AGENCY AT A

SO FAR THIS YEAR



8,176 impaired drivers arrested



22,448 collisions investigated



164 fatality collisions



30,095 distracted driving contacts



25,764 seatbelt violations



87,965 aggressive driver contacts



232,466 excessive speed contacts



44,624 CMV inspections

SEPT. 27-28 MEMORIAL MILES



The 3rd Annual Memorial Miles Event begins noon Saturday, Sept. 27 and continues for 24 hours! Event schedule includes:

Saturday, September 27th

10 a.m. - Relay begins in inflatable obstacle course
10:30 a.m. - Rubber duck relay
11:45 a.m. - Opening ceremony
Noon - 24 Hour walk begins
1 p.m. - Inflatable obstacle course

Sunday, September 28th

open for play

Noon - 24 Hour Walk Ends 12:15 p.m. - Closing ceremony

Learn more on Page 2

HAVE PHOTOS OR STORIES TO SHARE?

Have an amazing photo of your patrol car? A story to share about what your office does within the WSP? We want to hear from you. Part of the fun of The Milepost is seeing and learning about all the different aspects of our agency - and with us being state wide - you can rest assure there is a ton of content out there! Feel free to send in photos and story ideas to TheMilepost@wsp.wa.gov for

future consideration.







WSP leaders attend FBI Executive Bomb Squad Management Course

By TROOPER CLIFF PRATTWSP BOMB SQUAD COMMANDER

NORTH BEND, Wash. – The Washington State Patrol (WSP) was well represented at the recent FBI Bomb Squad Executive Management Course, a premier training event designed to strengthen leadership, coordination, and strategic decision-making among the nation's hazardous devices and explosive ordnance disposal professionals.

The FBI plays a central role in safeguarding the nation through its oversight and support of public safety bomb squads. Nearly 470 accredited squads operate across the United States, and all must meet rigorous national standards established and enforced by the FBI. Through the Hazardous Devices School (HDS) at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, the FBI sets the benchmark for accreditation, training, certification, and recertification of every bomb technician in the country. This unique national program ensures that whether a bomb squad responds in Washington State, New York, Florida, or anywhere in between, the public and first responders can rely on the same high level of expertise, capability, and professionalism.

In addition to training, the FBI provides guidance on specialized equipment, intelligence sharing, and operational standards that allow state and local bomb squads to integrate seamlessly with federal partners during crises. Programs like the Executive Management Course extend that support to commandlevel leaders, ensuring decisionmakers understand the technical, financial, and strategic issues facing their bomb squads. By uniting leaders from across jurisdictions, the course fosters interoperability, strengthens interagency collaboration, and prepares executives to effectively resource and support their teams against evolving explosive threats. This nationally recognized course brought together federal, state, and local law enforcement leaders to address topics including emerging threats, resource management, and executive-level decision-making. Hands-on sessions reinforced leadership perspectives with realworld application, covering advanced x-ray operations, hazard item rigging, disruptor placement and function, electronics diagnostics, and render-

safe procedures The Washington State Patrol's leadership presence underscored the agency's commitment to public safety and to supporting its Interagency Bomb Squad. Hosted by Homeland Security Division Captain Matt Fehler, WSP leaders in attendance included Chief John Batiste, Assistant Chief Shane Nelson, Assistant Chief Shannon Bendiksen, Captain Trisena Sharff, Captain Ron Mead, and Captain Julie Fisher, alongside interagency partners from Everett Police Department and Kitsap and Snohomish Counties. Several divisional lieutenants and supervisory sergeants also participated, reflecting broad leadership engagement across the

By participating directly, WSP command staff demonstrated the importance of continuous professional development and unified leadership support. Their involvement reinforced the Patrol's commitment to ensuring its bomb squad maintains cutting-edge capabilities, robust interagency partnerships, and the readiness to handle the most complex and dangerous missions.

The Washington State Patrol Interagency Bomb Squad extends its appreciation to the FBI for its enduring partnership and national leadership in ensuring that public safety bomb squads remain accredited, trained, and prepared to protect communities across the country.











FAIR SEASON:

Check out photos from the Clark County Fair (page three). If you have spent time working the fair booths around the state, send your photos in to TheMilepost@wsp.wa.gov





D7 Communications team attends horse course

By BRITTANY KRAJCARD7 COMMUNICATIONS STATION MANAGER

STANWOOD, Wash. – The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Marysville Communications leadership team attended a veteran womanowned leadership course in Stanwood called Spirit2Spirit on Aug. 13. The equestrian-based leadership training adapted leadership dynamics from horse herds and applied them to the workplace.

While most leadership training focuses on how a leader functions in a hierarchy, this training focused on the interactions and conduct between peer leaders, using horses as an exemplary model. The curriculum introduced 4 different leadership roles and how each role is pivotal to moving the organization in the right direction and at the right pace. It provided a fresh perspective on leadership.

The Communications Officers immediately applied concepts to a practical exercise. The challenge was to move an unrestrained horse through an obstacle course. The horse only moved if the leader at the front was focused on the goal, the leaders at the sides made space or closed gaps, and the leader behind provided motivation. With each attempt, they learned and improved. Proprioception, teamwork, and communication led to their success!

Sonia Jorgensen, the founder of Spirit2Spirit, also runs a non-profit organization called "Hooves and Heroes" in the same facility. They provide therapeutic equestrian experiences geared toward mental health and development of emotional resilience in the after-effects of traumatic experiences. The best part - it's free of charge to military veterans and first responders. If you are interested in attending, volunteering, or to learn more you can visit here.



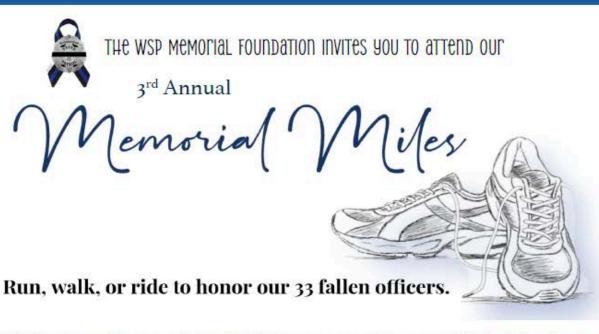


Celebrating 50 years of the Seattle Seahawks

OLYMPIA, Wash. – Washington State Patrol (WSP) employees attended the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of The Seattle Seahawks organization, who visited Olympia at noon Wednesday. Cornerback Marcus Trufant was in attendance to sign autographs, along with Blitz the Seahawk and the Seahawks Dancers.

WSP Budget and Fiscal Services employees Sarah Conover and Ben Tolwyc - along with his twins Astrid and Ripley were among the attendees of the event.





WSP Academy / 631 W Dayton Airport Rd, Shelton

Begins Noon Saturday, September 27th ENDS Noon Sunday, September 28th

Free to attend. Bikes, kids & dogs are welcome.

PLEASE register online so we know how many to expect.



FOR MORE INFORMATION - CONTACT MESAN AT WSPMEMORIALFOUNDATION@SMAIL.COM

Register online at <u>auctria.events/memorialmiles</u>

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RDT prepared for Labor Day activities



OLYMPIA, Wash. – The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Seattle Rapid Deployment Team (RDT) along with members of the District 5 RDT team deployed on Aug. 30 for planned demonstrations over Labor day Weekend in support of the Seattle Police Department. The troopers above answered the call and staged at Harbor Patrol ready to offer assistance if needed. As luck would have it the events went on as planned and folks opposing those events remained peaceful. Nevertheless, RDT is always ready to answer the call and assist our allied agencies when needed. If RDT might be something you are interested in please contact your sergeant for opportunities on a great team.

FAIR TIME: Clark County Fairgrounds



By JAMIE SATALICH DISTRICT 5

RIDGEFIELD, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) nade a strong and spirited appearance at the Clark County Fair from Aug. 1-10, offering a dynamic mix of public safety outreach, fingerprinting services, and community engagement. The booth was a hit with families, especially with the return of child fingerprinting, a favorite among parents seeking a proactive safety measure. Our fingerprint techs brought great energy and enthusiasm, making the experience both informative and fun.

Visitors of all ages stopped by to chat with troopers and learn more about WSP's mission. The booth also served as a valuable recruitment touchpoint, sparking interest from several potential applicants throughout the fair. With giveaways and good conversation, the WSP booth helped build trust, foster connections, and showcase the heart behind the badge.

Thanks to everyone who helped

make this year's fair presence a success—we're already looking forward to next year!









