



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Howard County Police Pace to raise money for charitable efforts *Event will also recognize the 15th anniversary of 9/11*

What: Howard County “Police Pace” 5K Race and One-Mile Fun Run
When: Sunday, September 11, 2016

- 9/11 Ceremony begins at 8:30 a.m.
- Police Pace begins at 9:11 a.m.

Where: Centennial Park, Route 108, Columbia

The Howard County Police Department will host its annual “Police Pace” 5K fundraiser on Sept. 11 and will donate the proceeds to a number of charitable initiatives. Just prior to the race, the police and fire departments will be joined by County Executive Allan H. Kittleman for a ceremony commemorating the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

“Since our annual event falls on Sept. 11 this year, we wanted to be sure to collaborate with our county partners to remember the first responders and innocent people whose lives were lost 15 years ago,” said Police Chief Gary Gardner. “Our Police Pace fundraiser provides help to the families of injured or fallen officers in Howard County, among other efforts, so of course we wanted to take time during our event to focus on the victims of 9/11.”

The Howard County Police Foundation, which sponsors the event, also allocates some proceeds to educational scholarships, awards and support services to police department members and their families.

The 9/11 ceremony will begin at 8:30 a.m., at the Tree of Hope in Centennial Park. The race will immediately follow at 9:11 a.m.; the starting line is a short walking-distance from the memorial ceremony.

“The September 11 ceremony is always a solemn occasion, but it’s a reminder of how vital our officers at the Howard County Police Department are to our community,” said Kittleman. “This year on the 15th anniversary of 9/11 and 25th anniversary of the Police Pace, it is particularly appropriate that we join these events and focus on the people we have lost and those who sacrifice every day to keep us safe.”

Police Pace will include displays of Howard County’s police equipment, patrol cars, motorcycles, K9s, and the Volunteer Mounted Patrol. The race will conclude with a ceremony at which more than 50 runners will receive performance awards.

More than 800 runners and walkers will be participating this year. Registration will be available on site the day of the race beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Individual registrations are \$50 and include an event T-shirt (while supplies last) and lunch. Family registrations are also available. Participants will have the opportunity to win raffle prizes, including a mountain bike, dining certificates and gift cards.

Food for all registered participants will be provided courtesy of Outback Steakhouse in Ellicott City, the race’s official hospitality host. For more information, visit www.policepace.com.

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