Sheriff’s Office Congratulates Our Annual Employee Award Honorees
The Sheriff’s Office celebrates our employees each year with a ceremony and presentation of awards for those staff members who distinguished themselves during the previous year. This year, out of concern for the health of our staff and those in our custody, the Office held a virtual awards presentation in April to celebrate achievements from 2020. Nine employees who earned promotions in 2020 were also recognized.

Sheriff Attends Remembrance Ceremony for Lynching Victim
On April 23, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne attended a remembrance ceremony for Joseph McCoy, an African American teenager who was lynched on that date in 1897. He was being held at the police station, then located at present-day City Hall, when a mob abducted him and lynched him a block away. The ceremony, organized by the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project, included a marker dedication and wreath laying. Please visit the remembrance page for Joseph McCoy to learn more and to read statements from Sheriff Lawhorne, Police Chief Michael Brown and others.
Deputy Qazei Named Employee of the Quarter

Congratulations to Deputy Nazirullah Qazei on being named Employee of the Quarter! Deputy Nicholas Montgomery and Deputy Reana Mohamed nominated him for this honor because of his outstanding work ethic, positive attitude, and professional manner with inmates and coworkers alike. They noted that Deputy Qazei always goes "above and beyond," takes the initiative to assist teammates, and demonstrates his concern for others.

ASO Continues to Support Vaccination Efforts

The Sheriff’s Office remains involved with public health efforts for COVID-19 vaccinations. The medical team at the Detention Center makes vaccinations available to inmates, and deputies continue to provide security and assist members of the public at vaccination sites. ASO staff has also distributed vaccination information directly to residents as part of a multi-organization outreach team that includes the Social Responsibility Group and members of local agencies and the faith community. The team has reached more than 5,000 residents through canvassing. For more information, please visit www.alexandriava.gov/Vaccines.

Chief Fiscal Officer Honored for Outreach Work

Alexandria Celebrates Women recently honored ASO employee Cicely Woodrow and four other women for their extraordinary service to the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Woodrow, who serves as the chief fiscal officer for the Sheriff’s Office, was recognized with the other honorees during a virtual awards ceremony on March 29 just before the conclusion of Women’s History Month.

ASO Team Participates in Dora Kelley Clean Up

In advance of Earth Day, ASO helped clean up the Dora Kelley Nature Park on April 17. Deputy Ashley Battle, Deputy Antonio Greene and Director David Nye participated in the annual spring clean up day and even removed litter from some of the hard-to-access areas. The 50-acre wildlife sanctuary and mile long nature trail is an absolute gem and the Sheriff’s Office wants to help keep it that way.
Deputies Receive Gifts of Artwork from Adult Day Services

In April, Adult Day Services Center (ADSC) staff and participants shared their appreciation for Alexandria’s first responders by giving out free cups of coffee, artwork painted by an ADSC participant and thank you cards from ADSC participants, their caregivers and Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) staff. On April 16, ADSC presented deputies with artwork by Karla Kombrink at the Starbucks on North Henry Street. We sincerely appreciate ADSC’s thoughtfulness!

Alexandrians Make Drug Take Back Day A Success

During National Drug Take Back Day on April 24, deputies and police officers collected 442 pounds of unwanted and potentially dangerous medications at four drop off sites. Thanks to our community and public safety partners and to everyone who stopped by for making it one of the most successful Drug Take Back days in Alexandria. If you missed it and want to safely dispose of unneeded medication, permanent drop boxes are available at Police Headquarters, The Neighborhood Pharmacy and Inova Alexandria Hospital.