



URDPS



Spotlight Newsletter

Current Stage-Lime

The University of Richmond will maintain the Physical Distancing Framework for the remainder of the fall semester and will update it as appropriate. The university is currently in the Lime Stage which provides a welcome opportunity for in-person classes and all campus offices are opened with an in-person presence while still maintaining protective measures that support the health and safety of our community. Additional information about the Lime Stage including details about holding events on campus can be found here at https://www.richmond.edu/coronavirus/_common/physical-distancing-framework.pdf

Welcome President Hallock!



The University of Richmond elected its 11th president, Kevin Hallock. President Hallock has his undergraduate degree in economic from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He also has his master's and doctorate in economics from Princeton. President Hallock and his wife Tina have known each other since they were four, they married three weeks after graduating from college. They have two grown children, a son and daughter.



URDPS NEWEST'S MEMBERS

Police Department

Officer Diego Rayas

Diego Rayas is a 2021 UR Graduate with a BA in Journalism and Communications. He is also the former Vice President of URPD's Public Safety Auxiliary. Diego is currently attending the Law Enforcement Basic 158 class at Rappahannock Criminal Justice Academy.



Officer Thomas Martin

Thomas Martin is a former police officer with Valdosta Police Department in GA and also worked as a Border Patrol Agent. Thomas and his wife, Janelle Martin, University of Richmond Women's Basketball Director of Operations, are proud parents of two kids. Thomas favorite pastime hobby is fishing. He is currently attending the Law Enforcement Basic Class 158 at Rappahannock Criminal Justice Academy. Congratulations to Recruit Martin on being voted by his peers to serve as LE Basic Class 158 as Class President.

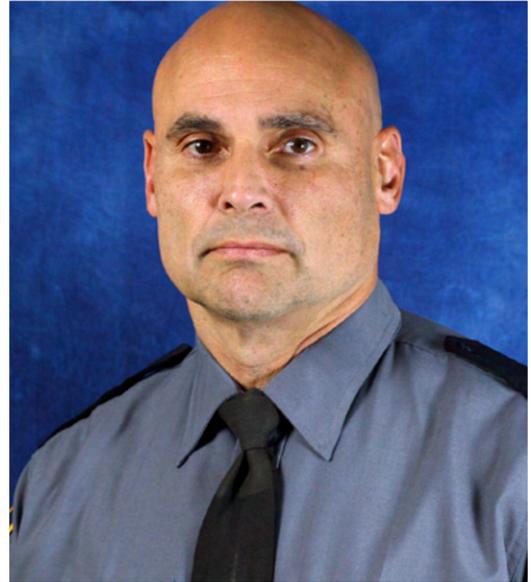


Officer John Carter

I was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia and attended JR Tucker High School. I have been married to my wife Lee for 26 years, and we have two adult daughters and one granddaughter. I am a veteran of the United States Army and Army Reserve, deploying to Iraq in 2004, retiring in 2008. I was employed with the Arlington County Fire Department for 10 years before becoming a Police Officer with Henrico County. I retired from Henrico County after 21 years of service, where I worked Patrol, Criminal Investigations as an Economic Crimes Detective and as a Forensic Detective, before being promoted to Sergeant.

In my off time, I enjoy working out and have recently begun training in jiu jitsu. The bulk of my time off is spending time with my granddaughter.

I look forward to becoming a part of the Spider family.



Communications Officer Elena Tsvetanova

My name is Elena Tsvetanova. I am 23 years old and currently attend Reynolds Community College. My hobbies include reading and listening to music. I love music, so I try to go to every concert I can. I am originally from Bulgaria, but moved here with my family when I was six.



Parking & Transportation Services

Natasha Sokoloff

My name is Natasha Sokoloff. I am a junior here at UR from Huntington Beach, CA. I was drawn to Richmond for so many reasons, and am grateful to have gotten very involved on campus over the past couple of years. I am double majoring in Journalism and Leadership Studies and hope to pursue journalism after graduation. I am a writer for The Collegian's city & state and news sections, which has really given me the chance to go out into the Richmond community and meet so many people. I am also a member of the Honor Council and involved in Greek life. When I'm not in the Parking and Transportation Office, you'd probably find me with a cup of coffee in the library or on a walk around the lake with my friends.



Brooke Gibson

My name is Brooke Gibson. When looking at different Universities, I knew I wanted to stay in-state. I am from Virginia Beach and am loving Richmond so far. I felt that everything the University of Richmond had to offer was perfect for me. I intend to major in Psychology with a concentration in Neuroscience. When I am not in the Parking and Transportation office, I am dancing as a part of University Dancers on campus. After college, I hope to work in the medical field, possibly becoming a Physician Assistant/Associate.



Julia Loten

My name is Julia and I am currently a junior at U of R. I'm originally from Westchester, New York, but I love the city of Richmond and I think it's a great area to go to school in. I am majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing, and a minor in Leadership Studies. On campus, I spend time as a market research assistant in the business school, I play for the Women's Club Soccer Team, and I direct philanthropy projects for my Greek organization. Working in parking has given me a new perspective on how the University of Richmond campus operates above the student level, which I am so grateful to get to be a part of!



Transportation Manager Latoya Hurt

My name is LaToya Hurt and have 3 beautiful and amazing children. I have a son who has graduated High School, a daughter that is class of 2022 and another son who is a Sophomore in High School. I enjoy driving, listening to music and being the light of world. To me, each day is a happy day no matter what could be going on. My motto is to always find the positive in every situation no matter how bad it may seem at the time but know that it is all necessary.

I came to Groome Transportation from driving trucks. I have worked my way up from being a supervisor to now being an Operations Manager. I am truly enjoying my contract here at the University of Richmond. I look forward to coming in each day to working with such amazing people. I love when I am on campus and the excitement that comes from the students and staff, it lets me know that I am truly being the light of the world.



Birth Announcement



Congratulations to Officer Kay Whesu and his wife Danielle on their new addition to the family! Adonis Whesu, was born on 07/06/21, and he was 7 lbs 11oz

Wedding Announcements

Congratulations to Lt. John Jacobs and his wife on their marriage nuptials on July 11th.



Congratulations to Communications Officer Samantha Engels & her husband on their marriage nuptials on Oct 20th.



Spider Carnival

Officer Johnson and Officer Eppes got to partake in Spider Carnival hosted by Office of Common Ground at the forum on August 28th. Officer Johnson set up a table with fatal vision goggles and provided handouts for students with information on drunk-driving and overall personal safety. Students got to play games,



compete with each other, and pet animals while enjoying music, food, and other festivities. Officer Eppes carried a ball python named Roxy around at the carnival and helped some of our students overcome their fear of snakes.



Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

Students gathered at Tyler Haynes Commons to celebrate Asian-American heritage during Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival on September 24th. Dance, music, and food filled the room and the community had a glimpse into rich Asian culture. URPD officers attended the festival to show their support and enjoyed the performances by our students. This event brought together students and community members from all walks of life to celebrate diversity and inclusivity.



Women's Conference



Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police hosted the Leadership Summit for Women in Law Enforcement on September 27-28. URPD Officer Asira Eppes had the privilege to attend the class and learned valuable skills on officer safety, mental health in law enforcement, and effective leadership skills. VACP and URPD celebrate women in law enforcement and continuously encourage personal and professional growth for women first responders by providing valuable training.



URPD & RLH BBQ Event

URPD along with Residence Life & Housing held a cookout on October 14, 2021 at 1830 hours at #1 Bostwick Lane, the new housing office.

About 35 people attended the event to enjoy great food and time getting to know the new and returning staff.

The fabulous cooking was done by Beatty and Perez (El E&R BBQ) once again. The food consisted of BBQ, Burgers and Dogs that proved to be a winner by everyone in attendance.



DEA Drug Take-Back

On Saturday October 23, 2021 the University Police Department participated in the DEA Drug Take Back.

This event went from 1000 hours to 1400 hours in the lobby of the Special Programs Building.

When the total number of items collected was weighed from the university community, there was a total of 50 pounds collected by the police department.

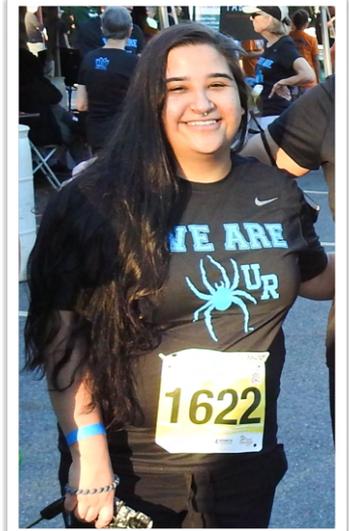


Congratulations Jess & Elena



On September 24th, Communications Officers Jess Johnson and Elena Tsvetanova participated with Team UR for the Anthem Corporate 5k Run. The 5k run is a part of the University's URWELL Employee program to empower faculty and staff to maintain and improve their health.

Awesome job ladies!



FALL back November 7, 2021

As we "Fall Back" to shorter days, we face additional risk. Here are a few tips to help you stay safe:

- Be cautious of back to school traffic. School is back in full swing, which means more traffic on the roads. Be alert while driving through school zones and maintain the safe speed posted. Watch out for children.
- Wear apparel with reflective when walking/running in the morning & night. The apparel should incorporate both fluorescence and reflective materials to help provide 24-hour visibility. The reflective material/apparel should be placed on the limbs where the most movement takes place—arms and legs (try to include the ankle and wrist).
- Fatigue – get 7 or more hours of sleep a night, don't drive if you've been awake for 16 hours or more and pull over if you are drowsy
- Avoid slip and falls from the rain
- Falling leaves can obscure your vision, as can rain and fog. Be aware of limitation in your visibility and slow down if you can't see well. Use low beam headlights in bad weather with decreased visibility.
- Get your Fire Safety up to speed – reconsider leaf burning, exercise caution using candles and use caution with space heaters.
- Test and replace batteries in smoke detectors, flash lights and carbon monoxide detectors.



Open Enrollment for 2022 University Benefits

November 1-12, 2021

The Benefits Open Enrollment period is your annual opportunity to make changes to your benefits. After the enrollment period closes, you are not able to modify your benefit selections without a qualifying event.

Open Enrollment Information Sessions

All employees are invited to the Information Sessions. There are no plan design changes for 2022, but we will provide a brief overview of the University benefits and the new Benefit Express portal.

Premium and Plan Updates

- No Changes to your health insurance premiums
- Increase in dental premiums
- Enhanced prescription coverage

New Cigna medical cards will be mailed for the January 1, 2022 plan year.

Benefit Express Enrollment Portal

We are very excited to introduce our Benefit Express enrollment portal. Enrolling in and changing your benefits will be easier and faster than ever. Intuitive, paperless, and always accessible, the portal will be available online November 1.

You will use this portal not only to complete Open Enrollment annually, but also throughout the year to:

- Access all benefits information anywhere, any time
- Change benefits after a qualifying event
- View the annual compensation statement

Benefits Open Enrollment Support

Cigna Pre-Enrollment Hotline: Call Cigna's pre-enrollment 24/7 phone number at 1-888-806-5042 specifically for UR employees to speak with a knowledgeable enrollment specialist who will help you decide which plan is best for you.

Benefit Express Portal: Available November 1, 2021 – simply log in with your University netID and password.

Benefit Express – UR Benefits Support Center: Available November 1, call Benefit Express for questions about the enrollment portal at 1-833-695-8747, 8:30 AM – 7:00 PM ET.



Promotion & Badge Pinning Ceremony



Congratulations to officers on their well-deserved promotion:

Capt. Alfred Johnson – Major

Capt. Eric Beatty – Major

Sgt. Aubrey Blizzard – Lieutenant

Sgt. Randy Baran – Lieutenant

Officer Renee Walcott – Sergeant

Officer Craig Buchbinder – Sergeant

Officer Timothy Mihalcoe – Sergeant

“Ouch, that hurt”



Spotlight Award

The spotlight award winner for November is Detective Angie Dubose and Officer Dave Johnson. Det. Dubose has worked diligently over the last several months to provide consistency in the Detective Division. She has carried the majority of heavy cases, conducted several lengthy background checks for new employees, and performed the required tasks in investigations without complaint.



Officer Dave Johnson consistently performs his duties in a manner that brings pride to the department. His personality and positive demeanor endear him to nearly everyone he meets. When he is about the campus, he is greeted by many in the community with smiles and enthusiasm. Officer Johnson has taken on additional responsibilities on his shift and always volunteers for overtime and on-duty assignments without hesitation.

Congratulations Angie & Dave!
