Corporal Christina Casteel is to be recognized for the core values that she exemplifies. She is striving to further herself in her pursuit of her career at the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office and has taken on several different hats and extra duties to stand out from the crowd. For the last three years she has taken time away from her personal life in order to assist and help mentor the youth that are involved in our own Explorer program. From traveling with the Explorers as a chaperone, all the way to mentoring them in their own pursuit to find their identity as a teenager in today’s world. This alone deserves some attention. She is also enrolled full-time in college, but yet she still finds the time each and every week to attend meetings and other obligations with the Explorer program. She represents the agency with tremendous pride, which also shows in the quality of work that she delivers in the Detention Bureau. It is important that her hard work and dedication to this great agency go unnoticed especially during this holiday season. Thank you for what you do and keep up the great work.

Corporal Deryk Alexander has been recognized as Deputy of the Month based on the following: On November 16, a call was dispatched to the Riverside Oaks Mobile Home Park of a suspicious female carrying a wooden box. Cpl. Alexander was unable to locate the female. About an hour later, a call was received from an elderly female resident of Riverside Oaks that her Nook tablet was missing from her nightstand. Being aware of the previous call, Cpl. Alexander determined that the elderly female was missing a wooden jewelry box. The original caller had also made a call of a suspicious female on the morning of October 15, 201. In that incident, Cpl. Alexander located a female in the park who fled on foot upon sight of Cpl. Alexander. He apprehended her and she was arrested for Loitering and Prowling. Cpl. Alexander determined the same suspect was involved in the October and November incidents. Cpl. Alexander’s attention to detail and investigative skills brought this incident to a positive end.

Tammy Wilkie joined Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office as a Community Affairs Specialist in May 2015. She was formerly a paralegal and owner of a local travel agency. Tammy was instrumental in applying for and was awarded grants from both Target and the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America. The Target grant is earmarked for the Agency’s Inter-Active Trailer, aka Kid Zone. The AFA grant is for purchasing supplies for the Senior Citizen side of our Project Lifesaver Program. This grant was also awarded to CCSO in 2015. Both of these programs are vital for the citizens of our community. Tammy easily accepts challenges and often thinks of innovative ways to make a difference for this Agency. She represents all of us, particularly the Sheriff, very professionally and proudly, while remaining humble. She always wants to do the right thing and performs her job with dedication and integrity.
Between the end of October and November 2017 we saw a rise in Vehicle Burglaries and Petit Thefts in District Two. Detective Bailey was assigned several of these investigations, and was able to establish a general profile of a suspect. On November 6th, Detective Bailey was assigned a criminal investigation of a vehicle burglary located at a local business off El Jobean Road in Port Charlotte. The business, Happy Homes, is a construction business, which has a fleet of vehicles normally parked behind the business. On this morning, workers observed many of their tools were stolen from the side panels of one vehicle. The owner was able to review the surveillance, and saw a person on a bicycle pulling a small trailer in the back parking lot. The person was identified as a white male, wearing gloves, and going to the vehicle doors and attempting to open them. Detective Bailey, using this most recent evidence, made contact with several people around the Homeless Coalition and Jesus Loves You Ministry, looking for leads and possible suspects. During this evolution, additional surveillance was gathered, providing a better physical description of the suspect. Bailey was also able to identify cargo pants and dark shoes. Detective Bailey forwarded this information to fellow detectives, who observed a subject dressed as described, and riding a bicycle. This subject was brought to the CCSO Mid-County Office for an interview. Detective Bailey properly calculated an interview strategy method that matched the facts of the crime, with the history of the suspect. Within moments after being Mirandized, the suspect confessed to the vehicle burglarly. Detective Bailey was not only able to extract the confession, he also created such a rapport with the suspect that he wanted to show Detective Bailey where the stolen property was hidden. Using the information provided by the suspect, he was able to locate the cache of tools hidden under several layers of palm fronds in the dark. The victim stated that due to the swiftness of this case being closed and the recovery of his stolen property, his company was saved thousands of dollars by not needing to replace these tools. It was due to his thoroughness and swift response that he was able to identify possible suspects, find the suspect wearing the clothes worn during the commission of the crime and conduct the interview which lead to a confession and the recovery of the stolen property. This is an example of the dedication, and promptness with which Detective Bailey handles his criminal investigations.

It was about a year and a half ago when Michael, new to the area and looking for something to do, attended a Citizens ‘ Police Academy. “It sounded good to me– this idea of helping with law enforcement. I decided I wanted to give back something for all they do for us. So, I filled out an application, talked to the sergeant, and the rest is history.” “My work with C.O.P. is routine and consists of responding to calls for assistance and helping out with traffic control at accidents. And there’s the special events. I’ve worked at Hands Across the Harbor, the boat parade and the Englewood Waterfest. In fact, I’ve assisted with traffic at each of those events twice,” he explains. Michael worked more than 40 years processing insurance claims in New England, and feels he can weave some of this experience into his volunteer work. “It sharpens a person’s instincts and investigative skills. You learn not to take things at face value.” He leads a busy life and would like to put in more hours on road patrol. “Eventually I want to expand into the Marine Unit, but for now, I’m happy with what I’m doing.”

Authored By
David Trautman, volunteer

CCSO received a call that a young bobcat was stuck under the Myakka River Bridge. Wild Life Rescue assisted our Marine Unit with the rescue. Good job!
DFC Cody Forbus and K-9 Ladybird recently completed 120 hours of narcotics training. The narcotics training consists of basic obedience, narcotics odor familiarization, and numerous types of narcotics detection training scenarios. The schools contain not only practical applications, but also bookwork and tests over the weeks prior to being able to certify as team after their hours are completed. Ladybird was certified on November 1st. Since that time, Det. Forbus and Ladybird have made 15 arrests, which resulted in seizures of over 20 lbs. of Cannabis, 5 ounces of Methamphetamine and over $15,000 worth of THC Oil for a total street value of approximately $71,500. Congratulations, DFC Forbus and Ladybird for completion of this training.
I would like to thank every member of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office, it has been a pleasure working with this agency and members of CCSO Family. It started getting real today and yesterday while walking through the Courthouse saying goodbye to the Judges and State Attorneys who I have been working with for 12 years. To the men and women in the SAO Office we have had many cases, felony trials and homicide trials that have been long and tiring but, it was always teamwork and hard work that brought us out on top, I will miss those times. To my (MCU) Major Crimes Unit Family, which there were many throughout the years I have worked with that have moved on, transferred out or were promoted to other units. Each and every person I had the opportunity to work with, it was a pleasure. Even with all the years I have worked, I still learned every day from my coworkers and friends. I learned one thing in all the years I have worked Law Enforcement, I could never say, I saw it all. I was wrong, I would always see something else that would beat it. That is what made this job so interesting, every day was different, although sometimes you would deal with the same people over and over but every case and investigation was different in its own way. Be Safe, work as a team and remember, the word “TEAMWORK” It’s amazing how much can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit.

Thank You,
Kevin Connolly

Cpl. Joe Eilerman is the November choice for S.R.O. member of the month. Cpl. Eilerman has spearheaded special projects in the past month, helping create a sexting citation and a policy to go along with that. Cpl. Eilerman did a great job in November helping run the SRO unit when two members were out on FMLA, including another Corporal. He has a strong knowledge of the position and helps run day-to-day operations. Cpl. Eilerman has made my transition from the Road Patrol To Juvenile Operations an easy one, and I thank him for that.

Sgt. Michael Marsh

Major Goodwyne and Cpl. Kern are seen above left, spreading a little Christmas cheer to a local family. The envelope was filled with gift cards and the presents were overflowing in the house for three little girls. Santa heard that they were good little girls and asked his elves, AKA the Detention Staff, to help him with the deliveries. Many others were involved, Lt. Long, Lt. Carter, Capt. Wilson, Elizabeth Rominger, and Chaplin Bryon Morgan. Others helped behind the scenes.
Lt. Caparo (center) receives a check from Charlotte State Bank for $447.

Deputy Lou (center) and Dale Philips (far right) accepting a check from Harbor Lakers

Deputy Lou (center) and Oaks IV pitched in.

Sheriff Prummell receives funds from Punta Gorda Women’s Club

We have created an album with hundreds of photos from the 4-day event on our Facebook page. Check it out. Be our friend and like our page.

https://www.facebook.com/pg/CCSOFLSheriff/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1646278662097499
Christmas Luncheon, December 14, 2017
Thank you to our sponsors

Thank you CCSO, You’re the best! This was a HUGE success. $1,113.00 was raised on the raffle. This brings the total raised so far to $3,366.01. It is an important cause as we have all been touched by cancer in some way. Winners listed below:

Dunkin Donuts – Tabbatha Carter
Red Center Piece - Relinda Broom
White Center Piece – Judy Gallo
Essence Nail Spa – Kerri Towsey
Doggie – Christina Erickson
Margarita Time – Donna Reitenbach
Lottery – Ivelisse Pabon
Thirty One – Relinda Broom
Game Night – Nancy Beck
Reading Time – Rose Manfredo
Wine Time – Janet Meaney
Wine and Cheese – Tammy Wilkie
Illusions Salon – Jennifer Wireman
Arbonne Pamper Yourself – Lois Lamb
Massage – Tammy Wilkie
Date Night – Gail Gamble
Bowfishing – Bradley Linenberg
Honey – Steve Perkins
Arbonne Healthy – Ashley Seeley
Outback Gift Cards – Maria Rivera

Tuesday evening, December 19, our FOP held their annual Christmas Party. Honored at this festive event were: Sgt. Don White as 2017 Deputy of the Year, Communications Assistant Supervisor Darla Rose, 2017 Civilian Member of the Year. Mary Jo Dungee, Project Manager for DBI Services for their assistance with any/all road maintenance issues. Left to right Darla Rose, Sharon Brunhuber, Carolyn Turner and Mary Jo Dungee.
In Memory of K-9 Edo

Hard Worker

Partner

Friend
Wayne Nieberg worked at the Charlotte County Sheriffs Office for 27 years. He started in 1981 in the jail and transferred to the Road Patrol in 1982. In 1983 Wayne followed a life long dream and transferred into the K9 unit. He retired in 2008 as lieutenant in charge of field operations. Right after retiring Wayne moved to Kentucky where he still lives today. He enjoys hunting and fishing on his farm. He enjoys hosting his friends from CCSO who come to visit and hunt and enjoy the Kentucky outdoors. He stays active year around working and improving his property. In Wayne’s spare time, he goes on a couple of cruises every year to the Caribbean. In Wayne’s own words "There is a life after Law Enforcement but I think the key is you have to have a passion and my passion is hunting, fishing and being in the outdoors." On a side note, Wayne’s dad, Major Elmer "Buck" Nieberg was also a Charlotte County Sheriffs Office Alumni. Major Nieberg retired as Chief Deputy under Sheriff Glen Sapp in 1984. Major Nieberg enjoyed a long career in Law Enforcement, was a Kentuck Colonel and was also an avid hunter and fisherman. Sadly Major Nieberg passed away in 2014 at 84yoa. Until next time, Sherman Robinson, Major, CCSO Retired.

Life after Retirement
Wayne Nieberg

Major Ed Binnix and Alix Morisset both of the Port Charlotte Salvation Army were at Headquarters December 15th to pick up the food donated by the employees of the Charlotte County Sheriff’s office. Colonel Tom Rodgers and Major Jim Kenville were happy to participate in this time-honored tradition.

Salvation Army Food Drive

Ethan (7) and Aiden (12) Ebehrens baked cookies and sweets for the deputies of District 4. To show their appreciation, they were given bags of treats in return. As we all know, our deputies are the original cookie monsters.

Sweets for the Sweet!

FOP Scholarships

If you are a member of the FOP and are putting your child through college you need to read this notice. The 2018 Florida State FOP Scholarships are now available. Don’t wait! Act Now! The deadline is January 2, 2018. Then even more scholarship opportunities. The District III Lodges have opened up their scholarships. If you are a member in good standing their scholarships are open now and do not close until March 1, 2018. For more information on both Scholarships please contact Ernie Boss or Keri Dehart.

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