In May, deputies responded to a residence in District 4 in regard to a juvenile who was threatening suicide. Upon arrival, the deputies were met by the parents, who informed them that their 16-year-old son was in his bedroom and was holding a knife to his own throat. Deputies soon located the juvenile in his bedroom, sitting on his bed with the blade of a 4-inch knife held to his throat. The juvenile’s breathing was erratic, and it appeared as if he was hyperventilating. Deputy Herrey attempted to establish a dialogue with the juvenile from a safe distance, but the juvenile would not speak and stared blankly down at the floor. Deputy Herrey continued to talk to the juvenile with a caring tone, and eventually began to hear the subject’s breathing begin to calm. Deputy Herrey spoke to the juvenile about video games, sports, and even told him a joke. He changed topics several times and used the pace of the juveniles breathing to gauge what techniques and topics were effective. He reassured the juvenile that he was there to help and that he didn’t want any harm to come to him. After approximately 15 minutes of Deputy Herrey speaking to the juvenile without response, the juvenile suddenly lowered the knife from his throat and dropped it to the ground. The juvenile was subsequently taken into protective custody under a Baker Act. Deputy Herrey’s patience and calm verbal tone had a direct impact on the juvenile’s decision to surrender the knife and not cause any harm to himself. His actions prevented any injury to the distraught juvenile and deputies on the scene of the call. Deputy Herrey demonstrated professionalism and compassion during such a stressful situation. He is an asset to the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office and should be commended for his actions.

Beth became a member of the CCSO family in April 2000. In February 2002, she became the Purchasing Agent for the agency and in recent years the back-up Extra Duty Detail Coordinator. Beth’s primary responsibility has been to ensure that the agency purchases items at the best possible price as well as in a timely and efficient manner. Beth has maintained these duties in an exemplary fashion while taking on additional responsibilities as the “full-time” Off Duty Detail Coordinator after losing a key finance member a few months ago. During this time, Beth built positive relationships with the Off-Duty Detail vendors as well as the deputies, ensuring everyone’s needs are met. Beth has been so proactive towards the additional duties assigned to her that she identified and implemented processes that are more efficient. She included a meeting with one of our key vendors, so she could better understand their security needs. All this, while still maintaining and completing all of her regular duties on a timely basis. Beth’s work ethic, positive attitude, and readiness to step up those past few months has been invaluable to our team. We are honored to recognize her as the Civilian Member of the Quarter.
Detention Member of the Quarter, CDFC Steven Dargis

CDFC Steven Dargis has worked for CCSO since January of 2010. He can always be relied upon to show up for work with a positive attitude. He has a team spirit and is always willing to help his co-workers, as well as, his supervisors. He is consistent in his work ethic and is constantly moving and working within his unit. Dargis is both trained as a Housing Deputy and an Intake Deputy, which makes him an asset in the jail. CDFC Dargis has excellent interpersonal skills, which he uses daily. He is able to diffuse situations easily because of his rapport with the inmate population. During the month of March, CDFC Steven Dargis was assigned to K-1 Housing Unit. While he was assigned to this housing unit he followed through on the initiative to reduce the introduction and possession of contraband. With this effort, he wrote 29 reports during the month in regard to searching cells, finding and removing contraband items, as well as enforcing the Jail rules, and writing disciplinary reports. Through this, he inquired as to how some of the items he was finding were making their way into the units. He gained Intel by being out from behind his desk and walking around his housing unit and speaking with the inmates. CDFC Dargis was able to find some actionable intelligence on the introduction and location of nuisance contraband and was able to share this information with the entire Detention Bureau. His hard work and dedication as well as his passion for what he does is truly appreciated and he is well deserved of some recognition for a job well done. Way to go Steve!!

Lifesaver Awardees, DFC Cody Hollingsworth and DFC Matthew Hauschild

On June 30th, a call was received about an 88 year-old male choking and now unconscious. DFC Matthew Hauschild and his trainee Deputy Cody Hollingsworth were the first units to arrive on scene. They assessed the patient and found he had a weak pulse and his throat was still clogged with food. Deputy Hollingsworth cleared the airway and DFC Hauschild began providing chest compressions when they found there was no longer a pulse. They continued their life saving efforts for an extended period and were able to clear the airway to the best of their ability while awaiting Charlotte County Fire/EMS to arrive. Charlotte County Fire/EMS arrived and continued life-saving efforts on the man. Fortunately, he regained a pulse, was transported to Fawcett Hospital, and reported to be in stable condition. He was expected to make a full recovery. Without the quick actions of DFC Matthew Hauschild and Deputy Cody Hollingsworth, the outcome of the situation could have been worse. Their quick actions and life-saving efforts are commended. Well done.
Clerk Elizabeth Rominger is a Marine Corps Veteran who started working at the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office in June 2010. She has worked as a Jail Tech and quickly moved to the position of Classification Tech where she worked for 3 years. She is currently assigned the Jail Support Service Specialist. Clerk Rominger has always worn a number of different hats. However, for the month of May she had her work cut out for her. With the abrupt resignation of our Laundry/Warehouse Clerk, Rominger had to take on the day-to-day Laundry/Warehouse duties in addition to all of her own duties. She also had to conduct a complete inventory of all the warehouse items on hand, including our hurricane supplies. She was able to complete this complex and time-consuming task in an extremely short amount of time. This accurate accounting of items enabled her to recommend purchases that were needed as well as freeing up much needed space by disposing of items that were no longer viable. Once items were approved to be ordered, Rominger then had to get quotes for many of the items and enter all the items into Munis. In addition to all the above, Rominger also was able to do some much needed cleaning of the Laundry/Warehouse area and moved items to better locations for storage purposes. These items were placed in an area that allowed better access, therefore making it much easier to inventory. She also assisted with devising a new laundry schedule, thus eliminating the need for night laundry workers and the potential for contraband to be passed and make its way into the pods. This is directly in line with the Detention ILP initiative to eliminate situations that create a high potential for inmates to pass or collect contraband items. We also lost another individual due to resignation who handled many of our accreditation tasks. Clerk Rominger assisted with keeping these tasks on point by providing needed documents as proofs as required. Although Rominger has really shown her talents this period, she is constantly a hard worker and a team player. She is always willing to do what it takes to get the job done quickly, correctly, and with a smile on her face, even in trying times. Clerk Rominger is a vital element to the Detention Administrative section. Her experience and knowledge in many areas, work ethic, ability to multi-task, and commitment as a team player makes her an invaluable asset to not only detention but to the office as a whole. 

During her spare time, Rominger provides volunteer services for Meals on Wheels. She enjoys spending time with friends and family, including her two wonderful kids. It is a great honor to have Rominger working with us at the Bureau of Detention. Her hard work and dedication is much appreciated.

Over the last three months, DFC Michael Talbot's self-initiated activity has been outstanding. DFC Talbot has embraced the I.L.P. philosophy and with his prior experience in the Narcotics Unit, he has made numerous quality narcotics arrests. In addition to these self-initialed arrests, DFC Talbot has an exceptional work ethic and frequently assists other units with their own investigations. DFC Talbot's arrests on lower level narcotics possession and the subjects involved have yielded information, which led to bigger arrests along with several trafficking cases. From April 1st, 2018 to July 1st, 2018, DFC Talbot handled 102 calls for service which were both self-generated and taken to assist road patrol units. Of those calls, DFC Talbot conducted 50 traffic stops with 46 warnings, 6 citations, and 2 field interviews. DFC Talbot made 31 arrests consisting of 28 narcotics arrests, one criminal citation, and two other miscellaneous arrests. What does not show up statistically are the numerous backups for patrol units, K-9 specific calls for service, and the quality contacts made to gather Intel. He has gone beyond my expectations and deserves recognition for his outstanding performance. DFC Talbot made 31 arrests consisting of 28 narcotics arrests, one criminal citation, and two other miscellaneous arrests.
August 31, 2018

Employees and Volunteers Recognized

LE Members of the Month, Sgt. Kirk Alumbaugh and Cpl. Dan Tricarico

On July 06, 2018 an email was received from PIO Katie Heck regarding a voicemail she received from Amy Ortiz inviting deputies to attend her son’s birthday party on July 8th at Treasure Lanes. The email stated that her son has autism and loved CCSO. I forwarded the email to Sgt. Kirk Alumbaugh for him to make contact and see how the Sheriff’s Office can assist. Sgt. Alumbaugh made contact with Amy and found out that the party was for her son Connor’s 6th birthday, and Connor loved law enforcement. Sgt. Alumbaugh coordinated with Cpl. Dan Tricarico in District 2 to have District 2 deputies make an appearance at the birthday party. Both Cpl. Tricarico and Sgt. Alumbaugh used their own money and purchased gifts for Connor’s birthday. They also coordinated with CPO Lou Henyecz for a donation "Liberty" a stuffed horse and junior deputy badge. They further coordinated with Det. Sadler who donated a challenge coin to be presented to Connor. Sgt. Alumbaugh and Cpl. Tricarico along with other District 2 members attended Connor’s birthday party and presented him with the gifts. This was an excellent display of community involvement and excellent representation of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office. I want to commend Sgt. Alumbaugh and Cpl. Tricarico for going beyond to foster good community relations and for setting a positive example to the youth of Charlotte County.

Civilian Member of the Month, Dan Ijkemeule (aka I-9)

In June and July Dan Ijkemeule was tasked with prepping our old fleet of helicopters for return to the 1033 program and preparing our newly purchased AS350 helicopter for patrol. Dan removed all required equipment within the deadline for turn-in, and this required shift adjustment and overtime. Dan removed all equipment as per manufacturer's instruction; this allows the equipment to be used again without the high cost associated with re-installation. This saved the agency approximately $5,000 to $8,000. Dan was also tasked with the installation of the Aero computer mapping system, FLIR installation and repairing the spotlight that came with the helicopter. We had quoted this work to be completed by APG Avionics at an estimated cost of over $20,000 and an expected down-time of three months. Dan completed all repairs and installation in three weeks; this is significant because we would not have had a Patrol helicopter had we sent the helicopter to APG Avionics. Dan was able to save the agency over $20,000 by employing his highly specialized Avionics skill set. Since Dan joined the CCSO Team he has made a significant impact on Air Support maintenance and flight operations as he has volunteered to act as a Crew Chief. Dan's attitude and performance is exemplary and well deserving of this commendation.

Detention Member of the Month, CDFC Karen Rossman

CDFC Karen Rossman started with the CCSO Detention Bureau February 2012 as a part-time Corrections Deputy. After approximately two weeks on the job, her supervisors were so impressed that they submitted a memo recommending her for permanent full time status. CDFC Rossman has continued to be an asset to the agency from that point forward. In this month, she has continued to demonstrate those same competencies, such as always being punctual to work and the ability to learn and comprehend all aspects of her job. She has volunteered to work numerous extra shifts during this period, and has worked multiple days for both shift coverage in Intake and Housing. She consistently displays a professional commitment to her self-development while maintaining a high standard of work performance. During this month, CDFC Rossman was processing a new arrestee into Intake. While conducting a thorough and complete search, she was able to locate a needle and illegal pills that the arrestee was hiding both within and on her person. CDFC Rossman also was involved in two uses of force, in which she was able to utilize her interpersonal skills and de-escalation techniques to calm subjects that were being violent towards staff. With her kind outgoing personality and her ambition to actively seek more knowledge, she is on track to become a future leader. CDFC Rossman is being recognized for the Member of the Month and is commended for her dedication and strive to meet agency goals, objectives, and mission.
2018’s Health & Benefits Fair theme is Under the Sea. Join us at Headquarters to find out the latest and greatest benefits on Tuesday, October 10th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

It was ten years ago. Sgt. Schofield was the VSU Coordinator, and Charlie was a newly-minted volunteer beginning training in Parking Enforcement. “The abuse of handicap parking was the number one parking violation then, and it still is. It’s irritating to me that there are those who think they can park anywhere. There are a lot of genuinely handicapped people in the county, and they need those designated spots. I’m happy to be in a position where I can do something about it,” he says. Testifying in court is part of the job in PE. It happens when a citizen wants to fight a parking ticket and Charlie has been there a few times. “You never know when it’s going to happen. As is the case with most PE’s, Charlie steps in to help direct traffic at the Air Show and boat races and accident scenes. “I’ve seen some grisly stuff on the road,” he recalls, perhaps evoking some memories of his time working as a Reserve Officer with the Detroit PD during a riot. “Most importantly, I’m working with some really good people and making Charlotte County a better place to live.”

Authored by
David Trautman, Volunteer
North Port’s Koennemann looks to attack senior season
By JACOB HOAG, STAFF WRITER

It doesn’t take long to notice North Port senior Andrew Koennemann. He’s loud not only with his leadership, but with his pads as well. At the linebacker spot, he has a keen sense for tracking down ball carriers and on the offensive line,

Andrew Koennemann, a linebacker for the North Port Bobcats, fires off the line of scrimmage in a practice last week. Andrew Koennemann aims to play every down aggressively.

SUN PHOTOS BY TOM O’NEILL You can read the entire article in The Charlotte Sun’s August 8th edition

Help us out! Take our CCSO survey
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCSOFL

Text 797979  Poison
You will then receive a text back then SAVE the information in you contacts.
Dale Ritchhart joined the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office in January 1983. He retired as a Lieutenant (District Commander) in 2010 after serving 27 years. Dale worked many positions while with the CCSO to include Patrol, Traffic, Investigations, MCU and Narcotics to name a few. He was also a long-time member of SWAT. Dale was one of the main driving forces behind “The Mean Green Machine”, our CCSO Basketball team in the 1980’s which would play charity basketball games. Since retiring from the agency, Dale has worked with the Charlotte County School Board and Charlotte County Public Works. He currently spends his time volunteering with the “Back Pack Kidz” and as a volunteer member of the South Gulf Cove Waterway Advisory Board. Dale is enjoying his free time playing golf and traveling.

Words of wisdom: “Don’t retire or quit until Law Enforcement is totally out of your system! Speaking from experience, I miss the people and the job.”

Until next month,
Sherman Robinson
(Major CCSO Retired)

Bert’s Black Widow Harley-Davidson presented a check for $770.00 to The CCSO Explorer Program Post 29 to support our youth and the community service they provide. Left to right: DFC Hernan Morales (Senior Post Advisor), Suzie Smith Marketing Manager, and Rachel Iffland Marketing Assistant. We are thankful for our Community Businesses Supporting our Future Leaders.

August 22, Dale Phillips, Crime Prevention Specialist has served the Sheriff’s office and our county for over 20 years with faithfulness and integrity. Dale is well respected throughout the county at the many organizations and charities she has helped. Dale and her recently retired CCSO husband David Phillips have big plans and will be hitting the road for new adventures. Best wishes and safe travels, Dale.

Dale Phillips, Crime Prevention Specialist has served the Sheriff’s office and our county for over 20 years with faithfulness and integrity. Dale is well respected throughout the county at the many organizations and charities she has helped. Dale and her recently retired CCSO husband David Phillips have big plans and will be hitting the road for new adventures. Best wishes and safe travels, Dale.

Dale Phillips, Crime Prevention Specialist has served the Sheriff’s office and our county for over 20 years with faithfulness and integrity. Dale is well respected throughout the county at the many organizations and charities she has helped. Dale and her recently retired CCSO husband David Phillips have big plans and will be hitting the road for new adventures. Best wishes and safe travels, Dale.