



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

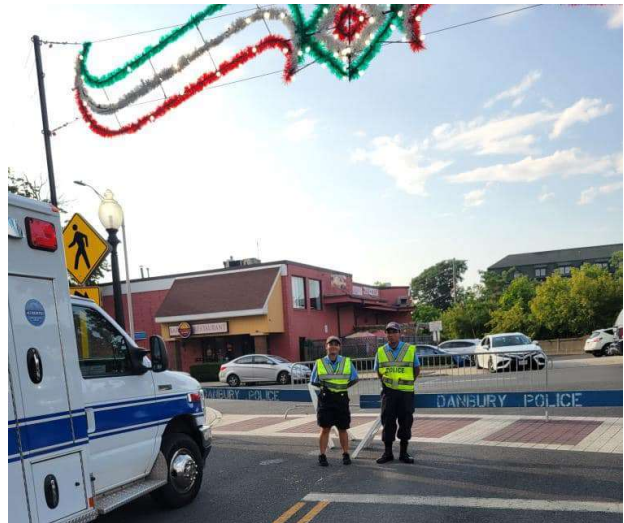
Patrick Ridenhour, Chief
Department of Police
375 Main Street

David Antedomenico, Advisor
Danbury Police Cadets
(203) 796-1572

September 21st, 2024

To: Chief Ridenhour,

The Cadet Program ended the month of August with the San Gennaro Festival. The Cadets monitored the barricades, patrolled the Green, and provided assistance to the general public during the event.



We encourage at least one of them to keep an eye on traffic!





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On August 24th the Cadets held their annual end of summer picnic. Ofc. Rodriguez displayed some awesome grilling skills. The Cadets and families had fun with a variety of Activities.





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At our August 29th meeting the Cadets went over the new Post Structure which incorporated the most recent B.E.S.T. graduates and promotions. The new FTO's proudly displayed their new jackets.





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On September 1st the Ann's Place Car Show in Roger's Park was postponed until Labor Day, Monday September 2nd. That left the DAV Labor Day Picnic event on September 1st for veteran's which a detail of Cadets performed parking duties at. On September 2nd the Cadets split their efforts, with half going to the Car Show in Roger's Park.





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The other half of the program went to Newtown to help with their Labor Day Parade. In Newtown they helped at the beginning of the Parade where it was assembling and at the end where the parade dispersed, with several other locations along the route.



The Cadets finished Labor Day by taking the flags down that had been put out downtown for VJ Day when the document ending WWII was signed on the U.S.S. Missouri.



The Cadets picked up all the flags and then put them away in Veteran's Hall until the next day of remembrance.



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The weekend of September 6, 7, and 8 was a busy time for the Cadets. A contingent went to the Bethlehem Fair, camped for the weekend, and parked cars. Although it rained on Saturday, attendance was over 19K for the weekend.



On September 7th another contingent of Cadets went to Newtown to help park cars for the 2nd Governor's Horse Guards fall festival. They were also able to participate!



The Danbury Police Cadet Mounted Unit!



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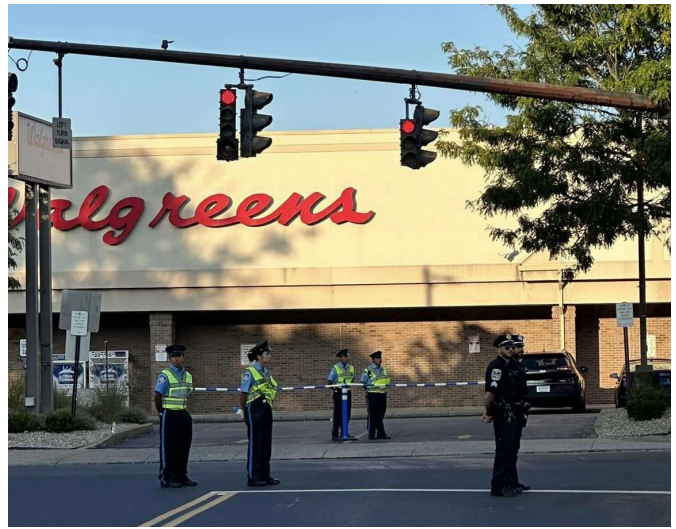
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On September 8th a contingent of Cadets went to Sherwood Island to assist with the 23rd Annual CT United Ride.



On September 11th the Cadets assisted with the Annual Memorial Service at the Elmwood Park 9/11 Monument.



In addition to performing traffic control, the Cadet Color Guard participated, and a contingent of Cadets paid their respects during the service.



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After the 9/11 Ceremony the Cadets completed their service to the community by taking the flags down again.





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On September 13, 14, and 15 the Cadets went to Berlin CT to help with their Fair. Unlike the Bethlehem Fair, the Berlin Fair had several other Cadet posts assisting and the Cadets learned to work together with other programs to accomplish their mission. The Berlin Fairgrounds now host the Northeast Regional Law Enforcement Cadets Tactical Challenge and the Berlin Mini-Academy without charge, and this is our way to return the favor.



These fair jobs have exposed our “City” Cadets to some new experiences and given them an opportunity to expand their horizons. The Berlin Fair is estimated to have 80-90 thousand people attend. The Cadets were instrumental in helping locate several lost children and reuniting them with their parents.



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While all these events have been going on the Cadets on the Tactical Challenge Team have had to do additional training outside of our weekly Thursday night meetings to prepare for the October 12th Competition. Here we see them going over felony stops and high-risk arrests.





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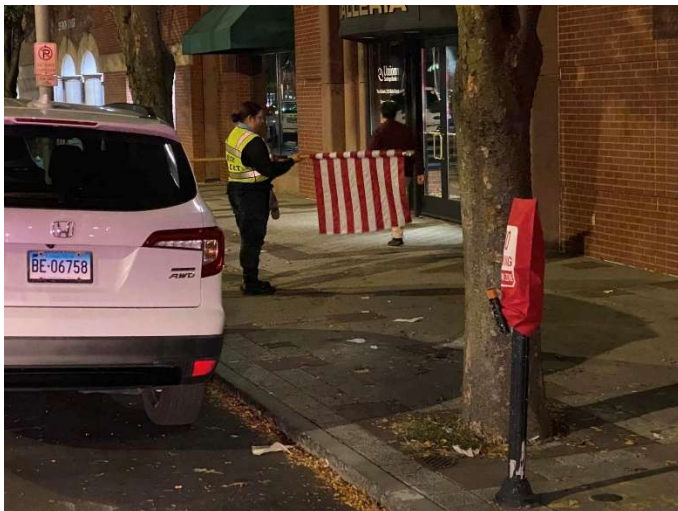
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On September 20th the Cadets were asked to help with parking at the 50th anniversary celebration at Mill Ridge Primary School.



While that was going on another squad of Cadets brought in the flags for MIA/POW Remembrance Day, our third flag detail for the month. The next time the flags go out will be for Veteran's Day on November 11th.





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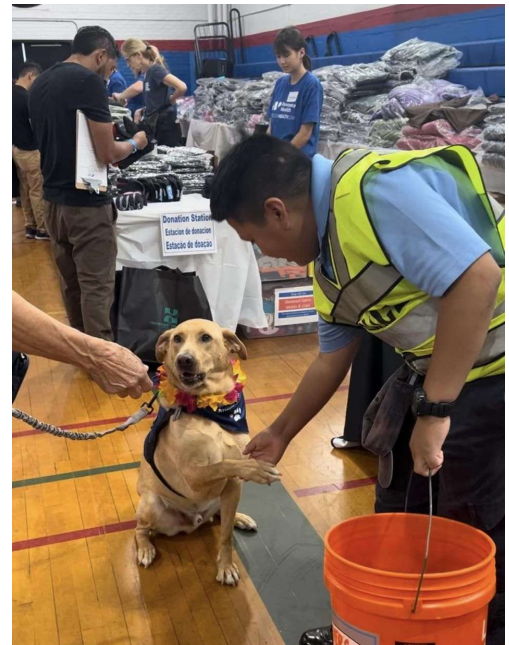
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On September 21, 2024, the Cadets helped with the Meet the Superintendent event at Broadview Middle School.



Another Squad was at the War Memorial to help with Mission Health Danbury.





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This past month has been exceptionally busy. On Thursday, September 26th, the Cadets will host another open house followed by our ten-week Basic Entry Skills Training (B.E.S.T) program. In January we are switching to a once-a-year Open House followed by the B.E.S.T. which will allow that training to occur during our slowest time of year and have the new Cadets prepared to help as the spring events start up. We will then be on a once-a-year schedule for the Open House going forward. This will allow us to then focus on more advanced training for the established Cadets. We have brought on a number of Advisors that are skilled trainers and are ready to move us to the next level.

We have had to decline several requests for the Cadets over the past couple of weeks. Many out-of-town groups are looking for assistance and we just can't meet the demand and maintain our high level of service. We have referred several to surrounding Cadet programs, but we appear to be sought after due to our ability to get the job done. The Cadets have an excellent reputation in Danbury and the surrounding area, and it has increased the demands on our program.

Our program is still in the midst of transitioning our uniforms and equipment from the old Explorer program to Cadets. Most of our Class A and all Class B uniforms have been transitioned. Two years ago, we were granted our 501c3 status through the IRS. We are working on a fundraising campaign to replace a lot of old uniforms and equipment. As you can see from the photos we tried to reuse our traffic vests by covering up Explorers and adding Cadets, but the process didn't work well and many of the letters have come off. We are working on that as well as other uniform and equipment issues. We have also begun a major website upgrade.

Our program is a mini department run on a shoestring, yet the Cadets continue to excel and exceed our expectations. We want to thank the Danbury Police Department's Administration, the City Council, and Mayor Alves for their continued support. We also need to thank our Advisors, both civilian and sworn, who put in many hours of service to this program and the community. Without them the Cadets would not be able to do all that they do as well as they do it.

Tentative upcoming events for 2024:

9/26 Open House
10/5 Annual Car Show at DFM
10/5 DHS Band Jamboree: 4pm-9:30 on site
10/12 Cadet Tactical Challenge
10/12 POD Drill
10/31 Halloween Candy Distribution @ PD & Halloween at Deer Hill
11/11 Veteran's Day Flag Detail
12/7 Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony and Flag Detail

Respectfully,
Sergeant David Antedomenico
Advisor, Danbury Police Cadets