

Alexandria Sheriff's Office Bulletin



NEWS

OCTOBER 2021

Sons of the American Revolution Honor Sheriff

The George Washington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (GWSAR) recently recognized Sheriff Lawhorne for his professional achievements and considerable contributions to Alexandria public safety. On October 6, [GWSAR leaders presented Sheriff Lawhorne with the Silver Good Citizenship Medal](#), awarded for "notable services on behalf of our American principles," to honor his 43-year law enforcement career and in particular, his work and leadership during his four terms as Sheriff. Sheriff Lawhorne will be retiring at the end of this year.



Deputy Neckles Named Employee of the Quarter

Congratulations to Master Deputy Devon Neckles on being named Employee of the Quarter! Sergeant LaJuenne Harding nominated Deputy Neckles for his many admirable traits, including his professionalism, reliability, and willingness to help others. As a civil process deputy, he spends most of his time in the community where he forms positive relationships with residents, property managers and business owners. Experienced in crisis intervention, Deputy Neckles can calm people down and resolve hectic and potentially violent situations, reducing possible harm and injury.



Inmates Create Blankets for Awareness Month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and also Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so [two inmates in the Ladies' Education and Development \(LEAD\) program crocheted blankets](#) to help bring attention to these issues and their impact on women. Qiyun Chen and Leslie Gibson crocheted blankets with purple and pink yarn and Sheriff's Office employees worked with local business people to display the blankets in highly visible places to promote awareness and discussion of these important issues.



Partnerships Make Drug Take Backs Successful

Alexandria participated in the national Drug Take Back Day on October 23, with deputies and police officers collecting 351 pounds of unwanted and potentially dangerous medication at four locations. Earlier in the month ASO and APD teamed up to hold a similar event for the residents and employees at Goodwin House. Thanks to our public safety and community partners for making these events successful! And a reminder that Alexandria also has [permanent drop boxes](#) so there's no need to wait for an event!



State Inspection Finds Detention Center in Full Compliance

The William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center received 100% during the recent unannounced inspection by the Virginia Department of Corrections. The two-day review found that the ADC was in full compliance with more than 40 standards covering life, health and safety policies, procedures and practices by ASO staff and contractors who provide medical, mental health and food services.



ASO Welcomes New Deputies

On October 18, the Sheriff's Office welcomed three recruits to our ranks. Deputy Adam Yacoub, Deputy Erika Elton and Deputy Jasmine Jones were sworn in at the courthouse on October 18 and have started training. ASO is seeking additional deputy sheriff applicants who are eager to be part of a team and are committed to making our community safer. If you are interested or know someone who would be a strong candidate, please [visit our recruiting page](#).



Deputies Wear Pink Badges for Breast Cancer Awareness

Dozens of deputies have been showing their support in the fight against breast cancer by [wearing pink badges throughout October](#). Sheriff Dana Lawhorne authorized the custom-made badges in recognition of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The tradition began in 2013 after Deputy Amy Clinton lost her battle against the disease. Some deputies wearing them are survivors, like Sergeant Valarie Wright (right), who share their experiences to emphasize the importance of early detection and to support others fighting the disease.

