

Jr. Police Cadet Program



Photo by John Wilkerson of Tequesta Photos

THE JUNIOR CADETS IS OPEN TO ALL BOYS AND GIRLS from 14-18 years of age. From there the plan hopes to move the recruits into a Cadet Program (age 18-21) and then into active law enforcement work (age 21 years and over).

"What we're trying to do," said Chief Mayo "is establishing better communication between youths of the community and the police department. We're trying to destroy the image of "pigs," which is the common name for police officers today, and at the same time create a corps that will aid law enforcement officers with material assistance at sporting events, social school functions, traffic control and the like.



By Jupiter/Tequesta Outlook

February 20-26, 1972

"Suppose a hassle starts at a high school sporting event. We feel the presence of a junior cadet acting as an intermediary is more likely to soothe troubled waters than if a police officer attempts to handle the situation. Kids are more apt to reason and listen with a youth of their own age." ALL APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE JUNIOR CADETS WILL BE SCREENED, the Chief said.

"There are certain standards which the boy or girl will have to meet. He or she must have respect for discipline, they must maintain a certain academic rating, and they must have an inherent respect for law and order."

There are no physical requirements. But all applicants for membership must have the written consent of their parents. "We hope to make the program so desirable that other boys and girls will want to join without being asked," said Mayo.

Right hand man working with Chief Mayo is student Paul Speer, editor of the school publication "The Warrior News." After several talks with Chief Mayo, the youth was so impressed that he wrote several editorials for the "Warrior News" supporting the program and urging students to enroll.

SPEER IS NO HIPPIE. He is a serious-minded youth who realizes the pit falls ahead. Sure, we know we're going to be the target of jibes and ridicule from other students, but we're prepared to cope with this criticism," he says.

Right now the Junior Cadets number eight boys and three girls. They are a good, solid nucleus, fired with the zeal of an apostle and Chief Mayo has high hopes for the project.

The Cadets will undergo a rigid training course. At present they are being taught firearm safety, how to handle unruly crowds and are being schooled in traffic control. At present some of the boys are riding in police cruisers with police officers, "getting the feel" of police work.

"LATER, WHEN THE PUBLIC HAS BECOME EDUCATED TO THE PROJECT AND HAS ACCEPTED IT we intend to permit the girls to accompany the police officers on their routine patrols. Right now some persons might get the wrong impression of seeing a nice-looking young girl riding in the front seat of a cruiser with a police officer."

Chief Mayo said the program in Daytona Beach is supported by federal funds. "We hope to qualify for federal assistance in this respect," he said.

Currently the only identification the Cadets have is a shoulder patch. But there are grandiose ideas running through the minds of the youngsters. They envision a complete uniform and perhaps a badge to distinguish them from regular law enforcement officers and members of the Police Reserve.

This part of the program probably will have to be held in abeyance until federal funds are secured to finance the project.

BUT THERE IS NO LACK OF ENTHUSIASM AND DEDICATION on the part of Speers, Terry SESCO, Rick Geiger, Bill Paris, Buddy Bussey, Kenny Miller, Dan Nevad, Ricky Brewbaker, Mary Aring, Candy Robbins and Carol Stewart, charter members.

Chief Mayo and the youths are working hard to secure faculty recognition at the school. "We want their cooperation and support," said Chief Mayo. "We don't want them to think we're going over their heads and working without their consent."



By Jupiter/Tequesta Outlook

February 20-26, 1972

In this project he is receiving able assistance from Officer Bill Reichert who is acting as assistant to the chief and liaison officer in the school.

Jupiter Police Cadets is a project close to the heart of Police Chief Glynn Mayo. The Jupiter Police Junior Cadets is rapidly taking shape here. "It's not a new idea," says Chief Mayo. "Daytona Beach has the program and there are several other agencies operating Junior Programs throughout the nation. I can remember Junior Police Corps being formed when I was a kid."

But it has been a fight to get the operation off the ground here, and it was not accomplished until several dedicated students at Jupiter High School joined the movement and now are not only active in the work themselves, but doing yeoman duty in enlisting other recruits.

On Thursday March 30, 1972, The Jupiter Police Cadets held an organizational meeting and elected the following officers: Paul Speer, president; Kenny Miller, Vice-president and Mary Jane Aring, secretary and treasurer.

Rules of conduct were adopted at the meeting and a schedule set for male members of the organization to ride in police cruisers on patrol. Later, when the organization's aims and purposes are fully understood by the public, the female members of the club will be permitted to ride with the cruising policemen.

At the present time the uniform of the cadets consists of white shorts with symbolic shoulder patch. "We're going to build from there on," said Police Chief Glynn Mayo, who attended the meeting. A complete distinctive uniform eventually will be made available to all Cadets.

Officer William Reichert has been named liaison officer to work with the Cadets in formulating a program.