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Contributors



Nancy Zoellner-Hogland
Editor



Michael Feedback
Lookout Point Consultants LLC



Kevin Merritt
Grant Coordinator



Bill Sullivan
Law Enforcement Liaison for the
National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration (NHTSA) Region 7



Pieter Van Waarde
Senior Pastor Woodcrest Chapel



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Missouri Sheriffs' Association

6605 Business 50 West
Jefferson City, MO 65109
www.mosheriffs.com

VOL. 6, NO. 1
SUMMER 2016

MARKETING & ADVERTISING COORDINATOR

Jeanne Merritt
573.635.5925
Cell 573.529.6900
Fax 573.635.2128
jeanne@mosheriffs.com

EDITOR

Nancy Zoellner-Hogland
nancyhogland@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Michael Feedback
Bill Sullivan
Pieter Van Waarde

PHOTOGRAPHY

Stacie Marshall
Kevin Merritt

DESIGN

Stacie L. Marshall
Hill Design Co.

BECOME A MEMBER

573.635.5925 ext. 101
www.mosheriffs.com

GENERAL INQUIRIES, COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Jeanne Merritt
573.635.5925
jeanne@mosheriffs.com



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The Missouri Sheriff magazine is the official publication for the Missouri Sheriffs' Association.

The Missouri Sheriff magazine is dedicated to providing informative and timely information to enrich the lives of the dedicated men and women providing county law enforcement, jail, court security and judicial services throughout the state of Missouri, and the public they serve.

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A Final 'Thank You'

Missouri
sheriffs,
as a whole,
are the
strongest
legislative
lobbyist in the
state of
Missouri.

As my term as president of the Missouri Sheriffs' Association is nearing completion, I would like to use this final message to thank each of you for the support and encouragement I have received throughout my presidency. As I open this letter, I cannot help but think how thankful I am for all the blessings in my life and career. I have truly enjoyed my tenure as Grundy County sheriff, MSA zone leader, general board member, MSA executive board member and president of the Missouri Sheriffs' Association.

Throughout this past year I have tried my best as president of the Missouri Sheriffs' Association to facilitate the needs of the sheriffs of the state of Missouri. As you can imagine, it's hard to get 115 sheriffs in complete agreement. Looking back, there have been highs and lows, however, I would like to commend fellow sheriffs for making my job easy this past year — for the most part. I would like to thank my own staff at the Grundy County Sheriff's Office for holding down the fort while I was away tending to MSA business. I would also like to thank the staff of the Missouri Sheriffs' Association for their continued hard work and dedication to the sheriffs of Missouri and its citizens and give special recognition to Kim Case of our Crime Victims Unit, who recently received a national award from the Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime for her unwavering commitment to her work. Last but not least, I would like to say "thank you" to the MSA honorary and business members whose continued support make the association, and its valuable advice, support and partnership, possible.

Over the past year, the MSA has tackled numerous issues at the forefront of law enforcement, as well as Missouri and national



government. I am proud to say that I feel that Missouri sheriffs, as a whole, are the strongest legislative lobbyist in the state of Missouri. Citizens, rest assured that your sheriffs are on scene at local, state and national levels to ensure that your rights are protected.

This past year has been a rewarding and humbling personal experience. I am ever grateful to my fellow sheriffs for granting

me the honor to represent them as president of the Missouri Sheriffs' Association and it will forever be a highlight of my career. This being an election year for the sheriffs of Missouri, I am reminded that many of my friends are retiring or may not win back their positions as sheriffs. With that being said, I wish to convey that it truly has been an honor to serve with you and for you. I appreciate all your endless hard work and dedication to the profession of sheriff and to your respective communities.

God bless.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rodney W. Herring". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rodney W. Herring
Grundy County Sheriff



Around the State

Franklin County SWAT Prepares for Critical Incidents

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office SWAT team recently completed 40 hours of training at the Southeast Missouri SWAT training center in Fredericktown. The training, attended by 14 tactical teams from across Missouri, Illinois and Florida, included both classroom and practical instruction from various instructors and focused on both mental and physical demands and preparations for dealing with high-risk, critical incidents. Training culminated with the fourth annual SEMA SWAT Challenge. Hosted by Fredericktown Police Department, the event was created in honor of Washington County Deputy Chris Parsons who was ambushed and killed in the line of duty in December 2012. The competition included five team events — Officer Down, Terrorist Attack, Obstacle Course, Active Shooter and Special Operations — that tested the teams' physical endurance, tactical shooting, mental stability and precision marksmanship. The Franklin County Sheriff SWAT team placed sixth in overall standings. Cpl. Mike Richardson placed second overall in the Top Sniper competition and Deputy Darrin Jones placed third overall in the Super SWAT Cop competition.

K-9 joins Daviess County

The Daviess County Sheriff's Office recently added a new member to its team — a K-9 named Alan. Trained in narcotics searches as well as search and rescue, he is the first K-9 for the Daviess County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Tyler Miller, who is trained to work with Alan, said the dog will be a valuable tool to the sheriff's office during vehicle searches, manhunts and locating missing persons. He already was used to assist in a vehicle search, finding crack cocaine and synthetic marijuana. A portion of the \$9,200 cost of the K-9 came from the National Police Dog Foundation. In addition, Purina in St. Joseph agreed to donate Alan's food. Sheriff Ben Becerra said Alan will positively contribute to the relationship the sheriff's office has with the community.



BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

Jimmie Lee Wells of Bowling Green, who served as sheriff of Pike County from 1989 to 2008; and Martin Rucker of St. Joseph, who served as Missouri state representative of the 29th District from 2005 to 2011; were nominated to the Board of Probation and Parole by Gov. Jay Nixon. The seven-member board is responsible for determining whether a person confined in the Department of Corrections shall be paroled or conditionally released, and for supervising all persons on probation and parole. Both men currently serve on the board. Their terms will end April 26, 2022.



Lincoln County Receives National Award

The Multi-County Narcotics and Violent Crime Units in Lincoln, Franklin, Washington and Reynold counties received the distinguished 2015 Law Enforcement Unit of the Year through the Missouri Narcotics Officers Association. The award was presented to Lt. Andy Binder, Sheriff John Cottle and Capt. Michael Lang at a conference at the Lake of Ozarks. The Narcotics Unit was recognized for creating safer, drug-free communities through drastically reducing access to illegal narcotics including heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana and synthetic and psychedelic drugs. The unit conducted hundreds of undercover investigations which led to multiple indictments and convictions in both state and federal courts. Sheriff Cottle said the hard work is indicative of adhering to the narcotics unit motto, "Prevention, Enforcement and Rehabilitation."

The unit as a whole investigated more than 450 drug cases which resulted in 574 arrests and the seizure of more than \$500,000 in currency, \$100,000 in property and approximately 12,400 pounds of prescription drugs. The illegal narcotics seized included two pounds of cocaine, one pound of heroin, 10 pounds of meth, four pounds of synthetic marijuana and 57 pounds of marijuana.

"We spent thousands of hours investigating and convicting drug dealers in Lincoln County and what the public may not know is we also spend just as much time in prevention efforts to curtail drug behavior," Cottle said, adding that the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office is an active member in the county's drug court and prevention programs. "The Narcotics Unit has and will continue to make a positive impact in both the law enforcement community and the community in which they serve. I am very proud of what this unit has accomplished and the countless hours of dedication. They are a special group of investigators."



Toelke, Copeland Honored

Franklin County Sheriff Gary Toelke and his chief deputy, Maj. Michael Copeland, who rose through the ranks together and were on their final year with the sheriff's office, recently were honored for their service. Maj. Copeland, who had been battling cancer, passed away just a few days later. Both men received a proclamation from Gov. Jay Nixon and resolutions from the Missouri House and Senate recognizing their years of service to Franklin County and Missouri. Copeland had served 49 years, including time as a civilian dispatcher while still in high school and college. Toelke, the longest serving sheriff in the county's history, was beginning his 41st year with the office. Copeland and Sheriff Toelke ran against each other for sheriff in the late 1980s. They agreed in advance that whoever won would make the other man undersheriff. The race was described as the "cleanest political race" ever seen, with both men even riding to campaign events together. Pictured, from left, are Rep. Justin Alferman, Copeland, Sheriff Toelke, and Sen. Mike Schatz.

Donation to Help Save Lives, Tax Payer Dollars

The Camden County Sheriff's Office now has eyes from the skies, thanks to the donation of a DJ1 Phantom 3 Advanced GPS Drone, donated by the Camdenton Lions Club to help the sheriff's office with searches for missing persons, crowd control, major events and documenting crime scenes. The Phantom 3 has a 2.7k camera which provides 1080P video or 12 megapixel photographs, a flight time of more than 20 minutes on one battery and a flight range of approximately 1.24 miles. The sheriff's office planned to register the drone with the Federal Aviation Administration and conduct training so it could be ready for the summer season. "We depend on generous donations from community organizations, like the Lions Club, to help us meet our goals and to be a progressive law enforcement agency," said Sheriff Dwight Franklin.



New Chief Deputy at Audrain County

Matthew W. Oller was recently promoted to Major (Chief Deputy) of the Audrain County Sheriff's Office.

Major Oller replaced Major Donald Uhey who retired in January after 25 years of service. Major Oller,



who has been with the Audrain County Sheriff's Office for the past 14 years, has 22 years of experience in law enforcement. He served in the capacity of a supervisor for 17 of those years. In addition to managing more than 40 employees, he is also tasked with the overview of the sheriff's office requirement to collect DNA samples of certain felons, the registration of sex offenders, crime reporting to the FBI and Highway Patrol, driving while intoxicated reporting to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the issuance of concealed carry permits, and the iris scanning of the prisoners' eyes. After the announcement of Sheriff Stuart Miller's retirement, Major Oller filed to run for the sheriff's position.

MSA Recognizes Contributions of Former Jail Administrator

From now on, the MSA's Jail Administrator of the Year Award will be called the "Warren Brewer Jail Administrator of the Year" in honor of Warren Brewer, who worked for the Boone County Sheriff's Office



for 33 years before passing away last year from complications of cancer. Although he worked a number of jobs at the sheriff's office over the years, he oversaw the jail from 1988 until his retirement in October 2015. Coworkers described him as not only an excellent law enforcement officer but also a valued friend, a positive role model for others in his profession and a great teacher whose door was always open. Because of the professionalism, dedication, loyalty and commitment shown by Brewer toward his job and to others, the MSA felt it would be only fitting to name the award after him.

St. Charles County Sheriff Attends National Sheriffs' Institute

Earlier this year, St. Charles County Sheriff Scott A. Lewis completed participation in the 109th session of the National Sheriffs' Institute (NSI) held in Aurora, Colorado. The NSI is the only national executive development program designed for sheriffs. This no-cost program is co-sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) and the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA). Sheriff Lewis joined 20 other sheriffs from across the country for training on contemporary challenges facing America's sheriffs including the role of the local sheriff in providing effective leadership in such areas as public safety, criminal justice system policy, community relations, and organization effectiveness and efficiency. Hilary Burgess, NSA manager of training, called Sheriff Lewis "a leader with vision for the St. Charles County Sheriff's Office. It is an honor to have Sheriff Lewis join the more than 2,700 graduates of the NSI since 1973." The NIC, a division of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, is the primary federal source of technical assistance, training, and information services for state and local corrections. NIC provides a wide variety of services to the nation's jails, most of which are the responsibility of sheriffs. The NSA is a non-profit professional association representing nearly 3,100 elected sheriffs across the nation. Since 1940, NSA has provided management training for sheriffs and their personnel in court security, crime victim services, domestic violence, homeland security initiatives, jail operations and traffic safety. Additionally, NSA administers the National Neighborhood Watch and Triad programs.



Jackson County Sheriff's Office Honors 14 for Commendable Work

Sheriff Mike Sharp recently honored those who he said displayed "some of the best law enforcement work we were fortunate to see in 2015."

Jessica Hill was named Deputy of the Year for showing "calm in the face of a chaotic situation" as a call in rural Independence elevated from a burglary in progress to a foot chase, then apprehension of both burglary suspects.



Dale Covey was named Sergeant of the Year for serving in a supervisory role over the Community Resource, Motorcycle, Concealed-Carry units and Building Services and playing an instrumental role in the JCSO's move to their new facility. Joel Paslay, who worked every week with the Child Protective Center, was named Reserve Deputy of the Year.

Dispatchers Theresa Hunter and Eric Spardley were both given letters of



commendation. Hunter was honored for her actions during a storm-related outage of the communications unit and for her work handling a suicidal subject and officer-involved shooting on the same day. Spardley was commended for going "above and beyond his job scope" during dispatch communications with deputies.

Robert Harman, who is responsible for the maintenance and care of headquarters, tackling "tasks that no one else will," was recognized as Civilian of the Year and Donna Rellergert, the civilian supervisor of the concealed-carry permit unit, received the Meritorious



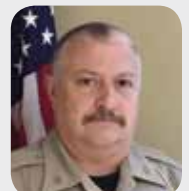
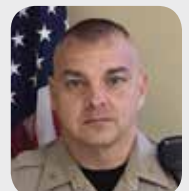
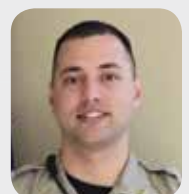
Service Award. A Meritorious Service Award also was given to Don Chambers for his continued performance as a clerk at the Warrant Unit.



Life-Saving Awards were given to deputies Ryan Painter, Kevin Souder, Tony Uredi and Colin Love, and to Sgt. Glen Postlethwait



and Sgt. Doug Blodgett. Painter's first award came in June, when he used CPR to revive an 18-month-old baby that wasn't breathing. Painters and Souder were recognized for providing life-saving medical treatment to a victim whose vicious dog attacked her, tore off all her clothes and chewed off a portion of her leg. Love was recognized for finding a car sitting in the lanes of U.S. 40 Highway with a driver having a heart attack and not breathing. Then Blodgett, Postlethwait, Souder, and Painter worked as a team and brought him back to life.



Dallas County Sheriff Starts Church Safety Program

Because church violence can occur anywhere, including rural Missouri, Dallas County Sheriff Mike Rackley has started a Church Security and Safety Ministry initiative. He established the program after attending a presentation that focused on how to form security and safety teams; clergy and membership safety; access and egress review; disaster planning; special considerations for children and their parents; lockdown criteria; and security and safety in the sanctuary, lobby and parking lots. Representatives of many churches in southwest Missouri attended the seminar. Sheriff Rackley said he will be holding meetings to share that information with church members in Dallas County. Church representatives also will learn how to review their buildings from a safety readiness standpoint, then implement measures to increase security. The program also will include discussion of some full-security considerations such as cameras and slide key doors. In addition, the sheriff will supply an outline to help churches form their own safety and security ministry. An operations manual developed by another church will be available for review. "I think this is a critically important issue for all churches, and our office will take a positive lead and work hand in hand to assist the citizens, worshippers and clergy of our county," Sheriff Rackley promised. For more information or to schedule a presentation and/or consultation, call 417-345-2441.



From One Sheriff to Another

Greene County Sheriff Jim Arnott recently handed over the keys of a Dodge Charger to Cedar County Sheriff D. Leon Dwerlkotte. Instead of selling the still-functional vehicle in an auction, the Green County Sheriff's Office gifted it to the Cedar County Sheriff's Office. "In times of economic hardship, large purchases such as newer vehicles may sometimes prove difficult for smaller law enforcement agencies. We were absolutely thrilled we could help our brothers and sisters at Cedar County," said Sheriff Jim Arnott. "It is important to support one another wherever we can."

Greene County Jail Meets Highest Standards

The Greene County Jail has earned accreditation from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care by demonstrating compliance with NCCHC's Standards for Health Services in Jails. Accreditation recognizes the Greene County Jail's dedication to compliance with the most respected standards in correctional health care. The Greene County Jail underwent a rigorous on-site survey in May 2015. An experienced physician and other correctional health care experts surveyed the facility for compliance with standards on safety, personnel and training, health care services and support, patient care and treatment, health promotion, special needs and services, health records and legal issues.

"We have a legal obligation to provide inmates with health care, and we will do our job with innovation, excellence and efficiency on behalf of the taxpayers," said Sheriff Jim Arnott. "I salute the supervisors, officers and health care staff for their hard work, which involves knowledge of



health care delivery in a secure environment."

NCCHC has surveyed and accredited jails, prisons and juvenile detention and confinement facilities for more than 30 years. The NCCHC standards used in accreditation are developed with input from the nation's experts in correctional health care.

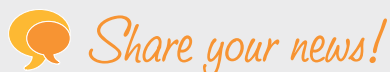
"In achieving NCCHC accreditation, the Greene County Jail has demonstrated its commitment to meeting constitutional

requirements for health care delivery for incarcerated individuals," said Thomas Joseph, MPS, CAE, president of NCCHC. "Accreditation is a voluntary process and we commend Sheriff Jim Arnott for successfully undertaking this challenge to provide quality health care and instill confidence in the community it serves."



Canine to Assist Camden County in War on Drugs

The Camden County Sheriff's Office recently introduced its newest sheriff's deputy, K9 Kaiser, a 21-month-old German Shepherd who has been trained in narcotics detection. This spring, Kaiser and his handler, Sergeant Scott Hines, spent several weeks in Texas training together as a team. Kaiser will be used to conduct searches for narcotics in local schools and during search warrants and vehicle searches. Kaiser was adopted from Universal K-9, a company in San Antonio, Texas that specializes in training shelter dogs for police work. Due to budget cuts, the sheriff's office did not have the funds needed to pay for a police dog and the necessary handler training, which can run upwards of \$15,000. Universal K-9's program allows agencies to have a working police dog without having to spend that kind of money. In addition, several large private donations and a fundraising campaign conducted in March and April allowed the sheriff's office to adopt Kaiser. Hines said he's "very grateful to the citizens of Camden County who helped us adopt Kaiser and I look forward to working with him for many years to help our community." Sheriff Dwight Franklin added that Kaiser is a welcome addition to his office. "I know this will translate to a great working relationship for our community."



Announce your special event or award recognition with MSA. Send information to Nancy at nancyhogland@gmail.com.

Sheriff Expresses Support for Preschool Program Funding

Jackson County Sheriff Mike Sharp recently met with members of Sen. Roy Blunt's staff to voice his support for federally funded daycare programs that provide early learning opportunities. Sheriff Sharp said he believes the programs can improve public safety because they improve school readiness for at-risk children, which, in turn, boosts academic achievement and keeps children in school and away from crime as they get older. The sheriff said he sees many people in his jail who lacked opportunity, access and support to choose another path in life. High-quality learning programs offered early in life could prevent that, he said. Sheriff Sharp is a member of Fight Crime: Invest In Kids, a 5,000-member non-profit anti-crime organization that promotes public safety through investments in children and youth.



Don't Legalize Marijuana

"Legalization of marijuana for medicinal uses makes communities less safe, and Missouri should not head down that dangerous path." That was the message presented earlier this year at a press conference held by Keeping Missouri Kids Safe, which strongly opposes efforts to legalize marijuana. Representatives from several law enforcement agencies and organizations, including Pettis County Sheriff Kevin Bond, who represented the Missouri Sheriffs' Association, and Jason Grellner, with the Missouri Narcotics Officer Association, were on hand to show their support. Coalition members said medical marijuana is not backed by science – but if medical use is behind the push to legalize the drug, then that effort should come from the FDA, which regulates all other drugs containing THC and CBD, two of the active chemical compounds found in marijuana. Others questioned the wisdom of "smoking" any drug since studies have already proven that smoking causes cancer. Opponents also shared data from Colorado, showing that since marijuana was legalized in that state in 2012, they've seen a 40-percent increase in school suspensions and dropouts; a 12-percent increase in crime; a 74-percent spike in homicides in 2015; and an increase in drug-related traffic fatalities. The coalition spokesperson also said his group is concerned that if marijuana was legalized in Missouri for medicinal use, it would not be properly regulated, allowing the drug to end up in the wrong hands. Missouri is currently the only state that does not have a prescription drug monitoring program.



Former Sheriff Passes

Robert Whitmer, who served as sheriff of Lewis County from 1980 through 1992, passed away in May at the age of 79. He and his wife, Chris, were the last husband and wife to live in the sheriff's house and jail. At that time the jail was upstairs and the family lived downstairs. Current Sheriff David Parrish described the Whitmers as "a fantastic combination who somehow managed to dispatch, live, respond to calls, run a jail, and raise children in the same home. Incredible way of life and incredible commitment to the citizens of Lewis County."





Dive With a Cop — Underwater Fun

Earlier this year, Sheriff Chris Heitman and the Maries County Sheriff's Office hosted a "Dive with a Cop Day" at the Jefferson City YMCA. The event, developed by Sheriff Heitman and offered free of charge, allows disabled adults and youth to know what it's like to breath underwater, feel weightlessness and to swim like a fish. Those who participated were accompanied at all times by highly skilled and certified diving partners and the event was closely monitored by scuba diving instructors and rescue divers. Dive with a Cop, hosted by Scuba Adventure Rescue and Recovery and the Mid-Missouri Sheriff's Dive Team, even included some friendly competitions and awards. More than 30 members of the Cole County Sheriff's Office, Osage County Sheriff's Office, Maries County Sheriff's Office, and the Belle Police Department were on hand to provide personal and positive interactions for everyone who attended. Another even is planned for later this year. Visit the group's Facebook page for more information. Scuba Adventure conducts training for first responders and law enforcement for rescue diving, life saving techniques for drowning victims.

Greene County Honors Two Deputies Killed Decades Ago

Sheriff Jim Arnott says recent research has found that two Greene County sheriff's deputies were not listed in historical records as being killed in the line of duty. They were Deputy John "Frank" Keller, who died on July 9, 1895, and Deputy Charles J. Kinser, who died on May 15, 1925. Arnott said the information was uncovered by Springfield Police Officer Rob Schroeder, a history enthusiast. According to that research, Keller, 41, was killed by an inmate working with a chain gang north of the Springfield zoo. Keller is buried in Maple Park Cemetery in Springfield in an unmarked grave. The Greene County Sheriff's Office and Wommack Monuments will provide a new headstone. Kinser was shot and killed in a shootout during a manhunt for two men who escaped from Memphis police. The men were wanted for the murder of a section foreman in Memphis. Sheriff Arnott is attempting to get Kinser and Keller honored at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial in Jefferson City. Both of their names were added to the memorial at the Greene County Sheriff's Office next to the courts building and jail.



Randolph County Sheriff Upgrades Technology

Earlier this year, Walmart Distribution Center Manager Dennis McCarter presented Randolph County Sheriff Mark Nichols and Cpl. Roy Hardt with a \$2,000 grant check. The money will be used to allow the sheriff's office to access Leads Online, an online investigation database and tool that allows users to report stolen items and provide serial numbers for those items. Pawn shop owners can then access that information to determine if items brought to them have been stolen and report that to law enforcement. The sheriff's office also recently received a state grant that allowed them to purchase 15 body cameras. Sheriff Nichols said the cameras will offer transparency and tell the story of any incident, protecting both the officers and the public. Through budgeting, the sheriff's office also is acquiring 15 GPS systems for department vehicles, Nichols said.

Former Polk County Sheriff Recognized

In recognition of his consistent and long-standing support for Missouri State University, the Board of Governors voted to award the first Governmental Excellence Award to Senator Mike Parson. The Government Excellence Award recognizes extraordinary achievement and outstanding support for the university by a current or former elected or appointed government official. Parson served in the U.S. Army, as Polk County sheriff, in the Missouri House of Representatives for three terms, and in the Missouri Senate since 2010.



Although Ste. Genevieve County Sheriff Gary Stolzer feels his ability to work well with the county commissioners and to find top-quality employees are among his greatest accomplishments over the past 15 years in office, adding an animal control division to the sheriff's office has been the achievement that's garnered the greatest attention and most support from the community.

"Back in 2006, I promised the citizens that if they would support a ½-cent law enforcement sales tax, we would provide animal control for the county and the city. It passed, so we built a facility right next to our office. We hired an officer who is dedicated to that unit and who takes care of all the animal calls. We are not an animal shelter — we are animal control," he said, adding that he believes Ste. Genevieve is one of the only — if not the only — sheriff's office in the state that provides that service.

Although they try to return stray animals to their owners or place them locally, once they get up to around 15 dogs, they take them to the Humane Society in St. Louis so they can be adopted.

"Animal calls are tough and by statute, they're definitely not something sheriffs are responsible for. However, when people call with an animal problem and you tell them 'No, we can't help you because we have no facility and we have no means to take care

Living the Good Life

Sheriff Gets to Serve a Community He Loves

of the animal,' they don't hear anything but 'No, we can't help you.' Now we don't have to tell people 'No' anymore," he said. "That's important."

Sheriff Stolzer said that in addition to cutting down on the number of animals running at large and providing for lost or abandoned animals, the tax, which now generates approximately \$800,000 per year, also allows his office to keep up with inflation and provide competitive salaries and benefits for employees of the sheriff's office.

"And that, too, is important because we can retain good employees," he said.

This sheriff's law enforcement career started a little later in life than some. From the time he was a teen, he wanted to be a law enforcement officer. However, instead of following that dream, he followed in his dad's footsteps and took a job in construction, attending college and majoring in architectural drafting. He got married in 1991. Then in 1993, he and his wife Andrea bought a Dairy Queen Brazier franchise, literally building the business from the ground up. For the next few years, he ran the business and his wife taught school.

However, in 1997, when he was 26, his desire to serve his community drove him to attend the law enforcement academy. After graduating, he was commissioned as a road deputy with the Ste. Genevieve County Sheriff's Office. He worked there about a year but because he didn't agree with some of the sheriff's policies, he quit and went back to running his restaurant. It was only temporary, however. When the next election cycle rolled around, he ran for sheriff.

"I just felt I could do better for our community than what was being done. Although I didn't have much law enforcement experience, with my business background and experience in managing personnel, I knew I could do a good job. I also knew I could find good people that had law enforcement experience to help me," he said.

The community must have agreed

because he was elected and then sworn into office in January 1, 2001. The next go-around, the former sheriff ran against Sheriff Stolzer, but was defeated. Sheriff Stolzer has run unopposed in every race since. He said he plans to continue serving Ste. Genevieve County as long as he loves the job as much as he does today and as long as he feels he is doing the best job he can for its citizens.

"I'll be the first to admit, my challenges aren't as great as a lot of the other sheriffs. Ste. Genevieve is the oldest city west of the Mississippi and most of our residents are long-term so other than the issues with I-55, which runs through the middle of the county, we have very few transients. We have a population of around 18,500 and I'd say we are one of the cleanest counties in the state when it comes to drugs. We have a beautiful historic district and some of the finest wineries in Missouri, most of the homes and the yards throughout the county are well-maintained and we have great schools. It's a very conservative area. People in our community are 100-percent in support of law enforcement; our commissioners are great and they too support law enforcement. I think that's why we have the trust of the people," he said.

The sheriff also has the full support of his 15-year-old son, his 18-year-old daughter, and his wife of 25 years, who quit her teaching job to manage the restaurant, now known as the Dairy Queen Grill and Chill, when he took office.

"My kids are wonderful and my wife is wonderful. You've heard the old cliché, 'Behind every great man is a great woman.' Well, I have a great woman. She is truly amazing and I couldn't have accomplished what I did without her. We are a good team. This is a good place to be a sheriff and I have a good life," he said.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

Expecting the Best

Sheriff Strives for Professionalism in His Office

When Johnson County Sheriff Scott Munsterman was a junior in high school, he attended Missouri Boys' State, an eight-day leadership program that provides hands-on experience in the operation and fundamentals of government. While there, he attended a number of law enforcement sessions and even ran for sheriff of Boys State. Although he didn't win, he was able to become a deputy. The experience planted a desire in his heart that never left. After high school, he attended Central Missouri State University, working security for the university while obtaining a degree in criminal justice. After graduation, he achieved his dream — he was hired as a patrol officer with the city of Warrensburg, which sent him through the police academy. He worked there from June 1997 to his election as sheriff in 2014.

"I was considering running for sheriff in 2016, however, when the incumbent resigned two years into his term, several members of the community approached me and asked me to run," he said.

He won the race handily, garnering 61 percent of the vote. And while the law enforcement side of the job proved to be an easy transition for him, managing the 240-bed jail provided more of a challenge. "It's more like running a business," he said. "But getting the right people in place has made the job a lot easier — especially since half of the budget is dedicated to the jail."

One of those "right people" is Aubrie Duvall, who now serves as the jail administrator.

"She had worked here earlier but left. Fortunately, we were able to get her to come back because her experience and knowledge has made everything much easier," the sheriff said.

Other "right" people include Major Hugh Fowler, who retired after 32 years with the Missouri Highway Patrol and then agreed to come back to work as the under-sheriff, and Lt. Mike Hanes, who has been with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office more than 20 years.

"He oversees the road patrol and made sure everything stayed up and running through the transition and has continued to provide a wealth of information. He, like the others, does an excellent job. I'm blessed to have them," the sheriff said.

Sheriff Munsterman also said although he's only been in office a year and a half, he's pleased with the progress he and his team have made, increasing the number of road deputies from 11 to 15; adding another person to the detective unit; reinstituting the D.A.R.E. program in all the school districts in the county; and providing a pay increase for all employees. In fact, he said since taking the job, his goal has been to make his agency the most professional law enforcement agency in the county — and he feels like he's steadily been moving in that direction.

"Training is one way of doing that and I'm pleased that, to date, we've been able to fill every request for training that's come in. I want our employees to get all the education they can get. It helps them and it definitely helps our community," he said.

The sheriff's office also has been working with other law enforcement agencies in the county — from the state to the municipal level — to build better lines of communications.

"We work hand-in-hand trying to accomplish the same goal but seldom have time to actually get to know one another so we've started holding hot dog and hamburger cookouts and inviting all the other agencies to join us. Everyone seems to really enjoy it," he said, adding that they've also worked to keep the community better informed by increasing their presence on social media. "The Facebook page was already in place. Now we're working on improving it. Of course, we don't post every call that we go on but when we're getting hit with a number of burglaries in a certain area of the county or if there's a certain vehicle that's been tied to a crime, it's a great way to make the public aware. It's just a different generation of the tips hotline but it works and it can be a valuable tool in



fighting crime."

The sheriff joked that his office even has its own neighborhood watch of sorts. Goats from a neighboring farm frequently sneak through holes in the fence and make their way to the grounds surrounding the office.

"They can be pests at times — although they do a pretty good job of keeping the grass trimmed," Sheriff Munsterman laughed. "And it adds a little humor to the day."

He also gets a kick out of the interest his children have shown in his job.

"My wife Cheryl and I have a daughter entering high school next year, a son entering seventh grade and another son entering fourth grade. They all love that their dad is sheriff and they love meeting the deputies and other law enforcement officers. If I'm talking to my wife about work, they're right there asking questions, trying to put names with faces," he said.

And although he loves his job, Sheriff Munsterman said he's not going to influence his children to choose law enforcement as a career.

"That will be a decision they'll have to make on their own. I suspect that growing up around law enforcement and seeing the pros and cons, they'll have a pretty good idea of what it's all about. They know that I sometimes have to miss out on family functions because of my job but they also see the rewards," he said.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland



Sheriff Chris Hughes has a heart for children. It's evidenced by his past, present and even future job choices.

In the early 1990s, when the county was experiencing a lot of drug use, he yearned for a way to help combat the problem. While attending the University of Missouri's agriculture program, still trying to determine what he wanted to be when he grew up, criminal justice just kind-of caught his eye.

"I started attending the university's law enforcement academy at night and really enjoyed it so I transferred to Central Missouri State University's criminal justice program and started working part-time as a reserve deputy under Sheriff Steve Clark. I really liked it so I continued that course of study," he said.

After graduating, he accepted a job with the Chariton County Sheriff's Office. However, he soon realized he couldn't live on the \$12,000-a-year salary paid to deputies so he applied and was accepted for a deputy juvenile officer with the Ninth Judicial Circuit.

"I remember that I started out at \$18,420 and I thought I was cutting a fat hog," he laughed, adding, on a more serious note, that he felt he could make a difference in his county by working with children.

The cases he handled, unfortunately, were no laughing matter. While he dealt with the typical delinquency problems, the majority of his time was spent working child

Building Better Futures

Sheriff Works to Improve Life in His Community

abuse and child neglect cases — a direct result, he said, of the amount of meth use in Chariton County.

"When you add methamphetamine to any equation, everything goes bad. We had to remove a lot of kids from homes because of it," he said, adding that throughout his tenure with the juvenile office, he continued to remain in contact with the sheriff's office. Then in 1996, Bob Phillips, a good friend and former chief deputy, ran for sheriff and won. Phillips took office January 1, 1997. Sadly, he died May 15 of that same year. When the county announced it would hold a special election to replace Phillips, Sheriff Hughes decided to put his name on the ballot — and he won. He was 27 at the time, making him the youngest to be elected to the office of sheriff in Missouri.

The job provided him with ample opportunities to tackle the problem that originally got him thinking about law enforcement as a career.

"From the time I took office in '97 to about the year 2000, we were hitting meth lab after meth lab because we have seven anhydrous plants here in the county. (Anhydrous ammonia is a key ingredient in the illegal production of methamphetamines.) We were arresting people coming up here from St. Louis to steal anhydrous, then ride the back roads to cook it off. Over the years, we've worked federal investigations with the FBI, and we've done federal roundups here in the county, sending a lot of people to prison on federal charges and to jail on state charges," he said.

Although, since taking office, illegal drug use has continued to be his greatest challenge, his biggest accomplishment has been his ability to help his county's children.

"I can't tell you how many times kids — well, now they're young adults — have seen me and run up to give me a hug, thank me for taking them out of horrible situations at home and invite me to their graduations or their weddings. The job was a tough

one but I feel like I was able to make a difference for them — it's shown me that everything that I've done has been worth it," the sheriff said.

While working to take drugs off the street, he also worked to keep the youth from become customers of the drug dealers. Soon after taking office, Sheriff Hughes started a D.A.R.E. program for all the fifth-grade classes in his county that continues today. Most recently, he worked out an arrangement that allows a resource officer, and that deputy's salary, to be shared equally by the five school districts in Chariton County. The county will also bear a portion — albeit small — of the costs.

"It's something I've wanted to do for a long time. I'm so glad I was able to get the program implemented before I retire at the end of my term," he said, adding that although he may be stepping down from law enforcement, he won't be stepping away from his commitment to make Chariton County a better place to live — especially for its youth. A fourth-generation owner of a Century Farm and an active member of the Masonic Lodge and Ararat Shrine Club, Keytesville United Methodist Church Board of Directors, Keytesville Lions Club, Keytesville Volunteer Fire Department and Keytesville Chamber of Commerce, he plans to continue working with the younger generation in his new position, which he wasn't free to announce yet.

Sheriff Hughes, a National Sheriff's Institute graduate and two-time recipient of the Sheriff of the Year award given by the Missouri Deputy Sheriffs' Association, said he wants to continue to have an impact on the county's youth.

"My wife, Rhonda, and I have two grown daughters and one grandson but we also have two young boys who will be growing up in this county. I want this to be a good place for them to live."

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

Always Advancing

Sheriff's Goal is to Constantly Improve Office

Butler County Sheriff Mark Dobbs said he never gets up in the morning and thinks that he's going to do the "same old thing, the same old way."

"I always want to try to keep moving forward and try to improve things in some way or fashion. I will never be satisfied with the 'status quo,'" he said.

Now approaching his fourth term in office, Sheriff Dobbs' goals for the future include increasing the quality of his staff, through continued training, and the quantity of officers and investigators protecting his county's citizens.

"As the site coordinator for the Missouri Sheriffs' Association Training Academy, I am, of course, very much interested in training. I am a big believer that we owe it not only to our officers, but to our community to equip our staff with as much knowledge as possible," he said. "That's something I constantly strive to accomplish."

His career in law enforcement began in 1989 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with the military police. After leaving the military in 1993, he took a job as a weekend jailer and bailiff with the Butler County Sheriff's Office — and just kept progressing through the ranks, working nearly every position until 2004, when he ran for sheriff and was elected.

Over the years, he said he's come to appreciate most being what he called "head of my law enforcement family. Law enforcement has to be a team to work successfully and you have to have somewhat of a family atmosphere. When you're sheriff, you can't be everybody's buddy or friend, but you can be their mentor and somebody they look up to for guidance. I enjoy being 'head of household' for the 44 people who work in my office."

He said he least likes managing the liability aspects of the office — trying to avoid the pitfalls of possible litigation and

getting sued for things that are beyond anyone's control.

He said his biggest challenge has been trying to serve the needs of a growing community with a limited number of people and funds. His greatest accomplishment has been the ability to take the sheriff's office from where it was when he took office to where it is today.

"For instance, when I started, a deputy sheriff had to buy everything — from his gun, gun belt and uniform — all the way to his patrol vehicle. And my pay was below \$20,000. Nowadays, a prospective deputy sheriff walks in the door needing nothing and the starting pay is about \$38,000. The quality of the officers has increased dramatically by being able to offer more pay and by being able to offer better equipment at no expense to the officers," Sheriff Dobbs said, explaining the increase was made possible by a ¼-cent sales tax approved by the voters in 1993.

In the beginning, the tax was used to build a new detention center to replace the 20-bed jail housed on the top floor of a courthouse built in the 1920s. After the new 150-bed facility, which usually houses a population of between 120 and 140 inmates, was paid off, the sales tax revenues went to, among other things, boosting deputy sheriff salaries to what the sheriff described as a "livable wage."

Although the sheriff said he's had to deal with pretty much the same types of crimes that other sheriffs across the state see on a daily basis, one case stands out in his mind. In October 2012, a 5-year-old girl was kidnapped from her home by an area registered sex offender that had been "scoping her out." After the suspect cut through a screen, he opened the window and pulled her from the couch. Later that evening, she was found safe and the suspect was taken into custody and, at trial, was given a lengthy sentence that should keep him behind bars for the rest of his life.



"Those are the kinds of things that stay with you. We've also had our fair share of homicides around here but we utilize the major case squad model and so far, have zero unsolved homicides. A lot of investigations falter because of 'turf wars;' pride gets in the way of the mission. However, we've been able to avoid that by developing a good working relationship with the other agencies. The way I look at it, we don't have to love each other and go fishing together to do a good job. We do, however, all have to keep our eyes focused on the goal and I'm pleased that we've been able to do that quite well," Sheriff Dobbs said, adding that their motto at the sheriff's office is "We'd rather share the credit than own the blame all by ourselves."

Sheriff Dobbs, a single dad of four daughters and one son who range in age from 10 to 20, said when he's not at work, his time is spent with his kids and fiancée, whom he plans to marry this fall. He laughingly added that though he tries to employ his morning "work" mindset at home, it's not always successful.

"With four girls, our mornings can be a treat with all the controversy and the 'This doesn't look rights,' and the 'That really doesn't look rights!' My attempt to improve mornings includes telling them they're not going to a fashion show — they're going to school! It doesn't always work," he laughed.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

Keeping the MSA on the Right Digital Path

Over the last decade, information technology has progressed at an almost unbelievable rate in every field imaginable, including law enforcement. Today, sheriffs' offices can use that know-how to accomplish things that previously were simply the stuff science fictions movies were made of.

However, as quickly as that technology has changed, one thing has remained the same: computers and computer programs are only as good as the person that maintains them. That's why the Missouri Sheriffs' Association (MSA) is fortunate to have David Schwendemann on staff.

Schwendemann is the MSA's senior systems analyst. As such, he takes care of the IT portion of the MSA's servers and computers. Unlike the rest of the MSA staff, his workplace is at the Cole County Sheriff's Office.

"Because of the sensitive information that we store, we needed our servers to be in a secure location where no one could get into them. The Cole County commissioners and Sheriff Greg White was kind enough to provide that for us," he said.

The "sensitive" information stored includes the statewide Automated Biometric Information System (ABIS), used by nearly 60 sheriffs' offices across the state. Those offices have special high-resolution cameras in their jails that are used to obtain images of offenders' irises during the booking process. The patterns on the iris, a muscle within the eye that regulates the size of the pupil, are unique and structurally distinct, which allows them to be used for recognition purposes. Software transforms the pictures into digital files that are encrypted and linked to the inmates' mug shot and files, creating a permanent record of identify. That information is then sent over to the MSA servers, where it is stored and made available to all participating



sheriffs' offices.

"For instance, if someone was arrested and booked in Cole County, an iris scan would be done and it would be put into this system. If that person was released and then later arrested in Greene County, they could scan his or her irises and know their identity. Iris scanning is also used before inmates are released to verify that they're releasing the right person," Schwendemann explained.

Currently, the biometric information is also shared with the Department of Corrections, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the FBI. In addition, a portion of the information is shared with the Missouri Data Exchange (MoDEX), a statewide data warehouse developed to provide law enforcement agencies with the ability to search, link, analyze and share criminal justice information on a statewide basis.

In addition to maintaining the ABIS network, Schwendemann is also responsible for installing equipment, repairing or replacing broken equipment and training new users across the state. "Someone will call and say their camera is broken or their computer won't turn and David is in a car on his way to help," said Kevin Merritt who oversees the ABIS project. "David is easy to work with and never complains," said Merritt, adding that he

greatly enjoys this type of work.

He must because he's been doing it most of his adult life. Prior to coming to the MSA in 2010, he worked for a private image checking company that dealt with banking software. He also worked for the Public Service Commission as an IT person and he was involved in the state of Missouri's SAM II project, which incorporated all accounting, budgeting, purchasing, human resources and payroll processing for all state departments and agencies. Before that, he taught computers and mathematics for 27 years to high schoolers.

When he's not sitting behind a computer, he's under the hood of a 1958 Fiat or a 1954 Mercury convertible.

"I drove both of these cars when I was in high school. My father, who was an 'accumulator,' had put them in his garage and let them sit. When he passed away, I brought them home and now I'm trying to fix them up because they pretty much went to pot over the last 28 years! But restoring them is keeping me busy and this hobby is definitely giving me a place where I can put my money," he laughed, adding, however, that his favorite thing to do when not at work was to spend time with his wife, Sharon Jean.

She works as a teacher at Lincoln University but is no stranger to law enforcement. Several years ago, she volunteered for the Missouri Department of Corrections at the Missouri State Prison in a leadership and communication program for inmates sponsored by Toastmasters International. She was also a volunteer in corrections to the Alpha Toastmasters Club in Jefferson City, the first Toastmasters club behind prison walls. This was concurrent with her position as a news anchor and news reporter for Channel 13 and after her acquiring the title of Mrs. Missouri.

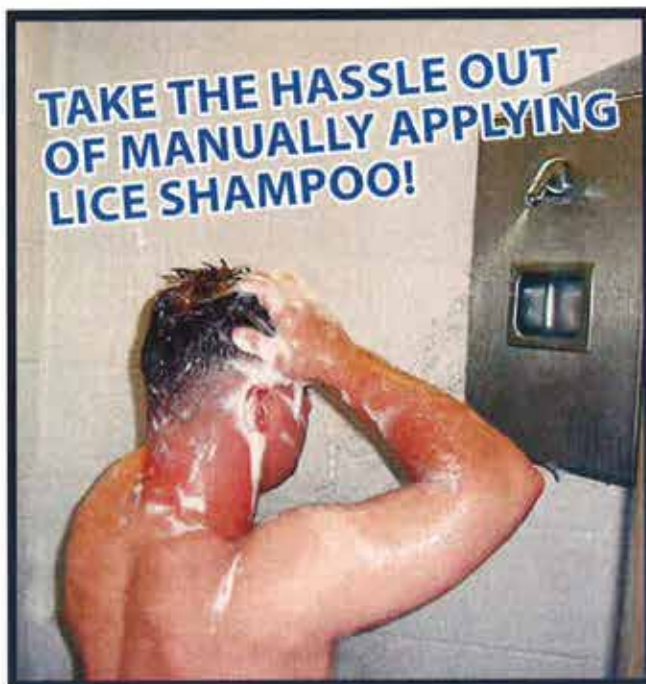
"She's truly a wonderful woman," Schwendemann said.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

LICE PROBLEMS?

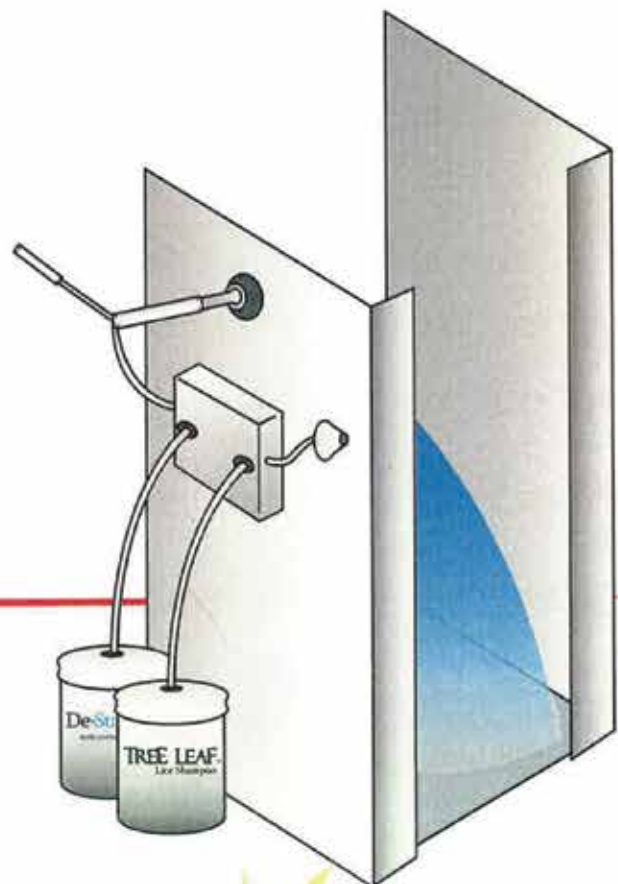
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NCIC: Providing Affordable Inmate Calling Service

Jail administrators and sheriffs know that a key component of maintaining order in a facility is prisoner contact with the outside world. This is particularly true of inmates who have children. The opportunity to speak at length with family members can go a long way toward keeping inmates calm and focused on behavior that gets them home more quickly. The telephone can be an important tool in that mission.

NCIC Inmate Phone Service is focused on providing jail and prison inmates with affordable access to the outside world, a value to jailers working to keep order and to prisoners, their families and children.

The cost of inmate calls has come under intense Federal Communication Commission scrutiny in recent years. In November of 2015 an FCC ruling took aim at rates, fees and other matters associated with providing inmate phone services. A portion of that ruling capped per-minute call costs at between 14 and 22 cents depending on the size of a facility. Longview, Texas-based NCIC was ahead of the curve on these issues, providing service to prison inmates in their system at 11 cents per minute. In a sea of fee schedules for prisoners and families to

deposit money into pre-pay accounts, NCIC was charging just \$3 for that service, leading the industry in keeping the cost of inmate calls at reasonable rates. Prior to the recent changes in regulations, some companies were charging a fee of up to \$14.99 per call.

NCIC president and co-owner Bill Pope said it always has been his company's goal to make money, allow jail and prison systems to make money on commissions, yet, at the same time, provide a quality service for inmates and their families at an affordable cost.

He said he felt the new rates set by FCC were fair, and still allowed those goals to be met. In some cases, commissions paid by NCIC to the facilities using their service amount to half of those facilities' phone-service income. With free phone systems provided to those facilities, this can provide a boost to the budgets of cash-strapped jails. Pope says the average prisoner will spend about \$75 a month on phone calls. In a facility with an average daily population of 50, that could put as much as \$22,500 in jail coffers in a year while providing a service that helps take the edge off a dangerous environment.

Although calls from clergy and

attorneys are exempt, NCIC collects and stores recordings of all other inmate calls in the Cloud, a data storage program that operates via the Internet instead of in a computer's hard drive. This provides law enforcement with the opportunity to later review calls that may become important in an investigation and can even help sheriffs' offices solve crimes. In addition, the systems allow real-time monitoring of calls so if conversations take an inappropriate turn, calls can quickly be terminated by law enforcement staff. NCIC systems also allow law enforcement to flag particular inmates and calls for monitoring.

Since 1995, NCIC has been providing quality phone service to facilities in all 50 states and 12 foreign countries. The phone service provider has a solid presence in the Missouri jail market, servicing about 30 percent of jail and prison facilities in the state either directly or through wholesale arrangements.

■ By Michael Feedback



Donna Arney

donna@mosheriffs.com
573-635-9644 ext. 106



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Ability to Share Information Can Determine the Outcome of a Call

The world of law enforcement changed forever in the short decades between Jesse James and Clyde Barrow. The invention of the radio made the outlaws' world smaller as officers were able to communicate across jurisdictions in efforts to corner robbers and killers on the run.

In 1979, the world began to change again when David and Frances Heffner founded CODY Systems and began the transition from vintage two-way radios to the twenty-first century world of digital law enforcement communications networks. The family-owned company has led the field in integration of communications and data networks that increase efficiency and safety for law enforcement organizations at all levels. A focus on cutting-edge solutions and personalized customer support is the hallmark of the CODY way of operating with integrity, embracing innovation and putting service first.

The CODY Records Anywhere system is a key element in improving officer safety. Approaching a vehicle on a dark road is a less risky proposition if an officer is in possession of what could be life-saving facts. CODY Systems programs manage and analyze records for use anywhere, providing road officers with access to field contacts, incident reports, booking files and other important information. Documents from sources throughout a law-enforcement system are available to everyone from command to patrol. And the form-based entry systems allow officers in the field whose vehicles are equipped with mobile in-car laptops to easily update information.

In the wake of 9-11 federal Homeland Security monies were put to work making certain that agencies at all levels and law enforcers in the field have access to a wide spectrum of information. Missouri

was the first state to develop an autonomous Homeland Security agency and the state legislature approved ongoing funding for the Missouri Data Exchange System known as Modex.

Laurie Crawford took over as Modex program manager for the Department of Public Safety in 2010 and immediately brought in CODY Systems to transform a good idea into a workable program. She worked with CODY in development of a data integration platform that makes Modex a cutting-edge information tool.

"CODY's years of experience dealing with integration of data sources nationwide proved to be the key element in creating the bridge between information and use in the field, solving a huge problem for us," Crawford said, explaining that CODY Systems creates the link between the Modex database and law enforcement agencies. More than 60 sheriffs and other agencies across Missouri have taken advantage of the CODY link, improving the flow of information and, most importantly, officer safety. Those agencies are at varying levels of participation — some are live while others are in the beginning stages of their participation. According to Crawford, access to Modex can make all the difference for law enforcement in the field by

providing key information for officers.

"Officers approaching a remote house to make a drug arrest can access previous incidents at the address and run the plates of cars in the vicinity to get information on who might be inside," she said, adding that the data bases that CODY Systems make available are an invaluable tool for crime investigators and jail administrators, as well. Victim notification of jail releases and other pertinent information also can be triggered through the system.

The CODY Systems link is extremely affordable, even for small departments, Crawford said. Modex pays for the hookup and training of an operator. CODY creates the link to 328 data bases that can provide a clear picture of law enforcement in situations across the spectrum of crime control, investigation and prevention.

An historic reluctance to share information between agencies is changing, Crawford said, as departments realize the immense value of the information that can be access through use of CODY Systems.

■ By Michael Feedback





Convert Criminal Justice Training, Experience to College Credit

Brandon Crisp, coordinator of Online and Graduate Admission at Culver-Stockton College.

Working in law enforcement — positively impacting the community and making a difference in people's lives — can be a fulfilling career. Thanks to a special program at Culver-Stockton College, it also can be a way for law enforcement and corrections officers — or those who served in the military — to more easily obtain a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Criminal Justice (BAAS).

The four-year private college, located in Canton, Missouri, now offers academic credit for experience gained while in the military, corrections or law enforcement. Classes are fully accredited and can be taken on campus, online or in a combination of both.

"The terms are eight weeks long. The first one starts in August, then there's a term in October, January and March. During the summer, we offer two, five-week terms. To apply for the college credit program, students put together an experience portfolio where they document their work history — it could be their professional resume, employer job assignment description, performance reports, a letter from a superior — and then we take it to our registrar's office. They'll look through a catalog and decide what real-world experience turns into college credit," explained Brandon Crisp, coordinator of Online and Graduate Admission. "We're able to offer up to 31 credits to students who qualify. If they can pull in all 31 credits, they could cut off a little more than a year's worth of classroom instruction."

He said 31 hours isn't guaranteed — some might receive 10 credits, some might receive 15 — it just depends on how much work experience the applicant has.

The work-credit program is fairly new. It was put into place last August but Crisp said they've just started sending information to law enforcement agencies and correctional facilities around the state to attract students.

"We know how difficult it is to work all day and then go to college on the side — especially when you work in a physically and mentally challenging job like law enforcement. However, online students can complete their degree at their own pace. Generally, students who also work just take one or two classes per term. And since classes can be taken completely online, they don't have to worry about coming to campus for anything," Crisp said.

Since Culver-Stockton is a partner with the Missouri Sheriffs' Association, the school offers a 10-percent discount on tuition to anyone currently working in corrections or in the law enforcement field. All that's required to obtain the discount is documentation to prove the place of employment.

There is no application fee and applications can be filed online. In addition, Crisp said he can provide a fact sheet that will guide applicants through the process of preparing the portfolio. According to the website, the professional portfolio must provide evidence that the student has achieved the learning goals for the particular course and should include things like a brief narrative outlining how train-

ing and experience helped satisfy those goals. Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) licensing qualifies as training.

However, course credit is given only for documented prior training and experience that correspond to a particular criminal justice course. And course credit will be given only after the student completes three semester hours of coursework towards a BAAS degree in criminal justice either on campus or online through the college.

Electives, which can be earned through experience and training, include Physical Education, Introduction to Criminal Justice, Corrections, Policing, Criminal Investigation, Criminal Law, Criminology, Juvenile Delinquency, Homeland Security, Interview and Interrogation, Community Corrections, Independent studies and Criminal Justice Research, Current Issues in Criminal Justice, Independent Study and selected topics in criminal justice.

Core courses include Introduction to Law, Introduction to Social Research, Comparative Criminal Justice, Constitutional Law, Victimology, Current Issues in Criminal Justice and Criminal Justice Management.

For more information about the program, visit <http://www.culver.edu/> and then click on the "Majors and Minors" link under the Academics tab. Next, click on the "Criminal Justice (BAAS)" link under the Politics and Law heading," or call Crisp at 573-288-6456.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

New Law Enforcement Liaison Program Begins

Proven by research, it is well known that an increase in traffic enforcement and traffic safety enforcement publicity in a community results in a decrease in motor vehicle crashes, injuries, and fatalities. In fact, no other single program or strategy works as well as traffic enforcement in making the roads safer.

That's why the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) Traffic and Highway Safety Division and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) are working together to sponsor the Missouri Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) program. The goal of the LEL program is to work with Missouri law enforcement agencies to reduce traffic related fatalities and injuries. They'll do this by promoting safety belt use, reducing impaired driving and encouraging other traffic safety initiatives through proven traffic enforcement programs such as "Click it or Ticket," "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over," and other state and federal traffic enforcement initiatives.

The LELs can help sheriffs' offices and other agencies receive grants and equipment for these and other traffic safety campaigns. These programs compliment the training and public information programs that MoDOT and NHTSA implement to promote traffic safety. The LELs also will encourage state and local law enforcement to conduct periodic, highly visible, enhanced enforcement of seat belt use and impaired driving laws using selective traffic enforcement strategies. In addition, they will help provide other technical assistance to law enforcement concerning traffic enforcement issues.

Missouri's new law enforcement liaisons are Art Amato and Brian Phillips.

Amato, a retired patrol sergeant from the Union Police Department with more than 30 years of experience in law enforcement, will be assigned to the counties in the northeast region of the state, including the Saint Louis area. He has instructed a variety of impaired driving programs, including Drug Recognition Expert, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and DWI Report Writing and has presented many traffic enforcement related topics to several state and regional confer-

ences. He is a former LETSAC board member, and a past winner of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) "People Saving People Award." He administered local, state and federal grants totaling more than \$1.5 million throughout his career. Contact him by emailing amato.lermo@hotmail.com or calling 636-584-1792.

Phillips, a retired lieutenant from the Springfield Police Department with 25 years of service, will be assigned to the southwest counties of the state. His experience includes supervising the Springfield Police Department's DWI Unit and serving as the Traffic Services commander, where he helped implement the first "No Refusal" policy in Greene County and supervised the first "No Refusal" checkpoints. While supervisor for the Springfield DWI Unit, the unit made more than 5,000 DWI arrests. Phillips also served for five months as the interim police chief of the Ash Grove, Missouri Police Department. To contact him, email bphillips.lermo@gmail.com or call 417-880-0089.

These LELs are here to assist you in your traffic enforcement efforts. They are a great grant resource and can assist your agency with any traffic enforcement questions or training needs. I urge you to contact them and get to know them. They welcome the chance to work with you and want to partner with you to help make Missouri's roadways safer.

In the coming months, Missouri law enforcement officers have opportunities to attend free POST certified training classes, Traffic Occupant Protection Strategies (TOPS) and Officer Roadside Safety.

The four-hour TOPS course is designed for officers and supervisors to increase understanding of how law enforcement officers save lives and prevent injuries by enforcing traffic laws. The class will also discuss the toll traffic crashes have on the community, occupant protection laws, crash dynamics, special risks to law enforcement, effective methods of issuing citations and effects of high visibility traffic enforcement on preventing and clearing other crimes.

More officers are killed as a result of

automobile crashes, being struck by vehicles and intentional vehicle assaults than any other method. Participants of this four-hour Officer Roadside Safety course will review and discuss the prevalence of officer crashes, traffic related accidents and deaths in recent history. Various contributing factors will be discussed including fatigue, equipment, staffing and individual officer experience. This program will include specific recommendations on how to prevent and survive roadside incidents, including vehicle positioning, traffic stop recommendations, lane closure and traffic direction recommendations.

The classes will be held in several locations throughout the state. Eight hours POST credit will be provided by the Missouri Safety Center at no cost to the participant. Because class size is limited, you should register as soon as possible. Location and contact information follow:

July 21 — Jefferson County Police Academy. Call Paul Ferber 636-481-3442 or email pferber@jeffco.edu

July 26 — Eastern Missouri Police Academy in St. Peters. Call Rich Will 636-922-8706 or email rwill@thepoliceacademy.org

August 8 — Joplin Police Department. Call Shelby Howard 417-623-3131 or email showard@joplinmo.org

August 31 — Cole County Sheriff's Office in Jefferson City. Call Lt. Gary Hill 573-634-9160 or email ghill@colecouny.org

September 15 — Adair County Sheriff's Office in Kirksville. Call Bill King at 660-665-4644 or email bking@adaircoso.com

September 20 — Bridgeton Police Dept. Call Kevin Quinlisk at 314-739-7557 or email kquinlisk@bridgetonmo.com

December 20 — Police Academy in St. Peters. Call Rich Will at 636-922-8706 or email rwill@thepoliceacademy.org

For more information on any of the programs or the LELs, contact Bill Sullivan at 913-208-5714, email him at bsully@sbcglobal.net or visit the website at www.nhtsa.gov.

■ By Bill Sullivan

MAKING THE TOUGH CALLS

The exercise of leadership is, in many ways, a seasonal business.

Some days things will be going very smoothly, and the decisions you made one to three months ago (perhaps even a year ago) provide adequate direction for what is needed for that “season.” But, then something significant changes everything – there is an unexpected crime spree, an economic downturn, a significant staff transition, or a new technology is introduced – and this change requires another “season” of refocused leadership horsepower.

Then things run smoothly again – for a season. We are glad the tough patch is behind us. All we want to do is get focused on the real work. But, sometimes it is actually helpful to hit the pause button and evaluate what contributed to a positive outcome or how we might have done it differently to get a better outcome.

I have just come out of one of the more intensive seasons. We all have them. One of the benefits of these times is that they provide an opportunity to learn important personal lessons. What made this last season so difficult was that I needed to engage in a series of very complicated accountability-oriented conversations with people that I knew well and cared deeply about. I was looking for a way to remain objective about what I needed to address. But, I also wanted to protect the relationships that were important to me. I was shooting for the proverbial win/win.

In thinking about what that might require, three words came to mind: courage, clarity, and compassion. These points of focus really helped guide my thinking in this time, and perhaps they might be of benefit for you in your next challenging season.

Courage – I am amazed at how often leadership requires nothing more or less than good old-fashioned courage. It means facing a problem and not running

from it. It means speaking directly to the person who needs the correction/input and not shirking back from that responsibility. It means going the extra mile to find a fair and honorable solution, and to muster the will necessary to follow-through on what’s decided.

Sometimes people shy away from a challenge and believe that the situation will resolve itself. But, this is always a flawed strategy. Challenges will not resolve themselves. In fact, left unaddressed, problems only become bigger and more complicated over time. However, once an issue is faced honestly and courageously, productive resolutions really do have a way of presenting themselves.

Clarity – I am not a real fan of interpersonal conflict. I generally want to keep the peace. As a result, in my efforts not to hurt people’s feelings, I can get fuzzy in my communication. I try and hint at the problem as opposed to speaking directly to it. Then, when things get even more complicated (because of the confusion that fuzziness creates), I tend

discomfort at first (who wants to say/hear the hard thing?), the benefit that comes out of the experience is typically well worth the risk.

Compassion – The disposition of compassion sets a positive tone for an otherwise difficult discussion, and I have found that the tone of the any meeting has just as much a bearing on the outcome as anything else that is said/done. Also, this “compassion piece” must be about something more than simply being nice. This is about having the other person’s best interests at heart, and doing our best to see the situation through their eyes.

Practically speaking, I have found it helpful to remember the “sandwich” when communicating something difficult. Start with affirmation and encouragement. Then go to the meat (harder part) of the conversation and then follow it up with additional affirmation. Be sincere. Be honest. And the end result will often go better than you expect. I have been pleasantly surprised at how most people genuinely appreciate and value

Sometimes people shy away from a challenge and believe that the situation will resolve itself. But, this is always a flawed strategy. Challenges will not resolve themselves. In fact, left unaddressed, problems only become bigger and more complicated over time.

to shut down completely. So, lately I have found myself working diligently to gain a clear sense (in my own mind) about what the core issues are and — if possible — come up with several suggestions that can move us toward resolution.

Along the way, I have discovered that although there may be a slight twinge of

honest and thoughtful feedback.

Courage, clarity and compassion, won’t make tough leadership calls easier but they do give us a chance to set ourselves up well for whatever the next season holds.

■ By Pieter VanWaarde

Kim Case Recognized for Her Courage, Selflessness in Helping Victims of Crime

Scripture says God causes all things to work together for the good of those who love Him, to those who are called according to His purpose.

That verse could have been written about Kim Case, advocate case manager for the Missouri Sheriffs' Association Crime Victims Unit (CVU), and a survivor of a sexual assault. On June 6, 1990, when she was just 19, she was kidnapped from her driveway and brutally raped and sodomized multiple times by four men. She was held in captivity for more than 15 hours, finally escaping when the man left behind to kill her fell asleep.

Instead of letting that experience alter her equilibrium, she chose to use it to offer strength and support to other crime victims and their families and to work with the legislature, law enforcement and the courts to ensure victims' rights.

"I think I realized very early on that I needed to work as a crime victims' advocate. In the months after the assault, my friend encouraged me to get counseling, especially since I would be facing such a difficult prosecution. She had talked to Leona Rivers Jewell, a counselor that had the expertise in trauma, victimization and sexual assault, and felt she would work well with me. So I began seeing her and that was a great step in the direction of healing," Case said. "At the time, Leona was involved at the state level with the movement for advocacy services. I know now that it was really a divine connection because she empowered me to turn the victimization and trauma into something worthwhile and good. She helped me become a survivor and because of that, I was inspired to become a servant and give back to the people — the advocates, the prosecutor and the law enforcement — that helped me get through the process."



A step toward accomplishing that goal included accompanying Jewell to meetings of the Missouri Victim Assistance Network (MOVA), a newly formed group dedicated to providing better victim services and balancing the scales of justice to include the victims as part of the process and not just treat them as witnesses.

Case joined the group as one of the only survivors of a crime.

"I knew early on that it was an honorable calling. At the same time, I became immersed in the criminal justice process as my own case headed to court. There were four offenders from three separate counties with hundreds of possible charges, so between depositions and hearings the process was unending and grueling, but it allowed me to watch the system — to see how it worked and how it varied from county to county. I call it 'the good, the bad and the ugly' because some things went okay in some counties while there were problems in others. The entire time I just kept thinking, 'If there was just someone to support the victim — to encourage and empower them — it would make such a difference.' That's when I decided I could be that 'someone'."

The Victims' Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 incorporated a Bill of Rights on a national level for crime victims. At the same time, victims' rights organizations began pushing for Constitutional amendments at the state level. Case knew she wanted to be involved so she started speaking at different events, trying to rally support for the Missouri Crime Victim Rights Amendment, which provided crime victims with the right to be informed of and be present at criminal proceedings, the right to restitution, the right to protection from the defendant and the right to be informed of escape or release of the defendant. She even testified before the Missouri House of Representatives.

She said she found that her story resonated with people because she wasn't trying to blame the system or any one person — she was just trying to be a survivor and see things improve. The measure was on the November 3, 1992

ballot and was approved.

Soon after, she started volunteering as an advocate at the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault in Kansas City. At the same time, her case was drawing to a close, she got married and spent the next few years enjoying life as a stay-at-home mom of two babies. Then in 1996, she took a job dispatching for the Johnson County Sheriff's Office.

"I had stayed as a member of MOVA so I was keeping up with what was happening with victims' rights — and of course,

This job can take its toll — it wears on your heart, your soul and your mind. But I rely on my faith to get me through.

my desire to help the victims that were coming through our office continued to grow. In 1998, the sheriff and I put together a Crimes Against Persons Unit and decided I would work as an advocate. At the time, the Belton Police Department had an advocate on staff so we worked with them to develop policies and the protocols and we successfully applied for grant funds through the Missouri Department of Public Safety (DPS) to fund it. It was a great program and we did great work, assisting crime victims as we worked alongside the detectives and the prosecutor," Case said, adding, with a catch in her voice, that their unit was put to the test on Valentine's Day in the year 2000 when a man shot and killed his pregnant wife and shot all seven of his children. "Two of the children survived and because the mother's family, who lived in Alaska, couldn't get there right

away, I stepped in to be their main care provider. I had been on the scene with all of our first responders, taking care of all these dead and wounded children. It was traumatizing for all of us. We all suffered."

She worked with the unit for another two years but then decided she needed a break and went to work in the corporate world.

In 2008, she felt the tug to get back in advocacy so she took the job of regional specialist for MOVA. As such, she was tasked with securing services for victims, working with prosecutors, law enforcement, clergy, social services, the medical field and judges to assess how they could better service the community. In 2009 to 2010, they obtained grant money to train law enforcement and first responders.

Case said the Missouri Sheriffs' Association was quick to realize that sheriffs' offices in the state needed access to good victim advocates who would understand the objective of law enforcement, who could help them provide support for the victims and who could bridge the gap between law enforcement, social services, prosecutors and the juvenile division.

"Mick Covington, MSA's executive director, felt that law enforcement should be the defender of victims' rights — not just the defendants' rights and that sheriffs could restore their communities by helping victims to become survivors so he suggested that we work together to create an initiative," she said. "We met with the board of directors to discuss the idea, they supported it and established a committee to create an outline that later would become the Crime Victims Unit."

Case said they applied for a grant through the DPS, which facilitates three grant programs. Two are federally mandated with Congress allocating money to each state to secure services for crime victims — the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The third is State Services to Victims Fund (SSVF) and consists of Missouri money that comes from court fines and penalties.

"We quickly found the grant process

is arduous, difficult and not necessarily directed at making it easy for programs to exist. It's become a process-driven, paperwork nightmare. Needless to say, we've had to work very hard to secure funding for an innovative and progressive, yet basic and fundamental, program designed to serve Missouri victims," she said, adding that with their initial request, the DPS grant review committee funded one part-time person to cover the entire state. "Because that made it very difficult to provide the needed response, the MSA kicked in money for another 10-hour-per-week position. In 2013, we applied for another grant program to try to increase the staff. This time, we were provided with funding for two fulltime positions."

Since that time, the MSA has worked diligently with the office of director to try to increase the staff so they can better serve victims. Case described the effort as "a work in progress." Today, they have three volunteers who answer the helpline and two, fulltime advocates and three volunteer advocates, all of whom carry "very high caseloads," to cover the entire state for the sheriffs' association, she said.

Emily Russell is the other fulltime crime victims' advocate. The volunteer advocates are Amy Hanson, who covers all areas of the state; Shawn Wood, who covers Southeast Missouri and the Bootheel; and Danita Keen, who covers the central and southern parts of the state.

"All three advocates volunteer 25 to 30 hours per week, responding 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to assist victims



From left, Joye E. Frost, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime; Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason; Attorney General of the United States Loretta Lynch; and Kim Case, during an awards ceremony at the National Archives Building in Washington D.C.

— and that's in addition to their regular full-time jobs. We could never exist and make the impact that we have without our team of dedicated volunteers," Case said, adding that in addition to working with victims referred by the sheriffs' offices, they take referrals from the victims themselves, who find them through the website, www.msacrimevictimsunit.com; the helpline, 573-774-HELP (4357); and through brochures left in law enforcement offices throughout the state.

Although Missouri has been slow to recognize the benefits of the program, the federal government has a different view. In April, the U.S. Department of Justice

presented Case with the Special Courage Award, which recognizes extraordinary bravery in the aftermath of a crime or courageous act on behalf of a victim or potential victim. The award was presented by Attorney General of the United States Loretta Lynch.

"I'm so honored but I'm just the face of a truly wonderful Crime Victims Unit that has helped so many survive horrific crimes. This job can take its toll — it wears on your heart, your soul and your mind. But I rely on my faith to get me through. I especially love the scripture on the full armor of God. I mentally see myself putting it on so I can stand strong because, unfortunately, we know there will always be victims who will need our help to become survivors. We have to stand strong for them," she said.

Editor's Note ~ As of June 1, the CVU was no longer operational while awaiting additional grant funding from the Department of Public Safety. Victims needing assistance are directed to their local prosecuting attorney's office.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

SOUTHERN

UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

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Labor of Love

Sheriff's Wife Donates Time, Talent to MSA

When Dianna Stockman, wife of Mercer County Sheriff Stephen Stockman, started work on one of her most recent quilts, she probably never dreamed that one day it could be responsible for saving the life of a Missouri law enforcement officer.

But that's exactly the scenario that's being set up since she donated the work of art to the Missouri Sheriffs' Association (MSA) Women's Auxiliary. That group of sheriffs' wives and "significant others" will be selling raffle tickets for the quilt later this summer and then using the proceeds to purchase one or more bullet proof vests for Missouri deputies or sheriffs that don't have one. Southern Uniform and Equipment, a Missouri-based company, is donating the first vest. The company has promised to sell the rest to the auxiliary at cost.

A link to purchase the raffle tickets will be provided on the MSA website, www.mosheriffs.com.

"I'm so happy they're doing that. We have to do what we can to help our law enforcement because they put their lives on the line for us every day. Any confrontation can turn into something bad," she said. "I know I wouldn't want to do the job. I dispatched for the sheriff's office for 18 years under the previous sheriff and that was close enough for me."

Dianna said when she first got the idea for the quilt, she just thought it would be a nice project to make and then donate. She really didn't care how the sheriffs' association handled the sale — or what they'd do with the proceeds. She just wanted to be a part of helping raise money for one of MSA's causes. She and her sister, Sarah Bonnett, started working on the project in early February after Jeanne Merritt, MSA's marketing director,

finished gathering patches from all of Missouri's sheriffs.

She originally looked for fabric bearing a map of Missouri but couldn't find anything suitable so instead, she chose to use a design called the "attic window." She said she initially planned to place the patches on the quilt in the same manner in which the counties lie in the state.

"But that didn't work because the quilt obviously isn't the same shape as Missouri! So then we decided to just lay them out as close as possible to the order they're in," Dianna said. "We had to put a few in the border because they wouldn't all fit — but I think it turned out beautifully."

In fact, she said that of all the quilts she's made over the past eight years, this is one of her favorites. However, she admits to being partial to the office of sheriff. She and Sheriff Stockman have been married for 42 years. For 18 of those years, her husband worked as a deputy with the Mercer County Sheriff's Office. Then, when the previous sheriff retired in 2008, he ran for sheriff, was elected, took office on January 1, 2009 and has served since.

Dianna said between sewing together pieces of fabric to form the top layer of the quilt, attaching the batting, backing and patches and then finally quilting the piece, it took her and her sister, about three months to complete the quilt. She's hoping the quilt brings a substantial amount at auction.

So does her husband, who plans to purchase several raffle tickets himself.

"He might get in trouble if he doesn't," Dianna laughed.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland



Married to Mercer County Sheriff Stephen Stockman, Dianna holds a special place in her heart for law enforcement. Dianna Stockman and her sister, Sarah Bonnett, worked three months to assemble the quilt donated to the Missouri Sheriffs' Association.

Special thanks to Southern Uniform and Equipment for partnering with MSA for such an important cause.

SOUTHERN
UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

MSA Helps Newly Elected Sheriffs ‘Learn the Ropes’

With 24 sheriffs retiring or leaving office at the end of their terms in 2016 and some 50 contested races, this year could bring a record number of new sheriffs being elected.

The Missouri Sheriffs’ Association (MSA) is doing what it can to make the transition a little easier. From December 5 through 9 and again from December 12 through 16, the MSA will be offering New Sheriff Training. The nearly 80 hours of classroom instruction will cover everything from audits to dealing with victims of crime — with a whole lot in between.

According to Mick Covington, executive director of the MSA, the purpose of the training is to acquaint the newly elected first-term sheriff to the office of sheriff, its history, duties and responsibilities as well as provide an overview of state programs and departments that may be able to offer assistance to the sheriff during the performance of his/her duties.

“In addition, training in the areas of administering and preparing budgets, managing change and the workforce, strategic planning, community outreach and legislative processes are also addressed. The two weeks of training also affords the newly elected sheriffs the opportunity to network with others and share ideas and experiences as well as develop cooperative relationships,” he said.

Because there’s so much liability associated with running jails, more than two days will be spent focusing on those operations and issues.

Eldon Wulf, training coordinator for the MSA Training Academy, said

although it’s not the purpose for the course, a side benefit is that the sheriffs-elect will get continuing education credits for

“The purpose of the course is to get them prepared for all the responsibilities of the office of sheriff and most realize the importance.”
Wulf said.



most of the classes.

“Under Missouri’s new POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) guidelines, as of 2017, all law enforcement officers will be required to get 24 hours of continuing education hours each year. This program will provide about 64 hours. The way POST wrote the new rule, some of those hours will be allowed to transfer to the following year,” Wulf said.

According to MSA Administrative Assistant Karen Logan, who has been with the MSA almost 30 years, the new sheriffs training program began in the year 2000. In the beginning, the program was only two or three days long. The MSA started offering the two-week training in 2008, she said.

In previous new sheriff training sessions, the MSA has seen a 90 to 95 percent attendance rate.

“The purpose of the course is to get them prepared for all the responsibilities of the office of sheriff and most realize the importance,” Wulf said. “While not all of them will be able to make it every day because they’ll still be working their other jobs, they’re free to attend when they can. We know one thing for sure — due to the responsibilities of the office of sheriff, and because there are well over 500 statutes relating to the office of sheriff, we know that they will be overloaded with information after the two weeks of training.”

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland



MSATA is Making Schools Safer

A series of school shootings in recent years started the debate on whether or not teachers and/or administrators should be armed.

Proponents say because not all schools have law enforcement officers on site — or even within close proximity — arming staff members could prevent the massacre of innocent victims by deranged attackers. Opponents say guns are the very reason why school shootings happen in the first place and that if access to guns was limited and gun laws were stricter, the number of shootings in schools would decline.

Since 2014, Missouri school districts have been free to choose which school of thought to follow. That's when Senate Bill 656 was approved by lawmakers, vetoed by the governor and then adopted into law when that veto was overridden. The law allows any school district within the state to designate one or more elementary or secondary school teachers or administrators as "school protection officers."

However, to achieve that designation, candidates must successfully complete a school protection officer (SPO) training program that has been approved by the director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety and must already possess a valid concealed carry endorsement or permit.

At a minimum the training must include:

- (1) Instruction specific to the prevention of incidents of violence in schools;
- (2) The handling of emergency or violent crisis situations in school settings;
- (3) A review of state criminal law;
- (4) Training involving the use of defensive force;
- (5) Training involving the use of deadly force; and
- (6) Instruction in the proper use of self-defense spray devices.



Because no academy or organization offers this training, the Missouri Sheriffs' Association Training Academy (MSATA) stepped up to fill the void. The first set of classes is scheduled to begin this August.

"I got a call from a teacher in Salem, Missouri who wanted to take the training but said he couldn't find it offered anywhere. I looked into it and discovered that he was right — no one is offering the training" said Eldon Wulf, program coordinator for the MSATA. "In the process, I also found that much of the training required is the same as what we offer in our basic law enforcement academies so we decided to put together a SPO training program that will run in conjunction with the academies.

Because the part-time law enforcement academies include more than 700 hours of training, those taking the SPO training will attend only some of the classes."

The part-time SPO classes will be offered in the evenings and weekends at several locations around the state. The cost is set at \$1,000 plus an enrollment fee of \$195, which includes fingerprinting and a background check.

Wulf said because the law didn't clearly define the training requirement, the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) program set the standards, requiring a minimum of 112 hours of training. However, he said after looking at the statute and the promulgated rules, the MSA felt that to properly prepare candidates for the responsibility of the position its training program will be 180 hours. And, because being able to stop an active shooter who enters the school is paramount, 54 hours of the 180 will focus on firearms training. In addition, another nine hours will focus on use of force and 16 hours will be spent on practical application exercises, which include firearms, defensive tactics, ground fighting and pepper spray. To be eligible for graduation from the SPO Training Program, trainees must exhibit that they have mastered each subject through written and practical exams. In addition, they must have attended at least 95 percent of the training hours.

At the end of the program, the graduates won't have the power to arrest anyone but they will have the power to detain someone for up to one hour and they'll have the training needed to defend their students, their school, and themselves.

For more information, call Gina Kauffman at 573-635-5925, extension 105 or email her at gina@mosheriffs.com.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

Graduating Seniors Look to Future in Law Enforcement

This year, 16 graduates of Missouri high schools were each presented with \$1,000 John Dennis Scholarships by the Missouri Sheriffs' Association (MSA).

Scholarships were awarded to the following students:

Zone 1:

Garron Cruz Daniels
Amazonia, MO
Savannah High School

Zone 2:

Ethan Reid Faulkner
Harris, MO
Princeton High School

Zone 3:

Sabrina Rae Morgan
Salisbury, MO
Salisbury High School

Zone 4:

Katie Lynn Elder
Canton, MO
Canton R-V High School

Zone 5:

Haley Ann Swanigan
Kansas City, MO
Winnetonka High School

Zone 6:

Trent Nichols
Hartsburg, MO
Southern Boone High School

Zone 7:

Jordan Tucker
Bridgeton, MO
Pattonville High School

Zone 8:

Thomas James Hitchcock
Warrensburg, MO
Warrensburg High School

Zone 9:

Courtney Grace Grasshoff
Lake Ozark, MO
School of the Osage

Zone 10:

Hannah Danielle Hearst
Barnhart, MO
Windsor High School

Zone 11:

Payton DaMitz
Preston, MO
Hickory County R-1

Zone 12:

Sean Arron Lackey
St. Robert, MO
Waynesville High School

Zone 14:

Abby Shaye Parsons
Purdy, MO
Purdy High School

Since there were no applicants in Zones 13, 15 and 16, the following three students from other zones were selected:

Zone 5:

Seth Hudson
Parkville, MO
Park Hill South High School

Zone 3:

Christopher Ryan Fowler
Queen City MO
Schuyler County High School

Zone 2:

Madison Leigh Gregory
Chillicothe, MO
Chillicothe High School

Audrain County Sheriff Stuart Miller, who has headed up the scholarship committee since the late 1980s, said the MSA received 104 scholarship requests this year. The scholarship is named in honor of John Dennis who served as the Scott County sheriff for 24 years before serving 16 years as the Missouri State Senator for the 27th District.

Since Sheriff Miller will be retiring at the end of his term, the incoming president of the MSA will select a new chairman from the list of three sheriffs who have expressed an interest in taking the position.

PICTURED RIGHT:

1 Trent Nichols was one of those awarded with a scholarship from the Missouri Sheriff's Association. The scholarship was presented to him by Boone County Deputy Trevor Fowler.

2 Seth Hudson was awarded the John Dennis Scholarship by Platte County Sheriff Mark Owen. Principal Dale Longenecker and Hudson's parents were on hand when the award was presented.

3 Pulaski County Sheriff Ron Long and Deputy Todd present Sean Lackey with his scholarship.

4 Garron Cruz Daniels of Amazonia, MO will attend Truman State University.

5 Haley Ann Swanigan, who will be attending Missouri State University, was awarded her scholarship by Clay County Sheriff Paul Vescovo.

6 Abby Parson was presented with her scholarship by Barry County Sheriff Mick Epperly.

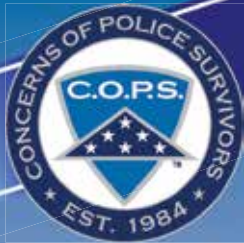
7 Sabrina Rae Morgan will be using her scholarship to attend the University of Central Missouri.

8 Camden County Sheriff Dwight Franklin presented the John Dennis Scholarship to School of the Osage senior Courtney Grasshoff at that school's award ceremony.

By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland







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TRAGEDY BROUGHT CHANGE IN RANDOLPH COUNTY

In the closing decades of the 20th century, law officers, including current Sheriff Mark Nichols, and community leaders recognized that the Randolph County Jail, built in 1871, would not meet the needs of the next century.

Ballot issues to fund a new jail were presented to voters who rejected one after another, the last in November 1999. Not far into the new century, a stark tragedy proved that the days of trusting in aging county lockups were far in the past.

On June 22, 2000 a man and woman intent on breaking an associate out of jail rang the night bell and, in accordance with visitor policy, were let in. They then shot and killed two unarmed guards. The escape was foiled when the killers could not find a key to their associate's cell and they were quickly captured, but nineteenth century custodial policies had smashed headlong into twenty-first century criminality.

In 2002 Randolph County voters approved a half-cent sales tax to build and operate the 120-bed modern jail. The tax provides about \$1 million a year making the jail a break-even operation, Sheriff Nichols said.

Jail Administrator Randy Smith said the new Randolph County Jail, completed in 2005, is a state-of-the-art facility, making maximum use of technology to enhance security at every level of operation.

It features an eight-pod system overseen from a central control center. Correctional officers can see directly into the pods and there are 86 surveillance cameras throughout the complex that includes the sheriff's offices, courtrooms and other facilities.

The jail can house up to 36 female inmates, many of whom arrive from nearby counties that lack appropriate space for women. Those counties also often lack adequate space for large numbers of male inmates, and transport inmates to

Randolph County, adding to the average daily population of 80-plus prisoners. Smith said that through the summer months the inmate population often grows, getting close to filling, or sometimes even filling, the jail.

Smith, who rose through department ranks as a civilian jailer and transport officer to jail administrator, oversees a staff of 17 corrections officers. A system of hallways in the current jail and an addition that is nearing completion allows those officers to move inmates to and from holding areas to court rooms, medical facilities and other areas in controlled safety.

Offenders who arrive with addiction issues are isolated in a detox unit until they are fit to join the general inmate population. This can take some time, Smith said. Most of those who come in with drug issues are methamphetamine users. "They generally

sleep through the first day, are angry and violent for a couple of days and then go back to being regular people," Smith said. Surrounding counties often bring violent, drug or alcohol-fueled offenders to Randolph County to use the isolation facilities.

In light of past events, visitor policies were given particular attention in the design of the new jail. Visitors are shown into a room in the sheriff's office that is equipped with television monitors and telephones. Contact is through phone lines and video feeds; visitors are never in direct contact with, or proximity to, prisoners. In fact, no visitor is allowed in the jail.

Absolute security has replaced the access of visitors to prisoners once common in county jails.

Prisoners have access to keyboards for e-mail and commissary orders once they have signed off on printed jail regulations.

In line with maintaining a constant high level of security, the outdoor recreation area is made available to prisoners with a





completely automated system. Inmates are given access from their pod to a hallway leading to the exercise area. One pod of inmates is allowed in the enclosed outdoor area at a time. They are constantly monitored by camera in the hallway and the outdoor area. The system does not require an officer to be in the yard. Prisoners are allowed into the outdoor area for 30 minutes each day except when court is in session or the weather is inclement.

One practice that would be familiar to sheriffs and jailers from virtually any historic period is the trustee system. Smith said inmates are selected carefully for trustee status, according to their behavior, attitude and willingness to work. Although the sentence facing an inmate is not a set requirement for service as a trustee, those with short terms or close to release tend to be those who end up doing a good job, Smith said. Inmates who do not live up to Smith's tight standards for behavior and work quickly find themselves back in the general population. Three trustees are on duty in the day and two work at night cleaning, serving meals and doing laundry.

A cook who works for an outside company carries out the meal-service operation at the jail in a secure area of the facility. While trustees are responsible for serving meals and

cleaning up, the cook and a helper are in charge of meal preparation. The outside company's professional nutritionist puts the menu together.

The Randolph County incarceration system is not just about bricks and mortar. Smith said ongoing training of jail officers is a key component of operations. Two, four-hour training sessions are offered monthly. Jailers are required

One practice that would be familiar to sheriffs and jailers from virtually any historic period is the trustee system.

to attend at least one of those sessions. Topics cover the spectrum of operations from how to shackle a prisoner to procedures for transporting inmates to other jails and locations. "I require ongoing training," Smith said. "We try to train in every aspect of the job."

Organization is the base line of the jail administrator's position, Smith said,

adding that his job is to make sure things move along smoothly day to day — "to make sure we do things right every time."

Sheriff Nichols is a Randolph County native and has had a long career in county law enforcement, a portion of which makes him uniquely qualified to be sheriff of a county with a large modern jail.

Sheriff Nichols, who graduated from the University of Missouri Law Enforcement Institute, began his career as a Randolph County deputy sheriff at age 21 in 1986. In 1990 he was hired as a correctional officer by the Missouri Department of Corrections (DOC). During his tenure with the DOC, he helped develop a drug-intervention unit and served with the investigation, emergency and the corrections equivalent of the SWAT team.

He returned to the Randolph County Sheriff's Department as chief deputy in 1997 and became active in the effort to move the community toward funding of a new jail. Ironically, he was joined in that effort by, among others, Leon Egley, a Huntville city councilman and one of the deputies killed in the 2000 attack on the jail.

■ By Michael Feedback

NEW JAIL ADMINISTRATOR'S MOTTO:

A Happy Home is Better Than a Home in Turmoil

When hearing the job title “jail administrator,” some might conjure up images of a stern-looking man in a dark suit like Patrick McGoochan in “Escape from Alcatraz” or Strother Martin, known best for his now infamous line in “Cool Hand Luke,” “What we’ve got here is failure to communicate.”

With sparkling eyes, an infectious smile and a pixie haircut, petite and cheerful Leanne Jorns, who serves as jail administrator of the Caldwell County Detention Center, is anything but.

Although she may not look the part, she has the business background to do the job. She spent 10 years as an administrator of Liberty Schools in Liberty Missouri, supervising 85 women and three men and conducting all the training. Next, she worked several years as administrator for the First Baptist Church in Kearney, Missouri, a large church offering not only regular Sunday and midweek services but also serving the community with several outreach programs. There, she handled all business aspects of the church. Then in 2013, she took a job at Caldwell County handling payroll, helping with the county’s website and computer systems, and also working in the recorder of deeds office.

She said when the jail administrator’s position came in March, she was interested so she applied, it was offered to her and she took it. Four weeks into the job, she said she couldn’t be happier.

“I love it! There’s never a dull moment,” she laughed, adding one of her sons joked that during his younger years, he gave his mom all the experience she needed to handle inmates. “He’s the one that gave me a lot of my gray hair! My family was a little concerned when they heard what I was doing but they know I’m the type of person that loves a challenge. This job provides it!”

Her time is split between the more mundane paying of bills and handling payroll to problem solving with employees and resolving prisoner complaints.

The Caldwell County Detention Center is a little different than most county jails. The majority of the inmates are brought in by the U.S. Marshals Service and the Bureau of Immigration and are waiting on court cases in Kansas City. In addition, some are federal immigration detainees being held for ICE. The average stay for federal



prisoners is around 275 days. However, a few have been there much longer.

Jorns said she currently has 132 inmates — and most would like to see some change.

“It’s my job to explain why we can change some things and why we can’t change others. But so far, they’ve accepted me rather well.

It’s my goal to make everyone’s life here as pleasant as possible.

They weren’t too sure at first but I’ve done a couple good-faith gestures to show that I am willing to listen and that’s gone over well and seems to be helping,” she said.

One of those gestures was providing a special treat for the inmates.

“One of their complaints was they never got ice cream. I looked into it and found our carts are designed to carry hot food only. The ice cream would be soup by the time it got

to them, so one day we gathered up some coolers and brought ice cream in to them with lunch. Now they think I’m the best administrator ever,” she laughed. “It was a simple request and it’s my belief that a happy staff and happy inmates makes for an easier life for all of us. It’s not like they’re going to be here two months and they’re gone. I have to deal with some of these prisoners for quite a while. It’s my goal to make everyone’s life here as pleasant as possible.”

She said she also enjoys the peaceful environment at her home. Jorns, who is married with seven children and 14 grandchildren, lives on a farm with her husband Curt and lots of horses, dogs, cats and chickens.

“We love it there,” she said, adding that her husband was the one most concerned about her job choice. “I think he had this mental picture of what a jail administrator would be but after he toured the facility — saw what I’d be doing and saw that I’d be safe — he felt better. He knows I don’t want to sit back and watch the world go by. I want to make a difference in the world — in my community. This job offers that opportunity.”

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

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Despite what the media would have you believe, working as one of the nation's 1.2 million full-time law enforcement officers is not one of the most dangerous ways to make a living in the United States. In fact, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' most recent figures, it didn't even make the top 10. Per capita, pilots, roofers, garbage collectors, taxi drivers and even bartenders have a higher incidence of on-the-job deaths.

Figures also show that with 128 line-of-duty deaths, with the exception of 2013 when Missouri law enforcement lost 120 officers in line-of-duty deaths, 2015 was actually the safest year for law enforcement officers in more than 50 years.

That, coupled with the more than 400 law-enforcement-related job openings in Missouri, makes attending the Missouri Sheriffs' Association Training Academy (MSATA) a good career choice. And with 13 training sites across the state offering evening and weekend classes and one with a full-time program, it's easier than ever to attend.

"And you can be sure of one thing — the world will always need law



Gary Hill is the part-time onsite coordinator for the Jefferson City academy.

enforcement," quipped Gary Hill, the part-time onsite coordinator for the Jefferson City academy. Hill also works as the Patrol Division commander for the Cole County Sheriff's Office

He said students learn everything from Constitutional law to defensive tactics, driving skills to ethics and professionalism; Homeland Security

and terrorism to juvenile law; first aid to firearms training; and court and jail operations to wellness and physical fitness.

According to Eldon Wulf, training coordinator for the MSATA, the physical training portion of the academy has recently been expanded. He said they previously required just 30 hours of PT but after discussing it with Mick Covington, executive director of the MSA, and Rusty Bourg, one of the MSATA instructors, and the site coordinators, they all decided that they wanted to instill in students that staying in shape needed to be a life-long process.

"Eating fast food all the time is bad for you, shift work is bad for you, sitting in a vehicle all day is bad for you. In addition, law enforcement officers deal with an inordinate amount of stress in their day-to-day routines. Physical fitness helps to counteract the effects of stress and the lifestyle," he said.

Hill, who has served as the onsite coordinator for the past seven years, said tests are given after each block of teaching and are pass or fail. Students are required to get at least a 70 percent to pass.

"Make-up exams are allowed but if the make-up exam is also failed, the student is out of the academy. That seldom happens because most people are paying for school out-of-pocket," he said, adding that a pre-enrollment reading and comprehension test helps weed out those whose skills might not be up to par. "We refer those who need a little help building up those skills to places like the Nichols Career Center or the Sylvan Learning Center. Two that were turned away took remedial classes, then came back and went thru the academy just fine," he said.

Although days and times can vary by location, classes usually are held

from 6 to 10 p.m. two days during the week and then from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and the occasional Sunday for approximately 10 months.

Financial aid — either grants, which don't have to be paid back, or student loans, which do — can be arranged through the Missouri State University in West Plains to help with tuition costs at any of the academy locations. College credits can also be obtained through the university.

Classes are held in locations across the state. The start dates and locations for upcoming classes are:

Camdenton — August 1
 Poplar Bluff — August 2
 Chillicothe — August 2
 Kirksville — August 4
 West Plains — August 4
 Waynesville — August 16
 Platte City — August 16
 Salem — August 18
 Mt. Vernon — August 18
 Jefferson City Full time — October 11

According to the Missouri Department of Public Safety, in addition to graduating from a state licensed law enforcement basic training course, each applicant must also be a United States citizen; be 21 years of age; have a high school diploma or its equivalent; have no criminal record; and successfully pass the Missouri peace officer license exam.

For more information, visit the MSA website at www.mosheriffs.com and then click on the "Training Academy" link at the top of the page or call Gina Kauffman or Donna Arney at 573-635-9644.

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland



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Paying Homage

Those Who Went Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Recognized at Jail Administrators' Conference

Jails present the largest liability concern facing sheriffs, who are tasked with maintaining safe, secure environments not only for inmates and staff, but for their communities as well. A properly trained jail administrator can be the key to a smooth operation. That's why the Missouri Sheriffs' Association (MSA) began holding annual jail administrators' conferences five years ago. At those conferences, attendees not only have the opportunity to receive training, but also to learn about advances in correctional practices; hear how recent legislation can affect how they do their jobs; gain knowledge from industry professionals across the country; and have time to network with fellow jail administrators to share ideas and discuss issues of mutual concern.

The conference, attended this year by seven sheriffs and 124 jail administrators and corrections staff members, also allows sheriffs to recognize employees who have gone "above and beyond" while carrying out their duties. At this year's conference, held May 10 to 13, six people were recognized.

First to be commended for a job well done was Joe King, the jail administrator at Platte County, who was named Jail Administrator of the Year. King began working at the sheriff's office in 1997, moving up the ranks through detention, road patrol, emergency services and administration. Sheriff Mark Owen said that after being elected in 2012, he asked King to take the jail administrator's position because he knew King would do what was right. King has since implemented numerous changes to improve efficiency, increase safety for inmates and staff, reduce costs and liability and improve



Joe King, jail administrator for the Platte County Sheriff's Office, was selected for the Jail Administrator of the Year award. Pictured with him are Capt. Erik Holland, Jeannie Merritt, who organizes the jail administrator conferences for the MSA, and Platte County Sheriff Mark Owen.

morale, the sheriff said.

St. Francois County Sheriff's Deputy Gary W. Branham Jr. was named Detention Officer of the Year for his willingness to "go the extra mile" to get the job done. Lt. Dennis Smith, St. Francois Sheriff's Office jail administrator, said Branham did so well in the job, that he was promoted to assistant shift supervisor. Then, as fate would have it, a patrol position opened a week before the jail administrators' conference so after working in corrections three years, he moved to the road. Lt. Smith said he had no doubt that Branham, who recently was named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the St. Francois Elks Club, would be a valuable member of that staff as well.

Chris Moehle, jail administrator for the Camden County Sheriff's Office, presented Live Saver Awards to Deputy Casey Marks and Corrections Officer Laura Rounds. They were recognized for their swift action in providing emergency medical attention to an inmate who cut his wrists

last year while in the Camden County Detention Center. Moehle said because of their professionalism and ability to remain calm in a situation, they were able to provide the necessary first aid and life-saving measures until paramedics arrived on the scene. The inmate was transported to the hospital and is doing well today because of their actions.

Capt. Joe King presented Cooper County Sheriff Jerry Wolfe with the Leadership Award and recognized the countless hours he had spent over the past few years co-chairing the Jail Standards Committee. King said that after 10 to 12 years of failed attempts, Sheriff Wolfe's involvement helped them draft a set of standards - guidelines on how jails should be run regardless of their size - to help jail administrators do their jobs better, more safely and with less litigation. Although those standards are still a work in progress, King said without Sheriff Wolfe's partnership, leadership and commitment, they would not be where they are today.



Lt. Dennis Smith, jail administrator for the St. Francois County Sheriff's Office, Gary Branham, who was named Detention Officer of Year, and Jeanne Merritt.



Joe King and Cooper County Sheriff Jerry Wolfe, who won the Leadership Award.



Jeanne Merritt, Camden County Sheriff Dwight Franklin, Chris Moehle, jail administrator for the Camden County Sheriff's Office, and Deputy Casey Marks and Corrections Officer Laura Rounds, who won Lifesaver Awards.



Jail administrators also surprised Jeanne Merritt with a gift to thank her for all her hard work.

At the end of the conference, jail administrators recognized Jeanne Merritt, a member of the MSA support staff, for the hard work and dedication she has shown to the jail administrators across Missouri and for the time she has spent organizing training events and the annual conference. Presenters described Merritt as one who "works harder than anyone in the state of Missouri, advocating for jail administrators," adding, "She has our best interests at heart and acts as the voice of the jail administrators to the MSA and sheriffs. We wanted to show her how much we appreciate her."

■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland

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Poplar Bluff Training Academy Sets the Bar High

The Poplar Bluff site of the Missouri Sheriffs' Association Training Academy first opened its doors on July 11, 1997. Eighteen students graduated from that first 120-hour program, the third of three classes started by the Missouri Sheriffs' Association that year. The first class began January 14, 1997 in Bolivar. The second class was started in June 1997 at Fort Leonard Wood.

Tom Burns, site coordinator for the Poplar Bluff Academy, said 315 men and women have since graduated from the MSATA's Poplar Bluff program, which provides students with a Class A Peace Officer License, court security and 120 hours of jail officer training, as well as certification in Pressure Points and Control Defense Tactics, TASER, Oleoresin Capsicum/Pepper Spray, First Responder, National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration Standard Field Sobriety Testing and Less Lethal Munitions.

According to Burns, the 700-hour basic peace officer academy exceeds the State of Missouri's minimum basic training requirements for peace officer licensing.

"There used to be three types of licenses – Class A, which required 640 hours of instruction; Class B, which needed 470 hours; and Class C, which required 120 hours. Then the state stopped allowing the 120 hours so we adjusted our curriculum to meet the new regulations," he said, adding the MSATA started offering its first 470-hour academy in April 2003. "Then in August 2004, the MSA increased the program to include 640 hours and in August 2009, the program was increased to 700 hours."

Burns, who, since 1999 has volunteered 20 hours per week as a reserve officer for the Butler County Sheriff's Office, said the current class has 24 students, 13 of which will graduate in June and 11 will graduate in November – if they pass the test. A new class will begin August 2.

In addition to classroom learning, students also get the opportunity to put their skills to the test as they volunteer at community events, assisting with such things as crowd and traffic control.

The Poplar Bluff classes currently are taught by 14 instructors, most of whom have attended a law enforcement academy and worked in the field.

"We have a juvenile officer, we have officers from the Poplar Bluff Police Department and from the Butler County Sheriff's Office, we have troopers with the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP), and we also have some instructors from Three Rivers College that help with some of the specialized instruction like physical training and defensive tactics," he said.

Chuck Colbert is one of the instructors that comes from the

Highway Patrol. Retiring from the military in 1995, he worked a year with the Missouri Department of Corrections before joining the MSHP in July 1996. After hearing about the Missouri Sheriffs' Association Training Academy in 2010, he applied for an instructor's position, was accepted and has been instructing there ever since. He also teaches at the MSHP.

He instructs several classes at Poplar Bluff including survival mentality, beanbag deployment, aerosol weapons, mechanics of arrest and control, pressure points and techniques, edged weapons, introduction to radar, fundamentals of marksmanship,

handgun skill development, shotgun introduction and shotgun skill development, night fire, shooting decisions and defensive tactics, just to name a few.

"The fun, hands-on stuff," Colbert quipped, adding that he also teaches less exciting topics like traffic and vehicle equipment regulations, accident investigation, traffic control and direction and registration, licensing and insurance.

However, firearms is his favorite subject.

"Students love going to the range," Colbert said. "They enjoy the class but overall, the atmosphere at the MSATA is different than that found on a many college campuses. Students are here to learn and because of that, they strive to do their best. For many, the academy is an endurance test. It takes several months to complete the program and a lot of students work full-time during the day and then they go to school at night. It's a real challenge, especially for

those with families. They must wear a uniform, their hair must be neatly trimmed, facial hair can be worn only in a certain manner and they're required to be respectful and work well with others. Of course, it's not for everybody. Sometimes someone will get in there and decide it's not for them but for the most part, the students are all motivated throughout the course."

Burns described Colbert, who also serves on the MSHP Silent Drill Team, as a "squared-away person – about as professional as you can get. He is one of the students' favorites because of his no-nonsense attitude."

Colbert admitted that he does take the job very seriously.

"But I was a drill sergeant in the Army so I think I'm already pretty serious," he said. "People don't generally join the police field because they want to make a lot of money. They do it because they want to be involved in their community. When students are in my classes, I feel that I owe them my best."



■ By Nancy Zoellner-Hogland



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