DPS seeking new recruits

The Department is now accepting applications for anyone interested in becoming a state trooper. The next recruit school will start March 6, 2006 in Austin. The application deadline for Texas residents is September 16—September 9 for out-of-state applicants.

“If you know of anyone who would be an excellent addition to the DPS family, please encourage them to apply for the recruit school,” said DPS Director Col. Thomas Davis Jr. “Thanks to the Legislature, our new troopers now have salaries more competitive with larger police agencies.”

Information is available through a toll-free number, 1-866-TX-TROOP (898-7667), that rings directly into the recruiting office in Austin. Additional information is accessible on the DPS Web site, www.txdps.state.tx.us, and application packets can be picked up at any DPS office.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, at least 20 years of age, and have completed 90 hours of college credit. Law enforcement, jailer or military experience may be used toward fulfilling the college requirement.

Each applicant’s background will be carefully scrutinized, including prior criminal history. They will also be required to submit to a polygraph examination. DPS is an equal opportunity employer.

Correction on child safety seat law

Please note an error in last month’s Chaparral regarding seat belt laws. HB 183, effective Sept. 1, classifies safety seat infractions as moving violations for the first time. Therefore, only violations of the child safety seat law (Transportation Code 545.412) will be considered moving violations. Other seat belt offenses are still not regarded as moving violations.

The new version of the law also states that all children younger than 5 years of age (the old law was 4) and less than 36 inches tall are required to be in a child safety seat system.

For more on HB 183, go to www.capitol.state.tx.us or the August DPS Legal Bulletin, which is accessible through the DPS Intranet and Outlook (All Public Folders, Office of General Counsel).
**Short Shots**

**Region 6 Retirees Association**

The Region 6 Retirees Association annual meeting will be held Sept. 17 in Knox Hall at the Texas Ranger Museum and Hall of Fame in Waco. All DPS retirees are invited to attend. Gathering and visiting will begin at 10 a.m. with a meal served at noon. The meal is $10. To make reservations, please call retired Maj. **Danny Smith** at 254-666-7084 or **Judy Faulkner** at 254-799-8963.

**SWAT team tryouts**

The SWAT team has openings for interested troopers. Troopers who live or work within two contiguous counties of Travis or Williamson counties are eligible. For more details, contact **Lt. Ronnie Tacquard** at 512-424-2339.

**Feel crafty?**

The DPS Arts and Crafts Fair is 8 a.m. on Nov. 3 at Headquarters. Call **Jennifer Hall** at 512-424-7297 for booth information. Current and retired employees get first selection.

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**Mile Markers**

**Promotions**

**HP**


**CLE**


**DL**

Edubijes (Vicky) Aguirre, Sgt., DL Carrollton to Lt., DL Lubbock; Cheryl M. Garren, Section Supv., DL Austin HQ to Asst. Mgr., DL Austin HQ; Paul Joseph Simpson, Sr., Tr. III, DL Baytown to Sgt., DL Laredo.

**Retirements**

Ronald Joe Cunningham, Lt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Austin HQ, 15 yrs., 10 mos., 19 days; Brenda Cockrell Sterling, Admin. Asst. III, DL Austin HQ, 5 yrs., 6 mos., 13 days; Marta McInnis, Data Entry Oper., Veh. Insp. Records, 9 mos., 13 days; Charlotte Elaine Williams, Sr. Programmer II, IMS Austin HQ, 29 yrs., 11 mos.;

Jimmy Kyle Rhine, Custodian III, HP Decatur, 22 yrs., 2 mos.; William Allen Scoggins, Sen. Tr., HP Graham, 23 yrs., 5 mos., 17 days; Maria E. Brucker, Tech., DL El Paso, 20 yrs., 8 mos., 29 days; Connie Barnett Hartsfield, Lt., Internal Affairs Austin HQ, 24 yrs., 5 mos., 16 days;

Doris Elizabeth Yarbrough, Custodian III, HP San Antonio, 20 yrs., 4 mos., 9 days; Norman Ray Rust, Custodian III, HP Del Rio, 20 yrs., 1 mo., 3 days; Jeffrey Burton Corzine, Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Hurst, 17 yrs., 5 mos., 11 days; Julene I. Huckaby, Clerk IV, DL Austin HQ, 10 yrs., 4 mos., 3 days.

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**On the mend...**

Best wishes for a speedy recovery from line-of-duty injuries go to:

Tr. Steven Oliver, HP Denton, shot in leg by a fleeing suspect;

Tr. Joshua Ray, HP San Marcos, injured training canine; Sgt. Ted Riojas, CVE Laredo, injured in a traffic crash;

Tr. Frank Bonilla, HP Tyler, injured in a traffic crash;

Tr. James I. Weaver, HP Weatherford, injured deploying stinger spikes during a pursuit; Tr. Wilton White, HP Hempstead, struck by a drunk driver while directing traffic;

Good news! Tr. John Henley, HP Nacogdoches, injured in a vehicle crash, is back on full duty.