



*The
Honorary*

Gold Star

Newsletter

December 2023

A publication of the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (ISSDA)

Buchanan Co. Sheriff's Office Started EMS Response Program to Fill Rural Ambulance Service Gaps with EMS-Cert. Deputies



Buchanan County Rescue 10's staff (left to right): Deputy Dan Walter (critical care paramedic), Deputy Mitch Franck (Emergency Medical Technician) and Deputy Cory Hartmann (Emergency Medical Technician). See Page 14 for full story.

Thank You for Helping the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association Better Serve Our Members, Counties and Iowans

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone! I have enjoyed this past year as the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (ISSDA) President and feel like the time has just flown by.

It is truly amazing all the county and statewide public safety, professional development and community betterment activities the ISSDA and our membership are involved with and responsible for. I never really had a very good idea until I joined the ISSDA Board and became involved in all the different committees -- including the Schools (training), Legislative, Jails, Public Relations (State Fair booth), Uniform, Civil Book (legal), Chaplain, and Funeral & Honor Guard committees.

ISSDA has a very active, award-winning Honor Guard that travels statewide and beyond to fallen officer funerals and other patriotic events, and assists in National Police Week activities and ceremonies in Washington, DC. ISSDA also operates two official sheriff and deputy/ law enforcement museums in Iowa.

These many services run smoothly because of the great leaders on our Board of Directors and the chairs and their co-chairs of the various committees. The dedication and commitment from



Sheriff Jason Sandholdt

Marion County Sheriff's Office

these individuals is truly amazing. They take time away from their families and dedicate it to an association that they strongly believe in. This time is a valuable resource and many members of the ISSDA share it selflessly for the betterment of our Association, communities and state.

These committees put on our regional and statewide schools, which provide valuable training to our membership and in turn make them better all-around employees in our Sheriff's Offices and ultimately better public servants.

I have mentioned the things above that our members do for our Association, but I would be remiss if I didn't thank all of you -- our Honorary Members -- from the bottom of my heart for what

you all do to support us both financially and with your positive comments!

Your financial support also helps us offer an annual, week-long "Sheriffs' and Deputies' Y-Camp" near Boone to kids in all 99 counties who otherwise might never have the opportunity to attend camp. Over the years, these camps have allowed hundreds (if not thousands) of kids to build confidence, make new friends and enjoy the great outdoors.

We have also been blessed to partner with the Iowa Special Olympics. If you have never had the opportunity to attend the opening ceremonies at Hilton Coliseum to watch the athletes enter, and you have a way to get there, I would encourage you to go. The high fives are by the hundreds and the smiles are by the thousands! We were able to contribute \$20,000 last year to help with their expenses and a lot of this was because of all our Honorary Members' contributions.

As I write this article, next week will be Christmas and, like I mentioned above, all of you have been very generous to our Association. I thank you for that and I promise that we at the ISSDA appreciate all of you from the bottom of our hearts!



of the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association



Serving Iowa Since 1882

Contents

ISSDA President's Letter: Thank you for helping ISSDA	2
Muscatine Co. S.O. Given Humane Society of the United States Award	4
ISSDA Chaplain Committee helps sheriffs needing chaplains, programs ...	5
ISSDA Donates & Participates in "Special Olympics Iowa Torch Run"	6
Traffic Violation Suspect Shoots at Polk County Deputy Donald Kay	6
Polk County Sheriff's Office Enjoyed a Busy Halloween Season	6
Pottawattamie County Hosts Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Jail Class .	7
Kossuth Co. Sheriff's Office Uses K-9s & Drones in Anti-Drug Activities.	8
Linn Co. deputy kicked in garage door to save man attempting suicide	9
NAMI S. Central presents jail administrator compassion in crisis award ...	9
ISSDA 2024 "Platinum Sponsors" and ISSDA 2024 "Gold Sponsors"	10
Polk County S.O. packaged and delivered 426 Thanksgiving meals	10
Pottawattamie County S.O. donated over \$4,000 to help cancer patients	10
Story Co. S.O. dive team's "advanced imaging & robotics Initiative"	11
Mitchell Co. deputy helps "BAL Custom Rifles" develop precision rifle	12
40 volunteers completed Polk County Sheriff's Office citizen's academy ..	12
What's so special about "Special Olympics?"	13
In Memoriam: Retired Bremer Co. Sheriff William "Bill" Westendorf, 81	14
Buchanan Co. S.O. "Rescue 10" fills gaps in rural EMS with deputies	14
ISSDA Honor Guard Joined National Police Week Ceremonies	15
Garrett Paul enjoys taking photo in ISSDA Iowa State Fair booth	15
Longtime Wayne County Civil Clerk Sheryl Dotts retires	15
ISSDA Honor Guard Earns Iowa C.O.P.S. "Forever Family Award"	16
Perry Fire Chief Chris Hinds retires after 48 years in public safety	16
Plymouth Co. & Le Mars P.D. hosted K-9 dog trials in Le Mars August 6 .	17
10 \$1,000 ISSDA Scholarships awarded to children of ISSDA members ...	18
ISSDA Schools Schedule	18
Deputy Sheriff Darwin Kueker retires after 42 years with Howard Co. SO.	19
2023 ISSDA Board of Directors photo	20

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Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Honored with Agency-wide "Humane Law Enforcement Award"

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is proud to honor the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) with a 2022 Humane Law Enforcement Award. The MCSO has responded in meaningful ways to numerous large-scale animal cases in recent years and has demonstrated a commitment to combating animal cruelty and promoting animal welfare.

The HSUS Humane Law Enforcement Awards are presented to officers and agencies that have taken an exemplary stand in support of animal protection. The HSUS works diligently nationwide to enact laws that protect all animals, and this work is most effective with the support of law enforcement.

The Humane Society of the United States is proud to collaborate with law enforcement agencies that are focused on making our communities safer for animals and people. We partner with officials across the country on a wide array of investigations, trainings and legislation. Our work with law enforcement officials touches upon the entire spectrum of the justice system, from sheriffs to prosecutors to offices of attorneys general.

The Iowa State Director of the HSUS, Preston Moore, says he has had the pleasure of working closely with residents of Muscatine County over the last few years.

"From my first interaction with the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office, it was apparent that the agency takes animal welfare seriously," Moore said. "The residents of Muscatine County – including the animals – are safer because of that commitment and I thank everyone throughout the agency for their continued compassion."

Muscatine County Sheriff Quinn Ries says these types of cases add a significant



amount of work after the fact, work that deputies and detectives may not have the specific skill set, time, or facilities to handle.

"These cases are a prime example of multiple disciplines coming together to accomplish a common goal," Sheriff Ries says. "The large scale animal neglect cases that have been handled in the last few years would have been much more difficult to bring to a conclusion if not for the assistance of the Muscatine County Attorney's Office, Muscatine Humane Society, Muscatine Veterinary Hospital, Riverside Animal Hospital, Muscatine Animal Control, It Takes a Village Animal Rescue, and the Muscatine Community College Veterinary Technician program."

Iowa State Representative Bobby Kaufmann congratulated the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office for this "well-earned" award.

"The passage of the 2020 animal cru-

elty code upgrades aimed to give Iowa's law enforcement and prosecutors the tools they needed to take a stand against the most severe animal abuse cases," Rep. Kaufmann said.

"The MCSO has put those tools to good use and has taken great steps to protect people and their pets throughout their part of our state. I'm thankful to these men and women for keeping Muscatine County safe every day and I'm glad to see their good work recognized."

Meagan Koehler, founder of It Takes A Village Rescue & Resources, said the Muscatine Sheriff and his deputies have helped "lead a much-needed cultural shift" in the humane treatment of companion animals in Muscatine County.

"This award is well-deserved. We are proud to work alongside them, and are grateful for their service to our county," Koehler said.



ISSDA Chaplain Committee Helps Sheriffs in Need of Chaplains, & Information on Creating a Chaplain Program of Their Own

By Sgt. Shawn Ireland
Linn County Sheriff's Office

The subject of this article begins in the middle of the night in a patrol car in 2007. I was a patrol deputy working the 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. shift when I was introduced to Pastor Darran Whiting, a chaplain for the Linn County Sheriff's Office. I had heard stories about Pastor Whiting and his energetic passion, positive perspective, and delightful sense of humor. Every so often he would ask to ride a shift with a deputy. This night he asked to ride with me.

At some point during my shift we went to a loud music call at a run-down apartment building. I could hear the rock and roll from outside the building. I went inside and up the stairs to knock on the door and politely ask the tenants to turn down the music, as we had a complaint from one of the neighbors. Pastor Whiting stood at the bottom of the stairs and observed.

After a few loud knocks on the door, two rough-looking middle-aged white dudes smelling of booze came out into the hall with the music still blaring. With cigarettes hanging out of their mouths they proceeded to argue with me over the music. They were clearly not done partying yet. They were cussing, laughing, and being belligerent.

One of them looked over and down the stairs at Pastor Whiting and asked, in colorful language, something to the effect of "Who are you?" Pastor Whiting, in his charming way, introduced himself as the Chaplain for the Linn County Sheriff's Office. They asked, "What is a chaplain?" He proceeded to tell them he was a pastor of a local church and volunteered to spend time with deputies on patrol. This was before body worn cameras. I wish I had this recorded to show you what happened next.

The two men quickly apologized to me, apologized for their language in front of the pastor, immediately turned down the music, and said they would go into their apartment and keep the music down for the rest of the night. They had no respect for me, the law, or their neighbors – but somehow seemed to have a considerable respect for someone who was representing a higher authority than I apparently was.

I will never forget, in that moment, how a chaplain's presence calmed a situation that my uniform and authority had little effect on. I realized right then the power and importance of community partnerships and that law enforcement authority alone can't fix all problems.

Over the next few years Pastor Whiting and I became good friends and had many conversations in between calls in my patrol car – too many to tell in this short article. He helped me out many times in many ways, including delivering death notifications. One of the worst parts of this job is telling a family member that their loved one has died. You should always try to do it in person and never do it alone.

Chaplains have a way with words that cops don't naturally have. Pastor Whiting would always say, "I never want to do your job." I would never want to do his. We made a good team. I have since been promoted and no longer work in the patrol division, but Pastor Whiting is still out there doing the Lord's work. I admire good chaplains and people who have a heart to serve their community and help people. We need a lot more of that in this world.

During ISSDA school opening ceremonies and after the Honor Guard presents the Colors, we have had various people throughout the years offer a prayer during the invocation. During Blackhawk County Sheriff Tony Thompson's last year on the ISSDA board I brought up the idea of forming a Chaplain Committee. My idea was to ensure we had a chaplain at every school and preserve the role of chaplain within the Iowa Sheriff's Offices. I worked with Sheriff Thompson and Pastor Whiting to create an ISSDA model Chaplain Policy with pieces of it from the National Sheriff's Association Chaplain Resource Manual.

The 2023 ISSDA Board of Directors created the ISSDA Chaplain Committee. The purpose of this Committee is to provide resources for sheriffs in need of



From left is Chaplain Darran Whiting, Sgt. Shawn Ireland, Chaplain Rick Hamilton, and Chaplain Brad Wallace.

a chaplain, or information on creating a chaplain program of their own. This committee will serve as an informational resource to provide current contact information for all ISSDA chaplains, model policy manual, trainings and resources for ISSDA members and sheriffs interested in chaplain services.

We currently have three ISSDA chaplains who can serve as a regional resource if you need a chaplain or have questions about starting a chaplain program at your office. They are (in the photo above) Darran Whiting from Marion, Rick Hamilton from Glidden and Brad Wallace from Spencer. You can find their contact information and other resources on our website at: www.issda.org/issda-chaplain-committee

When do I call a Chaplain?

- When a fellow officer is injured, ill or killed;
- When you have a personal or family emergency (family / life issues);
- After a major trauma (personal or work related);
- When a hurting family member needs care;
- When you have to deliver a death notification;
- When you are stressed or need to talk;
- When you need encouragement;
- When you just need to vent or let off steam in a safe, confidential environment;
- When you want someone with you for counsel, friendship, or presence;
- When in doubt, call your Chaplain!





Above are photos of Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (ISSDA) members at the Special Olympics Iowa (SOI) "Law Enforcement Torch Run" on May 25. ISSDA presented a check for \$20,000 to Special Olympics Iowa at the event.

Traffic Violation Suspect Shoots at Polk Co. Deputy Donald Kay, is Arrested after Chase Ends at a Budget Inn Motel

Captain Ryan Evans
Polk County Sheriff's Office

On September 26, 2023, Deputy Donald Kay attempted to stop a vehicle for a traffic violation. The vehicle driver evaded the deputy by driving around a local motel and eventually fled the vehicle on foot. The suspect left the vehicle in gear and it continued to roll across a main thoroughfare. Fortunately, it only struck a tree but no other vehicles. The suspect, while fleeing on foot, turned and fired multiple rounds from a handgun at the pursuing deputy. Deputy Kay was uninjured and kept an eye on the suspect when he saw him run into the motel. Responding units arrived on the scene almost immediately and set up a perimeter around the motel.

The suspect barricaded himself in the motel. Tactical units from the Metro STAR Team, as well as the Iowa State Patrol,

arrived on the scene to assist. After nearly four hours entry was made into the motel and the suspect was located hiding within the building. The suspect, Scott Eugene Smith, 42, of Des Moines, was arrested without incident and charged with multiple drug offenses, weapon charges, attempted murder of a police officer, and several other charges. The arrest also resulted in the confiscation of several illegal guns.

This incident highlighted the partnership the Polk County Sheriff's Office has with other agencies. When the call came out that a deputy had been shot at, metro agencies flooded to the scene to assist. The Polk County Sheriff's Office is grateful for



Photo: Iowa Department of Transportation

the response from the Altoona, Ankeny, and Des Moines Police Departments, as well as the Iowa State Patrol and Federal agencies, including the ATF, FBI, USMS, and HSI. The quick response from the Sheriff's Office and other agencies brought this incident to a peaceful end without any injuries.

Polk County Sheriff's Office Enjoyed a Busy Halloween Season

The Polk County Sheriff's Office has been extremely busy with events this Halloween season, participating in seven different trunk-or-treats, five trick-or-treat events, and hosting its annual Candy Crawl in Grimes. Over 1,000 people from Grimes and other communities attended the Candy Crawl and met Sheriff's Office staff, learned what the Sheriff's Office offers, and of course, got some candy. The Sheriff's Office participated in a similar event in Bondurant, the Bondurant Spooktacular, which saw large crowds and lots of candy given out.



Pottawattamie County Hosts Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) Jail Basic 40-Hour Class; Students Visit ISSDA Museum

By Sgt. JW LeMaster

Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Andy Brown and the Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Office played host October 16th-20th to ILEA's 40-hour Basic Jail School. There were 50 students in attendance from across the state who attended this course to meet their requirements for their first year of employment at their respective agencies.

Not only were we able to accommodate this classroom setting in

our newly remodeled Training Room, but we were able to extend further knowledge in the form of an official tour of the Historic Squirrel Cage Jail Museum, also known as the ISSDA West Museum. Students were given the opportunity to visit the museum after class for a formal tour, which I provided. During the tour they were hopefully enlightened to the 'ways gone by' of how things used to be. They definitely saw firsthand the stark contrast to how things are currently handled in a correctional facility in comparison to the

late 1800's. I also hope that they were able to learn a little about the history of the Office of Sheriff in the State of Iowa and the role of the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association. Admittedly they also had to put up with a few of my 'dad jokes,' goofy humor, and sarcasm along the way.

We would also like to extend a Thank You to ILEA Instructor Jacqueline White for working with us and providing excellent instruction to ALL who attended this training course.



Above, ILEA Jail Basic students were offered an official tour of the Historic Squirrel Cage Jail Museum, also known as the ISSDA West Museum.



Kossuth County Sheriff's Office Shows K-9, Drones and Grinch Capture as Part of its "Red Ribbon Week" Anti-Drug Activities

In October, the Kossuth County Sheriff's Office put on K-9 and drone demonstrations at North Union Schools in recognition of Red Ribbon Week.

The deputies demonstrated how K-9's Pedro and Thor can search for drugs and apprehend criminals. Then they set up a large TV monitor in the gym for a live demo of how the drone can fly in buildings and conduct searches.

The students were not aware the deputies had arranged for the Grinch to be in the Principal's office. While they watched the monitor, the drone captured the Grinch going through the Principal's class lists in an attempt to put

all the children on his naughty list to ruin their Christmas! With the assistance of the deputies, K-9s and the drone, Sheriff Roger Fisher was able to capture and arrest the Grinch, who was charged with Trespassing, Interference with Official Acts, and Conspiring to Ruin Christmas 2023! He was booked into the Kossuth County Jail, awaiting a future court date.

Throughout November and December, the Sheriff's Office will continue the fun promotion by releasing photos and videos of the Grinch in jail and in court, and eventually have the Grinch escape after Thanksgiving. The communities will be able to follow the events on the Sheriff's Office Facebook page

and through local media outlets.

After escaping and running rampant throughout Kossuth County in attempts to ruin Christmas for all the children, the Grinch will be recaptured in time to save Christmas. The Grinch will grow a heart and appear at the local schools shortly before Christmas to hand out treats for the children!

A special thank you to Kossuth County Deputies Mark McGregor, Jake Radmaker, Melissa Hoch and Caleb Hill for their part in the demonstrations and to the entire Sheriff's Office staff for their part in the promotion of how "The Grinch Almost Stole Christmas 2023!"



Deputies Jake Radmaker and Melissa Hoch with students petting K-9 Thor.



Sheriff Fisher walking into the gym showing students the Grinch has been arrested



The Grinch being fingerprinted and put to work mopping floors.



North Union Superintendent Travis Schueller taking a bite from K-9 Pedro.



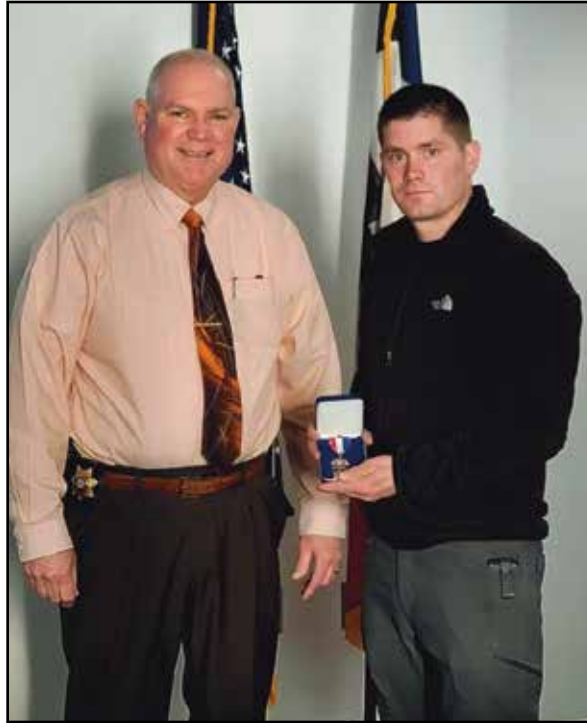
Elementary students at North Union of Fenton, Iowa.

Linn Co. Deputy Greg Streets Kicked through Garage Door to Save Man Attempting Suicide by Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

On March 21st at 1:19 a.m. the Linn County Sheriff's Office Communications Center received a 911 call reporting a possible suicide attempt at a residence in Fairfax. Family members said they received text messages from an adult male that he was going to commit suicide by carbon monoxide poisoning.

The caller said an on-scene neighbor could hear a vehicle running inside the locked garage, with no one answering knocks on the door. Deputy Greg Streets was dispatched to the call and arrived on scene at approximately 1:32 p.m.

Upon arrival, Deputy Streets noticed two individuals outside the garage. He notified Communications Operators he would not wait for the fire department and was going to force his way into the garage – knowing time was critical. Deputy Streets kicked his way through the overhead garage door, making a hole large enough to enter. As he entered the garage, Deputy Streets realized he had limited time to locate the man before he was



Linn Co. Sheriff Brian Gardner presented Deputy Greg Streets his Life Saving commendation.

overcome by exhaust fumes. Immediately locating the adult male behind the wheel

of the running vehicle, Deputy Streets shut the vehicle off. He found the man breathing, but he was showing obvious signs of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Deputy Streets pulled the man from the vehicle and helped him through the hole in the garage door to the two awaiting individuals outside. Together, they were able to move the man into the fresh air. Outside, the man continued showing signs of carbon monoxide poisoning; he was semi-conscious and lethargic. After a brief wait, EMS arrived and placed the man on oxygen. He became more alert and responsive and was eventually transported to a hospital for follow up care.

Deputy Streets' decisive actions in removing the suicidal man from the overwhelming presence of carbon monoxide likely saved the man's life. Because of his attentiveness, compassion, and perseverance, Sheriff Brian Gardner awarded Deputy Greg Streets with a Life Saving commendation award for the act of saving a life on

March 21, 2023.

NAMI South Central Presents Jail Administrator Mitch Cairnes a "Compassion in Crisis Intervention Award"

By President Dewey McConville
NAMI South Central Iowa

NAMI South Central Iowa (National Alliance on Mental Illness) presented the "Compassion in Crisis Intervention Award" to Officer Mitch Cairns on Wed, March 29th, at the annual PACT (Promoting Ap-panoose & Centerville Together) Banquet with 350 guests present.

The average length of time it takes from the onset of a person's mental illness symptoms to diagnosis and then treatment is ELEVEN years. This is why so many of these individuals end up in mental health crises with law enforcement personnel. Our officers are C.I.T. trained, learning de-escalation techniques that enable the person to



be treated with respect and dignity.

Not all of these persons end up in the criminal justice system, but some do, and Jail Administrator Mitch Cairns demonstrates such concern and understanding for them that a real trust develops. He lets them know that he is there to help them achieve a good outcome. This is true compassion in crisis intervention.

Congratulations to Officer Mitch Cairns from our NAMI family!!

ISSDA 2024 Platinum Sponsors:



ISSDA 2024 Gold Sponsors:



Polk County S.O. Packaged and Delivered 426 Thanksgiving Meals



Pottawattie County Sheriff's Office and Council Bluffs P.D. Fundraise and Donate Over \$4,000 to Help Cancer Patients

By Sgt. J.W. LeMaster

Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Office

The Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Office and Council Bluffs Police Department jointly presented a check donation totaling \$4,064 to CHI Health Mercy Council Bluffs on November 8th.

The donation comes after a nearly three-month-long friendly competition between the two agencies. Each sold T-shirts and hooded sweatshirts with customers selecting apparel with a silhouette of a Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) star or a Council Bluffs Police Department (CBPD) shield.

All proceeds were donated to benefit cancer patients and survivors, and the agency with the highest number of orders representing its brand earned bragging rights.

"We had a lot of laughs and some

good-natured teasing throughout this competition," said Pottawattamie County Sheriff Andy Brown.

"We want to thank the Council Bluffs Police Department for joining us in this effort to go towards a great cause. We'd also like to remind the CBPD that we won," said Sheriff Brown with a smile.

Sales for the fundraising apparel began on August 11th and closed on October 31st. In total, 839 items were sold. The Sheriff's Office won the friendly wager by selling 465 items, raising \$2,064. The CBPD sold 374 items, raising \$2,000. Both agencies

annually raise funds to support cancer awareness, but this is the first year the efforts turned competitive.

"We're incredibly grateful for the opportunity to give back to our community," said Sheriff Brown. "Our contributions aren't just financial for a cause like this, and our thoughts don't stop at the end of October. This is a year-round fight, and we're here to support those battling any way we can," said Sheriff Brown.

Since 2011, the PCSO and CBPD have combined to donate over \$79,000 towards cancer awareness.



Story Co. Sheriff's Office Dive Team Advanced Imaging and Robotics Initiative Wins a 2023 ISAC "Excellence in Action Award"

By Lucas Beenken

ISAC Public Policy Specialist
lbeenken@iowacounties.org

The ISAC "Excellence in Action Award" is a competitive awards program that seeks to identify and recognize innovative county government employees, programs, and ISAC affiliates. The selection committee evaluated the nominees on the following elements: creativity and innovation, leadership, replication, cost-savings, efficiency, cooperation, and perseverance. This year's awards were presented to two recipients at the ISAC Annual Conference in August:

- * Story County Sheriff's Office Dive Team Advanced Imaging and Robotics Initiative;
- * Johnson County Public Health Jynneos Vaccine Program and Story County.

Story Co. Sheriff's Office Dive Team Advanced Imaging and Robotics Initiative: When undertaking public safety dive missions, the safety of the divers, thoroughness of the search, and efficiency of the operation are of utmost importance. After leading the dive and search response efforts following the tragic drowning of two student-athletes from the Iowa State University rowing team in 2021, the Story County Sheriff's Office Dive Team knew that the most important lesson learned was that with more advanced tools, future missions could be conducted in a safer and more efficient manner. This was the catalyst for the Advanced Imaging and Robotics Initiative.

The Story County Sheriff's Office began investing in and integrating new, advanced equipment including Livescope sonars, GPS mapping monitors, and the only remote operated underwater robot in Iowa. With the Advanced Imaging and Robotics Initiative fully operational by June of 2022, the team can now efficiently and thoroughly search large areas of water using the sonars and mapping monitors without having to send divers underwater. The team also uses a remote operated vehicle (ROV) with sonar and 4k camera to confirm targets and ensure the area is safe for the dive team to begin recovery efforts. What may have previously taken days of underwater searching in hazardous conditions may now be reduced to targeted dives when victims, evidence, or other objects are identified. Be-

yond the safety advantages, this efficiency can also bring resolution to the loved ones of victims, help investigators retrieve evidence in a timely manner, and save taxpayer dollars on personnel and overtime.

The Advanced Imaging and Robotics Initiative has also proven valuable to other entities, including other counties that have called on Story County to assist with searches and the National



This is the Story County remote operated vehicle (ROV) locating guns underwater.



The Story County Sheriff's Office remote operated vehicle (ROV) operating in a river.

Institute of Standards and Technology, with whom the team worked to test capabilities and methods for the benefit of first responders around the world. This intergovernmental cooperation provides value to all involved. The Story County Sheriff's Office Dive Team, other governmental entities, and the public benefit from safety and efficiency provided by this initiative.

Johnson County Public Health Jynneos Vaccine Program: In the public health arena, preparedness and response are often tested by the unknown and unpredictable. We need only look to 2020 and a global pandemic for evidence of that. To properly respond to public health emergencies and other events, agencies prepare broadly and respond specifically. Johnson County Public Health (JCPH) and its Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) displayed this in 2022 when they implemented a mass vaccination campaign in response to a global Mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) outbreak that found its way to Iowa and Johnson County.

When the Mpox outbreak hit Iowa, JCPH initiated its communicable disease response

and began working locally with MRC, disease prevention specialists, emergency preparedness planners, and community health nurses. JCPH soon coordinated contact tracing, case investigation, and vaccination. A unique challenge of the response was the use of Jynneos, a newly approved vaccine that saw changes over time in how the two doses could be administered. The vaccination program benefited from the use of data collection tools to streamline screening, scheduling, vaccine administration, and follow-up for second doses. This streamlining provided for better customer service, efficiencies for the public health staff and volunteer corps, and cost savings for the taxpayers.

Beyond the vaccine program, JCPH and MRC have continued to use the data collection system for health assessment data collection, customer service evaluations, public engagement efforts, and various other projects. They look forward to carrying on the practice for future mass vaccination clinics, as well as other endeavors. The lessons learned and the embrace of new tools and processes will continue to benefit Johnson County Public Health and those they serve.

Mitchell County Deputy Helps BAL Custom Rifles Develop Precision Rifle – Owner Donates New Rifle to Sheriff’s Office

By Sheriff Gregory Beaver
Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office

When Bryce Lumley, owner of BAL Custom Rifles, and Deputy Justin Trees, with the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office, began a joint venture about eight months ago to develop a precision rifle to be donated to the Sheriff’s Office, it was certainly unexpected.

Equipment like this is essential to a law enforcement agency. View this as having insurance; we all need insurance for a variety of purposes but we all hope we never need it.

The precision rifle will be assigned and implemented into the Special Operations Group (SOG) that the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office has been a part of since 1991. This group of highly trained law enforcement officers from a nine-county area is called upon to serve high-risk search and arrest warrants, provide dignitary protection and support state and federal law enforcement partners in the work that they do each day.

When a citizen decides to donate to the Sheriff’s Office, I often wonder why they would do that? I am always thankful and appreciative of their generosity. Many of the donations we have received over the years have offset budget constraints. This specific donation would not otherwise have been possible. The sheriff’s office budget would not allow this to happen.



BAL Custom Rifles owner Bryce Lumley (left), Deputy Justin Trees and the BAL Mountain King-300 PRC Sniper Rifle they co-developed.

Rifle builder Bryce Lumley had the following to say regarding his donation to the Sheriff’s Office:

“Why would a guy donate a \$10,000 rifle to a local Sheriff’s Department? This is a question that I have been asked and there are a couple reasons that come to mind. One of them being Law and Order. I believe law and order is the backbone of a civil society and truly is what separates us from total chaos. This allows us to live our great American lives.

“Over the last few years, I have watched a DISGUSTING move-

ment sweep across our great nation to defund and discredit our brave men and women of law enforcement. I wanted to do something to stand up against this horrible ideology. Building long-range precision rifles, while it is a passion of mine, it created a path for me to do just that. Many of my rifles go to hunters, especially in the western states where shots can be quite long. While others go to target shooters that like to bang steel plates at ranges well over a thousand yards and some reach to one mile.

This is exactly the type of rifle our law enforcement may need. I will be proud to know that one of my rifles will be helping to protect the people of my community.

It is with great honor that I dedicate this BAL Mountain King-300 PRC Sniper Rifle to the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Department. This is where I live, work, and have raised my family.”

Sincerely,
Bryce Lumley
BAL Custom Rifles

Thank you to BAL Custom Rifles, manufactured in Osage, Iowa, for your generosity and concern for the staff at the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office.

Support from community members and area businesses helps maintain high morale within a sheriff’s office.

40 Volunteers Completed Polk County Sheriff’s Office Citizens Academy

By Ken Stinson

Forty of us completed the Polk County Sheriff’s Citizens Academy recently.

We are now volunteers on the Sheriff’s Ambassador Detail

serving in a variety of events. As Sheriff’s Ambassadors we walked in the 4th of July parade greeting people and handing out candy to the kids along the three-mile parade route.



What's So Special About "Special Olympics?"

In May, I had the honor of attending the Special Olympics Iowa "Law Enforcement Torch Run" final leg as it converged on Hilton Coliseum in Ames for the opening of the Special Olympics Iowa Summer Games. I couldn't stop smiling.

There was so much excitement, positivity, and encouragement from everyone attending. If you haven't participated in this before, I challenge you to do so. It only costs you your time, and the reward is priceless.

I love their motto: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." I met some athletes with physical and other challenges who have incredible character and strength. I saw smiles, excitement, joy, and people caring for other people.

From the singing of the national anthem to the lighting of the torch, I was humbled and proud to be part of the event. Several of us standing in uniform got to high-five and fist bump the athletes as they entered the arena. These athletes are an inspiration and capable of such amazing things. We can learn a lot from Special Olympics athletes in how to overcome obstacles and challenge ourselves to be our best and "be brave in the attempt."

The Iowa State Sheriffs' & Deputies' Association (ISSDA) is only as strong as the members that belong to it. Without member participation and strong leadership, it would fade into the history books like so many other causes before it. Former Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack is quoted as saying, "People working together in a strong community with a shared goal and a common purpose can make the impossible



Sergeant Shawn Ireland
Linn County Sheriff's Office

possible." ISSDA is the glue that binds all 99 Iowa Sheriffs' Offices into one common organization. From our car markings to our uniforms, from our patches to our badges, together we are stronger, more professional, and capable. Although each sheriff is elected by the people of the county they serve, all sheriffs and their deputies are recognized throughout the state by their uniform appearance.

I am honored to serve on the board of directors for ISSDA. I encourage each member to participate in ISSDA any way they can. Check out the ISSDA website for ways to engage. View the list of committees that you can participate in, respond to forum posts, and share your knowledge and experience with others. Attend one of the conferences or trainings provided, or man a four-hour shift at the Iowa State Fair booth. Subscribe to the weekly e-newsletter for announcements on other ways to en-

gage and be active. This is your association and is only as strong as your participation.

If I have learned one thing this year from ISSDA President Jason Sandholdt, it is the importance of building relationships, connecting with strangers, and bringing people together. I'm like most cops; I would rather be on an island (with my wife of course) in the middle of nowhere with no people around. I don't need people to be happy. In fact, I'm usually happier these days without being around crowds of people. However, this world does not get better by living in isolation. If we want the world to change, we must be the change and begin by changing our world, taking care of our family, our friends, and people we see every day. We all need encouragement.

I went to the Special Olympics opening ceremonies to encourage the athletes, but they encouraged me instead. Are you feeling like you need a little encouragement? Find someone to be a blessing to today. Be nice. It's the gift that keeps on giving.

I want to encourage you to stay positive in this negative world. We desperately need good men and women of courage and bravery to carry out the duties of the Office of Sheriff. Connect with a stranger today and be an encouragement to them. This summer I worked at the Linn County Fair and the Cedar Rapids Downtown Farmer's Market. Many kind citizens came up and thanked me for my service. Just a handshake, a kind word, and a smile encourages me to keep going and continue to wear the uniform.

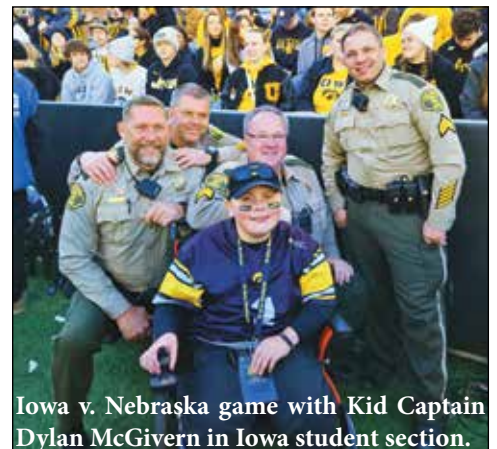
Iowa is a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Let's help keep it that way.



Special Olympics Iowa "Law Enforcement Torch Run" Opening Ceremonies in May.



Linn Co. Sgt. Steve Erceg and Lt. Deric Oshel helped staff ISSDA's 2023 State Fair Booth.



Iowa v. Nebraska game with Kid Captain Dylan McGivern in Iowa student section.

William “Bill” Westendorf, 81; Retired Bremer County Sheriff

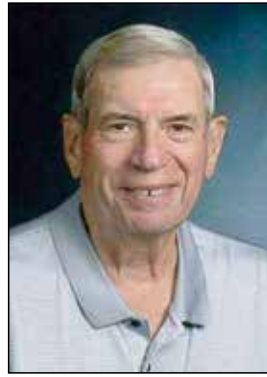
William “Bill” Westendorf, 81, of Waverly died July 16, 2023, at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo.

William Leo Westendorf was born on May 11, 1942, the son of Leo and Dorothy (Testorff) Westendorf in Waverly. He graduated from Waverly High School in 1960, and served with the U.S. Army from 1961 until his discharge in 1964. On August 1, 1964, he was united in marriage to Dorothy “Dode” Jahnel in Osage.

Bill started his law enforcement career with the Waverly Police from 1964 until 1966, when he joined the Bremer County Sheriff’s Office as a deputy. He was elected Sheriff in 1973 and held that position until his retirement on December 31, 2000.

Bill enjoyed golfing, fishing, card games (especially Schafkopf) and watching his grandkids’ sporting events/ activities.

Survivors are his wife, Dode Westendorf of Waverly; son, Greg (Jeanette) Westendorf of Waverly; three grandchildren Haylee (Andrew) Piehl, Sean (Rachel) Westendorf and Dayna; two great grandkids, Mason and Beckett Piehl; two sisters, Shirley Kroepel of Centralia, IL and Mary (Gary) Kramer of Clarksville; sister-in-law, Jane Westendorf of Keota;



William Westendorf

and brother-in-laws, Judd Kolka of Waverly and Ken Sedlacek of North Liberty. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Betty Sedlacek and Jan Kolka; two brothers, James and Roger Westendorf; brother-in-law, Harvey Kroepel and sister-in-law, Kay Westendorf.

Memorial services were held July 21 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Waverly. Interment was in Harlington Cemetery. Memorials for Bill can be directed to the Westendorf family for a later designation in Bill’s name, and online condolences can be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

Buchanan County Sheriff’s Office “Rescue 10” Program Fills Gaps in Rural EMS Services with EMS-Trained Deputies

In a vast majority of Iowa’s rural counties, EMS services are staffed almost entirely by volunteer first responder personnel, and Buchanan Co. is no exception. While these first responders work hard to be available for calls any time of the day, staffing levels and other issues create problems in which, at times, there may be nobody to cover calls in a given response district.

In early 2021, Buchanan Co. Sheriff’s Deputy Dan Walter approached Sheriff Scott Buzynski about the possibility of using the agency’s deputies who have EMS certifications to assist EMS calls within the County. Sheriff Buzynski greenlighted the effort, and the process of creating an EMS Response Program was started. Through grant funding and other donations, Buchanan County’s “Rescue 10” Program was implemented in late 2021 after the Buchanan Co. S.O. was approved as a non-transport Basic Life Support (BLS) service through the Iowa Department of Health and Human Service’s Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services. Buchanan County is the 10th County in alphabetical order of Iowa’s 99 Counties, hence the name “Rescue 10.”

2022 was the first full year for Rescue 10, with EMS/Rescue Deputies (Deputy/Paramedic Dan Walter, Deputy/EMT Mitch Franck, and Deputy/EMT Cory Hartmann (in photo) assisting on 147 medical calls.



On 60 of those calls, they were the primary emergency medical care provider until ambulance arrival. These deputies had assisted in a variety of emergency calls such as lift assists, breathing problems, burns, seizures, falls, cardiac (heart) problems, overdose, traumatic injuries, unconscious/fainting, motor vehicle accidents and other medical calls.

The Buchanan Co. Sheriff’s Office was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Buchanan County Community Foundation (BCCF) during the 2022 Grant Cycle. Grants are awarded through BCCF’s competitive grant process to projects in the program areas of arts and culture, community betterment, education and youth development, environment and animal welfare, health and human service. The Sheriff’s Office was one of two grant recipients in the Health category, with funds to be used for the purchase of a cardiac monitor for the Rescue 10 Program. The Sheriff’s Office also received donations from several

other entities including Bank Iowa, Buchanan County EMS Association, Burco Farms, East Central Iowa REC, Wapsie Valley Creamery, Wieland & Sons Lumber, Victoria Keegan, John Lappe, Pam & Mike Ratchford (in memory of David Fangman), Stephen and Marjorie Riley, Kathy Smith (in memory of Iowa State Patrol Sergeant Jim Smith), Chris & Lisa Walter and Herb & Carol Walter.

With the funds raised, the Sheriff’s Office purchased a Zoll Cardiac Monitor in March 2023 to be used in the Rescue 10 Program.

“We are very grateful for funding from the Buchanan County Community Foundation and our other donors in support of this project,” Rescue 10 Coordinator Dan Walter said. “This was a large undertaking as far as funding goes, but we’ve successfully completed our \$35,000 goal.”

The purchase of a cardiac monitor allowed Rescue 10 to move up to the Advanced Life Support (ALS) level.

To date, the Buchanan County Sheriff’s Office’s Rescue 10 Program is running strong and assisting on EMS calls all throughout Buchanan County. Rescue 10 Deputies pride themselves on providing quick and effective emergency medical interventions, and continue working and training with First Responder and Ambulance partners to ensure Buchanan County is receiving the best EMS care possible.

ISSDA Honor Guard Joined National Police Week Ceremonies in Washington, D.C.



Garrett Paul Enjoys Taking ISSDA State Fair Booth Photo



“Iowa County Sheriff Rob Rotter, Iowa County Jail Administrator Jeff Krotz, and one of the most handsome little guys I know, Garrett Paul (6 years old) a/k/a my grandson, and the son of Morgan and Brian Paul (Poweshiek County EMA Coordinator) from Grinnell. My daughter and her family went to the fair on Monday. She said that Garrett couldn’t wait for her to send me this picture...LOL. I’m just surprised that his twin brother didn’t get in it. I’d say without a doubt that Rob and Jeff made his day!” – By Office Deputy Dawn Disney, Poweshiek County Sheriff’s Office.

Longtime Wayne Co. Clerk Dotts Retires

Wayne County Sheriff’s Office Civil Clerk Sheryl Dotts enjoyed her retirement party during the first weekend of January after serving 38 years.

In the photo with Dotts is Sheriff Keith Davis.



ISSDA Honor Guard Earns Iowa C.O.P.S. “Forever Family Award”



The Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (ISSDA) Honor Guard was presented the Iowa Concerns for Police Survivors (Iowa C.O.P.S.) 2023 “Forever Family Award” at their annual Black and Blue Ball on September 30.

On the Iowa C.O.P.S. Facebook page they wrote: “The ISSDA Honor guard is comprised of approximately 60 volunteer members from various sheriff's offices located across the state of Iowa. ISSDA honor guard has become a familiar face at every funeral response as they actively assist fallen officers' families and the Iowa C.O.P.S. organization by doing whatever is needed to honor our fallen. From assisting in parking vehicles, seating attendees, providing casket watch, and so much more, the men and women of this association have always been willing to help.

“The members of the Honor Guard selflessly give of themselves. Never asking for anything in return or any recognition, they give their time,

their hearts, and their respects to ensure the fallen officers and their families receive the honor and pageantry so deserved. Whether it is the countless hours standing on their feet at attention, or being out in coldest weather to the scorching heat, and everything in between, they are unwavering in their commitment and dedication.

“In 2021 and 2022 ISSDA Honor Guard sent members to National Police Week in Washington D.C. There they greeted and escorted survivors attending police week as they got off their airplanes at Ronald Reagan International Airport. This honor is one of the many memories a family member or a co-worker attending National Police Week never forgets.

“We at Iowa C.O.P.S. would like to take a moment to recognize the men and women of the Iowa State Sheriff's and Deputies' Association Honor Guard. While we pray that we will never need to call on their services again, but we know that if we

do need to make that call they will respond.

“Thank you for all that you do.”

In the ISSDA Honor Guard photo from left to right are **Ben Roberts** (Dubuque County), **Amanda Potter** (Dubuque Co), **Ashton Luke** (Fremont Co), **Rick Singer** (Plymouth Co), **Waylon Pollema** (Sioux Co) **Dennis Paulson** (Worth Co), **Chris Langenberg** (Johnson Co), **Pat Heissel** (Plymouth Co.), **Alex Smock** (Black Hawk Co), **Kary Conger** (Louisa Co), and **Becky Shady** (Dubuque Co). Not Pictured: **David Even** (Black Hawk County), **Gerald Lukken** (Woodbury Co), **Mike Lamoreaux** (Woodbury Co), **Mike Martens** (Emmet Co), **Heather O'Brien** (Linn Co), **Matt Oltmann** (Linn Co), **Tyler Blaha** (Linn Co), **Caleb Bullard** (Linn Co), **Milo Miles** (Linn Co), **Charles Woodcock** (Linn Co), **Andrew Harwardt** (Dubuque Co), **Bill Sankey** (Buena Vista Co), and **Don Henningsen** (Pottawattamie Co).

Reprinted with permission from theperrynews.com

Perry Fire Chief Chris Hinds retires after 48 years in public safety

By The Perry News
January 15, 2023

Perry Volunteer Fire Department Chief Chris Hinds retires January 15, 2023 after a career of nearly half a century in public safety.

Hinds, a Perry native, graduated from Perry High School in 1973. He took an associate's degree from DMACC in 1975 and later attended the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and the Fire Service Training Bureau.

Hinds began his public-safety career in 1975 as a reserve office in the Perry Police

Department. He joined the Adel Police Department in 1976 and worked his way up to assistant police chief by 1980, when he joined the Dallas County Sheriff's office under then-Sheriff Lee Struble.

Hinds also became a member in 1980 of the Adel Volunteer Fire Department. He joined the Perry Volunteer Fire Department in 1984 and became Fire Chief in July 2006. Hinds hung up his deputy sheriff's uniform in 2009 after 29 years with Dallas County and has been Perry's virtual full-time fire chief since then.

Under Hinds' leadership, the volunteer fire

department was restructured, and he proved adept at landing federal, state and local grant funding for firefighting equipment. He also helped bring the 2010 Iowa Firefighters Association annual convention to Perry for the first time since 1913, the year his own father, Elmer “Butch” Hinds, was born in Perry.

Along with serving as president of the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association in 2005, Hinds is a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus St. Jude Council 1243 of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Perry.

Plymouth Co. Deputy Kyl Petersen and K-9 Zeke Win 3rd Place Overall and on 1st Place Team Plymouth County and Le Mars Police Hosted USPCA Region 21 Dog Trials in Le Mars on August 6

The Plymouth County Sheriff's Office along with the Le Mars Police Department hosted the United States Police Canine Association Inc. (USPCA) dog trials for Region 21 in Le Mars, Iowa, August 6th through the 9th.

Plymouth County Deputy Kyl Petersen and his K-9 Zeke competed in events throughout the three days of the trials which included obedience, box search, article search, apprehension without gunfire, apprehension with gunfire and tracking.

At the conclusion of the trials, Deputy Petersen and K-9 Zeke were awarded 3rd Place Overall along with sharing 1st Place in the team competition, which also included members of the Le Mars Police Department, the Sheldon Police Department, and the Allamakee County Sheriff's Office in Iowa.

Deputy Petersen and his K-9 Zeke will go on to compete in USPCA Nationals the week of September 24th in Foley, Alabama.



K-9 Zeke



Plymouth County Deputy Kyl Petersen



The First Place Team Consisted of Members of the Le Mars Police Department, Sheldon Police Department, the Allamakee County Sheriff's Office and Plymouth County Sheriff's Office, with Deputy Kyl Petersen.

Ten \$1,000 ISSDA Evelyn Covington Scholarships Awarded to Graduating Senior High School Children of ISSDA Members

Olivia Arkfeld



Olivia Arkfeld of Council Bluffs, daughter of Amanda and Pottawattamie County Deputy Sheriff Samuel Arkfeld, plans to study environmental engineering at the The University at Iowa.

Celine Fisher



Celine Fisher of Williamsburg, daughter of Sadie and Iowa County Deputy Sheriff Steven Fisher, plans to study court reporting at Des Moines Area Community College.

Addyson Hogrefe



Addyson Hogrefe of Storm Lake, daughter of Derek and Buena Vista County Correctional Officer Barb Hogrefe, plans to study criminal justice at Iowa Central Community College.

Kyla Mason



Kyla Mason of Cedar Rapids, daughter of Linn County Deputy Sheriff Amy Mason and Linn County Deputy Sheriff Scott Mason, plans to study biochemistry at Iowa State University.

Lance Myers



Lance Myers of Waverly, son of Kristie and Bremer County Deputy Sheriff Ronald Myers, plans to attend Wartburg College to study exercise science.

Cooper Perdew



Cooper Perdew of Mankato, Iowa, the son of Brandi and Crawford County Deputy Sheriff Todd Perdew, is considering studying at one of six colleges or universities.

Kayden Spencer



Kayden Spencer of Boone, daughter of Jillian and Boone County Deputy Sheriff Nathaniel Spencer, plans to study business at Des Moines Area Community College.

Dylan Stephan



Dylan Stephan of Marengo, son of Tonia and Iowa County Head Jailer Christopher Stephan, plans to study criminal justice at Kirkwood Community College.

Chloe Timmons



Chloe Timmons of Murray, daughter of Decatur County 911 Dispatcher/C.O. Kari Timmons, plans to study criminology/psychology at Northwest Missouri State University.

Taylor Vander Leest



Taylor Vander Leest of Grinnell, daughter of Jennifer and Poweshiek County Chief Deputy Joel Vander Leest, plans to study mathematics and English at the University of Iowa.

ISSDA Schools Schedule

Spring Civil School
at Des Moines
Airport Holiday Inn
April 14-17, 2024

Spring Jail School
at Des Moines
Airport Holiday Inn
Feb. 20th - 23rd, 2024

Fall Jail School
at Des Moines
Airport Holiday Inn
Sept. 17-20, 2024

Winter Schools
at Des Moines
Airport Holiday Inn
Dec. 03-06, 2024

Reprinted from the TPD Online (The Cresco Times Plain Dealer)

Deputy Sheriff Darwin Kueker retires

—Dedicates 42 years to Howard County – 10 with Cresco P.D. and 32 with Sheriff's Office

By Beki Groenwald, TPD Staff

CRESCO - On Dec. 31, 2022, Darwin Kueker signed off for the last time as a Deputy Sheriff. This is his farewell sign off in his own words: "Howard County Comm. This is 45-3. To all within the sound of my voice, after 42 years, six months and 20 days, it is my time to step off the thin blue line, and this is my last official sign off. To the residents and citizens of Howard County it has been an honor and my privilege to have served you. Like an old biker once told me of his life, it has been one HELL of a ride, and this career has been that. To my fellow brother and sister sheep dogs, may GOD protect, bless, and keep you all safe. Most importantly, like the old Sergeant from Hill Street Blues said, 'Hey- let's be careful out there.' So, Comm. Center as my last official sign-off, this is Darwin James Kueker, Badge Number 45-3, of the Howard County Sheriff Office. 'SEMPER FIDELIS' 10—Thank-you—42."

Forty-two years, six months and 20 days: That's how long Deputy Sheriff Darwin Kueker has served as a law enforcement officer. He is the longest-serving, sworn, non-elected officer in the county. He officially retired on Dec. 31, 2022, and it's already feeling like a long slog to him.

"Since I was 12 years old, I've had a full time job," Kueker said. In all that time, he has spent only one day "unemployed," and, to his way of thinking, he was terrified, even if only for a single day. "I kind of have some of those same feelings now," he said. "It's kinda like you're lost."

Kueker started his law enforcement career as a Cresco city police officer when he was 22 years old. With a degree in Criminal Justice and two years of hard construction work behind him, he was looking for a new way of making a living.

"I was one signature away from joining the Marine Corps," he said. But after spending time riding along with city police, it occurred to him that he knew all their procedures and maybe that would be a better fit.

It was. Kueker was hired by the Cresco Police Department and spent just shy of 10 years working for them before changing jobs to work for the county as a Deputy Sheriff. "No disrespect to any of my brother and sister officers," he said, "but to me, the pinnacle of



your career would be to work for a Sheriff's department."

And for 33 years and change, that's exactly what he's done, with 10 years of that time also spent being the Jail Administrator.

In addition to being a deputy/jailer, Kueker was also a specialist in serving papers. "Everybody seems to hone in on specific things," he explained. "We've got inspectors, and we've got firearms instructors, all sorts of different things. I always gravitated towards trying to serve as many of the papers that we'd get as I could. I'd drive around serving papers or whatever needed to be done."

One time, he remembers serving papers at a bachelorette party, where he was mistaken for the entertainment. "The stripper's here, the stripper's here!" rang out across the room, to which he dryly assured them, "I'm the guy you pay NOT to take off his clothes."

The best part of the job for Kueker was meeting the people. "There are a lot of good people out there," he said. "The people I work with, and the people that you meet. Every day is something different. Something new."

One of his fondest memories is of a little girl coming up to him while he was working at RAGBRAI in Protivin. She tugged on his uniform and handed him a note, then ran off. When he opened the note, it was folded around an officer challenge coin (a small coin bearing an organization's insignia) and the note said, "Thank you for everything you do for us."

His least favorite part of the job had to do with meeting people, too, sometimes in their saddest hour. "I just always hated having to

tell someone that a loved one passed," he said. "That's always tough. And the other thing is, I've covered some accidents, including fatalities, where you know the people involved." He paused for a moment, then added, "I hope I can mentally block that stuff out."

When asked about some of the changes he's seen in his 42 years of law enforcement, one particular item came to mind. "We used to have six in the gun, 12 on the belt and five in the shotgun," he said, referring to the amount of ammunition an officer carried during the commission of their daily duties.

"I find it sad that now, our brave young officers have got to carry 17 in the gun, four magazines of 17 each on their belt, two 30-round magazines for an AR-15 style rifle and then five in the shotgun. I think there's something wrong," he said, "that we have to prepare for war."

But the war Darwin Kueker fought was not a war of bullets, but rather a war for the public's hearts and minds. He takes the weight of the badge very seriously and considers interacting with the public to be one of his highest callings. "It's not a job, it's a way of life," he said. "Freely embraced, and I loved every aspect of it."

And it's because he loved the job so much that the prospect of retiring has been such a mixed blessing. "The last two weeks, knowing it was coming to an end, have really been surreal," he said. "That's an understatement. It's just been ... surreal."

"I never thought this day would come," he went on. "I mean, I knew it would, but I never, ever – and then, all of a sudden, that day is here." He considered it for a moment, then said, "You know it's coming, but it's still kind of out of the blue."

His future plans for retirement are a little foggy at the moment. Part of him is looking forward to sleeping in and perhaps doing a little more fishing, but another part of him is considering taking one of the nine job offers he's had since announcing his retirement. On advice from a friend, he's going to take at least a month off to decompress before making any decisions, but what he'll do after that month is anybody's guess.

For now, he's focused on the end of a 42 year, six month and 20 day career in law enforcement, and he's taking it one day at a time. Tomorrow is next. Perhaps he'll sleep in.



“We thank all of our military personnel currently serving, those who have served, and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. We have you all to thank for our freedoms. May God bless each of you and your families.” – The Iowa State Sheriffs’ and Deputies’ Association



**Your Iowa State Sheriffs’ & Deputies’ Association
Honorary Membership renewal application will be mailed to you in mid-January**



The 2022 ISSDA Board of Directors: Front Row (l to r): **Story County Sgt. Elizabeth Quinn**, 2nd V.P.; **Linn Co. Capt. Randy Rowland**, Immediate Past President; **Marion Co. Sheriff Jason Sandholdt**, President; **Linn Co. Sgt. Shawn Ireland**, Secretary; **Wayne County Sheriff Keith Davis**, First V.P.; **Webster County Sheriff Luke Fleener**, At-Large Board Member; **Pottawattamie Co. Sheriff Andy Brown**, Board Member; **Pottawattamie Co. Sergeant J.W. LeMaster**, At-Large Board; **Story Co. Administration Commander Constance Torresdahl**, Civilian Board; **Hardin County Sheriff Dave McDaniel**, Board Member.