

MAYOR MARVIN'S COLUMN

Our police department has been extremely engaged on many levels this past month. Of most importance was the decision by three of our most senior officers to retire by month's end. Between them they have given 61 years of service to our Village.

It is with thanks and gratitude – and sadness – that we say goodbye to John Casullo, James Fleming and Craig Jarvis. They have all served the Village with distinction.

John Casullo has been with our department since 1990 and will be retiring as a sergeant. He is well known to residents and merchants and has received numerous commendations throughout his career. His training in life saving, elder abuse, car seat installation and auto theft filled distinct needs in our department. He is known for being extremely handy and skillful with tools and plans to remain in Thornwood with his wife and two children and tackle home projects. He also recently purchased a boat to enjoy in his retirement.

James Fleming also joined the force in 1990. He is a graduate of Bronxville High School and a lifelong resident of the Village. Jimmy was a member of the police department's bicycle unit and a volunteer at EVAC. He was the recipient of numerous awards and letters of commendation throughout his career. An ardent New York Giant and Yankee fan, he was known to all of us as an extremely generous person. Every Halloween he purchased candy to pass out to trick or treaters while on patrol. He is an avid traveler and will enjoy retirement by traveling throughout the U.S. and Europe.

Craig Jarvis joined our police department in 1990 and will retire as a sergeant. Like Officer Fleming, he is a graduate of the Bronxville High School and a member of the bike patrol, a certified child seat technician and Yankee fan. He was also cited many times throughout his career for exemplary service. A known car enthusiast, he will be relocating to Florida with his wife, Marianne, and faithful dog, Maxie.

Though they are leaving us, they will always be a part of the family that is the Bronxville Police Department. On behalf of all of the Trustees, I wish them happiness and success in life's next chapter.

Faced with three vacancies, the City of White Plains' budget woes offered the Village a serendipitous opportunity. Due to budget cuts, the last twelve officers hired in White Plains were let go. All are well trained, seasoned officers and were heavily recruited by many departments in the County. We consider ourselves extremely fortunate that the following three officers chose to join our department. Not only did we avoid the laborious Civil Service list process, we have eliminated the time and costs for training new recruits and have seasoned officers who can enter the rotation seamlessly.

We welcome Officers Thomas Roviezzo, Wilson Valentin and James Mazzucca.

Officer Roviezzo is 23, single and resides in West Harrison. A former varsity football player, he is a volunteer fireman for the West Harrison Fire Department and has certification in first aid. He is also a graduate of Westchester Community College with a degree in Criminal Justice. His favorite past-time is playing in an adult softball league.

Officer Valentin is 31, married to Vanessa and the father of two children, Steven and Madison. An NYPD officer prior to joining White Plains, Wilson resides in the Pelham Bay section of the Bronx. Fluent in Spanish, both spoken and written, Wilson has 60 credits toward a college diploma. His hobbies include reading, bicycling, spectator sports and attending movies with his family.

Officer Mazzucca is 35 years old, single and resides in Greenburgh. He is a graduate of Manhattan College receiving a degree in Organizational Management and he is currently pursuing a Masters in Public Administration from John Jay College. He may already be familiar to some residents since he has been a volunteer for EVAC for the past nine years and is a certified medical technician. The proud owner of a Harley, James also enjoys mountain biking, skiing and ice hockey.

All six of the gentlemen will be at the Board of Trustees' July meeting so we can say a proper goodbye to our departing officers and introduce you to the new members of our department.