



# The SHIELD

A quarterly bulletin from the Summit County Sheriff's Office

2023, Volume 2

**A new office  
in Coventry  
Township!**

**Faith & Blue  
returns for its  
third year!**



Bringing law  
enforcement and the  
community together  
through sports

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Summit County Sheriff's Office (OH)

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The Optimist Club of Akron honored three of our deputies in April with the Sheriff's Deputy of the Year Awards for their positive attitude, stellar performance, and dedication to service (three in one year to catch back up after the COVID interruption).

Congratulations to Deputies Jeff Thompson, Brian Polinger, and Nate Crolley!

**Congratulations to our own Chief Scott Cottle on receiving the *Community Partner Award* from Summit County Children Services at their annual Appreciation Breakfast in April.**

**We're proud of our longtime working relationship with Children Services, which has only grown even closer in recent years!**



A special Thank You to The Town Tavern in Green for partnering on a Dine to Donate evening in support of our Christmas With a Cop program.

Together we were able to raise over \$500 that evening, helping to brighten the holidays of many disadvantaged children from throughout Summit County.

# Building New Bonds Through Sport



**Sheriff's Office deputies and staff faced off against a Nepali soccer team in March at the Tallmadge Recreational Center as part of our new outreach and relationship-building efforts in different communities within our county. We lost 8-7... which we assume was them going easy on us!**





## The Summit County Sheriff's Office

# SENIOR WATCH PROGRAM

*Summit County Sheriff Kandy Fatheree is proud to offer our Senior Watch Program to provide area senior citizens security and peace of mind by pairing them with a Sheriff's deputy who will check in on them regularly.*

- A deputy will visit your home to assess if you meet the program's criteria.
- If criteria are met, a deputy will visit you twice monthly.
- If a deputy does not make contact with you on their second attempt, they will reach out to your emergency contact to ensure you are ok.

*Participating seniors will be invited to bi-monthly Senior Coalition meetings hosted at area senior centers and assisted living facilities who will provide free breakfast and program information.*

*Participating seniors will be invited to an annual Senior Cookout and Senior Christmas Party hosted by the Summit County Sheriff's Office.*

**Contact us to enroll: [pnervo@sheriff.summitoh.net](mailto:pnervo@sheriff.summitoh.net) or (330) 643-8617**



To be eligible, seniors must be 62 years of age or older or have a medical condition, must live alone and have little or no family currently checking on them, must reside in one of our patrol districts within Summit County, and must provide emergency contact info.



Deputies and Coventry Township residents shared a Saturday together in April at the Grand Opening of our new Coventry Township District #2 Office. After seven years of serving both Green and Coventry Twp from the District #3 Office in Green, we finally have a home again back in Coventry and we couldn't be more pleased about it. As Sheriff Fatheree said in her remarks that afternoon, "We are a part of the Coventry Township family, and we share the common goal with township leaders of ensuring that Coventry is, and always will be, a safe and thriving community to raise a family, start a business, or to visit."



Sheriff Fatheree speaks to the crowd.



Sgt. Nervo shows the gear worn by the Bomb Squad.



Chaplain Allshouse dishes out complimentary hotdogs and popcorn.



Lt. Hemsley and Dep. Plouse demonstrate our modern crime scene technology.



DARE Instructor Dep. Burdette hands out treats and information to the kids.



The Mounted Unit is always a hit!



**SUMMIT COUNTY**



# **FAITH & BLUE**

*Sheriff Fatheree invites you to join us for a day of fun and fellowship at our third annual Summit Faith & Blue! The Faith & Blue initiative is the largest nationwide community-law enforcement collaboration in history, with the goal of bringing law enforcement and the community together through the reach of houses of worship and faith-based organizations.*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7**

**11:00AM - 2:00PM**

**Free Event!**

**All Are Welcome!**

**HARDESTY PARK**

**1615 W. MARKET ST, AKRON, OH 44313**

**Live Performances Games & Contests Fun Run/Walk  
Food & Drink Touch-a-Truck K-9 Demos Mounted Unit  
Giveaways ...and more!**

Law enforcement, houses of worship, and community organizations wishing to participate can sign up at [summitfaithandblue.com](http://summitfaithandblue.com) or by scanning this QR code:



**#SummitFaithandBlue**





# What is Faith & Blue?

Faith & Blue is the largest nationwide community-law enforcement collaboration of its kind. The idea is a simple but powerful one — the ties that bind officers and residents must be reinforced if we are to build neighborhoods where everyone feels safe and included.

Faith-based organizations are key to building these bonds because they are not only the largest community resource in the nation, but because they are as diverse as our nation. There is no resource that can match the depth of the faith community in facilitating productive engagement between law enforcement and the community, which is needed now more than ever.

Faith & Blue strives to build these connections through activities that are held in neighborhoods of every kind across the nation, jointly hosted by houses of worship and local law enforcement entities during Faith & Blue weekend in October.

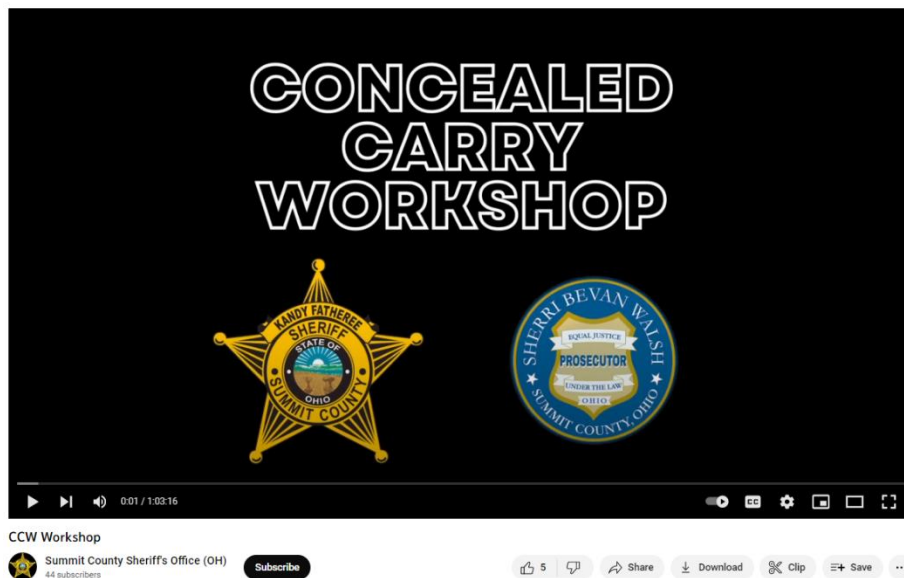
Sheriff Kandy Fatheree brought Faith & Blue to Summit County in 2021, and it has continued to grow each year as more law enforcement, communities of faith, and community organizations from throughout Summit County join together. Summit Faith & Blue is free and open to all members of the public.

Fun, family-friendly interactive events, games, raffles, performances, and demos are planned throughout the day. If your house of worship or organization would like to participate, please email: [faithandblue@sheriff.summitoh.net](mailto:faithandblue@sheriff.summitoh.net).



**The Summit County Sheriff's Office mourns the loss of Deputy Steve Norris who passed away unexpectedly on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Steve was a 25-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office, and served as union representative and contract committee chairman for our deputies.**

**Thank you for your many years of service, Deputy Norris, you will be greatly missed.**



*We had many requests from the public to make our CCW Workshop program available in video format, and we are happy to oblige!*

*Check out the Summit County Sheriff's Office YouTube page, or search "CCW Workshop" on YouTube to watch today.*

# In The News

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## Summit Sheriff's Deputy Carries 92-Year Old Man from Burning Home

COVENTRY TWP. – Summit County Sheriff's Deputy Brian Gorham is being credited for rescuing a 92-year-old man from his burning home in May.

When Deputy Gorham arrived at the scene of the emergency, he spotted a burning propane tank near the door of the residence and the side of the home already engulfed in flames. The residents were still inside the house and scrambling to figure out how best to safely evacuate their elderly family member.

Realizing the explosive danger posed by the flaming propane tank, Gorham immediately rushed all the residents out, and carried the 92-year-old man out with the assistance of another family member. He then returned back inside the house to help rescue the family's pets.

Several area fire departments responded to the fire, and two residents were treated and released on scene.

"I am very proud of our deputy and the rest of the Sheriff's Office personnel who responded to the fire. Their quick actions potentially saved lives and shows their dedication and care for their community," said Sheriff Kandy Fatheree.



*Footage from Dep. Gorham's bodycam shows flames rolling up the side of the home.*

*"There is no better time than now to begin a career in law enforcement. As new deputies, you will be a part of the next generation of change and growth in our profession. This is an extremely rewarding career, serving and protecting your own community and making it a better place to live."*

*— Sheriff Fatheree*

## **The Summit County Sheriff's Office offers deputies:**

- A generous benefits package on day one
- A \$5,000 raise after one year
- Promotional opportunities after three years
- Public employee retirement
- Paid vacation, sick leave, and comp time
- The opportunity to work extra details
- A Mentorship Program for new deputies

Financial support, scholarships, and college credit are available to cadets going through the University of Akron/Summit County Sheriff's Police Academy, one of the top ranked police academies in the state.



**SummitSheriffJobs.com**

