

MAY 2021



Raleigh Police Department Community Newsletter

This newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department. It provides Raleigh citizens with crime prevention tips, seasonal information, and upcoming RPD community activities.

In this edition of the RPD Community Newsletter, we share information about Motorcycle Awareness Month, the honoring of our fallen officers during National Police Week, our new Mounted Unit horse and information from our Animal Control Unit with what you should do if you find a fawn. We hope you will share this information with your friends, family, and neighbors.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK CELEBRATED IN MAY



In 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day. The calendar week in which May 15 falls was proclaimed as National Police Week.

This year, National Police Week was recognized May 9 through May 15. The memorial week occurs each May and include celebrations such as candlelight vigils, pipe band competitions, conferences, and the National Peace Officers Memorial Service. However, this year many celebrations were virtual or postponed.

RPD would typically join other Wake County Law Enforcement agencies to honor and remember the lives of the fallen officers from the county in a joint ceremony, but COVID-19 changed that. This year, RPD produced a [video](#) that commemorates the lives of the eight fallen RPD officers.

Team Raleigh also commemorated the week with a bike ride to honor law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. A team of officers rode bikes from downtown Raleigh to Virginia. The officers stop at various memorials along the way to recognize their fallen fellow officers. A video featuring the officers can be found [here](#).

A NEW HORSE JOINS THE RPD MOUNTED UNIT

Meet Jeorgie! She is the newest RPD horse that will be working with the Mounted unit. Jeorgie replaces Zeb, who retired in January of this year after over six years of service. Zeb is now providing riding experiences for children and adults with traumatic brain injuries and other disabilities.



While Jeorgie still has some training to do, it won't be long before you see her out and about helping serve our city.

Please call 911 if you have experienced a crime or if you want to report any suspicious activity.

SHARING THE ROAD WITH MOTORCYCLISTS

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. With warmer weather, it's time to remind everyone to be on alert and to share the road with motorcyclists. Riders who have been cooped up all winter are excited to be out on the road again, but that shouldn't stop them from using caution.

Both motorcyclists and motorists need to be aware of their surroundings. Checking blind spots, mirrors and using turn signals are necessary when changing lanes and when passing.

Safe riding practices and cooperation from all road users will help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on our nation's highways. It's especially important for drivers to understand the safety challenges faced by motorcyclists such as size and visibility, and motorcycle riding practices like downshifting and weaving to know how to anticipate and respond to them. By raising motorists' awareness, both drivers and riders will be safer sharing the road.

Distracted driving has been on the rise, too. Distractions during driving could mean the difference be-



tween seeing a motorcyclist or not when preparing to change lanes. Don't let one text change anyone's life forever!

Riders need to take precautions as well. Take a defensive driving course, wear protective gear and keep your bike in its best working condition. Also, be aware of any road hazards and dangerous weather conditions.

Most of all, enjoy your ride and make it home again!

RALEIGH ANIMAL CONTROL REMINDS RESIDENTS TO NOT TOUCH FAWNS

The Raleigh Animal Control Unit wants to remind everyone that they should not approach, touch, feed or move fawns seen hiding in the grass, brush or other vegetation. This time of year — during the first several weeks of a fawn's life — the female will hide her fawn in vegetation while she feeds elsewhere.

Though white-tailed deer fawns may look abandoned and alone, they often are just waiting for the female deer to return from foraging for food. Contact with a human may do more harm than good. Unless a fawn is in imminent danger — for example, under attack by dogs or injured in a tractor mowing accident — the best decision always is to leave it alone.

The little guy in the photo to the right was safely removed by Animal Control from a storm drain in the Falls River neighborhood.

For more information on how you can help a fawn if it is in danger, visit the [North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission](#).

