



THE LCSO VOICE

LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Winter 2018

MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF CARMINE MARCENO



Sheriff Carmine Marceno

I would like to begin this message with a “warm” Southwest Florida welcome to our seasonal residents and visitors. We are glad to have you back and know you will enjoy our great weather, beaches and countless activities that our community has to offer.

I cannot tell you how excited and humbled I am to serve as your Sheriff. Keep-

ing you safe is my No. 1 priority. That means having only the best law enforcement team you can find. We are forward thinkers, innovative and effective in every aspect of this agency.

As you know, school safety has become a top priority across the country. Here in Lee County, I can assure you that along with the Lee County School Dis-

trict, we are working to keep the 93,000 plus students in Lee County safe while in their classrooms. It is my belief that if students do not feel safe, they can't learn. Investing in our children today is what will continue to make this growing county so great.

Speaking of growth, Lee

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Sgt. Smalls named Officer of the Year

The 2018 Law and Order Ball held at Hertz Arena (formerly Germain Arena) was a very proud evening for members of the Lee County Sheriff's Office as two of its finest took home awards for being the very best at what they do.

The annual event, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Fort Myers South, is a celebration to honor Lee County law enforcement heroes who have demonstrated exemplary conduct and achievements while making a significant impact on their agency and/or area of responsibility.

This year's Law and Order Ball Officer of the Year is Sgt. Sylvester Smalls, a

proud deputy protecting his community and helping children find better lifetime pathways. Smalls, a 21-year veteran with the Sheriff's Office, is a mentor, coach and friend to hundreds of local youth with one goal in mind: giving back to his community by helping kids pursue higher education using their God-given talents.

Smalls has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty in what he says is a “calling” on his life to serve others.

He has many accomplishments on his impressive resume that include organizing

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Officer of the Year Sgt. Sylvester Smalls



K-9 top dog

K-9 Kilo was recognized at the Law and Order Ball for his outstanding career with the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

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Officer of the Year Sgt. Sylvester Smalls with Sheriff Carmine Marceno.

fundraisers to collect money to help purchase uniforms for kids who otherwise would not be able to play sports; creating fishing tournaments that have reeled in thousands of dollars for a variety of youth oriented programs; creating a college placement program designed to help high school students fill out extensive college applications

and prepare them for entrance exams; creating a basketball showcase program for talented kids who have been overlooked by college basketball programs, and the list of his contributions go on.

Congratulations Sgt. Sylvester "Sly" Smalls. You make us proud to serve alongside you.

K-9 Kilo gives all for handler

Lee County Sheriff's Office K9 Kilo was named the top K-9 honoree at this year's Law and Order Ball. The dog's handler is Deputy Julio Lock.

Kilo was honored for stopping and holding onto a felon even after being Tasered when the suspect was able to grab one deputy's Taser.

In another incident, Kilo found and apprehended a burglary suspect. The suspect choked Kilo until the dog lost consciousness. Deputy Lock then fought with the suspect until Kilo regained consciousness and rejoined the fight.

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County has become one of the fastest growing areas in Florida. More and more families are choosing to raise their children here, open businesses here and vacation here.

We are dedicated to staying ahead of the needs that come with a booming and diverse population as we continually work to protect you and your family in ways that include utilizing cutting edge technology,

placing more School Resource Officers in our schools and providing the highest degree of training to our personnel.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office also remains proactive in preventing crime before it happens by offering a multitude of free crime prevention programs. Our highly trained practitioners will be happy to present public workshops on topics such as personal safety, workplace

violence, active shooter and residential security. You can find more information about these and other educational seminars we offer by calling Community Relations at (239) 258-3280.

I believe close relationships and strong leadership are woven into the fabric of this community and I am confident that by working together, our opportunities are endless. I am laser focused and look forward to

keeping us moving in the right direction. To find out more about your Sheriff's Office visit our website at www.sheriffleefl.org, drop us an email or call our non-emergency number 239-477-1000.

On behalf of the men and women of your Sheriff's Office, I extend every hope and prayer for a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and happy 2019.



Crime Prevention Unit adds new members

Meet the newest members of our Crime Prevention Team, South District Crime Prevention Practitioner Heather Turco and Central District Crime Prevention Practitioner Kimberly Hart.

Heather Turco

You may not need a formal introduction when you meet Crime Prevention Practitioner Heather Turco. Instead, you will likely recognize her face as an experienced news anchor you welcomed inside your home each day at noon. The Lee County Sheriff's Office was fortunate to hire Heather when she decided to make a career change after two decades of covering and reporting crime stories for NBC2. She is tasked with educating and training members of the community on how to stay safe, feel empowered and live a happy healthy life.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, watching baseball, eating healthy and exercising.

If you live in our South District and would like to have Heather present one of our many free crime prevention presentations to your community, social or business group, please call 258-3280 or email her at hturco@sheriffleefl.org.

Kimberly Hart

Crime Prevention Practitioner Kimberly Hart is a native Floridian and a proud product of the Lee County Public School system. Before joining the Sheriff's Office, she spent 7 years as a Felony Trial Assistant at the State At-



Crime Prevention Specialist Heather Turco is seen center right.



Crime Prevention Specialist Kimberly Hart

torney's Office and 9 years as a Case Manager/Pretrial Supervision Officer with Pretrial Services in Court Administration. She is a past member of the Lee County Schools Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee and currently sits on the board of directors for the Tre Boston "Beyond Belief"

Foundation, helping local children learn the importance of education, life skills and being coachable.

She made her decision to transition from the courthouse to the community after watching her role models, parents Larry and Mary Hart, tirelessly serve Lee County and its residents for decades. She too desires to give back as she follows in their footsteps.

Hart is the proud mother of a daughter who is in her third year of college at Alabama State University. In her spare time, she enjoys taking cruises, road trips and watching college football.

If you live in our Central District and would like Kimberly to present one of our many free crime prevention presentations to your community, social or business group, please call (239) 258-3280 or email her at khart@sheriffleefl.org.



Online phishing scams target holiday shoppers

If you are doing your holiday shopping online through popular websites such as Amazon, eBay or Etsy and are expecting shipments from UPS, FedEx or the U.S. Postal Service, listen up. Fraudsters once again are sending convincing and credible looking emails to holiday shoppers in a “phishing” scheme designed to get the attention and personal identifying information from consumers who mistakenly fall for these authentic looking emails.

Some examples of bogus emails a cyber-thief may use to steal your holiday cheer start with subject lines aimed at grabbing your attention, such as: “Your recent order cannot be processed due to problems with your method of payment,” or “You have a package ready to be delivered, please download attachment to confirm your delivery address.” In the body of the

email, you likely will find instructions to click on a link or open an attachment with directions to enter your personal and financial information.

Safety tips

To keep from becoming a victim of this clever scheme, the Lee County Sheriff's Office recommends following these safety tips:

- Never click on an embedded link or attachment located in an email. Instead, enter the company's official website address in your browser, sign in to your account and check “your orders” to determine if the email you received matches your order information. If you do not have an online account or do not know how to create one, call the number located on the website, not the number in the email.
- UPS, FedEx and the U.S. Postal Service do not request payments, per-

sonal or financial information, account numbers or passwords in an unsolicited manner through email, mail or phone.

- Analyze the salutation. Is the email addressed to a vague “valued customer, ma’am or sir?” If so, watch out. Most legitimate businesses will use a personal salutation with your first and last name.
- Be on the lookout for unofficial “From” addresses. Fraudsters often use email addresses that are similar to, but not the same as, a company's official email address. For instance, if you receive an official email from Amazon, it will always come from @amazon.com.

You can report a phishing email to the FBI's IC3 at www.ic3.gov, www.FTC.gov/complaint, or contact the Sheriff's Office Fraud Line at (239) 258-3292.

CarFit among top in nation

The recent release of a year-to-date CarFit summary shows the Lee County Sheriff's Office CarFit Program as placing in the nation's Top 10 list for most CarFit events during season.

Sheriff's Office trained technicians have helped hundreds of drivers identify ways to adjust and improve their vehicle settings using the CarFit checklist.

This educational program is free and open to the public on the following dates in 2019:

- January 23, 2019, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., AAA, 2516 Colonial Blvd.
- March 20, 2019, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., AAA, 2516 Colonial Blvd.

To set up your appointment, call Barbara Brice at AAA, 939-6500.



CarFit is a free program offered by the Lee County Sheriff's Office to help improve driver safety.



LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPUTIES OF THE QUARTER

Law enforcement is a dangerous business and often times deputies do not know what they will encounter when responding to their daily calls for service. This is exactly



Robinson

what happened on the evening of Sept, 12 when Deputy Tom Robinson and Deputy Matt Ryan were dispatched to what they thought was a disturbance call. Instead it turned out to be an encounter with an "invisible killer."



Ryan

As both deputies arrived on scene, they saw a young girl laying on the ground in the doorway of the residence who appeared to be unconscious. While checking on the medical condition of the girl, Robinson and Ryan heard the sound of a generator and feared carbon

monoxide poisoning may have spread throughout the home.

Knowing there was a possibility that additional victims were inside the home, the deputies entered and discovered the near lifeless bodies of two young children, two teenagers, and a pregnant mother.

This unexpected discovery of additional family members overcome by what was now certain to be carbon monoxide poisoning required quick thinking and brave action. Together, Robinson and Ryan safely carried the unconscious victims to a makeshift triage set up by EMS where they eventually regained consciousness.

This event could have ended tragically had it not been for the selfless actions taken by Deputy Robinson and Deputy Ryan. We are proud to recognize these hero's as the recipients of the 2018 Deputy of the 3rd Quarter.

CORRECTIONS DEPUTY OF THE QUARTER

Congratulations to Corrections Deputy David Lopez-Arocho for being selected as the Corrections Deputy of the 3rd Quarter for his assistance and leadership in the design and repair of the Sheriff's Office Tactical Obstacle Course.



Lopez-Arocho

In early 2018, members of the Lee County CERT Team began a project to restore the course after it suffered serious damage from water intrusion, wildlife and severe weather.

Deputy Lopez-Arocho was instrumental in organizing a team of volunteer workers, including employees and local tradesmen, who not only donated their time but used their own personal supplies as well. This restoration project cost less than \$500 and saved the Sheriff's Office a significant amount of money.

This was a very large undertaking that required time, talent, and commitment. Thank you to all who participated and to Deputy Lopez-Arocho for leading the way.

VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, and to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."

It is with great pleasure we recognize V.O.I.C.E. volunteer Gary Novatny as the Lee County Sheriff's Office Volunteer of the 3rd Quarter for his selfless acts of kindness and com-



Novatny

passion for the family of slain Fort Myers Police Officer Adam Jobbers-Miller.

During the week after Officer Jobbers-Miller was murdered, Gary was an invaluable resource for his grieving family members by providing them with transportation to and from the

hospital, airport and hotel, as well as picked up donated food and other miscellaneous errands.

He responded generously and without hesitation to meet the needs of loved ones during a very difficult time.

We are proud to have V.O.I.C.E. member Gary Novatny as part of our LCSO family.



Save the date for shred event

With 2018 shred events behind us, the Lee County Sheriff's Office has secured a date for our first 2019 event for Saturday, March 2 at the Sheriff's Office Headquarters located at 14750 Six Mile Cypress Parkway. Mark your calendar now, then continue to look for additional updates on our social media platforms.

This year, volunteers with the Pilot Club of Fort Myers in partnership with the Sheriff's Office safely collected and destroyed more than 7 tons of personally identifiable information at 2 community shred events. Donations from the events went to support the Sheriff's Office Project Lifesaver program, which utilizes state of the art radio frequency tracking technology help locate individuals who wander and become lost due to Alzheimer's, Dementia and Autism. To find out more about Project Lifesaver, call the Senior Services Unit at (239) 258-3280.



Even pets are welcome at Celebrate Safe Community events. Crime Prevention Practitioner Michelle Sargis is seen here with a canine participant.

Celebrating Safe Communities

Residents in Lee County joined members of the Sheriff's Office in a variety of events to help commemorate Celebrate Safe Communities and Crime Prevention Awareness Month in October.

This is a time set aside for residents and law enforcement to spotlight the Celebrate Safe Communi-

ties initiative by joining together to promote community safety, citizen crime prevention programs and relations building between neighbors, police and the public.

Call Community Relations at (239) 258-3280 to find out how you can help keep your community safe from crime and prepared for any emergency.

CIVILIAN OF THE QUARTER

Lee County Sheriff's Office employee Christine Althoff often spends her days working alongside detectives collecting and processing evidence at the scene of a crime. Investigators rely on her expertise and knowledge in her role as a Crime Scene Technician to find clues left behind by criminals that can be as minute as a drop of blood.



Althoff

Recently, Althoff took it upon her-

self to research the identity of an unknown person whose skeletal remains were found in Lehigh Acres. Utilizing results gathered from an anthropological investigation that determined the skeleton belonged to a male approximately 20-40 years of age and a forensic artist's reconstruction of the man's skull, she found defects in the male's teeth that appeared to be visually unique. With this key piece of information, Althoff reviewed unreported missing persons in Lee County and found a possible match. She took to

social media, found photos on Facebook of the missing person, and compared those pictures to the sketch provided by the artist and the photographs taken of the descendant's teeth found in the skeletal remains. In the comparison of evidence, she found many similarities and was able to provide her findings to the lead detective in the case.

We are proud to recognize Christine Althoff as the Civilian of the Third Quarter for her relentless efforts and detailed work in this case.



HAVE YOU SEEN THESE PEOPLE?

Wanted as of 12/5/18



Troy Bolin
5 ft. 10 in.
180 lbs.
D.O.B. 8-25-60
Felony warrant,
sexual battery on a
child less than 12
years of age



Devonte DeLoach
6 ft. 0 in.
300 lbs.
D.O.B. 11-25-94
Violation of
probation, willful
child abuse



Efrain Gomez Morales
5 ft. 4 in.
140 lbs.
D.O.B. 6-18-78
Sexual battery



Joseph Harmon
5 ft. 9 in.
180 lbs.
D.O.B. 6-12-75
FTA aggravated
assault



Sean Hink
6 ft. 3 in.
160 lbs.
D.O.B. 7-9-94
FTA burglary
X18, FTA grand
theft X2



Ismael Marquez
5 ft. 5 in.
150 lbs.
D.O.B. 8-26-82
FTA lewd
lascivious



Alejandro Mendoza-Carbajal
5 ft. 4 in.
160 lbs.
D.O.B. 12-8-80
Felony BW FTA
attempted second
degree murder



Angel Morales Carrasco
D.O.B. 10/1/92
2nd degree
murder



Dean Trevil
6 ft. 1 in.
220 lbs.
D.O.B. 1-11-85
Felony warrant,
FTA aggravated
battery



Terod Williams
6 ft. 1 in.
160 lbs.
D.O.B. 9-12-88
FTA possession
of cocaine, FTA
possession of
a controlled
substance



LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

14750 Six Mile Cypress
Pkwy.
Fort Myers, FL 33912
Phone: (239) 477-1000

We are on the web @
www.sheriffleefl.org

Who to call

North District

121 Pondella Rd.
N. Fort Myers
(239) 477-1810

East District

1301 Homestead Rd.
Lehigh Acres
(239) 477-1820

West District

15650 Pine Ridge Rd.
Fort Myers
(239) 477-1830

Central District

14750 Six Mile Cypress
Pkwy.
Fort Myers
(239) 477-1850

South District

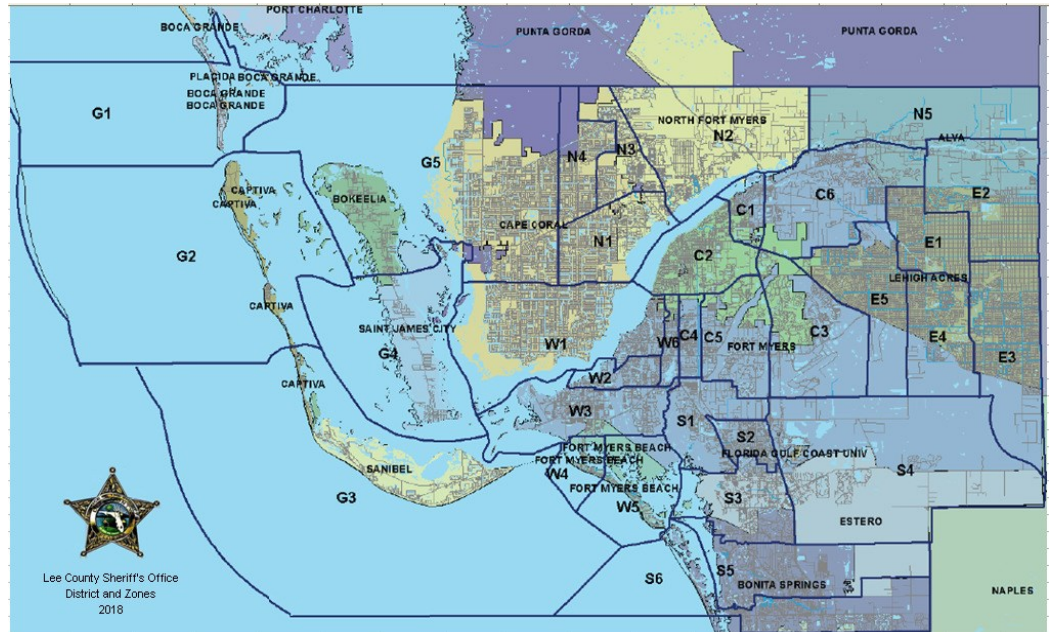
10520 Reynolds St.
Bonita Springs
(239) 477-1840

Gulf District

13921-4 Waterfront Dr.
Pineland
(239) 282-5766

Gulf District (Boca)

360 E. Railroad Ave.
Boca Grande
(941) 964-2400



Be on the lookout for these 2019 events

January 31

Community Wide Seminar **"Savvy Seniors"** presented by the Florida Crime Prevention Association. Learn how to fight back and spot scams before the crooks spot you.

February 2

Community Wide Seminar **"Active Shooter and Mass Casualty Events"** presented by the Lee County Sheriff's Office, Lee County Department of Public Safety and Lee Health Trauma Center.

Planning also is underway for the Pets on Patrol community kickoff.

The Teen Driver Challenge is an exciting, educational program that will teach your child techniques and life-saving skills used by professional drivers in a "hands-on" driving environment.

Participants will learn about vehicle dynamics, safe driving practices and responsible decision making through both classroom and driving exercises.

Space is extremely limited and reservations must be made in advance by calling (239) 561-TEEN (8336). The class is free; however, a \$25 refundable deposit is required to re-

serve a seat.

Below are the 2019 Teen Driver Challenge dates:

- January 18 & 19
- February 8 & 9
- February 22 & 23
- March 8 & 9
- April 12 & 13
- May 17 & 18
- June 14 & 15
- June 28 & 29
- July 26 & 27
- August 23 & 24
- September 27 & 28
- October 25 & 26

Stay tuned for additional events and information for the 2019 winter season.