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May 2009

Fallen officers honored at Memorial Service

Texas law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty during the past two years will be remembered during a memo-

rial service at DPS Headquarters on Tuesday, May 12, at 10 a.m.

"When we gather at the Memorial Wall at the Training Academy, we will be honoring the law enforcement officers who gave their lives protecting us all. They and their families have made a tremendous sacrifice. Let us not forget the price they paid to keep us safe," said Col. **Stanley E. Clark**, DPS director.

Included in those honored will be Tr. **James Scott Burns**, HP Jefferson, who was shot and killed April



Tr. James Scott Burns continued on page 2

New driver license rolls out statewide

DPS is unveiling a redesigned Texas driver license and identification

card with a new look and enhanced security features.

"The changes will give law enforcement improved resources for verifying the authenticity of Texas-issued driver licenses and identification cards, while



combating counterfeiting, photo swapping, tampering and other types of fraud," said DPS Director Col. **Stanley E. Clark**.

The licenses and ID cards contain numerous security features, which DPS will not discuss publicly.

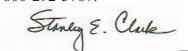
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Dear fellow employee:

We've filled several open management positions, including assistant chiefs of CLE and Administration and commander and assistant commander of Narcotics. Our management team is now complete; I am proud of the people who have been chosen. More changes are coming for DPS. I know we'll accomplish great things together.

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I want to take a moment to remind you that May is Motorcycle and Bicycle Safety Month. Wear your helmet and practice safe driving and riding habits every day: you're setting an example for your children. And drivers should take time to remind themselves to be aware of motorcycles and bicycles, which can be difficult to see We have an excellent Motorcycle Safety Unit that teaches classes for beginning and advanced riders. Find out what they have to offer by calling 1-800-292-5787.



askthecolonel@txdps.state.tx.us

Awards

Chief Jack Colley, Emergency Management Division Austin, received the 2009 Distinguished Service Award at this year's National Hurricane Conference. In 2008, DEM, under Colley's leadership, coordinated the unprecedented response operations of hundreds of emergency management officials, first responders, volunteer groups, public officials and state agencies to several incidents. In addition to Hurricane Ike, there were two other hurricanes, a tropical storm and three other major floods-all within a 58-day period. The award is given to individuals who demonstrate outstanding leadership in emergency preparedness and response.

Tela Mange, chief of Media Relations Austin, was presented the "Outstanding Austin Communicator" award by the Association for Women in Communications Austin Chapter last month. Mange and her staff had a busy year in 2008, fielding calls from the media on several high-profile events, including allegations of child abuse at the polygamist compound in Schleicher County.

Briefs

HQ blood drives

DPS is joining forces with the Blood Center of Central Texas to host four mobile blood drives per year at the Headquarters, Building A cafeteria in Austin. The first blood drive is scheduled for Thursday, May 14. Call 512-424-2103 if you have any questions.

FBI graduate

Lt. **Kevin Wilkie**, Internal Affairs Austin, graduated from the 235th Session of the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia, Dec. 12.

New DPS bike ride

The inaugural DPS Memorial Ride has been scheduled for September. The bicycle ride will start in Austin. Each rider will pay a \$500 fee, with 80 percent of the money going to a new DPS memorial and a DPS disability fund.

Memorial Service honors fallen officers, continued from page 1

29, 2008, during a traffic stop.

Texas peace officers killed feloniously in 2009:

Senior Corporal Norman Smith, Dallas PD, shot and killed on Jan. 6 while serving arrest warrant;

Lieutenant Stuart Alexander, Corpus Christi PD, struck and killed on March 11 by fleeing suspect during a police chase that arose from a disturbance call;

Sergeant Randy White, Bridgeport PD, struck and killed on April 2 by a suspect during a police chase after a hit-and-run crash.

Texas peace officers killed feloniously in 2008:

Corporal Harry Thielepape, Harris Co. Constable's Office-Pct 6, injured Jan. 26 and died on Feb. 20 of injuries sustained during a felony arrest;

DPS Trooper James Scott Burns, HP Jefferson, killed April 29 during a traffic stop;

Officer Timothy Abernethy, Houston PD, killed Dec. 7 during a traffic stop and foot pursuit.

Texas peace officers who died while performing their duties in 2008:

Deputy Constable David Joubert, Harris Co. Constable's Office-Pct. 7, died in a traffic crash on Jan. 13;

Officer Matthew B. Thebeau, Corpus Christi PD, died in a traffic crash on Jan. 20;

Deputy Sheriff Craig Walter Miller, Harris Co. SO, died in a traffic crash on Feb. 21;

Senior Corporal Victor Lozada-Tirado, Dallas PD, died in a traffic crash on Feb. 22;

Officer Everett William Dennis, Carthage PD, died in a traffic crash on June 3;

Officer Gary Gryder, Houston PD, died on June 29 after being struck by a vehicle;

Sheriff Brent Lee, Trinity Co. SO, died in a traffic crash on Nov. 27;

Officer Robert Davis, San Antonio PD, struck by a vehicle on Nov. 28, died of his injuries on Dec. 1;

Officer Mark Simmons, Amarillo PD, injured in a traffic crash on March 24, 2005 and died of his injuries on Dec. 17, 2008.

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Contact Tr. **James Colunga**, DL Waxahachie, at 972-935-3044 or james.colunga@txdps.state.tx.us for addition information.

Police Games coming up

The Texas Police Games, sponsored by the Texas Police Athletic Federation, take place this year in Conroe from June 24-28. Active and retired DPS commissioned officers are eligible to compete, as are guests in certain events. The Games feature 31 shooting and athletic events. The first deadline is May 15. To find out more, visit their website: www.texaspolicegames.org.

Mile Markers

Promotions Director's Staff

Lamar Beckworth, Asst. Chief, HP Austin to Asst. Director, Director's Office Austin; Bill C. Nabors, Asst. Chief Pilot, Aircraft Section Austin to Chief Pilot, Aircraft Section Austin; John M. Brannon, Lt., Aircraft Section Garland to Asst. Chief Pilot, Aircraft Section Austin.

Administration Division

Valerie A. Fulmer, Asst. Chief, Administration Division Austin to Chief, Administration Division Austin; Sandra K. Fulenwider, Reg. Adjutant, Staff Support Svcs. Garland to Asst. Chief, Administration Division Austin.

HP

David G. Baker, Major, HP Austin to Chief, HP Austin; Luis A. Gonzalez, Major, HP Austin, to Asst. Chief, HP Austin; Todd

EAP Wellness Corner

This month, DPS Psychological Services Bureau begins a series of articles in the Chaparral that we hope will be beneficial to you, our fellow employees and your families. The DPS Employee Assistance Program is a free service and is now available to serve you statewide. For more information, call 512-424-2211.

Tips to cope with difficult financial times:

Keep your perspective. Take

Michael Early, Comm. Coordinator, HP Austin to Direcotor, Bureau of Law Enforcement Comm. and Tech. Austin.

CLE

Wynn Reynolds, Lt., MVT Garland to Capt., MVT Austin.

Retirements

James Walter Brubaker, Chief, CLE Austin, 32 yrs., 1 mo., 9 days; Clifford Joe Babbitt, Capt., MVT Austin, 28 yrs., 2 mos., 17 days; Eluid Plata, Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Brownsville, 27 yrs., 2 mos., 18 days;

Bryan Nelson Payne, Sen. Tr., HP Junction, 24 yrs., 2 mos., 22 days; David Wayne Ross, Tr., CVE Garland, 21 yrs, 8 mos., 24 days; James F. Benton, Jr., Coordinator, Bureau of Law Enforcement Comm. and Tech. Austin, 3 ys., 3 mo.;

Cleopatra Castle, Tech., DL Houston, 28 yrs., 5 mos., 19 days; Richard Joseph Peche, Sen. Cpl., CVE San Antonio, 31 yrs., 3 mos., 24 days; Deborah Kay Cartwright, Manager, DL Austin, 29 breaks from the negative news stories. Do something helpful for a friend or neighbor.

Take care of yourself. Many healthful, stress-reducing activities are free or inexpensive; for example, visit a park, take a walk, go to a museum or library.

Plan. Write down ways to reduce your expenses, review regularly. Set a budget for each day and reward yourself for sticking to it.

yrs., 5 mos.; **Bertha Mary Beran**, Secretary, Bureau of Information Analysis Austin, 25 yrs., 3 mos.; **Janice Marie Browning,** Clerk, DL Austin, 22 yrs., 11 mos.

Deaths

Gordon D. Tompkins, ret. Tr. V, HP Carthage (November 1972 – July 2000) died February 25, 2009; Oron Land, ret. Tr. II, HP Waco (November 1942 – April 1979) died April 10, 2009; Sidney Merchant, ret. Ranger, Texas Rangers Abilene (June 1956 – August 1988) died April 12, 2009; Bob G. Humphries, ret. Staff Svc. Officer II, HR Austin (March 1950 – July 1986) died April 19, 2009.



Tr. **Steven Hoppas**, HP San Marcos, injured when vehicle struck by alleged drunk driver.

Good news! Sgt. William John Murphy, CLE Garland, returned to work full duty.

Academy hosts class on spotting child abduction, abuse

Identifying a child who may have been abducted or abused can be difficult for law enforcement officers who don't know what to look for, so DPS hosted the firstever class that will teach officers how to recognize these at-risk children during contacts with the public, either in traffic stops or visits to homes.

Academy instructors worked with representatives of the Texas Attorney General's Office, the FBI and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to develop the class curriculum. The FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit used information gleaned from a study of 150 convicted murderers and their use of motor vehicles to assist with developing the class.

"Most police officers have not received training on recognizing the indicators of this type of crime during a traffic stop or if they've been dispatched to a home on a call," said DPS Sgt. **Derek Prestridge**, one of the instructors. "They need specific questions to ask and knowledge of behavioral patterns of suspects and victims that can help them determine whether there is potentially a crime occurring." The 24-hour class, the first of its kind anywhere in the U.S., will teach law enforcement officers and communications operators appropriate investigative techniques and make them aware of investigative resources available to them, such as the state's Missing Persons Clearinghouse, the Texas Fusion Center and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

"We are proud to have developed this course and look forward to sharing it with law enforcement agencies across the nation," said Col. **Stanley Clark**, director of the DPS.

Texas Ranger helps solve oldest cold case in San Diego history

A Texas Ranger, an intern and police detectives proved that investigators should "never say never" when it comes to solving cold cases. In 2008, Sgt. **Matt Cawthon**, the Unsolved Crimes Investigation Team (UCIT) Ranger assigned to Company F, helped close the oldest unsolved murder in the history of San Diego, Calif.

On Dec. 28, 1971, Gerald Jackson was stabbed to death in his apartment in San Diego. The crime remained unsolved for 37 years, until an intern working for the San Diego Police Department was reviewing old case files in 2007 and discovered that a latent fingerprint was preserved on evidence in the case file.

Investigators submitted the print to the Automated Fingerprint Identification System, which helped identified the fingerprint as belonging to Gerald Metcalf, now 62 and living in Chandler, Texas.

In 2008, Cawthon began assisting the San Diego Police in the case and located Metcalf. On August 27, Cawthon and San Diego Police Homicide Detective John Teft interviewed the suspect and obtained fingerprint and DNA evidence. Faced with evidence linking him to the homicide, Metcalf confessed but claimed self-defense, even though the victim had been stabbed more than 50 times. Cawthon arrested Metcalf on Oct. 14, 2008, and Metcalf is currently awaiting trial in San Diego.

"Cold case investigation, although not new to the Rangers, is one of the most important jobs we do. It is a chance to give the victims' families some closure and comfort," said Cawthon. "And I loved the look on Metcalf's face when I told him why I was there. It just doesn't get any better than that."

New DL debuts, continued from page 1

Production of the new cards began April 15 for customers receiving new, renewal or duplicate licenses and ID cards. The vertical format for customers under 21 will continue.

Current driver licenses and ID cards are still valid and will

be phased out as they expire. The last redesign took place in June 2001.

DPS is sending out information to Texas law enforcement agencies, financial institutions and other state agencies to educate them on these changes.