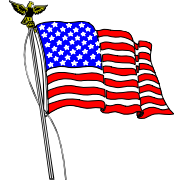




# “THE DISPATCH NEWS”



PUBLISHED BY:  
THE HODGKINS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Designed and Edited By: Chief Phil Kringlie

August 2010

## SGT. MILOJEVICH RECIEVES COOK COUNTY SHERIFF MERIT AWARD

On October 14th, 2009, an awards ceremony was held at the Chicago Cultural Center hosted by the Cook County Sheriffs Department. Sheriff Tom Dart presented 56 Law Enforcement Officers within Cook County with the prestigious “Award of Merit”.

One of those recipients was Hodgkins Police Sgt. Chris Milojevich.

This award is provided by the Cook County Sheriff and is awarded to Law Enforcement Officers within Cook County. Qualifications of this award require the officers to be: “Exceptional officers who consistently perform beyond the call of duty as demonstrated by their attitude, attendance, work ethic and professionalism”.

Sgt. Milojevich was nominated for this award by Chief Phil Kringlie. “I believe that officers who contribute to the professionalism of the Department and the safety of the community should be



SGT. MILOJEVICH RECIEVES AWARD CERTIFICATE  
FROM CHIEF KRINGLIE

recognized. Sgt. Milojevich has demonstrated his commitment and compassion for our Village and Police Department consistently throughout his career. I am proud to recognize him for his achievements,” responded Chief Kringlie.

Sgt. Milojevich began his career with the Hodgkins Police Department in 1991. As a young officer his dedication to the community and department stood out. He was State Certified as our first DARE Officer in 1993. He served as our DARE Officer for nine years. He was

promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2007.

As a youth officer, Sgt. Milojevich has raised the bar for all of us. He is the coordinator of our St. Jude Bike-A-Thon and has increased the fundraiser to include a basketball game between the Park District employees and the Police Department.

In addition, he started a Youth Sports League for our local kids in 2007, that focuses on keeping these kids busy and also having positive contact with our officers.

Sgt. Milojevich and his wife, JoAnn, reside in the western suburbs and have three children, Kirk, Ryan and Jessica.

Sgt. Milojevich continues to lead and set an example for our officers as a shift supervisor. Sgt. Milojevich’s compassion and dedication to our community is greatly respected and appreciated.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
SGT. CHRIS MILOJEVICH**

# OFFICER DOUG BIRD RETIRES

Officer Doug Bird began his career with the Hodgkins Police Department on January 8th, 1990. Doug was one of four police officers that were hired at the same time. He was the only one of the four to remain with our Department.

Doug is a 1977 graduate of Bogan High School in Chicago. After graduating high school, he served a four year enlistment in the United States Navy. He served on the USS Samuel Gompers, a Destroyer Tender, and was deployed in 1979 to the Indian Ocean during the Iranian Crisis.

In 1981, he completed his tour of duty with the U.S. Navy and returned home. Doug began working as a security officer at the Ford City Mall in Chicago. This is where he developed his desire to work in Law Enforcement.

After being hired by the Village of Hodgkins, he attended the Cook County Sheriff's Police Law Enforcement Academy and graduated in April of 1990.



Ofc. Doug Bird #70  
1995

His many Police certifications with the State of Illinois



OFFICER DOUG BIRD

include Breathyler Technician, Hazardous Material Certification, Illinois Truck Enforcement Specialist and Field Training Officer (FTO).

The Field Training Officer position is perhaps one of the most important duties within any police department. Field Training Officers are responsible for taking the new recruit, fresh out of the police academy, and molding them into a productive level-headed

professional police officer. This is not always an easy task, and requires many hours of teaching skills and strict evaluation abilities.

On May 1st, 2010, Officer Doug Bird started his well-earned retirement. Doug is enjoying his retirement here in the western suburbs with his two daughters, Elizabeth and Katie and new grandson, Josh. He is now able to spend some quality family time with them all, something that was hard to do for the past 20 years as a street officer. He intends to spend some of the winter months with his sister in Arizona.



***Congratulations Doug!  
Thanks for your 20 years of  
Dedicated Service!***



OFIC. BIRD AND CHIEF KRINGLIE AT DOUG'S  
LAST SHIFT OF DUTY

## THE CHIEF:

The Police Department has been very busy since our last newsletter. In this issue you will see some of our activities and recognitions our department has received recently.

As you learned on Page 2, Officer Doug Bird began his retirement after 20 years of dedicated service to the Village of Hodgkins. Doug was a tremendous asset to our department over the years and he will be missed on the street. However, we look forward to his visits and wish Doug and his family the very best in the future.

I would like to congratulate Sgt. Chris Milojevich on receiving the Cook County Sheriff Merit Award. Sgt. Milojevich is not just a dedicated police officer, but also a great leader and role model for our youth and our police department.

As I write this article, we are in the middle of a heat wave. We might have forgotten what it was like since last summer was so cool. Nonetheless, please take precautions in this summer

season and try and stay cool. If you are experiencing any heat-related problems, or know of someone who is, please contact our department or the village hall.

We have updated our Emergency Telephone Notification System and need to rebuild our database. If you did not receive a phone call or e-mail from the police department about the heat wave during the middle of July, then you are not listed in our database. With this new system we can include your home phone, a mobile phone, and even your e-mail address. We **DO NOT** share any of your information with any other agency or telemarketers. To make sure you are listed on our database, just fill out the information sheet on page 6 and drop off at the Village Hall, Police Department, or simply call us and ask for an

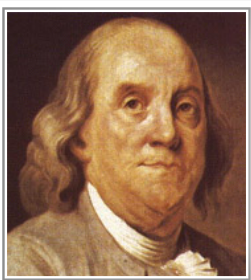


CHIEF PHIL KRINGLIE

officer to pick it up.

It is this time of year that we start to see the home fraud scams start increasing in the area. Please be aware of those repair companies who solicit your business. If you have someone come to your door and point out something on your home or property that needs to be repaired, be suspicious. Don't hesitate to call the police and ask for some help. We would much rather be there early to stop you from getting scammed instead of taking a report after the fraud is committed.

*Chief Phil Kringlie*



*“Trickery and treachery are the practices of fools that have not wits enough to be honest.”*

*- Benjamin Franklin*

# 2010 COPS AND KIDS DARE BASKETBALL GAME

On February 18, 2010, the Hodgkins Police Department participated in the 13th Annual "Cops and Kids" DARE Basketball game held at Gurrie Middle School.

For the past 13 years Countryside Police DARE Officer Ernie Millsap (also a Hodgkins Village Trustee) has coordinated this

charity game. Each year a different cause is identified to raise money for. Over the past years, the event has raised money for injured school children within District 105, injured police officers, military veterans deployed overseas, and many other causes.

This year, Ofc Millsap chose to support the Memorial Fund set up in honor of Cari Lynn Cook, a 31-year-old mother of two who was struck



We had over 40 business and individual sponsors, including our "Gold Sponsor—Westfield Ford". This allowed us to give away two bicycles, run a silent auction and offer many raffle prizes.

This event is truly enjoyed by all those involved. Our police officers have a great time with these Gurrie Middle School

students and the kids look forward to playing against the police officers each year.

This event raised \$2,600.00 for the Cook Family Fund. We had a gymnasium full of supporters that came out to help with this cause.

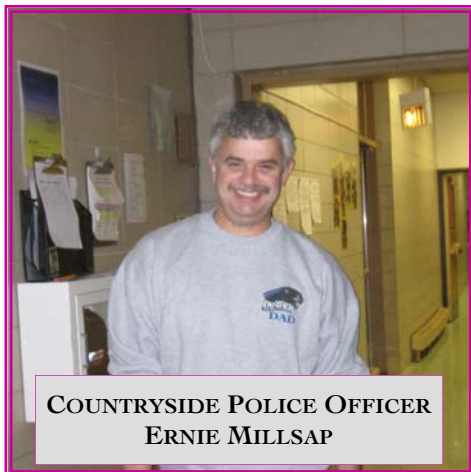
A special thanks to all those volunteers who come out each year to help with running this annual charity.

The Charity game includes police officers from the Countryside, Hodgkins and LaGrange police departments who volunteer their time to play the Gurrie Middle School Tigers 8th Grade Team.

CHIEF PHIL KRINGLIE AND CHIEF SCOTT NOVAK PRESENT THE CHARITY "GAME BALL" TO CARI'S HUSBAND MATT COOK

CHIEF PHIL KRINGLIE AND CHIEF SCOTT NOVAK PRESENT THE CHARITY "GAME BALL" TO CARI'S HUSBAND MATT COOK

CHIEF PHIL KRINGLIE AND CHIEF SCOTT NOVAK PRESENT THE CHARITY "GAME BALL" TO CARI'S HUSBAND MATT COOK



COUNTRYSIDE POLICE OFFICER  
ERNIE MILLSAP



*In Memory of:*  
*Cari Lynn Cook*  
[www.cookfamilyfund.com](http://www.cookfamilyfund.com)



# ST. JUDE CHILDRENS HOSPITAL FUNDRAISERS

**BY: SGT. CHRIS  
MILOJEVICH**

The Youth Division started coordinating our Bike-A-Thons in 1990 to benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Our goal was to raise money to help in the treatment and research that St. Jude Hospital is renowned for around the world. The Hodgkins Elementary School

children have been the driving force for these fundraisers from the beginning.

Each year we enlist the students from the school, 3rd through 6th graders, to ride and raise money for this cause. In the past couple of years we increased our fundraising events to include a charity basketball game between the members of the Hodgkins Park District and the Police



2010 St. Jude Bike-A-Thon Riders



provides an assortment of prizes that are raffled off to those students who ride in the event.

Two bicycles were donated by the Hodgkins Wal-Mart for the Bike-A-Thon. We awarded the student who raised the

most money, Kallie Drake, one of the bikes. Kallie raised \$642.21 this year!

On April 30th, 2010, my mother passed away from a long illness. Her request, in lieu of flowers, was that donations be made to St. Jude. \$650.00 was donated to St. Jude in memory of Jean Milojevich.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who came out and helped with the Bike-A-Thon.

Department.

We also placed a cash donation container inside the police department. We collect these donations over the year and total them up at our Bike-A-Thon. This year we raised \$842.24 in the donation container, \$1,264.00 at the Park District Basketball game and the 2010 Annual Bike-A-Thon raised \$3,932.05. All these events totaled \$6,688.29!!

We had 36 riders, and 57 kids turned in money raised. Needless to say, these kids did a great job this year, as usual. Immediately after the Bike-A-Thon, the participants were provided lunch by the Hodgkins Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #151. The FOP also

**SGT. CHRIS MILOJEVICH STARTS  
THE EVENT**



**SGT MILOJEVICH AND KALLIE DRAKE**



# EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

In 2003 the Village purchased a computer system that would allow us to contact our residents and businesses and make mass telephone notifications. This year we have improved this ability and are currently updating our database.



ERNIE MILLSAP  
VILLAGE TRUSTEE

If you would like to be added to our database, please complete the form below and return it to the Hodgkins Police Department or the Village Hall. We **DO NOT** sell or give away this information to anyone. Your phone numbers are secure on our database and you will not be solicited by any telemarketers

on our behalf. This new system can be used to make mass telephone and E-Mail messages only originating from our Village Police Department or Village Hall.

This system can be used to make emergency notifications in the event the Police Department needs to contact as many residents as possible to

disseminate any emergency directives, such as an evacuation order, Hazardous Material spill, or even if we are looking for a lost child or adult. The Hodgkins Water Department could easily contact those residents who may

be affected by a water main break or if you need to boil water. Other uses for the system could be for Village functions like notifying residents of an important meeting or perhaps an upcoming Village event.

The system will allow us to direct a call to a specific area if needed. So if a water main break only affected a two block radius, we can program the system to only call those residents within that area.

This is truly a great system and can become a tremendous asset to our community when the time comes to make a mass notification. However, the system will only call those who want to be included.

We hope that you will allow us to list you in this Notification System so that you can be included in any Emergency or Community notices in the future.



## HODGKINS POLICE DEPARTMENT RESIDENTIAL NOTIFICATION SYSTEM



Please include my information in the contact list for the new Residential Notification System. I understand that this information shall remain in the possession of the Village of Hodgkins and only used for the purpose of Emergency Messages and/or Village News Information.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADD: \_\_\_\_\_

(For Your Convenience, Call The Hodgkins Police Department Office At 352-4623 and request a Police Officer To Pick This Form Up)

# SGT. TONY JARVIS GRADUATES STAFF AND COMMAND SCHOOL

The Hodgkins Police Department is pleased to announce the recent graduation of Sergeant Tony Jarvis from the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University. Sgt. Jarvis has successfully completed the Ten Week "Staff and Command" program held at the Plainfield Illinois Police Department.



SGT. TONY JARVIS

This program, which was implemented by the Center for Public Safety in 1983, has graduated over 8,000 students both nationally and internationally. Sergeant Tony Jarvis was a student in the School of Police Staff and Command Class #295.

The School of Police Staff and Command provides upper-level college instruction in a total of twenty-two core or mandatory blocks of instruction, and utilizes nine additional blocks of instruction during each session. The major topics of study include: Management and Management Theory, Organizational Behavior, Human Resources for Law Enforcement,

Budgeting, Staffing Allocation and Personnel Deployment.

Each student is challenged academically through a total of eighteen written examinations, projects, and quizzes in addition to research papers, which are a required part of the curriculum. Upon successful completion,

students may be awarded a total of 23 undergraduate credits from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.

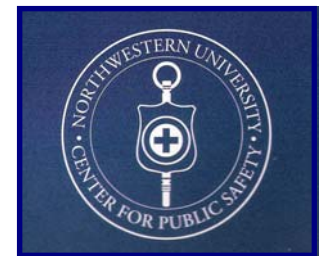
The Center for Public Safety was established at

Northwestern University in 1936 with the specific goal of expanding university-based education and training for the Law Enforcement Community. Since its inception, the Center has broadened its original objective and now provides a variety of courses and programs in the area of Police Training, Management Training, and Executive Development.

Tony has been a member of the Hodgkins Police Department since 1991. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2002. Tony currently is a shift supervisor and assists in the management of the evidence room and squad car video processing/storage procedures.

Sgt. Jarvis, his wife Irma and two children, Alyssa and Christopher reside in the south suburbs.

Congratulations to Sgt. Tony Jarvis on his successful graduation from this command course.



# YOUTH DIVISION TEACHES ANTI-GANG DAY

BY: SGT. CHRIS MILOJEVICH

Anti Gang Day was held on April 15, 2010 at the Hodgkins School. This is our 15th year in which the Hodgkins Youth Division goes to Hodgkins Elementary School (3rd thru 6th grades) to teach our kids about the

dangers of being in or around a street gang.

At about 9:00 A.M. the individual classes began filing into the gymnasium to take their seats. We had about 95 students in attendance. Chief Kringle started the day by speaking to the students about what they were going to be



SGT. CHRIS MILOJEVICH, CHIEF PHIL KRINGLE, OFC. MIKE CIMINO GET READY FOR ANTI-GANG DAY

doing for Anti-Gang Day, and about our annual St. Jude Bike-A-Thon. He talked to the kids about the importance of making good decisions and staying away from street gangs and other bad influences.

Hodgkins **DARE** Officer Mike Cimino and myself started the presentation with a

s h o r t documentary titled "It's Your Choice". The video was about 2 brothers who made 5 bad decisions about joining a gang which snowballed to an innocent girl being killed in a drive by shooting. At the end of the video, the narrator

states: *"You are not powerless. You are not helpless. You are responsible for what you do, & you have decisions to make everyday. If you are aware of certain things, you can make the right decisions. If you make the wrong decisions, you are going to get farther and farther away from the people you love and closer and closer to prison.*

*Remember it's your life. You have to make the call."*

The video is a great learning tool for the kids to view. The content is important and the format allows for the kids to really be attentive. After the video, we then put up slides for part of the classroom portion of the day. We discussed several topics with the students:

NICHOLAS RIVERA RECEIVES THE BEST ESSAY CERTIFICATE FROM SGT. CHRIS MILOJEVICH



CHIEF PHIL KRINGLE AND HODGKINS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL JOHN SIGNATUR



- Laws gang members break;
- Consequences of being in a gang;
- Media and gangs;
- Alternatives to gang life;
- Conflict and the 6 steps to solve a conflict;

One of the most important consequences we spoke about was “Two things will happen if you join a gang - You will go to **JAIL** and or/ you will **DIE**”. We emphasize past and current headlines to illustrate the outcome of becoming involved with street gangs.

One of the problems we see across the country today is Bullying. We spoke to the students about the consequences of bullying and why it can't be tolerated. Topics included their rights to be safe and self esteem issues.

The Hodgkins Police Department has a zero tolerance policy with complaints of bullying of any kind with kids in our community.

The entire school and faculty were provided lunch from McDonalds by the Hodgkins FOP.

After lunch, the kids were given a homework assignment. They had to write an Essay titled "What I learned in Anti-Gang Day."

OFC. MIKE CIMINO, MARIA MARTINEZ, MEGAN CHAPMAN AND SGT. CHRIS MILOJEVICH, THE WINNERS OF THIS YEARS ANTI-GANG DAY SPORTS COMPETITION



WHAT I LEARNED IN ANTI GANG DAY BY: NICHOLAS RIVERA

Here is a possible scenario in the life of a gang member. [Ta! Ta! Ta! Ta! Ta! Ta! Ta! Boom! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Ta! Boom! Whoosh! Bang! Kaboom! Ta! Ta! Ta! Ta! Ta! Ta! Bang!] Brian, the new gang member, was shot along with four other members. Two of the gang members were caught and arrested. The others scattered. Three years later, the two gang members were in jail while the others from that day went on with their daily lives (rather than helping the two members that were in jail.) This short, but, very real situation could happen to you if you make the negative decision to join a gang. Believe it or not, gangs can go away if people choose not to join them.

During Anti Gang Day, I learned that gangs will promise you money, power, a family structure, and invincibility. A disappointing, truthful reality is that you will get *no* money, *no* power, *no* respect, and you will be vulnerable. Unlike dogs, gangs vandalize their territory. Graffiti is considered vandalism.

If a person joins a gang, there are many risks. Here are two examples. 1- Gang members may end up in jail for possibly all, if not the majority, of their life. 2- Gang members can cause death to themselves or others, including innocent people. So, think about your decisions. There are many negatives of joining a gang and many, many positive benefits of resisting gang temptations.

During Anti Gang Day, I also learned about bullying. Gangs and bullies are similar in the way of negative results for making bad decisions. Gangs are a more organized type of violence, where bullies are usually individually motivated. Gangs tend to have a more violent nature.

People may choose to bully for a need to feel power. Some examples of bullying are harassing others, threatening others, and, physically harming people. Some may not realize they are bullying and may think it is a way of life. The best ways to deal with a bully is to tell them to stop, ignore them, and tell a grown up.

Although gangs and bullies aren't exactly the same, they are very similar in many of the violent approaches. Gangs show violence as a group (gang), as well as individuals "representing" their gang. Bullies usually act on their own, and do it to fill others with fear. *Fear* is what gangs and bullies have in common. Each of these feel that by making others fear them, respect will be earned.

I choose to **NEVER** be involved in a gang. I will avoid the path of bullying, and help others that may be bullied. I choose to make positive decisions so I can lead a positive life and have a positive impact on others.

**BEST ESSAY ANTI-GANG DAY 2010**

Their classroom teachers graded this essay and the winner was Nicholas Rivera. We have printed a copy of his winning essay at the top of this page.

After all the bookwork and learning was completed, we ended the day with a sports competition. Each student had the chance to score a goal against Ofc. Cimino and myself. The last two students left in the competition were Maria and Megan, pictured left.

Once again, I would like to thank Mr. John Signatur and the faculty of the Hodgkins School for their help and support for this program. Your support and encouragement is greatly appreciated by our police department.

## HODGKINS 1ST GRADERS VISIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

On May 27th, 2010, we had a visit from the Hodgkins Elementary School 1st Grade Class. Mrs. Johanna Enright and Mr. Grant Kramers, 1st Grade Teachers, brought the whole class up for a tour. The students were escorted around the police facility by Youth Division Supervisor Sgt. Chris Milojevich.

The kids were able to sit on the police motorcycle and inside one of our squad cars. The class was able to meet with Chief Kringle and take a class photo in front of the Police Station.



## MEMORIAL DAY VOLUNTEERS

About 19 years ago Retired Chief of Police Hugh Rhodes and our current Chief Phil Kringle thought it would be a nice touch to incorporate some white wooden crosses with our

annual service. We had 10 crosses made and started listing names of some area veterans who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

We then thought it would be nice to include those deceased family members and friends who had served in the military.

We now have about 110 crosses that we

proudly display each Memorial Day.

The Police Department organizes the task of putting these crosses out at about 6:00 AM on Memorial Day and collects them at about 6:00 PM. This is not an easy task.

To the group of volunteers we had this year -

*“Thanks for your help and support”*



**2010 MEMORIAL DAY VOLUNTEERS:**

**LEFT TO RIGHT: GARY RHODES, CHIEF PHIL KRINGLE, OFFICER PHIL KRINGLE, TRUSTEE LARRY RICE, OFFICER JIM PIERCE, SGT. CHRIS MILOJEVICH, RET. CHIEF HUGH RHODES, POLICE CLERK RODNEY CUMMINGS**

# 2010 MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE HODGKINS VETERANS MEMORIAL



This year, we marked our 21st annual Memorial Day service at the Hodgkins Veterans Memorial.

Over 50 people showed up to take part in the annual ceremony. Our Village President Noel Cummings welcomed the crowd of observers and introduced American Legion Commander Donald Baumgart to conduct the service. The American Legion Post #1941 has provided the Honor Guard and conducted our annual service since we dedicated the Hodgkins Veterans Memorial in September 1988.

Commander Donald Baumgart and the American Legion Robert E. Coulter Post #1941 Honor Guard did a



VILLAGE PRESIDENT NOEL B. CUMMINGS WELCOMED THE CROWD OF OVER 50 PEOPLE TO OUR CEREMONY

great job in honoring our many veterans who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. The service included the American Legion prayer and 21 gun salute, along with the Post Bugler playing Taps.

Memorial Day was officially

proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. The holiday was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

At Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day in 1982 President Ronald Reagan stated:

“Earlier today, with the music that we have heard and that of our National Anthem -- I can't claim to know the words of all the national anthems in the world, but I don't know of any other that ends with a question and a challenge as ours does: Does that flag still wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave? That is what we must all ask.”

**ENJOY YOUR  
FREEDOM?  
-  
THANK A VET!**



American Legion Post #1941 Honor Guard Pays Tribute To Our Fallen Veterans



# POLICE DEPARTMENT IS PACKIN!

For the past several years, the Hodgkins Police Department has sponsored and coordinated a "Support Our Troops" program. Each year we put together needed supplies and box them up to mail to our military troops who are serving overseas.

We take donations of assorted supplies all year and have a couple of fundraisers during the winter months and send off the supplies in the spring. Each December, Elaine Thompson, Police Department Administrative Assistant, puts together a Veterans Breakfast. Donations from many of our local businesses and friends are taken and added to the fund to buy and ship supplies.

When it comes time to box everything up, we put out a call to some of our residents and we all meet at the police department for a

packing party. The items are all spread out in our training room upstairs and ready for packing. Our volunteers then grab an empty box and walk around the room to get an assortment of things we have available.

When the box is full, they drop it off in the lobby and more volunteers seal the box up, attach a shipping label and post office customs form.

We have many friends and residents who always show up



to help in the project. I want to highlight one of those, Alice Katzmarek. She is now retired from the Village of Hodgkins and was one of the first friendly faces that I saw when I started working here in 1981. Alice worked as an Office Records Clerk for the Village from 1972-1993. She is always the first to volunteer and never complains. There are many volunteers to thank, but we just wanted to point Alice out this time, and say, Thanks Alice!!

ALICE KATZMAREK PACKING BOXES



This group of Military Police soldiers were some of the recipients of our supplies. We received a special thank you letter from Army Staff Sergeant Brandon Gagnon. His MP Company is stationed in Kabul, Afghanistan and is charged with the personal protection of our senior officers and dignitaries. *"We at USACE-FP are continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of donors like yourself who answer the call to give again and again to support our troops."*, stated SSG Gagnon in a thank you letter to the Hodgkins Police Department. In addition to the letter, we were given a United States Flag that SSG. Gagnon and his unit flew over their headquarters on June 26, 2010. The letter and flag will be framed and on display at the Hodgkins Police Department.

# MILITARY VETERAN ADDRESSES: SEND A CARD-LETTER-PACKAGE TO OUR HEROES:

Cpl. Valenzuela, Eliseo  
1732 Bluecreek Rd.  
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Son of Residents Maria & Jesse Valenzuela  
Stationed at Camp LeJeune, N.C.



GSgt. Mario J. Mazzuca Jr.  
27455 Mangrove St.  
Murrieta, CA. 92563

Son of Hodgkins Resident Jeanette Mazzuca  
Stationed in California

Sgt. Michael Hough  
552nd MP Company  
APO AE 09355

Provided by Elaine Thompson  
Stationed in Iraq



Curtis Rhodes  
532nd EOSS/Support Flight  
APO AE 09333

Nephew of Ret. Police Chief Hugh Rhodes  
U.S. Air Force Stationed in Iraq

Spc. Steve Kovel Jr.  
4521A Dogwood Street  
McChord AFB, WA. 98439

Grandson of Resident Phyllis Kovel  
Stationed at Ft. Lewis, WA.



SSG Rick Penkala  
'C' Co. 1/21 IN BN  
2/25 SAAB  
FOB Warhorse  
APO AE 09336

Friend of Chief Kringle Stationed in Iraq

Sgt. Albert Grzywacz  
Task Force 134/CMD  
Camp Victory, Iraq  
APO AE 09342

Provided by Elaine Thompson  
Stationed in Iraq



Matt Baer  
NSW DET RUTBAH  
Unit #42630  
FPO AP 96426-2360

Provided By Elaine Thompson  
Stationed in Iraq



*Enjoy Your Freedom?*

*Thank A Veteran!*

The Hodgkins Police Department will be sponsoring another "Supplies For The Troops" drive this winter. We will be planning on packing and shipping out boxes of supplies in early spring. For more information on how you can help, contact the Hodgkins Police Department at 352-4623. We will put together a list of recommended and needed supplies.



## MILITARY ADDRESS LIST:

We are looking for more addresses of our troops. If you have a family member or friend who is serving in the United States Military, we can add their names to our list for cards and packages. Give us a call and we can have an officer stop by and pick the address up.

# A HODGKINS RESIDENT YOU SHOULD KNOW

BY: OFC. JOSEPH KLOTZ

Americans generally recognize the truth of the old cliché, “freedom is not free”. Americans overwhelmingly understand that the price of living in and maintaining a free and peaceful society is being prepared constantly to stand with force against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Americans also recognize that this price is paid by the men and women serving in the armed forces.

We have set aside holidays specifically to honor those who have served in the military, so that We the People may collectively reflect and pay tribute to those who have paid the ultimate price for defending the liberties which all Americans enjoy. While these patriotic men and women of the United States military do bear the lion’s share of – and certainly the most dangerous part—of the burden in the cause of defending our republic, they are not the only ones who have sacrificed of themselves in this endeavor.

One of the many ways in which patriotic Americans are able to express their support for America’s troops in a concrete way – indeed,



LORRAINE GUISENGER WITH SOME OF HER USO PICTURES

probably the most recognizable way – is through The United Service Organizations, better known as the USO. During World War II millions of Americans answered this call to support the troops. One of those people is Hodgkins’ own Lorraine Guisinger.

Lorraine was born in 1921 in St. Paul, Minnesota. From an early age Lorraine wanted to be an entertainer, and began studying dance formally at the age of six. By age 14, Lorraine auditioned for “Billy William’s Sweethearts on Parade”, a touring ensemble employing a 10 piece band, 12 dancers, as well as a host of other acts.

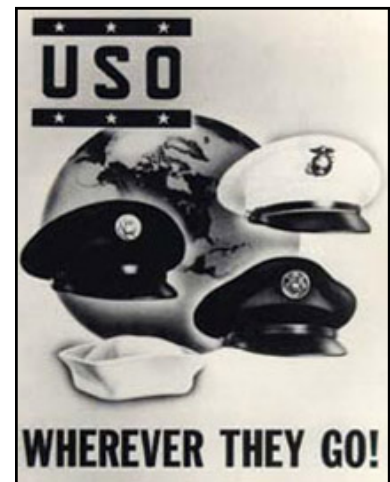
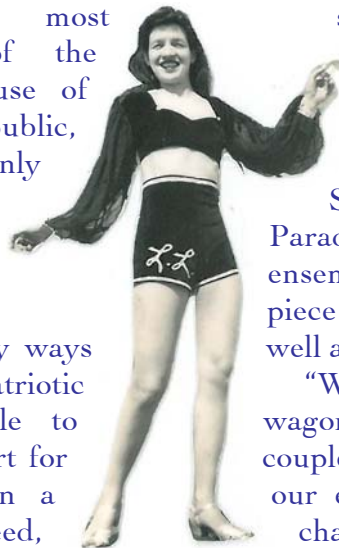
“We traveled by station wagon. There were a couple of trucks to haul our equipment. I was in charge of the payroll for

the group, and I made costumes,” Lorraine said.

With the beginning of the war, the need for a support network for the mass of troops became evident. The USO was created in 1941 to meet this need and has worked in partnership with the Department of Defense to provide support and entertainment to U.S. armed forces ever since.

The USO was, and remains, a private, non-profit organization. When the war broke out, entertainers and celebrities from across the country were called to provide their services for battle weary and homesick soldiers, both at home in the United States and abroad. Lorraine’s ensemble was no different.

Lorraine’s work with the USO kept her stateside, but just as occupied as her overseas counterparts. Elements of “Sweethearts on



Parade” traveled the Midwest – from Texas to North Dakota, and Wyoming to Kentucky – entertaining the troops, passing out doughnuts and coffee, and writing letters.



The USO became particularly famous for its live performances called Camp Shows. According to Lorraine, a USO volunteer had to be versatile. “You had to be able to play pool, dance with the guys, and write letters,” Lorraine recounted, “but you couldn’t leave the premises with a soldier.”

Lorraine came from a military family. Her father was the commander of a submarine in the First World War. Her three brothers all served – two in the U.S. Navy and one in the Marine Corps – and were awarded purple hearts.

Lorraine remembers with fondness one particular show in the fall of 1944, when she

performed for the 744<sup>th</sup> railway battalion.

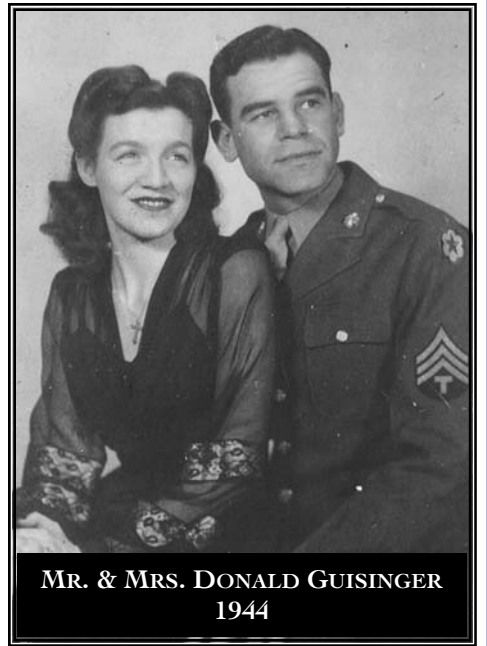
“They called and said they needed dancers at Ft. Snelling, so my girlfriend and I took six other dancers,” Lorraine remembers.

That night, however, one soldier from the 744<sup>th</sup> asked if he could go out with Lorraine after the show, even though it was technically against the rules. Six weeks later, Lorraine and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Donald Guisinger were married. According to Lorraine, Donald said that, when he saw her dancing the hula, he knew it was love at first sight.

After the war Donald and Lorraine moved to Chicago. They later moved to Berwyn, where Lorraine worked for MacNeal Hospital as a respiratory therapist. When Donald retired, the couple moved to Florida. Following Donald’s death 13 years ago, however, Lorraine wanted to return to the area she considered home. She has lived in Hodgkins ever since.

Lorraine has remained active in her support for the armed forces. She is active with the American Legion (Robert E. Coulter Post, LaGrange, IL) as a chaplain, a bingo volunteer and poppy chairperson.

Today the USO still provides morale and recreational services to members of the U.S. Military, with programs worldwide.



MR. & MRS. DONALD GUISENGER  
1944

In all the pomp, circumstance, and solemnity of Veteran’s Day and Memorial Day, it is easy to overlook the civilians who have done their patriotic duty in times of national crisis. To these people the phrase “Support Our Troops” is more than an expression emblazoned on a bumper sticker. It is a command to sacrifice their time, talents, and treasure, in support of the fighting men and women who spill their blood in the cause of liberty on lonely foreign battlefields far from home.

As you are aware, this article is usually about a local veteran and their story during war. We have many more local veterans to highlight in future issues. When we heard this story about one of our own residents who did her part during World War II, we felt the need to share.

*“Thanks Lorraine  
For Your Service”*



# “THE DISPATCH NEWS”

A HODGKINS POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

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Check Us Out On The Web:  
[www.hodgkinspd.org](http://www.hodgkinspd.org)

## IWO JIMA VETERANS STORY DISPLAYED AT POLICE STATION

On December 18th, 2009 the Hodgkins Police Department added to our Veterans Lobby a plaque in honor of a local Iwo Jima veteran.

In the December 2008 issue of the Dispatch News, we dedicated an article to Charles Kovel, former Hodgkins resident and survivor of the battle of Iwo Jima during World War II.

Known as “CHI”, Mr. Kovel was kind enough to speak to us about his experience on the small Pacific Island. He had returned to the island as part of the 50 year anniversary in 1995. He showed us a container of sand that he brought back from that trip as part of his



personal collection of historical displays in his home.

At the end of our interview, I had mentioned that we print our veterans articles and have them framed for display at the police station. To my surprise, Chi walked over and poured some sand from Iwo Jima into a container

for me to have. The sand and other items are proudly on display at the police station.

*“Thanks Chi, For Your Service”*