Dear Fellow Employee,

Our annual Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, May 11, to honor troopers killed in the line of duty, as well as fellow law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty during the past year. Please take a moment around 10 a.m. that day to remember those who have given their lives in service to the state.

For the past four years, Austin DPS employees have participated in a mentoring program at Reilly Elementary, a school near Headquarters. Many Reilly students come from homes where money and books are almost non-existent. The school itself is experiencing shortages in teaching supplies, including library books.

In early April, our employees banded together to raise money to buy library books—and to purchase books for the children to own for themselves. The goal: $3,000. Austin DPS employees came through with $3,724. We have been told that this was the largest donation in school history. I want to thank all of you for your generosity. This money will go a long way to promote literacy among the students of Reilly.

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DPS wins Governor’s Award for Texas Round-up

On April 17, Governor Rick Perry presented the DPS with the first annual Texas Round-Up Governor’s Cup, rewarding the Department as the most active large state agency.

The Texas Round-Up is the Governor’s statewide health and fitness campaign to encourage citizens to be more active. DPS employees participated by following a six-week activity schedule, completing the Texas Round-Up 10K, or both.

Col. Davis would like to congratulate all employees who participated and encourage them to continue their fitness routines.

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Application deadlines for two new recruit schools announced: June 25, October 1

Two new recruit schools have been announced: B-2004, which is expected to start on October 4, and A-2005, which is expected to start on January 24, 2005.

The application deadline for the B-2004 school is June 18 for out-of-state applicants and June 25 for in-state applicants. The deadline for the A-2005 school is Sept. 24 for out-of-state applicants and Oct. 1 for in-state applicants.

“We’ve had a number of recruit schools over the past four years, and we’re not quite through yet,” said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of the DPS.

“We need everyone in the DPS family to find additional qualified applicants for these next two recruit schools,” he said. “I would encourage anyone who’s interested in becoming a state trooper to apply now, because they may not have another opportunity for awhile.”

The graduates of these two planned recruit schools are expected to fill most of the vacancies caused by retirements during the last year and to bring the agency to full employment.

Among other requirements, applicants must have a minimum of 90 semester hours from an accredited college or university. One recent change to those requirements: The semester hours can be substituted by prior work experience, including experience as a communications operator, commercial vehicle enforcement inspector or commercial vehicle enforcement investigator. (For a complete list of requirements, please see the DPS website at http://www.txdps.state.tx.us.)

“Being a Texas state trooper is one of the most satisfying careers someone can have,” Col. Davis said.
Promotions

Director’s Staff
Carey Dean Matthews, Lt., HP Midland to Insp. II, OAI Austin; Gerardo Javier De Los Santos, Lt., Rangers San Antonio to Insp. II, OAI Austin; Stephen Brent Crossley, Tr. IV, CVE Huntsville to Sgt., Aircraft Austin.

Texas Rangers
Dusty Musgrove McCord, Sgt., Rangers Lubbock to Lt., Rangers Austin.

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Admin.
Michael J. Smith, Tr. III, HP Houston to Sgt., Training Florence.

DLD
James Lucky, Tr. IV, DLD Houston to Sgt., DLD Hurst.

Retirements
Bruce Wayne Tabor, Capt., MVT Midland, 28 yrs., 5 mos., 3 days; Nolan Glenn Metz, Insp. II, OAI Austin, 23 yrs., 2 mos., 17 days; Rodger Mark Sassman, Lt., Training Austin, 22 yrs., 21 days; Gloria Jean Bownds, Clerk, Accident Rec. Austin, 20 yrs., 3 mos.; Charles Richard Eichhorn, Sgt., DLD El Paso, 29 yrs., 9 mos.

Deaths