

# InForce

A publication of the Berks County Sheriff's Office

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August 2017

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"Making a Difference"

## A Message from Sheriff Eric J. Weaknecht

On May 8, 2017, several of my colleagues and I testified in Harrisburg in support of House Bill 466. The Bill, as then drafted, would return full police powers to the [Pennsylvania] Office of Sheriff as established by common law.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court, in a May 2006 decision, limited the duty and authority of deputy sheriffs, stating that deputy sheriffs are NOT investigative or law enforcement officers – in essence, cutting back on those powers established by common law. In 2007, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court affirmed its 2006 decision (that deputies could not conduct criminal investigations of any kind) and added that arrests could only be made by a deputy sheriff if that deputy sheriff actually witnessed the crime.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has been asked no less than five times, since 2006, to clarify the duties of sheriff; consistently, each time ruling that deputy sheriffs need statutory authority to perform certain

law enforcement duties, like investigations (thus, upholding the limitations it placed on sheriffs in its May 2006 decision).

Since testimony on May 8, 2017, House Bill 466 has been amended to include more focused language. Rather than expect that full municipal police authority will be granted by the passage of House Bill 466, amended language specifically sets forth those duties a deputy sheriff has authority to perform.

Garnering support for the passage of House Bill 466, as originally drafted and as revised, has been and will be minimal. Wrought with complexities, restoring either full or even partial police powers tends to pit one law enforcement agency against another in what boils down to alleged turf wars and claims that passage on any level would be a first step toward county-level police and jurisdictional issues. Also at issue is cost -- those in opposition say it's too costly; those in favor say it would save money, especially since sheriff deputies are already trained to perform the same duties.

The outcome regarding this issue will be updated in a future issue of this newsletter.



## Features



BCSO & Surrounding Law Enforcement Recognize Savannah Pagerly's 1st day of Kindergarten

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Annual K-9 Picnic is ALL NEW for 2017

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BERKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Star Of The Quarter

## Savannah Pagerly

Congratulations to Savannah Pagerly, the youngest named Star of the Quarter! Savannah Pagerly is the daughter of Alecia and Kyle Pagerly and is being recognized for her life-long dedication to all things honoring her father who was killed in the line of duty on June 29, 2011. Kyle would have been so proud to walk with Savannah to her first day of Kindergarten on August 29. In his absence, about 100 local, state, and federal law enforcement (including K-9) officers stepped in to fill that role (see page 2).



Savannah and Jynx (retired BCSO K-9)

Savannah plays soccer and softball, and participates in gymnastics, dance and karate classes. She loves to work out in her daddy's gym (Corps. Fitness) and would swim all day and eat mac & cheese for every meal if her mom would permit it. She prefers fancy dresses to all other outfits, and her favorite color is purple. Most importantly, she loves being a big sister.

Savannah's mom, stepdad Chad, baby sister, grandparents, and Jynx are all excited with this new chapter in Savannah's life.

KYLE PAGERLY MEMORIAL 5K RUN

Sunday, October 8, 2017 • 9 am • Shillington Park

Registration Deadline for t-shirt 9/24

Register online at <https://www.pretzelcitysports.com/online-registration>

# 'Rest now, brother. We'll take it from here.'

On August 29, 2017, over 100 uniformed law enforcement officers, including more than 25 K-9 teams, lined up to salute Savannah Pagerly as she walked to her first day of kindergarten. Savannah's father, Deputy Sheriff Kyle Pagerly, was killed in the line of duty on June 29, 2011. Alecia Pagerly, Savannah's mother, and Kyle had recently learned that Alecia was expecting their first child. Alecia was just two months along when Kyle was killed.

Sheriff Weaknecht told Alecia back then that the Pagerly family would forever be part of the extended family of law enforcement, so it was really no surprise when so many responded to help fill Kyle's shoes on Savannah's special day. Savannah seemed not at all phased by the attention; she's used to being around law enforcement at events that remember her father, such as the Memorial 5K, golf outing, and annual Ride to Remember.

*"The family of blue is overwhelming. It really is, and we all come together in our time of need, and you know, they proved that here today," Weaknecht said. "We want to be there in times of Savannah's important milestones in her life to keep showing her support on the family of law enforcement."*

*~ Sheriff Eric Weaknecht*



Banner courtesy of Adam Gregg, Montour County



Berks County Sheriff w/ BCSO Honor Guard



Savannah's "Uncle" Eric...



Over 25 K-9 teams were in attendance



The Berks County Sheriff's Office thanks the following local, state and federal law enforcement agencies for their presence on Savannah Pagerly's first day of kindergarten (and apologizes for any agency inadvertently missing from the list below):



Pennsylvania State Trooper, Captain Adam Kasheba, one of the law enforcement officers with Kyle Pagerly on that fateful night.



Kyle's parents, Michelle & Paul Moyer

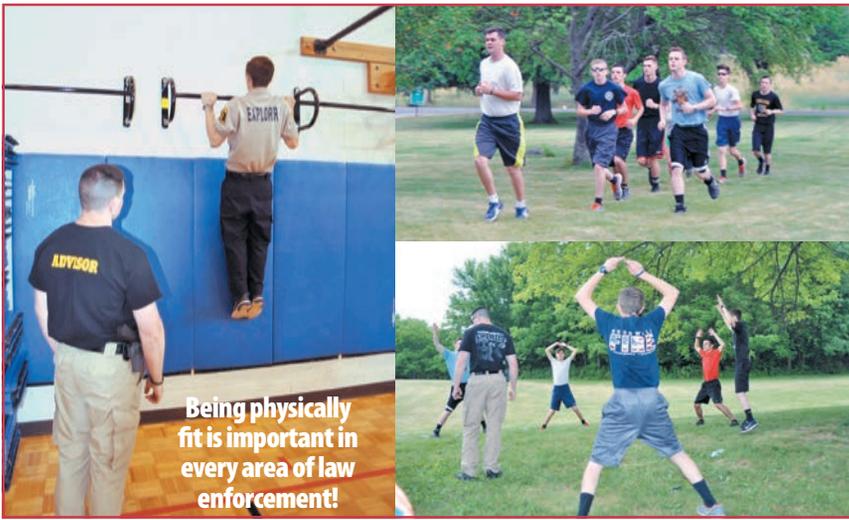
- Brecknock Police Department
- Central Berks Regional Police
- Colebrookdale Police Department
- Corps Fitness, Chris Kaag
- Cumberland County Constable
- Cumru Township Police Department
- Delaware County Sheriff's Office
- Derry Township Police Department
- Douglas Township Police
- Exeter Police Department
- Gregg (Adam Gregg), banner contributor
- Kutztown University Police
- Lancaster County Police Department
- Lancaster County Sheriff's Office
- Lower Heidelberg Township Police Department
- Lower Paxton Township Police Department

- Lycoming County Sheriff's Office
- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
- Montour County Sheriff's Office
- Muhlenberg Police Department
- Pennsylvania State Police
- Reading Police Department
- Schulykill County Sheriff's Office
- Snyder County Sheriff's Office
- South Heidelberg Police Department
- Spring Township Police Department
- Tiffany Noel Photo + Video
- Union County Sheriff's Office
- United States Marshal Service
- West Reading Police Department
- Western Berks Regional Police Department
- York County Sheriff's Office

Photographs compliments of



Birdsboro, PA



Being physically fit is important in every area of law enforcement!



Hawk Mountain – Orienteering and Teambuilding Exercises

Mapping / Orienteering

Teamwork to get to top

Using Resources

Planning / Communicating

# EXPLORER TRANSITIONS

The Berks County Sheriff's Office is in its 6<sup>th</sup> year working with young people interested in law enforcement. The Kyle Pagerly Explorer Post #027, through its own share of growing pains, has evolved into a program that provides a solid, early foundation into the field of law enforcement that goes beyond providing basic information into what has become a field of dwindling candidates wanting to step into a line of public service not always appreciated or respected. It's around June each year (before and during block week of instruction) when some Explorers have learned enough to know they no longer want to pursue a career grown increasingly dangerous over the last several years; and others know that law enforcement is exactly where they need to one day be working. This year's block week of instruction included PT drills, woodland tactical exercises, CPR certification, a tour of the Pennsylvania Game Commission in Harrisburg, mapping/orienteering, and a ropes course at Hawk Mountain. Each experience is designed to aid in physical fitness, learning, team building, or to provide a look into other areas of law enforcement. And sometimes we build "fun" into it all as we did on the last day of block week, 2017, when Explorers got to zip line across the beautiful lake at Hawk Mountain.



The Ross Leffler School of Conservation (Harrisburg) was the first academy in the nation devoted entirely to the training of game wardens or game protectors, who are now known as wildlife conservation officers. Acceptance into the 50 week training program is limited.



Above: Explorers learn the requirements of becoming an officer in an elite field of law enforcement by the Director of Training at the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Below: Explorers learn about equipment assigned to PA Game Commission Enforcement Officers.



Last day of block week - zip lining over the lake!

## 6-29-2011 Remembrance



Members of the Berks County Sheriff's Office gathered on June 29 at the Kyle Pagerly Memorial outside the Berks County Services Center in remembrance of fallen Deputy Kyle Pagerly who was killed in the line of duty on June 29, 2011.

Sergeant/Chaplain Brian Boyer spoke about living to enjoy each day as none of us ever knows what day we will wake to our last day of living



## LEU Annual Ride to DC Pedals through Reading

Sergeant/Chaplain Brian Boyer drove the escort vehicle in front of 90+ bike riders of Law Enforcement United (LEU) on their way to Washington, DC to join up with hundreds of other riders from all over the country as part of Police Week, an annual event honoring the lives of fallen police officers everywhere. The group of riders, all active or retired law enforcement officers or survivors of fallen officers, began the ride at the Berks County Fraternal Order of Police monument in Bern Township on May 10. LEU, a 100 percent non-profit, raises money and awareness to benefit two deserving charities: Concerns of Police Survivors© (C.O.P.S.) Kids Summer Camp and the Officer Down Memorial Page© (O.D.M.P.).



### BERKS COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

This year the Community Foundation awarded **\$11,349** to law enforcement K-9 Units courtesy of The Darell and Gloria Rank K-9 Corps Fund.

From that sum, the Sheriff's Office received **\$3,351!**

The Darell and Gloria Rank K-9 Corps Fund was established in 2011 to provide annual funding opportunities for K-9 units in Berks County.

## ALL NEW THIS YEAR!!!

SIXTH ANNUAL

## FRIENDS OF THE BERKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S K-9 PICNIC



The sixth annual Friends of the Berks County Sheriff K-9 picnic will take place on Saturday, September 23, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at its new location: Colony Park Pavilion in Wyomissing, PA.

This picnic is one of several fundraisers held each year to help the Berks County Sheriff's Office off-set some of the costs of maintaining its K-9 Division. Advance reservations can be made by sending \$15.00 per ticket request for adults; \$7.00 per ticket request for children ages 7-12 (children 6 and under are free) to: Berks County Sheriff's Office, 633 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601.

Also new this year: Catering by Mission BBQ, events for kids, medevac helicopter, raffles and, of course, K-9 demonstrations!!



The Berks County Sheriff's Office K-9 Division received three ballistic vests donated by H.O.W.L. (Hounds on Working Leashes), a nonprofit organization formed to raise money to provide protective gear for service K-9s.

H.O.W.L. receives funding from businesses, individual donors, and fundraisers. Visit [houndsonworkingleashes.org](http://houndsonworkingleashes.org) for more information on how you can donate to this worthy organization.

# Safety Tips

## Keeping Yourself Safe When Helping Others

A Good Samaritan is someone who is willing to help a complete stranger, despite the potential risks. Although it's both honorable and selfless to help another in need, there are occurrences when the Good Samaritan turns into the victim. The Good Samaritan most at risk is one who doesn't hesitate to insert him or herself into a potential criminal situation such as the recent example this past May in Portland, Oregon when two strangers were stabbed and killed on a train when trying to aid Muslim women being verbally abused.

In that moment when it's human nature to step in to help another person, it will be wise to have read the following information so you know how to also protect yourself from potential harm:

1. Never insert yourself into the middle of a criminal situation, especially when a weapon is involved. Shout or otherwise bring attention to the situation and call 9-1-1.
2. Do not enter the scene of a suicide. If you happen to be on the scene when an unarmed person threatens suicide, call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number. Do not argue with the person. Remain at a safe distance.



3. Leave or avoid entering any area considered to be a crime scene, such as one where there is a weapon, or the scene of a physical or sexual assault. Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number and stay at a safe distance.
4. You may encounter a situation where there is a hostile or angry person. A person's rage or hostility may be caused by the injury, pain or fear. Some individuals, afraid of losing control, may act resentful and suspicious. Hostile behavior also may result from the use of alcohol or other drugs, a lack of oxygen or a medical condition.
5. If a person refuses your care or threatens you, remove yourself from the situation and stay at a safe distance.
6. Never argue with or restrain an injured or ill person. Call 9-1-1 if someone has not already done so.

*A quick assessment of the reason behind needing to render aid will help keep you safe as you help another.*

# ON PATROL

WITH BERKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Did you know...**

- that there are limitations on turning around?
- U-Turns are illegal if they interfere with any traffic in any manner.
- U-Turns are illegal at curves or at crest of grades without 500 feet of clear view ahead.
- U-Turns are illegal at all times a "No U-Turn" sign is in place.

Pa.C.S. Title 75, §3111 & 3332  
**FINE: \$25 + 103.50**  
**(Minimum Costs) = \$128.50**

## BERKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# Most Wanted



**Name:** Anthony Vazquez-Lopez  
**DOB:** 11/24/1989  
**Charges:** DJ Warrant  
**LKA:** 428 W. Windsor St., Reading, PA 19601



**Name:** Jacob Boyd  
**DOB:** 10/28/1986  
**Charges:** DJ Warrant  
**LKA:** 1043 Franklin St., Reading, PA 19602



**Name:** Travis Jackson  
**DOB:** 08/20/1992  
**Charges:** Aggravated Assault  
**LKA:** 233 Wunder St., Reading, PA 19602



**Name:** Jesus Salamo-Luciano  
**DOB:** 07/07/1987  
**Charges:** DJ Warrant  
**LKA:** 1013 Chestnut St., Reading, PA 19602

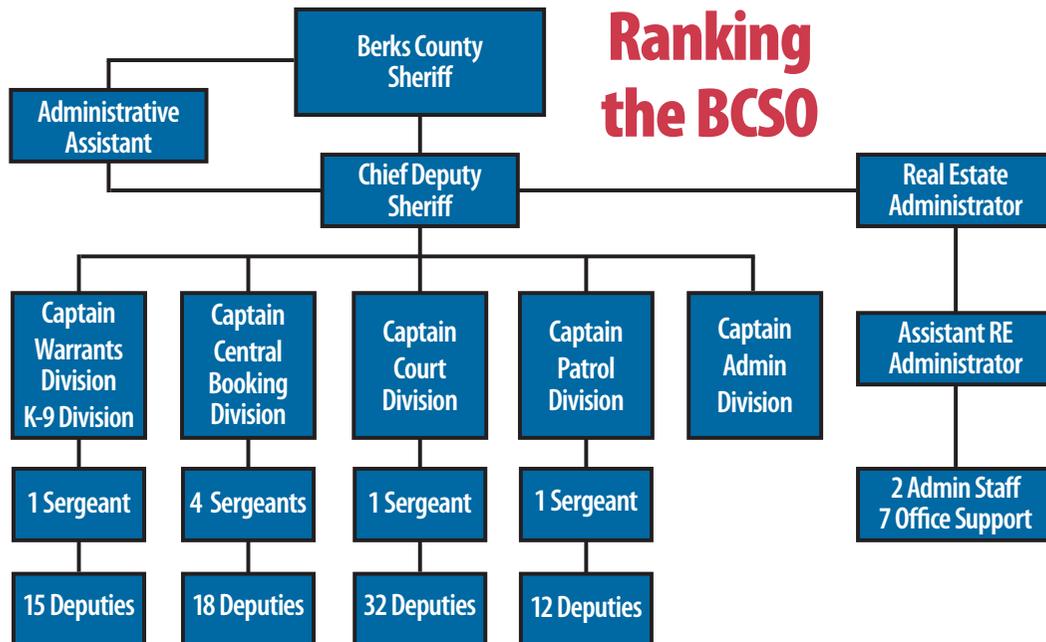
*If you have information that can help apprehend any of the fugitives in this publication, call the Berks County Sheriff's Office Fugitive Tip Line at 610-478-6390 or Crime Alert Berks at 1-877-373-9913.*

*All your information will be kept confidential.*



**Congratulations to Captain Timothy J. Moore who was promoted from the rank of Sergeant effective July 12, 2017**

Captain Moore spent the first half of his law enforcement career as an officer with the Reading Police Department. He retired following 20 years of service and began working as a deputy sheriff with the Berks County Sheriff's Office on October 12, 2011. He was assigned to the Courts Division before being transferred to the Patrol Division in 2014. Moore was promoted to Sergeant (Patrol Division) on March 25, 2015 and will remain with the Patrol Division as Captain responsible for the supervision and scheduling of deputies assigned to serve civil processes, including subpoenas, protection from abuse orders, summonses, and real estate and personal property filings. He is also responsible for the fleet of sheriff vehicles, motor vehicle code enforcement, and coordinator of the Project Lifesaver program.



# Ranking the BCSO



**Welcome, Sergeant John Matula, III**

Sergeant John Matula, III is an Air Force veteran having received an Associate's Degree in criminal justice through the Air Force Community College. Sergeant Matula, recently relocated from New Mexico, started with

the Berks County Sheriff's Office on June 7 with an extensive background in law enforcement – as a police officer, casino commission investigator, and as a deputy sheriff in Stark County, Ohio. He is also a certified firearm's instructor. He is assigned to the Central Booking Division.



**Welcome:**

Candidates for deputy sheriff progress through a rigorous hiring process before being sworn in. President Judge Paul M. Yatron administered the oath of office on April 26, 2017 to deputies most recently hired: Peter Vattimo, III, Tinisha Crawford-Sewell, and Frank Parker-Stewart.



Deputy Terry Ely with Katie Simone, Chair of the Red Cross Heroes Committee & 2nd vice-chair of the Tri-County Chapter Leadership Council; and Adrian Grieve, Executive Director, American Red Cross Tri-County Chapter

## Berks County Sheriff's Deputy Receives Red Cross Heroes Award

On March 7, 2016, Deputy Terry Ely stopped a robbery in action of a taxi cab driver on 10th Street in the City Reading. The entire incident was captured on the cab's dash-cam, and the video made national headlines. This past May, Deputy Ely was honored for his life-saving actions in the category of law enforcement by the American Red Cross at its annual Heroes Awards Breakfast held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Wyomissing.

The Berks County Chapter of the American Red Cross is in its 13th year of presenting awards for acts of courage or kindness in the categories of Law Enforcement, Animal Rescue, Medical, Military, Youth and Adult Good Samaritans, 911 Dispatch, and Fire Safety.