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HPD Schedules Next *Coffee with a Cop* Program

Harrisonburg, Va. - Establishing and maintaining open lines of communication between citizens and the police officers who serve them is critical to effective law enforcement that promotes community safety. That's the goal of the Harrisonburg Police Department's *Coffee with a Cop* program, now in its second year.

"Our *Coffee With a Cop* initiative provides an opportunity for citizens to discuss community issues, express any concerns they may have, offer suggestions and learn how our department is operating in the community," says Police Chief Stephen Monticelli.

The next *Coffee with a Cop* will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. on May 15 at Joe Muggs Coffee in the Valley Mall. All in the community are invited to drop in.

Chief Monticelli and other officers from the Harrisonburg Police Department will be on hand to discuss community issues with citizens and respond to questions.

"These encounters are a valuable tool for breaking down barriers and increasing effective communications," Chief Monticelli says. "We greatly appreciate the reception that we've gotten so far," he adds.

More information is available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/coffee-with-a-cop.

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