



DPS Chaparral

Produced by DPS Public Information, (512) 424-2080

May 2006

DPS Memorial Service set



*Tr. Jimmy Ray
Carty Jr.*



*Tr. Billy Jack
Zachary*



*Tr. Matthew
Dewayne Myrick*

Texas peace officers who died in the line of duty in 2005 and 2006 will be honored at the annual DPS Peace Officer Memorial Service 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 16 outside the DPS Training Academy in Austin. (National Police Week is May 14-20.)

This year, Texas Gov. Rick Perry will be the guest speaker. Wreath laying arrangements were not yet finalized at the time this article was written.

Families of DPS officers who died in the line of duty and DPS officers injured while on duty are invited to attend.

"This year's memorial service will be a difficult one for the DPS family because three of our troopers died in the line of duty," said DPS Director Col. **Thomas A. Davis Jr.** "They gave their lives serving the people of Texas, and we must make sure they are always remembered and honored for their sacrifice."

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DPS discontinues active countermeasures training

All boxing-type drills, weapon retention grappling exercises and any other student-on-student exercises that involve strikes or hard physical contact have been discontinued effective immediately at the DPS Training Academy.

"We are confident that the training our recruits will receive will continue to ensure their safety when they go out on the road, as well as ensure the safety of the citizens of Texas," said Col. **Thomas A. Davis Jr.**

please see Training on page 4

Dear fellow employee,

Wearing your seat belt is the cheapest form of insurance I know of, and I hope that you buckle up every time you get in a vehicle. As you know, it's the law.

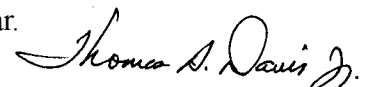
DPS troopers once again will participate in Click It or Ticket from May 22 through June 4. DPS has long had a zero-tolerance policy on seat belt violations, and that will continue.

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Hurricane Awareness Week runs May 21-27. Last year, we were once again reminded of the power of hurricanes to damage and disrupt our activities along the coast and far inland. Please take a moment during that week to make sure that you and your family are prepared for any disasters that might strike our state. You can find a list of items and tasks that will ensure your preparedness at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/texasprepared.htm.

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At 10 a.m. on May 16, please take a moment to remember our fellow law enforcement officers who lost their lives during the past year.



Awards

Matt Varner received a Director's Award for helping a trooper rescue a woman from a burning car in Callahan County. A car and a pickup collided killing one and injuring several. When Tr. **Joe Pechacek**, HP Baird, arrived on the scene both vehicles were in flames. Matt Varner, 20, provided water to help ward off the fire and helped pull the door open. He then helped Tr. Pechacek carry the incapacitated woman to safety, saving her from severe burns and probable death.

Two DPS troopers were among those honored as Officers of the Year by the East Montgomery County Improvement District. Tr. **Brad Synnott**, HP New Caney, was honored for his work in apprehending DWI drivers. Tr. **Paul Kohleffel**, HP New Caney, was honored for his work in criminal apprehensions.

Tr. **Brandon Smith**, HP Longview, was honored as Trooper of the Year at the Giants of Law Enforcement banquet in Gregg County. The awards are sponsored by the Longview Centurion Club.

Short Shots

FBI Academy graduate

Capt. **John Bateman**, Criminal Intelligence Austin, graduated March 17 from the 224th Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA.

May is Motorcycle Safety Month...



Governor Rick Perry has proclaimed May 2006 as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month in Texas. The DPS urges all motorcycle riders to wear proper protective equipment including helmets and to attend a basic or advanced motorcycle safety course to develop or sharpen their motorcycling skills.

The DPS Motorcycle Safety Unit offers safety programs at 64 permanent locations and nine sites that utilize two self-contained mobile training units. The basic course is for new, inexperienced or unlicensed motorcyclists—motorcycles and hel-

metts are provided! The advanced course is for more experienced and licensed riders with their own motorcycle.

In 2005, 29,141 enrolled in either the advanced or basic course—a nine percent increase over 2004 and another all-time high. Since 1983, more than

213,000 Texans have participated in a basic or advanced motorcycle safety course. The basic course may waive the road test for people applying for a motorcycle license, and either course may be used for ticket dismissal and for insurance discounts. For more information, call 1-800-292-5787.

In 2005, the Motorcycle Safety Unit was recognized by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation for the third time in the past four years as the Outstanding State Motorcycle Safety Program for budget category III.

...it's also Bicycle Safety Month

May is also Bicycle Safety Month. While bicycles are considered to be vehicles on the roadway, they lack the protection that an automobile provides.

Urban and rural crashes between motor vehicles and bicycles result in the death of one Texan each week. Texas ranks third in the U.S. in bicyclist fatalities.

People can protect themselves by wearing proper fitting helmets, and receiving the proper information on bicycle safety through pamphlets, posters and videos that are available

through the Department's Super Cyclist Bicycle Safety Program.

Remember, everyone should wear helmets when biking, if not for yourself—then for your loved ones.

If you have any additional questions about the Super Cyclist Bicycle Safety Program or about bicycle traffic laws, please contact **Bea Taylor** at 512-424-2219 or Sgt. **Harry Hoelscher** at 512-424-7236.

Their e-mail addresses are bea.taylor@txdps.state.tx.us and harry.hoelscher@txdps.state.tx.us.

Large class graduates from Northwestern school

In April, 45 mid-level commissioned DPS managers completed the Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff and Command at the DPS Training Academy.

Commanders, assistant commanders, captains and lieutenants from several services within the Department suspended their regular duties during the 10-week school.

Some of the topics studied include organizational behavior, budget preparation, project management, problem solving, ethics and the police manager, leadership, managing discipline and police traffic management.

Capt. **Selso Artiaga**,
Narcotics San Antonio
Lt. **William R. Brazzil**,
Narcotics Tyler
Lt. **Gerald Brown**, Narcot-
ics Houston
Lt. **J. Shane Byrd**, Crim.
Intel. El Paso
Lt. **Michael S. Carlson**,
CVE Lubbock
Lt. **Frank E. Chambers**,
Crim. Intel. Mount Pleasant
Lt. **David G. Crook**, Crim.
Intel. Hurst
Lt. **Frank Elizondo**, MVT
McAllen
Commander **Jesus Flores**,
MVT Austin
Lt. **G.M. Forester**, Nar-
cotics Victoria
Asst. Commanger **Michael**
C. Gouglar, Crim. Intel. Austin
Lt. **Lee Ann Groves**,
Narcotics Austin
Lt. **Joe F. Guzman**, Nar-
cotics McAllen
Lt. **Gregory Haire**, Nar-
cotics Conroe
Lt. **Skylor D. Hearn**,
Texas Rangers Austin
Lt. **Freddie Hobbs Jr.**,
DLD San Antonio
Lt. **Michelle D. Johnson**,
HP Corpus Christi

Lt. **Roger A. Kopycinski**,
Narcotics Corpus Christi
Lt. **Michael C. Lathan**, HP
Garland
Lt. **O. Burleigh Locklar**,
MVT Midland
Capt. **Joseph C. Longway**,
Narcotics Lubbock
Capt. **Jose M. Morales**,
MVT Corpus Christi
Lt. **Samuel E. Morris**, MVT
Houston
Lt. **Gary L. Myles**, HP Waco
Lt. **Jorge L. Najera**, HP El
Paso
Lt. **Jeremy C. Nordloh**, CVE
Houston
Capt. **Justin B. Owen**, MVT
Austin
Lt. **Roy L. Owens**, HP Lufkin
Lt. **Jose Portillo Jr.**, Narcot-
ics Marble Falls
Asst. Chief **Steven C. Powell**
Aircraft Austin
Capt. **Terry C. Preston**, HR
Austin
Lt. **Robert E. Ralls**, Narcot-
ics Midland
Capt. **George E. Rhyne Jr.**,
Crim. Intel. Garland
Capt. **Cristoval Rodriguez**,
Narcotics El Paso
Lt. **Baldemar Sandoval**,
CVE McAllen

Lt. **Robert J. Sells III**,
DLD Austin
Lt. **Shanandoah Sharp**, HP
Palestine
Capt. **Lisa A. Sheppard**,
Crim. Intel. Corpus Christi
Capt. **Stephen P. Slater**,
Narcotics Austin
Lt. **Tim C. Smith**, HP Tyler
Lt. **Paul D. Webb**, CVE
Waco
Capt. **Jack G. Webster**, HP
San Antonio
Lt. **Henry L. Whitman**,
Texas Rangers San Antonio
Inspector **John K. Wise**,
OAI Austin
Lt. **James D. Wrentz**,
Crim. Intel. Conroe



Memorial, continued from page 1

Texas peace officers who died while performing their duties in 2006:

- Tr. **Billy Jack Zachary**, Texas Department of Public Safety-Monahans, died after being struck by a vehicle Jan. 1;
- Tr. **Matthew Dewayne Myrick**, Texas Department of Public Safety-Hereford, died in a traffic crash Jan. 20.

Texas peace officers killed feloniously in 2005:

- Deputy Andy Taylor, Llano County SO, shot during a traffic stop May 8, died May 9;
- Officer Brian Jackson, Dallas PD, killed during a domestic disturbance Nov. 13;
- Officer Henry "Hank" Nava Jr., Fort Worth PD, injured while serving an arrest warrant Nov. 29, died Dec. 1.

Texas peace officers who died while performing their duties in 2005:

- Tr. **Jimmy Ray Carty Jr.**, Texas Department of Public Safety-Austin, injured in a training accident May 19, died May 26;
- Sgt. Denny Galloway, San Jacinto Co. Constable Office-Pct 2, died in a drowning accident Sept. 15;
- Sgt. Ruben Orozco, El Paso County SO, died in a traffic crash Sept. 17;
- Patrolman John Wheeler, San Antonio PD, died in a traffic crash Oct. 14;
- Sgt. Scott Neal, Mexia ISD PD, died in a training accident Nov. 22;
- Deputy Jason Oliff, Brazoria County SO, died after being struck by a vehicle Dec. 5;
- Deputy Lester Dewayne Tatum, Trinity County SO, died in a traffic crash Dec. 28.

Training changes, continued from page 1

The changes in recruit training are in response to recommendations made by consultants from The Gables Group, which evaluated the Training Academy's defensive tactics program after the death last May of DPS recruit **Jimmy Ray Carty Jr.**

To learn more about the new training program, several DPS Training Academy staff members have attended training with the Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instruc-

tor Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia.

Although the Department removed boxing-type drills, all confrontational simulation training has not been eliminated. Students will now face off with an instructor in a more realistic confrontation. The new training, which will allow students to deploy the full range of force options, will involve realistic confrontations including strikes to the face.

DPS online: www.txdps.state.tx.us

DPS "on the air": 512-424-7777

Mile Markers

Retirements

John Cokely Foster, Sen. Prog. II, IMS Austin-HQ, 12 yrs., 10 mos., 21 days; **Thomas Earl Malcolm**, Tech., DL Marshall, 11 yrs., 8 mos., 14 days; **Mary Ruth Mathews**, Custodian II, HP Hurst, 9 yrs., 7 mos., 29 days;

Bruce James Pickel, Tech. III, Fleet Oper. Austin-HQ, 29 yrs., 4 mos., 5 days; **Daniel E. Manix**, Tr., HP Fredericksburg, 14 yrs., 5 mos., 27 days; **Linda Kathleen White**, Tech., DL Waxahachie, 23 yrs., 17 days.

Deaths

David Deming, ret. Custodian III, HP Waco (May 1979 – June 1994) died March 17, 2006; **Jerry Miller**, ret. Major, HP Austin (Jan. 1950 – Oct. 1976) died March 31, 2006; **Lloyd S. Christmas**, ret. Supv., Communications Midland (June 1956 – May 1998) died March 26, 2006; **Grady E. Langford**, ret. Tr. II, HP Kerrville (Sept. 1953 – May 1977) died April 4, 2006.



*On the
mend...*

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

Tr. **Michael Windham Jr.**, HP Gainesville, injured during pursuit;

Tr. **Steve Stone**, HP Tyler, shot by a suspect March 22.

askthecolonel@txdps.state.tx.us