

Leadership

With the close of another year, Sheriff Ronny R. Anderson has completed his 42nd year in law enforcement. His career started from humble beginnings as a corrections officer for the Cumberland County Prison and through the years, he has held various positions to include working for Newville and North Middleton police departments as a police officer and as a deputy with the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office. Within the rank structure of the Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Anderson has held every available position. He took office as the Sheriff of Cumberland County on January 1st, 2009, the ultimate position in his lifelong career of public service. At the close of 2019, Sheriff Anderson will have served the citizens of Cumberland County as their Sheriff, for 10 years.

Law enforcement work can, by its very nature, be based in negativity. You are constantly interacting with people that have made poor choices, don't respect you and don't care to listen to your words of wisdom. Having been immersed in public service for so many years, Sheriff Anderson has always tried to offer back something positive to those we serve in an effort to offset the negative perceptions of law enforcement that some people have. Whether it is through actions, words, or both even after 42 years of service, Sheriff Anderson still strives to positively give back to the community and perpetuates that mentality within the ranks of his office. This was very evident in 2019.

School Resource Officer Program

Recognizing a need and wanting to meet that need because it is the right thing to do, in 2016, The Cumberland County Sheriff's Office partnered with Big Spring School district and instituted a School Resource Officer (SRO) program and dedicated 1 deputy to the school district to fulfill that role. This position, fully funded by the school district, has been led by Deputy Brian Grzyboski since its inception. It has been an overwhelming success and has fueled the desire for the district to expand the program with another position to be staffed by another deputy. Early in the year, proposed school safety legislation designed to clarify school safety matters, did anything but clarify things and the wording of the legislation actually threatened to prevent deputy sheriffs from participating in SRO programs. If left as written, it would prevent the additional deputy from being added to the SRO program at Big Spring and would potentially threaten the viability of the first SRO position added 3 years ago. Fortunately, Sheriff Anderson was able to spearhead this unintentional oversight in the law and it was rectified by the PA legislature by passing Act 67 which clarified the ambiguities of the bill that preceded it. With all of this behind us, it was with great relief that at the start of the school year, we were able to send Deputy Erin Reddington up to Big Spring school district to start her new assignment as the second SRO. Her focus will lie with the kids attending the elementary and middle schools. In addition to general presence at school every day, the SROs handle law enforcement duties, offer educational programs, attend every sporting events and promote a positive relationship between law enforcement and the kids they protect.



Community Service

One of the most rewarding things that we do in the Sheriff's Office is to offer and participate in a variety of events and services for the community. Over the course of the past year, we were fortunate to do this with regularity and variety.

Special Olympics

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the area M Special Olympics Games. Over 1200 special athletes packed the grounds of Messiah College to compete in various events. To help with the celebration, Cpl. Dennis Fry, and Cumberland County Sheriff's Office deputies Erin Reddington, Kara Matson, Joel Bohannon and Edward Dempsey accompanied three Special Olympic athletes during the "running of the torch". Led by Chief Deputy Jody Smith in a marked Sheriff's Office vehicle, the six mile run started at Lower Allen Municipal Park and ended at the track at Messiah College. The team carried the torch for the duration of the run and ceremoniously lit the main torch at the end of their journey commencing the start of the games and festivities.



National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes law enforcement-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. This year, various communities across Cumberland County participated in the National Night Out and the Sheriff's Office attended those held by South Middleton Township and Newville, New Cumberland and Carlisle Boroughs. At all locations, the attendance was excellent and our presence was well received. There were numerous activities to include K9 demonstrations, Child ID's, safety seat checks and tours of vehicles and equipment.



Shop with THE Sheriff

Since its inception 4 years ago, our Shop with The Sheriff program has been an amazing success and as fall approaches, the anticipation and excitement build for the event. The program takes deserving children and makes their Christmas something special. The event takes a lot of work and preparation and we couldn't do it without the generosity of the staff, employees of Cumberland County and the community. Every year, local businesses donate time, money and resources to assist us in making the event a success. To help offset the cost of this program, the Sheriff's Office hosts a fundraiser every year. For our 2018 event, we relied on the appetites and generosity of the employees of Cumberland County by having a sandwich sale. This year, we will continue this theme by offering a lunch fund raiser. Order forms were distributed to all the employees and all of the food was prepared by the deputies and supervisors and then delivered to our customers. In addition to our sandwich sale, the Cumberland County Domestic Relations Office and the creativity of its Director, Frank Goshorn, have become a very

integral part of our fundraising efforts. Frank allows his employees to dress down on Thursdays during the course of the year and in exchange for this privilege, he requires that a dollar be donated to our program. This year, Chief Deputy Jody Smith and Deputy Valerie Weary accepted a Check from Frank for \$450 dollars. Thanks to all those that help make this event a Christmas miracle for the children!



Back to School Night

Another program that was conceived to benefit children in need and get them off to a running start at the beginning of the school year is our Back to School Night. This program is in its second year and was a result of the brainstorming of Deputies Valerie Weary, Erin Reddington, Kara Matson and Alex Young and of course, K9 Thor. This year we partnered with South Middleton School District and solicited help and donations from local businesses; their cooperation and support of the program was amazing. As the program progresses, we continue to learn ways to improve it and to provide a better experience for the children involved. The event offered the children a chance to get a head start on the school year by easing some of the worries associated with a new year. With help from everyone involved, we were able to provide the kids with backpacks and school supplies, learning aids, child ID's and fresh new haircuts to get them ready for the year ahead. No event is complete without food of course, so a pizza party was mandatory. The event was concluded with a bus ride for kids with deputies riding shotgun!



Dog Days

Here at the Sheriff's Office we are incredibly fortunate to have K9 Keisel and K9 Thor on our side. Sheriff Anderson long ago realized the importance of having a K9s available, as the services they provide cannot be matched by their human partners. For over 20 years, he has promoted the program and sought out ways to fund and improve it. Deputy Matt Homa and his German Shepard partner Keisel, have been working together since August 2017. Keisel is trained as an explosive detection dog and also specializes in tracking people to include lost children and criminal suspects. Deputy Alex Young is partnered with K9 Thor and has been since October 2018. Thor is a Belgian Malinois that is trained as a patrol dog, narcotics detection, tracking, article search, and area and building search. The Sheriff and Deputies Homa and Young will tell you, that K9 programs are an incredible amount of work, most of it being behind the scenes. Whether it is job specific training, obedience training, demonstrations, calls for service or fundraising, it seemingly never ends. During the year, Deputies Homa and Young have tirelessly promoted themselves and their partners by participating in various fund raisers to help offset the expense of K9 associated equipment. Additionally, they have reached out to numerous vendors, specific to the industry, to solicit equipment donations to support their missions. K9 Thor and Keisel want to thank Sheriff Anderson for all his support for them and what they do for our office!





Promotions

Promotions within our agency are always a very positive experience absent the fact that those positions were vacated in order for someone to be promoted into them. This year, we are sad to see Corporal Shawn Gutshall and Corporal Noah Cline leave our ranks but we are excited to fill those vacancies with newly promoted Corporal Shawn Harrison and Corporal Stephen Bender. Corporal Shawn Gutshall left us in the beginning of the year to pursue other law enforcement interests as a municipal police officer with the Newville Borough Police Department. His position as our Administrative Corporal was filled by Corporal Shawn Harrison. Shawn has 20 years of experience with this office and we are excited to offer him this opportunity. Corporal Noah Cline is leaving us and heading to work for Perry County as he and his family relocate to State College PA to support a career opportunity for his wife. His position will be

filled by another 20 year veteran Corporal Stephen Bender. Deputy Bender has worked under Corporal Cline in our bench warrants division for 5 years and is poised to make a seamless transition of duties.

New Hires

We are happy to announce some new additions to our staff this year. In January, we hired Deputy Patrick Bowers. He comes to us from the North Middleton Police Department. In June, we Hired Deputy Kevin Dock. Kevin spent 2 ½ years as a deputy in Union County. Both come to us with a lot of on the job experience and have quickly become an asset to our organization. In addition to Deputies Bowers and Dock, we added Alecia Rohrer and Tom Somers to our staff. They are attending the Deputy Sheriff Basic Training in State College and will graduate in November. We look forward to getting them back.

Thank You

Sheriff Ronny R. Anderson and his staff would like to thank the citizens of Cumberland County for their continued support and vows to continue to serve them with their best interests at heart. Thank you for another safe and successful year and the opportunity to serve you as your Sheriff. In 2020 we will continue to strive to perpetuate the exemplary service our community deserves and expects.