

Office of the Sheriff

Newsletter



July 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES

July 4th

Independence Day Holiday

July 19th - 21st

SML Pirate Days



NEW FACES AT THE OFFICE



Christopher Ashley



Investigator Chris Ashley was sworn in to the Office of the Sheriff on July 1st, 2024. He will be joining our Investigations Division.

Investigator Ashley comes to us with 19 years of law enforcement experience.

Welcome, Chris!

NOT SO NEW FACES AT THE OFFICE

Celebrating Milestones in July 2024

While we recognize members for their 5-year service milestones at our annual awards banquets, we don't want to discount the annual milestones that are just as important!

Thank you all for your service!

- Eric Ingram - 26 years of service
- Anthony Hodges - 23 years of service
- Greg Pigg - 15 years of service
- Carolina Ortega - 10 years of service
- Sharon McEnhimer - 9 years of service
- Jessica Rea - 8 years of service
- Morgan Moorman - 6 years of service
- Jonathan Scott - 6 years of service
- Grant Wickline - 6 years of service
- Michael Combs - 6 years of service
- Jennifer Parmalee - 1 year of service

RECENT RETIREMENTS - TRAVIS WHITTAKER



School Resource Officer Travis Whittaker has retired from the Office of the Sheriff after a 30-year dedicated career! Travis has served in many different capacities during his tenure, but most recently (and if you ask him, most importantly), he has thoroughly enjoyed his role as a School Resource Officer with local elementary school kids.

Although retiring from full-time status, SRO Whittaker will be returning as a part-time SRO in the fall for the upcoming school year.

Travis - we thank you for your dedication and hope that you truly enjoy your retirement (more time for hockey games)!



RECENT RETIREMENT - JOHN LAVINDER



Master Deputy John Lavinder has retired from the Office of the Sheriff after 39 years of dedicated service. During his tenure, John served in both our Corrections and Courts Divisions.

Many would say John is most known for his expertise with Bloodhounds. He is not only locally known, but nationally, as a K9 Scent Training Instructor after dedicating 32 years as a Bloodhound Handler. During that time, he has had seven bloodhounds in service for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office.

John - we thank you for your dedication and wish you well in your retirement!!



RECENT RETIREMENTS



K9 Jethro

K9 Jethro, an almost 10 year old Bloodhound who specialized in trailing human scent, has retired from the Office of the Sheriff after 9 years of service. Over the years, K9 Jethro has located many individuals who have wandered off from their home not only in Franklin County, but in neighboring jurisdictions as well.

K9 Jethro - we thank you for your service, your slobbers and hope that you enjoy your retirement!



FIRST RESPONDER LUNCH - JUNE 12TH



On June 12th, 2024, members were invited to the Rocky Mount Church of Christ for a first responder appreciation lunch. The food was great and we are thankful for having such a supportive community!

SPECIAL OLYMPICS GUN RAFFLE UNDERWAY

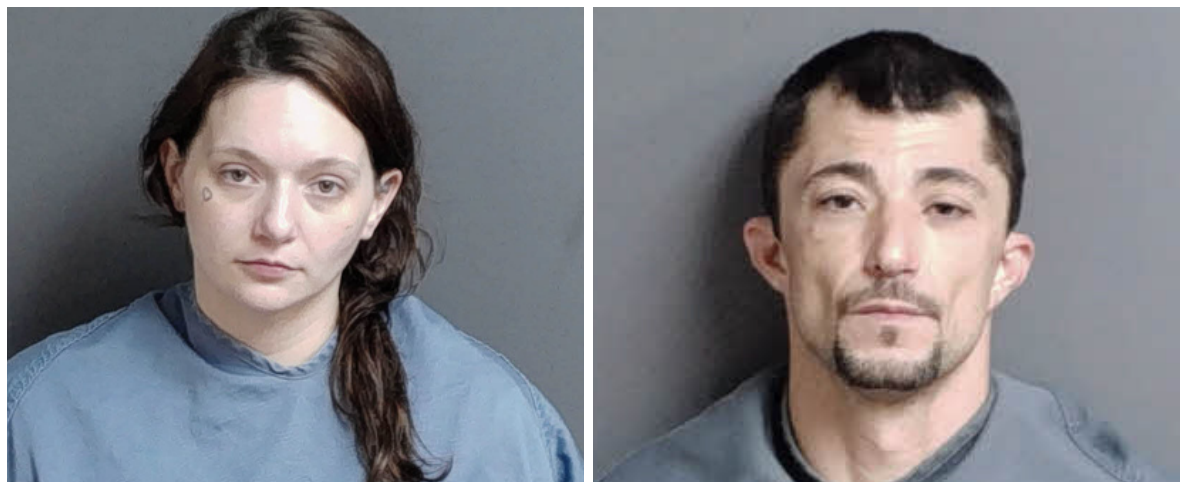


The 2024 Special Olympics Gun Raffle is well underway and looking great for our August 1st drawing. This year, we have two different firearms so two chances to win.

We have seen great success from setting up tables with the raffle tickets at various local businesses and events.

If anyone is interested in assisting with the selling of raffle tickets, please contact Lt. Greg Pigg and/or HL Nolen.

MAN AND WOMAN CHARGED WITH CHILD ABUSE



On Wednesday, June 26th, 2024, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office responded to a call for service on Paradise Acres Drive in Boones Mill for an unresponsive two-year-old. Once arriving on scene, the unresponsive two-year-old was immediately transported to the hospital with life threatening injuries.

The child's mother and stepfather, Jennifer Altice and Andrew Fokas, were both arrested and charged with felony child abuse.

The two-year-old child has been receiving medical care at the hospital since Wednesday. He is in stable condition and continues to make progress to get better.

AND MAYBE REMIND THE FEW
IF ILL OF US THEY SPEAK

THAT WE ARE ALL THAT STANDS BETWEEN
THE MONSTERS AND THE WEAK

SUMMER 2024 - RANGE WEEK AND NEW WEAPONS



The summer 2024 firearms training week was a success to get all sworn members trained in the use of our new weapons system. Thank you to everyone for making this week flow smoothly! A HUGE thank you to Sheriff Overton and Shield Chaplaincy for providing breakfast and lunch to members each day, which kept the day moving along!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - AUGUST 6TH



The 2024 National Night Out is right around the corner and is anticipated to be the biggest show out that we've had. Our new location at the Franklin County High School, in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies, is going to bring something for everyone to enjoy.

Don't miss this event. Please plan on being there and bring the family!

The poster features a large, glowing full moon in the center. Overlaid on the moon is the "NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024" logo, which consists of a blue and red star with the words "NATIONAL NIGHT OUT" in white and "2024" in a small circle below. Below the moon, the text "POLICE • COMMUNITY • PARTNERSHIPS" is written in blue. A red and white striped ribbon banner contains the Franklin County logo (a stylized "FC" with a bird) and the date "August 6". Below the banner, the text "Franklin County High School 5:30-8:30pm" is displayed in white. At the bottom, four logos are shown: Rocky Mount Police, Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Virginia DWR, and Virginia State Police. The bottom text reads "Police Displays, Free Food, Vendors, Demonstrations, Games, Face Painting and More!" in white.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
2024

POLICE • COMMUNITY • PARTNERSHIPS

August 6

Franklin County High School 5:30-8:30pm

Police Displays, Free Food, Vendors, Demonstrations,
Games, Face Painting and More!