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Issue ONE  
Vol 2 - August 2020



Updates from your Morrow County Sheriff's Office



# Your MCSO

## current topics >>>

### Emergency Management battles COVID-19

*John Bowles, the Morrow County Undersheriff, is also the Morrow County Emergency Manager. Through this COVID-19 battle he is working diligently with Morrow County Public Health, Oregon Health Authority, County Administration and City Officials to get the supplies to our agency partners and the information needed to our citizens, all to help stop the spread of COVID-19.*

Please be a responsible adult:

**Wear a mask**

**Keep your distance**

**Wash your hands**

[www.facebook.com/MorrowCountyEM/](https://www.facebook.com/MorrowCountyEM/)

<https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

### **MCSO Mission**

"To promote and maintain the protection of the people and their property and to enhance the livability of Morrow County for all citizens."

A note from Sheriff Matlack:

I have received mail and calls from people who strongly support law enforcement and gave us words of encouragement.

"Please know you're appreciated...We support you...You're in our thoughts and prayers." -Margie

"I appreciate you and you're needed in the community." -Joyce

I've also received wonderful comments recognizing our deputies for their helpfulness and interactions with the public.

"Thoroughly impressed with how quickly you investigated the accident... Wanted to make sure I let you know I'm very happy with the outcome and that both Sgt. Siex and Deputy Way did a wonderful job." -John

"Deputy Madrigal did a stand-up job and was incredibly helpful through the whole ordeal." -Casey

We know we have an excellent staff, but it is always nice to hear from our citizens. Keep up the good work! -Sheriff Matlack



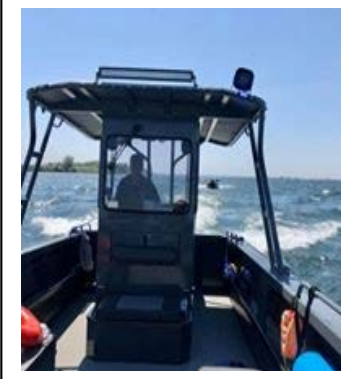
Sheriff Ken Matlack

### **Support your local Sheriff**

Please Visit  
Oregon State  
Sheriff's  
Association

[oregonsheriffs.org](https://oregonsheriffs.org)

## Patrolling on the big Columbia River



# MCSO Marine Program



*Fun times educating  
our youth on boater  
and water safety*

*Training with partner  
agencies to be ready  
to help, whenever  
you need us, will  
always be a part of  
the Morrow County  
Sheriff's Office  
Marine Program*

## AlertSense

Get **Emergency notifications** on your home or mobile phone, you can be notified by text, voice, email.....whatever method YOU choose.

**Sign up at our website**

For more information, go to

[www.co.morrow.or.us/sheriff/page/emergency-notifications](http://www.co.morrow.or.us/sheriff/page/emergency-notifications) or

<https://publicalertsense.com/SignUp>

## **Get to Know MCSO**

(bold & checked – featured in this issue)

- Patrol Division
- Criminal Division
- Drug Task Force
- ✓ **K-9 Program**
- School Resource Officer Program
- Reserve Deputy Program
- ✓ **Communications Center ( 9-1-1)**
- ✓ **Marine Patrol**
- OHV Patrol
- ✓ **Emergency Management**
- ✓ **Search and Rescue**
- Administrative Division
  - Civil Unit
  - Records Unit
- Parole and Probation Division
  - Community Service Work
- Code Enforcement



Deputy in the

# SPOTLIGHT

**Communications Deputy Kaitlin Kennedy**  
with MCSO since 2018

### **1. Most unusual job?**

Working in Dispatch

### **2. Favorite charity?**

March of Dimes

### **3. Hobbies?**

Coed Volleyball & Reading romance novels

### **4. Dogs, cats or?**

Definitely dogs

### **5. Favorite family tradition?**

Family Dinners

### **6. If you could visit anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

Morocco

### **7. Favorite dinner and/or treat?**

Tacos

### **8. Pet peeve?**

Getting hung-up on

### **9. Who would you swap places with, for a day?**

Julia Roberts

### **10. Favorite Book and/or Movie?**

Books: Too many / Movie: Live Free or Die Hard / Bad Boys

### **11. Mountains or Beach or both?**

Beach

### **12. Hometown?**

Umatilla, OR

### **13. Favorite color?**

Dark Green

### **14. Which two people, living or dead, would you most like to have dinner with?**

Bruce Willis and Shania Twain

### **15. #1 on your bucket list?**

Skydiving








**The Morrow County Sheriff's Office Communications Center** operates 24 hours a day, everyday. The Center is staffed by eight Communications Deputies, Communications Sgt. Sarah Baker, and led by the Communications Lieutenant, Kristen Bowles, who is directly supervised by Sheriff Matlack.

These dispatchers work all shifts and holidays, just as our patrol deputies and are a critical partner in the safety and security of our citizens. They are the first voice you hear when you call for help, and they are quick, efficient and professional. They provide 9-1-1 dispatch services for sheriff, police, fire and medical emergencies.




Serving a 2019 population of 11,603, they answered 5,819 - 911 calls and 56,634 administrative calls, making 24,748 call for service.

We can all be on . . .

## Neighborhood Watch

-  Be alert of suspicious activity
-  Be aware of strangers in your area
-  Watch for unfamiliar vehicles

Don't attempt to take things into your own hands, report Suspicious Activity to the Sheriff's Office.

-  Descriptions of persons or vehicles
-  Direction of travel
-  License plate number if applicable

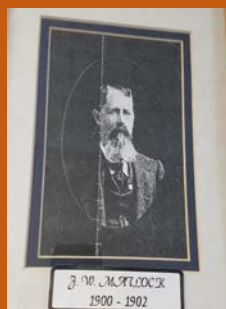
## If you see something. . . say something

Call dispatch 541-676-5317 / Emergency 9-1-1

## Did you Know ???

### History bites from MCSO...

Even though the spelling is now different, F. W. Matlock, who served as Morrow County Sheriff from 1900-1902 is a relative of the current Sheriff Kenneth W. Matlack.



## TELLY's TALES...

### K-9 adventures



Like my new duds?

Spike's K9 Fund donated a K9 Storm vest to MCSO's K9 Telly. The vest is custom fit for Telly and allows her complete freedom of movement while protecting her with level 2A armor. The vest is very light weight and she can even wear it in the summer. The handle is load rated to 2,500lbs and can safely help raise or lower Telly into areas as needed.

Spike's K9 Fund is a wonderful organization that supports working dogs. The founder James Hatch is a retired Special Warfare Operator and K9 Handler. Spike's K9 Fund donates gear to keep working dogs safe. Spike's K9 Fund also provides critical medical treatment to help the canine return to work or to live out their retirement days in good health.

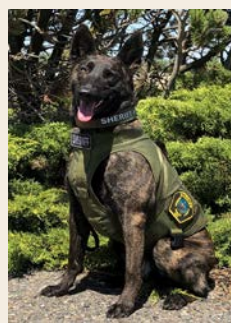
K9 Telly has been adjusting to her new vest very well. She is able to run, jump and go anywhere she would normally in it with no loss of agility.

For more information or to support this non-profit . . .

<https://www.spikesk9fund.org/#about>



Training fun



K9 Telly and handler Cpl. Colleen Neubert

# final thoughts...

## **MCSO Search & Rescue**

December 18, 2019 at 5:11pm 85-year-old Jose Fernandez from Irrigon with advanced Dementia and Alzheimers was reported missing.

MCSO's Det. Scott Carter coordinated a seach of the area from about 5:30pm-6:30am with 39 search members from surrounding agencies, family and community members. Every farm, residence and outbuilding in the area, needed to be checked. It was a dark winter night, with cold freezing rain.

While the seach in Irrigon was occurring, the MCSO Communication Center in Heppner, was a beehive of activity, hoping to find an available aircraft or drone to help. They were also fielding many calls from concerned community members as well as the normal calls that come on an everyday basis, including other 9-1-1 calls.

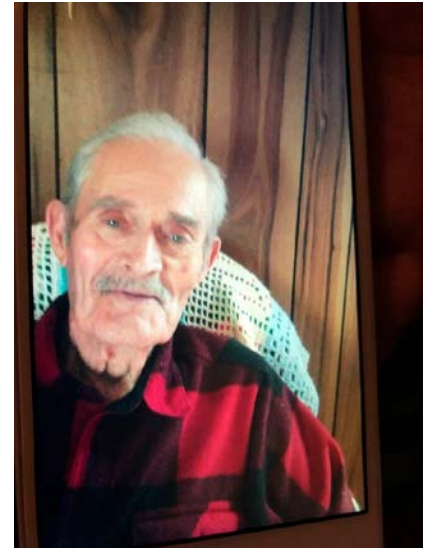
December 19<sup>th</sup> about 6:30am Det. Brian Snyder took over as Incident Commander, issued search assignments and briefed 55 search members, all wanting to help bring Mr. Fernandez home.

Food was provided (and very much appreciated) for the searchers by Michelle Luna and Java Junkies.



At 11:41am on December 19<sup>th</sup>, Lt. Terry Harper and Undersheriff John Bowles found the missing man, Jose Fernandez, alive. He was transported to the hospital to be treated for exposure, and was expected to have a full recovery.

Morrow County Sheriff's Office would like to thank Irrigon Ambulance, Irrigon Fire, Oregon State Police, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, Boardman Fire, Boardman Ambulance, Boardman Police, Umatilla Police Department and all the family and community members who helped out during the event.



Because we all worked together as a team, this man got to spend Christmas with his family, doesn't get any better than that.

**...there's no place like home**

Contact us at **541-676-5317**  
[www.co.morrow.or.us/sheriff](http://www.co.morrow.or.us/sheriff)



**MCSO**

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## **TEAM**

Together  
Everyone  
Achieves  
More