the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, and others to catch and bring offenders of these heinous crimes before the court. All of that is made possible by the hard work of our well trained and dedicated officers.

Or, the hard work of our civilian staff providing support through our Victim/Witness office and Records Department. In addition to making sure the reports and evidence that the officers need are prepared for court, they spend countless hours working with the victims of crime each day to make sure they are properly supported and not forgotten in the criminal justice process.

Thinking of how our officers serve the community reminds me of the Bluecoats. Since 2005 you have made it your mission to support the men and women of the Barnstable Police Department so they can do their job. You have been the silent partner walking beside us, ready with a helping hand. Your work behind the scenes, your phone calls, and your generosity has had a tremendous impact. We are proud to call the Bluecoats of Barnstable our partner.

So, when you see one of our officers out in the community or you hear the siren off in the distance as they respond to a call, remember that you have had a part in us being able to do our jobs and keep the community safe.

As always, thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Matthew Sonnabend

Matthew Sonnabend
Chief of Police

Department Spotlight

The Barnstable Police Department Domestic Violence Unit was founded in 1994 after 5 domestic violence murders between the dates of August 1993 and August 1994. This outbreak of fatal Domestic Violence resulted in the Town of Barnstable being featured in People magazine in 1994.

The Domestic Violence Unit currently has a full time Detective and a full time Victim Advocate assigned. Detective Catarina Parache is currently assigned as the Domestic Violence Detective and Civilian Jessica Jay is currently assigned as a full time advocate. Detective Sergeant Meaghan Cunningham oversees this unit and was previously assigned as the Domestic Violence Detective prior to being promoted in September 2019.

Although there is not any mandatory training officers need to investigate domestic violence incidents, we continuously attend training and educate ourselves on high risk domestic violence indicators, trauma, victomology, offender roles, and sexual assaults. Detective Sergeant Meaghan Cunningham and Victim Advocate Jessica Jay are both certified Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Instructors through the Municipal Police Training Committee and teach



DETECTIVE SERGEANT MEAGHAN CUNNINGHAM AND VICTIM ADVOCATE JESSICA JAY

recruits at the Plymouth Police Academy.

Officers respond to domestic violence incidents on a daily basis. In 2021 Barnstable Police Officers responded to approximately 559 domestic violence incidents, and approximately 242 of those resulted in criminal complaints. In addition, Barnstable Police Officers served approximately 724 Restraining Orders

issued by the court system. Victim Advocate Jessica Jay reaches out to all victims of domestic violence reported to the Barnstable Police Department for support, explanation of process, and referral to resources. Domestic violence incidents classified as high risk are assigned to and investigated by Detective Catarina Parache, and are forwarded to the Domestic Violence High Risk Team which is composed of numerous law enforcement agencies, the District Attorney's Office and resources.

Meaghan Cunningham

Det. Sgt. Meaghan Cunningham

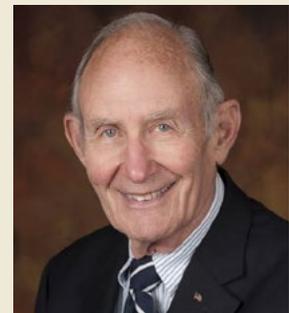


MATT LEVESQUE AND CLIFF CARROLL WITH STEVEN XIARHOS

Thank you

THIS YEAR Board Member Matt Levesque and Membership Committee Chair Cliff Carroll accepted a generous \$1,000 donation from Steven Xiarhos on the anniversary of his son's birthday. The donation was presented at an event put on by the Nicholas G. Xiarhos Memorial Foundation Fund established in memory of Corporal Nicholas G. Xiarhos. Steven Xiarhos is both a Massachusetts State Representative and a Founding Member of the Bluecoats of Barnstable.

In Memoriam



**HILLARD W. WELCH
DECEMBER 4, 1925 – MARCH 25, 2022**

One of the original 5 incorporators of the Bluecoats of Barnstable, Hillard W. Welch, passed away this year.

Board Member Spotlight – Matt Levesque

I was invited to join the Bluecoats of Barnstable by David Hirsch and Sam Baxter in 2015. Later on in 2016 I was asked to be a member of the board of directors. Being asked to join and later on be a board member were easy and quick decisions for me to make. I have lived on Cape Cod since July of 1995. I, like many washashores, came to Cape Cod to manage a restaurant and met my wife while working at that establishment. Later on I left the restaurant business to start a different business, Liane and I got married and we now have four kids, Connor, Caleb, Cameron and Emma and have lived in Marstons Mills since 2008.



LEVESQUE FAMILY

When I first opened my business on Main St Hyannis it was the Barnstable Police Officers and other first responders that supported my business and told their friends and family about me for no reason other than to support me and my family. When my children were younger and started getting involved in the various sporting activities that Barnstable has to offer, the people who came alongside my family and showed us what to sign up for and when, and later coached my children were Barnstable Police Officers. The vast majority of the Barnstable Police Officers I have met through the years have been high character individuals who understand, embrace and live by the term service over self. That is why my decision to support this organization was an easy and quick one to make.

The men and women of the Barnstable Police Department that I have come to know and call friends have inspired me and encouraged me, my wife and even my children to get involved in the Barnstable

community as well. I was involved in Barnstable Little League for twelve years as a coach, board member and I served a year as the President of the League. I was on the Town of Barnstable Zoning Board of Appeals from 2014-2017. In 2017 I was elected to the Barnstable Town Council for Precinct 10 and I am in my second year as the President of Barnstable Town Council. I can honestly say that without the support my family and I have received from our friends in the Barnstable Community, specifically from our friends that happen to be Barnstable Police Officers then I would not have been able to be a

part of so many enriching opportunities here in the Town of Barnstable.

Now as my children have started to attend college and grow into adulthood they have many healthy references of what it means to live a life of service in and out of the uniform by the men and women of Barnstable Police Department, who they have seen serve on the streets, in the gyms, on the ice, on the field and in their schools. It's truly an honor to serve this organization as a Director of the Bluecoats of Barnstable. Thank you to all who serve and thank you to all the members who donate their time and resources to honor the men and women of the Barnstable Police Department.

Best Regards,

Matthew Levesque

Matthew Levesque

K-9 Kennel Dedication, Demonstration and Refreshments

AUGUST 6 • 10 AM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Sharon Hawkins

Vice President

David Hirsch

Treasurer

Elizabeth Savoia Fleming

Clerk

Jennifer Curley

Membership Chair

Cliff Carroll

Samuel Baxter

Rita Jones

Ree Hirsch

Matthew Levesque

Honorary Member

Christopher Page



THERE WILL BE a special Thank You dedication of the kennel and a K-9 demonstration Saturday, August 6 at the Police Station on Route 132 and Phinney's Lane. Refreshments will be available. The invitation is for Bluecoats and their families as well as members of the Rotary Club of Hyannis and their families who donated to the kennel.



SAVE THE DATE



Oyster Harbors Club

Annual Meeting
September 14, 2022

AT THE
OYSTER HARBORS CLUB

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

REGULAR:

\$200 Per Year
(\$100 Additional for Spouse)

FOUNDING:

\$1,000 Initial Year
\$200 Subsequent Years

LIFETIME:

\$25,000 One-Time Payment or
\$5,000 Five Annual Installments

Sponsor a new member today
by contacting any member of the
Board of Directors or sending an
e-mail to Bluecoats@comcast.net.



19 LIFETIME **96** FOUNDING **212** REGULAR

\$436,606

Bluecoats donations to the Barnstable Police since 2005. Thank you Bluecoats members for your continued support of our mission.



PO Box 9, Hyannis Port MA 02647
bluecoatsofbarnstable.org
bluecoats@comcast.net