

DIGEST

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011 ISSUE • VOLUME 45, NO. 5 • COURTEOUS VIGILANCE



**Kawasaki bikes make
big return to the DPS
motorcycle district**

See story on page 16 >>



The Digest is published bi-monthly by the DPS Community Outreach and Education Program for DPS employees and retirees.

Employees and retirees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted to The Digest by mail (mail drop 3350), e-mail (jjertson@azdps.gov) or telephone (602-223-2545).

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The Digest can be accessed directly from the DPS World Wide Web home page at <http://www.azdps.gov/digest>

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VANTAGE POINT

Robert C. Halliday, Director

On Friday, October 28, I informed you (DPS employees) that I had promoted DPS Major James McGuffin to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and that he would be replacing Jack Hegarty as the head of our agency's Highway Patrol Division.

As the new head of HPD, Lt. Col. James McGuffin brings a wealth of law enforcement experience, integrity and proven leadership skills to the job.

He will run the high-profile division with his own tried and tested management formula and style, but I have advised him not to unwind any of the effective traffic-safety programs and other successful initiatives that were spearheaded by Hegarty. Where possible, those programs and initiatives will continue and simply become part of McGuffin's command.

Fortunately, Hegarty's exceptional work ethic and intellect will continue to be utilized at DPS as he begins his new assignment as the head of our Advanced Training Section.

Hegarty's movement to this new position at our agency will be part of a much larger shift I am making to ensure all of our top managers are assigned to areas where their skills will be best utilized.

Discussions are still ongoing at the Executive Staff level as to who else will be transferred and where they will be assigned. As soon as the transfer list is finalized, it will be shared with employees.

Aside from working through the change of command in the Highway Patrol Division and the shifting of key man-



agers to new assignments, the Director's Office will continue to communicate with state legislators as they prepare for the upcoming legislative session that is set to begin in January.

This upcoming legislative session will be critical for our agency because the results of the session will determine, in large part, how we will be able to respond to the

very serious challenges we are facing.

Ahead of the session, we will continue to illustrate for our lawmakers just how difficult it is for DPS to maintain its historical service levels to the public with fewer and fewer officers and civilian employees.

Not to mention, we are working hard to illustrate for our lawmakers just how far the salaries of both our sworn and civilian personnel have fallen behind where they need to be.

Significant pay issues at DPS are making it difficult for us to hold onto the people we still have, especially in the officer ranks and in areas like our Information Technology Bureau and Crime Laboratory System.

While we will continue to educate the legislature on what our agency's needs are, especially in terms of employee salaries, we are also leaving no option unexplored internally as to how we can keep our good employees with us and working without frustration or low morale.

As we continue to battle through what is proving to be one of the most challenging periods in our agency's history, I ask for your continued support, resilience and patience. Together, I am confident we can weather this very lengthy storm.

McGuffin named new head of the Highway Patrol Division at DPS

The 25-year DPS veteran replaces Jack Hegarty in the key position at agency

Shortly before noon on Friday, October 28, DPS Director Robert Halliday issued a statement to DPS employees informing them that, effective immediately, he had promoted Major James McGuffin to the rank of Lt. Colonel.

With his promotion, Halliday said McGuffin would be assuming command of the Highway Patrol Division (HPD), replacing Jack Hegarty.

As the new head of the HPD, McGuffin brings extensive law enforcement and management experience to the key position with DPS.

In his 25 plus years with the agency, he has held assignments in each of the Department's operational and support divisions. He is also a 2004 graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

McGuffin joined DPS in July of 1986. His first duty assignment was as a highway patrol officer stationed in Quartzsite. After 14 months in Quartzsite, he transferred to Wickenburg where, in 1992, he was promoted to sergeant.

As a sergeant, McGuffin remained in Wickenburg as the area highway patrol su-



Lt. Col. James McGuffin

pervisor until 1998.

At that time, he was promoted to lieutenant and was assigned to the Gang Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission (GITEM). While in this position, he oversaw three squads of gang enforcement detectives in the metro Phoenix area along with a Financial Crimes squad and a Liquor

Enforcement squad.

Eventually, the GITEM district included three additional squads of gang detectives across northern Arizona.

In 2002, McGuffin transferred to the Vehicle Theft Task Force overseeing six squads of auto theft detectives around the state.

In 2004, he was assigned as the Department's Internal Affairs commander where he became responsible for overseeing investigative sergeants conducting administrative investigations of alleged officer misconduct.

In 2006, McGuffin was promoted to the rank of commander and assigned as the Chief of Staff for the Criminal Justice Support Division. In June of 2009, McGuffin assumed command of the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy.

In February 2010, McGuffin was reassigned by incoming Director Robert Halliday to join his staff as the Executive Officer, working out of the Director's Office.

During his career at DPS, McGuffin has chaired committees internally and sat as a member of the Governor's Drug and Gang Policy Committee.

Open Enrollment

Last day is tomorrow!

During Open Enrollment, all DPS employees have the opportunity to make changes to their benefits for the plan year beginning January 1, 2012. The last day of Open Enrollment, which is taking place right now, will be Friday, November 18.

Action is only required if you are electing a medical flexible spending and/or dependent care flexible spending account. All other benefits will automatically continue if you do not take action. To enroll and/or obtain more information please visit:

<http://benefitoptions.az.gov>



All tribal TLO school

ACTIC holds its first ever “all tribal” Terrorism Liaison Officer School

Work with Arizona tribes is helping ACTIC complete its information sharing network

by Kellen Chavez, Digest Staff Writer

On Sept. 11, this country observed the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that forever changed the United States and its approach to homeland security.

In the 10 years since the attacks, law enforcement, fire, military and other security agencies have placed unprecedented emphasis on the importance of inter-agency information sharing and proactive measures that ensure a tragedy on the scale of 9/11 does not happen again.

Gov. Janet Napolitano gave DPS a decree to establish a fusion center in 2004, which became the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC) and serves as the state’s fusion hub for information sharing and incident prevention.

For all its accomplishments in seven years, however, ACTIC took a significant step forward this year.

In an effort to further expand the fusion center’s information sharing and functional capabilities, ACTIC finally formed a collaborative relationship with the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) in February of this year.

On Sept. 12, 2011, just a day after the 9/11 ten-year anniversary, ACTIC hosted its first “all tribal” Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) School at Wild Horse Pass Casino.

DPS Sgt. Tim Bolger said, “ACTIC operates on an all-crimes, all-hazards approach. Henceforth, having those tribal entities and being able to report events and incidents that come through the tribes is just another component of the TLO Program and ACTIC’s information sharing environment. With the addition of our tribal TLOs it completes the circle of all agencies from federal, county, city and state in addition to tribal.”

The September school, which lasted five days and is a 40-hour course, graduated 16 law enforcement and fire personnel from nine different tribal agencies from around Arizona.

Opened on Oct. 1, 2004, ACTIC, which DPS manages, sought to establish a 24/7 intelligence and information

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Photos by Dick Parkans



Shown above are a few photos taken at ACTIC’s first “all tribal” Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) School. The week-long school, which commenced Sept. 12, produced 16 graduates from various tribal agencies.





Proud graduates

Shown above are the graduates from ACTIC's first ever "all tribal" Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) School. The week-long school began just one day after the 10 year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States.

TLO school . . .

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analysis center to serve as the central hub to facilitate the collection, analysis and dissemination of crime and terrorism-related information."

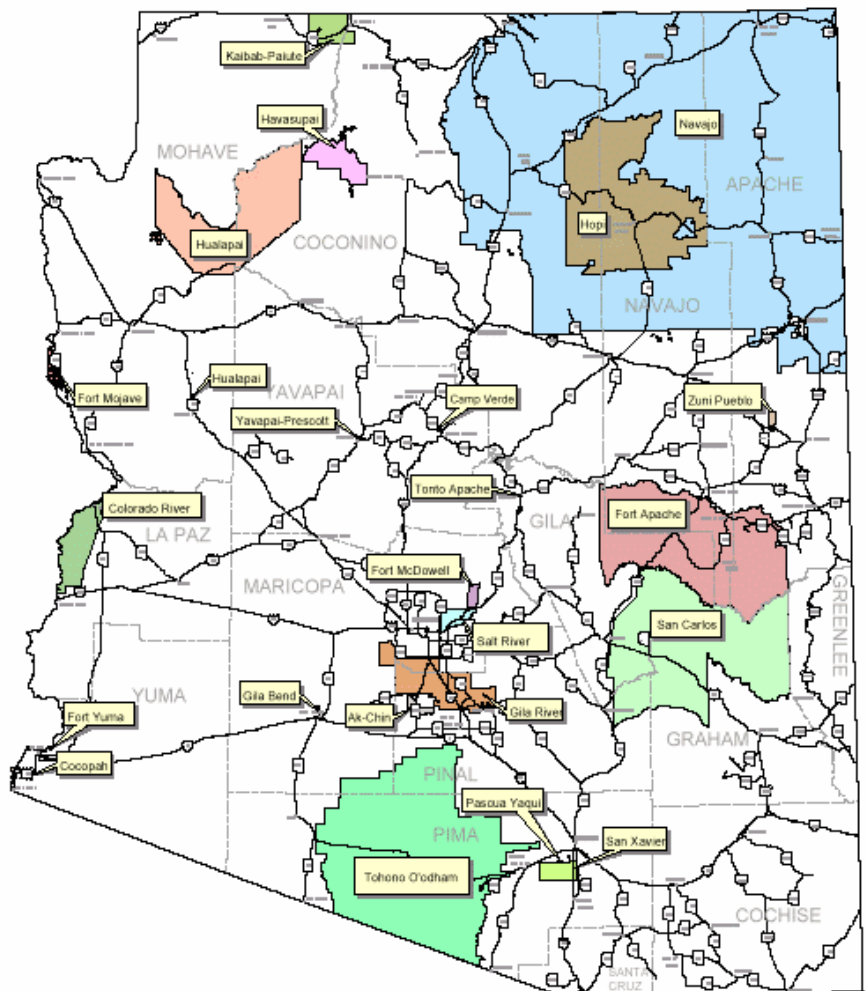
Going hand in hand with that mission, ACTIC established the TLO Program to develop liaisons between the federal, state, local, tribal and private sector entities performing threat vulnerability assessments and incident response.

"Arizona is one of the only states that is putting on more than a 24-hour block of [TLO] training. Arizona has one of the most comprehensive programs and we usually have attendees from across the nation. Arizona's TLO Program is considered a premier program and has received national recognition as top TLO program in 2008 at the National Fusion Center Conference. This is just another step in maintaining that edge and keeping the program on the forefront," Bolger said.

To qualify for the program, which is a 40-hour Arizona POST-accredited course, one must be a law enforcement officer, military, sworn firefighter or work as an analyst for a law enforcement agency.

The process of including tribal nations in the information-sharing network began in 2009 when the Department of Home-

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Many tribes, many partners

Each of the 21 federally recognized tribes in Arizona (some identified on the map above) will play an important role in the ACTIC information sharing process.

TLO school . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

land Security coordinated with the Tohono O'odham Tribe to get the first law enforcement officer from their agency into the TLO Program.

However, with 21 federally recognized tribes in Arizona, ACTIC saw the need for tribal inclusion on a much larger scale.

Bolger said, "Historically [Arizona tribes] been reluctant to share information because of sovereignty issues. But the whole [TLO] Program promotes trust within the network and fuses the information within network."

Also in 2009, a TLO conducted a strategic planning session for the Fort McDowell Tribal Nation.

Over the course of the next two years, ACTIC attended many ITCA and Indian Country Intelligence Network (ICIN) meetings to conduct presentations on the benefits of opening lines of communication between tribal agencies and ACTIC.

With Arizona's unfortunate history of border violence and criminal activity, opening lines of communications between those tribes situated on the border and ACTIC could prove vital in the future.

"Maj. [Michael] Orose went out and gave these presentations to show the tribes that [ACTIC] is not a big mystery. We're about information sharing and the tribes

can give us what they think is beneficial and have a representative in the center that can monitor and pass on that information."

Orose also gave an extensive presentation to other fusion center directors in mid-September in Las Vegas on the success Arizona had in providing TLO training to the tribes. With Arizona's unfortunate history of border violence and criminal activity, opening lines of communication between those tribes situated on the border and ACTIC could prove vital in the future.

On Oct. 12 and 13, ACTIC TLO Detective Bob Gilbert conducted a strategic planning session for the tribes in Prescott, Arizona to solidify the ICIN membership. There were many members and partners within the TLO Program that continue to contribute to making the Arizona TLO Program an example to follow in the nation.

Bolger added that by the start of next year the goal is to have full-time tribal representation in ACTIC and within a year of that have analyst presence there as well.

DPS detective's documentation of gang tattoos pays off

Proves officers should thoroughly document criminal info for police intelligence databases

by Kellen Chavez, Digest Staff Writer

On the morning of Aug. 4, Phoenix Police Department (PPD) officers were involved in a shooting with a local gang member that resulted in two officers being shot and the gang member being wounded.

In an effort to identify the wounded gang member as soon as possible, officers attempted facial recognition on him from the hospital.

Quickly identifying the gang member was of vital importance because it was feared that other Phoenix area cops could be targeted as part of gang retaliation for the shooting.

Unfortunately, a medical breathing apparatus covered the man's face making facial recognition impossible at the time.

At 10:50 a.m., PPD Detective Ken Stefanisin contacted the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC) and relayed information regarding two of the suspect's distinguishing tattoos, one that read "MS" on his stomach and one on his back that read "Brown by the Grace of God."

ACTIC Facial Recognition Unit Analyst Supervisor Pat Bristow said, "My

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Gang tattoos

Because DPS Detective Chet Gray took the time in 2008 to thoroughly document and photograph the tattoos of a gang member, the Phoenix Police Department was able to quickly identify a gang member involved in a recent Phoenix PD shooting incident. The quick identification helped keep officers safe.

“

Quickly identifying the gang member was of vital importance because it was feared that other Phoenix area cops could be targeted as part of gang retaliation for the shooting.

”

Gang tattoos . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

operator came to me and I said let's look through the CopLink and GangNet databases. And in both of those [databases] the results with those identifying marks came back with two individuals.

“The GangNet result had pictures in there of the tattoos and then we were able to see that not only did he have those two tattoos that were mentioned, but there were



19 others.”

The GangNet pictures had been filed by DPS Detective Chet Gray when he filled out an exhaustive Gang Member Identification Card (GMIC) for Michael Alvarez in 2008.

Of the 19 other tattoos that covered Alvarez's body, it was a teardrop below his left eye that led to his absolute identification. Back in 2008, Detective Gray had photographed each and every tattoo during the contact.

Bristow said, “The initial call came in at 10:50 a.m. and we provided them with a positive identification by 11:15 a.m. This shows how resourceful we've become in law enforcement with the databases that we have to look for information.

“The key to this whole thing was not just the diligence on my operator's part but the comprehensive details that came from the Gang Member Identification Card (GMIC). If that card hadn't been done so thoroughly on this subject in 2008, they might have been waiting hours for identification in this case.”

DPS Capt. Bob Smart added, “Gang-Net worked and we were able to quickly identify this guy. Detective Gray should be commended for completing the Gang Member Identification Card (GMIC) with such detail back in 2008. His work back then paid off and the results should serve as a reminder to all officers of just how important it is to thoroughly document the criminal information that ends up in our intelligence databases, such as GangNet and RISS Intell. If we don't put detailed information in those databases, we won't be able to harness the power they can provide to investigators.”

DPS Criminalist honored for his contributions to DUI enforcement

He has processed blood specimens for almost every DUI officer in Southern Arizona



DPS Criminalist Seth Ruskin (right) receives his plaque from an official with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

At a large banquet hosted by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) on Tuesday, October 11, DPS employee Seth Ruskin was honored for his significant contributions to southern Arizona DUI enforcement. Ruskin is a Criminalist III assigned to the Southern Regional Crime Laboratory in Tucson.

The honor he received at the banquet was a plaque awarded by MADD to those who are “heroes” in the fight against drunk driving. Ruskin was determined to be a “hero” by MADD as a result of the work he performs at DPS's Crime Lab in Tucson.

Specifically, Ruskin has processed more blood specimens for alcohol in a single year than any other DUI criminalist at the four DPS Regional Crime Laboratories combined. In addition, he has processed blood specimens for almost every DUI officer in southern Arizona. Also helping Ruskin earn his recent honor from MADD is the fact that he is known for his excellent court testimony and has assisted in training many new DUI prosecutors.

A total of 17 DUI officers, three DUI prosecutors and one outstanding DUI criminalist were honored at the event. One of the officers honored by MADD for making major contributions towards DUI enforcement was DPS Officer Brian Shaw. The next issue of The Digest will highlight Shaw's accomplishments in the fight against drunk driving.

Remembering DPS Pilot Matt Uhl

At his Sept. 27 funeral services, Uhl was remembered for his flying skills, humility and the love he had for his family

Matthew E. Uhl

DPS Rotary Wing Pilot
1965 - 2011



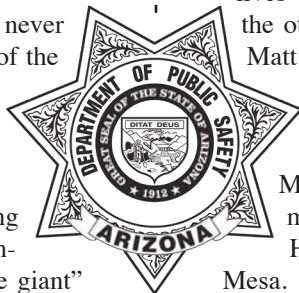
by Jim Jertson
DPS Publications Editor

Several hundred mourners, consisting of friends, relatives, family members and co-workers, paid homage to DPS Rotary Wing Pilot Matthew E. Uhl, of Chandler, during a touching funeral service Sept. 27 at St. Timothy's Catholic Church in Mesa.

Throughout the 60-minute service, Matt was remembered for his world-class flying capabilities, devotion to his family, quick wit, love of his job at DPS and ability to learn new skills quickly.

It was also noted how Matt never liked getting recognition for all of the lifesaving rescues he helped pull off, how he loved extreme challenges, and how he rarely, if ever, complained.

All of Matt's traits, including his devotion to God, were mentioned as the reasons the "gentle giant" earned so much respect from his coworkers at DPS and his peers in the aviation community.



On Sept. 20, at 8:41 p.m., the 46-year-old Arizona native was killed in a head-on car crash on a two-lane stretch of U.S. 93 about 12 miles north of Wickenburg. At the time of the crash, Matt was en route to Kingman in a DPS vehicle to cover a shift with Western Air Rescue.

A civilian pilot with DPS since August of 2006, who had logged more than 5,000 hours flying helicopters, Matt was regularly assigned to the agency's Central Air Rescue Unit based out of Phoenix.

The head-on crash also claimed the lives of the driver and passenger of the other vehicle which had entered Matt's northbound lane in an apparent attempt to pass slower traffic.

The church services for Matt were followed by a committal ceremony at the Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery in Mesa.

An impressive funeral procession led by more than two-dozen DPS motorcycle

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An Old Friend

by **Matthew E. Uhl**
in 1982

I have carried it with me each day: that morning I walked the last ten miles up the Grand Canyon.

As I looked back from time to time, I saw the narrow twisting trail below me.

The roar of the river was lost at this height as I moved like a pencil in the hand of a five-year-old trying to learn his abc's.

I looked up to the rim and saw the life of the earth rising, saw for the first time how the sun is like seeing an old friend.

Matt Uhl . . .

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officers escorted mourners and Matt's remains from the church to the cemetery.

At the cemetery, following formal tributes by the DPS Honor Guard and Catholic clergy, DPS Director Robert Halliday presented Matt's wife, Nancy, with an Arizona flag in honor of her late husband and his service to the citizens of Arizona.

The flag presentation was followed by other touching tributes to Matt, including a breathtaking "flyover" by law enforcement and medical transport helicopters.

Also a key part of Matt's graveside services was the DPS Air Rescue helicopter which was parked just a short distance away from the ceremony.

It served as a colorful backdrop and reminder to mourners of the aircraft Matt loved flying so much. The DPS helicopter later took off from the cemetery and did a slow final flight over Matt's gravesite.

A visitation for Matt was conducted the night before the funeral and committal ceremony at Lakeshore Mortuary in Mesa.

As an additional tribute to Matt, Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer issued an official statement about him on the day of his funeral.

"Today was a difficult day for the Arizona law enforcement community, which said goodbye to one of its own," Brewer said in her statement. "Matt was a highly-respected and well liked civilian pilot for DPS. He will be greatly missed by his co-

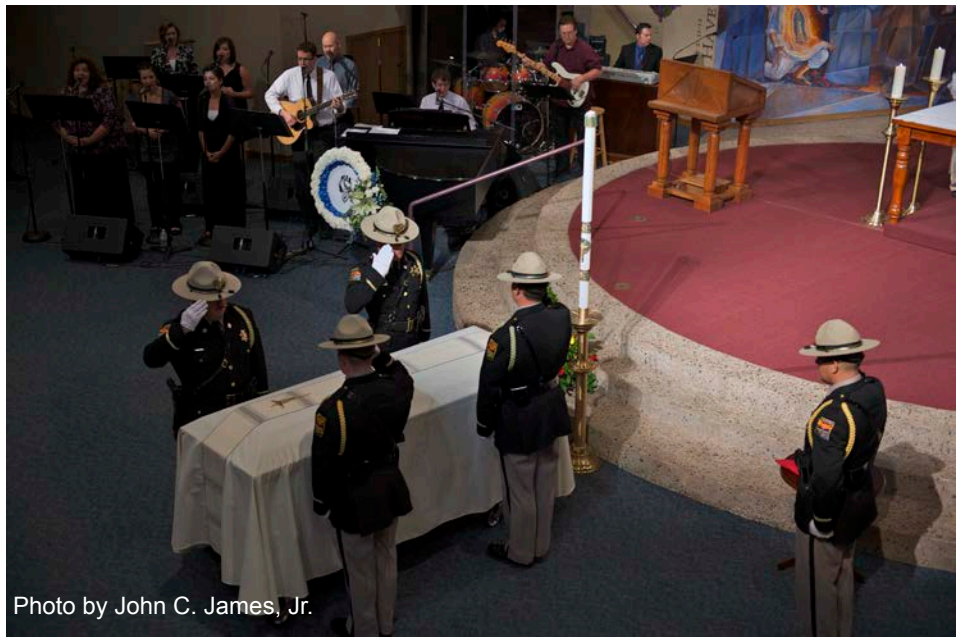


Photo by John C. James, Jr.

Paying tribute

Members of the DPS Honor Guard are shown above participating in the funeral services held for Matt Uhl on Sept. 27. Several hundred mourners attended the services which began at St. Timothy's Catholic Church in Mesa.

why such a good man like Matt could be allowed to lose his life at such a young age and so unexpectedly.

"God did not intend for Matt to die so soon and God did not will that he be taken from us," Goraieb said. "But somehow God allowed for it to happen. While we try to make sense of that, we should know that Matt has fulfilled his destiny because he is now in complete union with the Father, Son

to face. You will be joined again."

Friend and fellow DPS Rotary Wing Pilot Hunter French also spoke at the services about Matt.

French told those in attendance, "Matt was simply the best at what he did. He made flying seem effortless."

French also told those at the church services about an amazing rescue mission Matt had recently completed for DPS.

"During this particular mission just last month near Sedona, Matt completed more technical rescues in one day than most rescue pilots complete in an entire

year," French said. "When I later asked Matt about the mission, he simply said it was 'fun'."

French also spoke about how much Matt loved his family and how he had a passion for taking them on sailing trips.

"Matt's family sailing trips were the envy of everyone in Air Rescue," French said. "We all knew not to even think about scheduling vacation time that conflicted with Matt's sailing trips."

French, trying to hold back tears, delivered what was perhaps his best tribute to

The priest said Matt may have truly loved the spectacular views he had from the helicopters he flew, but nothing compares to the views he now has from heaven.

workers, and my heart breaks for his wife and four children. I ask that you take a moment to say a prayer for Matt and the other victims of this terrible accident."

It was during the actual church services, however, that Matt's character and positive impact on the lives of others was revealed through those who delivered tributes to him.

Father Charles Goraieb, a Catholic priest, spoke at the services about Matt's enduring faith in God, his family and community.

Goraieb also tried to shed light on

and Holy Spirit."

Goraieb added that while Matt may have truly loved the spectacular views he had from the helicopters he flew, nothing compares to the view he now has from heaven.

The priest also told Matt's four children that their father is not gone.

"You may not see your father in this world, but he is not gone from you," Goraieb said. "When you ask for his hand, or tell him that you are doing something for him, he is there. And then one day, God willing, you will see your father again face

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Matt Uhl . .

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Matt at the end of his eulogy when he said, "The world was definitely a much cooler place with Matt in it. I am going to miss him."

The official funeral program handed out at the services noted that Matt also "loved to cook while listening to Jimmy Buffet and having a couple of beers". In addition, the program pointed out the fact that Matt made daily sunsets a family celebration.

Matt's life, which he obviously lived to the fullest, began on Jan. 14, 1965, in Wilcox, Arizona. He was the second of three children born to David and Mary Ann Uhl. His family moved to Globe when he was 3 years old.

He met Nancy, his high school sweetheart, while attending Globe High School. They married on June 7, 1986.

Matt eventually began training to be a helicopter pilot. Once he obtained his license, he completed the necessary flying hours for a "real" pilot job by flying as a tour guide in Alaska and the Grand Canyon.

Matt eventually began flying for Native Air and then went to work for Channel 5 news where he flew the station's helicopter and reported the news in Phoenix.

He left Channel 5 in 2006 to begin working for DPS, which he considered a dream job.

Matt was preceded in death by his father David and his sister Jeannie. He leaves behind his wife of 25 years, Nancy Ward Uhl; children Jacob, Kyle, Savannah and Shane; his mother Mary Ann Uhl and his brother David Xina Uhl.

Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to a memorial fund established in memory of Matt at Wells Fargo Bank, account number 7245461673.



Photos by John C. James, Jr.

Flyover

DPS personnel are shown above saluting at the graveside portion of Matt Uhl's Sept. 27 funeral services while four helicopters complete a ceremonial flyover.



Flag presentation and salute

DPS Director Robert Halliday is shown above saluting Matt Uhl's wife and children after presenting them with an Arizona flag at the graveside portion of Matt's Sept. 27 funeral services.

Gunman fires upon DPS SWAT Officers working in the Vekol Valley area

Several shots were fired at DPS SWAT officers on the morning of Sept. 16 as they were working with the U.S. Border Patrol on a human- and drug-smuggling operation in the Vekol Valley area.

“It was an ambush,” said DPS Spokesman/Officer Carrick Cook. “The officers were just merely walking back to the command post.”

Officers fired back at the shooter, but no one was injured in the exchange that took place just before 6 a.m. near Stanfield off of Interstate 8.

The shooter ran away, and DPS officers, Border Patrol agents and Pinal County Sheriff’s deputies organized a foot search. Several helicopters also assisted in the search, including the DPS Air Rescue helicopter out of Phoenix.

When the DPS helicopter arrived on scene, it utilized its thermal imaging technology to assist in the effort of finding the shooter. Also assisting was a helicopter from the Arizona National Guard and a U.S. Border Patrol Blackhawk helicopter.

Officers eventually found a person of interest while scouring the nearby desert. That person was taken into custody so DPS officers could determine if he was involved. During the search of the desert, officers also recovered a handgun and drugs.

The DPS Special Investigations Unit (SIU) out of Phoenix is handling the critical incident investigation and the DPS General Investigations Unit (GIU) is handling the criminal investigation.

DPS Officer receives lifesaving certificate from Phoenix PD

Officer’s actions on freeway helped prevent suicidal man from jumping to his death

The Phoenix Police Department recently presented DPS Highway Patrol Officer Andrew Barmore with a lifesaving certificate for his actions involving a suicidal man on State Route 202.

The suicidal man, who was struck by a car, was being treated by Barmore and Officers from the Phoenix Police Department when, without warning, the man got up and attempted to jump over the freeway barrier wall.

Barmore, along with other Officers, played a key role in grabbing and restraining the man, ultimately preventing him from jumping and falling a distance of over 50 feet.

Barmore, who is assigned to the Highway Patrol in Metro East, has been an officer with DPS since December of 2005.



Andrew Barmore

Commemorative Badge

DPS employees and retirees can buy Centennial badges

Orders for the stylish badges must be received by Dec. 1



The Fraternal Order of Police, the DPS Retiree’s Coalition and the Arizona Highway Patrol Association have teamed together with V.H. Blackinton & Co. Inc. to bring all DPS employees and retirees an opportunity to purchase limited edition badges commemorating Arizona’s Centennial. All profits from the sale of the Centennial badges will be donated to the DPS History Museum.

Employees and retirees can choose among three different types of badges when placing their order. All badge choices have the exact same style elements (like the badge shown above with this article) but can be customized to say Arizona Highway Patrol, Department of Public Safety, or Arizona Capitol Police.

Badges can also be personalized with an employee’s badge number and rank, to include Civilian, at no extra charge. The badges are detailed, Hi-Glo badges with an accenting copper anniversary seal. The badges also feature a solid back, a safety catch attachment, and are presented in a rich blue velour case.

For sworn personnel, the badges are approved for uniform wear during the Centennial. Order forms are available on the DPS intranet or from representatives of the FOP, AHPA, and the DPS Retiree’s Coalition. Orders for the badges must be received by December 1, 2011.

The cost per badge is \$57 which includes shipping, handling, taxes and a display case. E-mail questions to: cstubblefield@azdps.gov

Alexis Vega

The helping hands of a law enforcement family



Alexis Vega

When DPS Det. Raul Vega lost a child on Sept. 25, 2011, there were plenty of helping hands ready to assist

by Michael D. Bonin
DPS Sergeant (retired)

On September 21, 2011, I was contacted by one of my past employees at DPS, Rich Wood, and advised that DPS Detective Raul Vega was in need of financial assistance.

Vega's youngest child, Alexis, had been battling leukemia over the past three years and he was given some of the worst news a parent could ever receive. Unfortunately, Detective Vega and his wife were advised by doctors that Alexis was losing her battle with this ugly disease. Alexis lost her courageous battle on September 25, 2011.

I immediately rose to the challenge of locating financial assistance for the Vega family. After all, they were going to need help handling a variety of medical- and funeral-related expenses as they struggled with the unimaginable

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Alexis Vega, 11, touched scores of lives in her short, yet impactful life. She is mourned by many, including the more than 600 people who attended a ceremonial balloon release in her honor shortly after she passed. The balloon release was held at Legacy Traditional School in Maricopa where Alexis attended and where her mother, Mia Vega, is a teacher.



Alexis Vega . .

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grief of losing a child.

My first instinct was to prepare a letter to the American Association of State Troopers (AAST). I have been a member of this organization for over nine years and they were created to provide additional benefits and brotherhood assistance to troopers in need.

I sent a letter to Mr. Ken Howes, Executive Director, and immediately heard that funds would be provided to assist with this tragic situation. The AAST and its members, troopers from all over the United States, raised over \$8,700 for the Vega family. Detective Vega is not a member of this association and still troopers from across the United States immediately responded with their donations for someone they had never met.

I prepared an additional letter for the 100 Club of Arizona and immediately heard from Mrs. Sharon Knutson-Felix that funds would be provided to the Vega

As tragic as this event was for the Vega family, it is easy to see that when you are a member of the law enforcement community you are never alone in your time of crisis or need.

family. Mrs. Knutson-Felix advised that the Heroes/Special Needs Request Form would need to be completed by a current employee of DPS as I was retired.

I immediately contacted DPS Detective Rich Wood and asked him to prepare the document. The 100 Club of Arizona acted swiftly and a \$1,000 check was ready to be picked up the same day.

I was not the only person who stepped

up to the challenge of garnering funds to assist the Vega family. DPS Captain Andy Vasquez, Central Gang District Commander, garnered donations from personnel assigned to the Gang Enforcement Bureau. He also garnered donations from other DPS employees and the Arizona Highway Patrol Association. In the end, Vasquez was able to collect over \$3,300.

Detective Jim Hill, a Scottsdale PD officer assigned to GIITEM, garnered a \$500 donation from the Police Officers of Scottsdale Association on behalf of the Vega family. In addition, DPS Detective John Barcello received a \$1,000 donation from his father-in-law. As tragic as this event was for the Vega family, it is easy to see that when you are a member of the law enforcement community you are never alone in your time of crisis or need.

Your fellow brethren will never turn their back on you. I was amazed to see so many groups and individuals willing to assist a fellow trooper and from their efforts over \$14,000 dollars was raised for the Vega family.

DPS Officer's son starts non-profit to help wounded war veterans

Anthony Ameen suffered catastrophic war injuries in 2008 and now fights for other injured vets

Over three years have passed since Anthony Ameen, son of DPS Officer Rusty Ameen, was critically injured while serving with the U.S. military in Afghanistan.

Ameen, an eight-year Hospital corpsman in the U.S. Navy, suffered his injuries in July 2008 when he was attached with a Marines unit when they were engaged in a firefight with the Taliban in Afghanistan's Helmand Province.

The firefight that ensued turned out to be a decisive victory for the American units, but Anthony was called up on his radio immediately after the firefight to aid a fellow Marine who had been severely wounded during the action.

While Anthony ran across a dirt field to attend to the wounded soldier, he stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED) and was severely injured. The explosion threw Anthony about 12 feet in the air.

His injuries included a severed left foot and massive damage to both legs as well as his left hand. He has needed 32 surgeries in all and had his left leg amputated below the knee.

As documented in a recent article in



Former U.S. President George W. Bush (left) and Anthony Ameen.

the Arizona Republic, however, Ameen has not let the hardship of his injuries deter him from making an impact on the world.

In March, he founded Wings for Warriors, a non-profit volunteer-driven organization that "helps ensure that our combat wounded Iraq and Afghanistan War veterans returning home, or transitioning into

the realm of their disabilities, are getting the adequate healthcare and financial benefits that they deserve."

Ameen told the Republic, "The idea took off a lot faster than I'd anticipated, and thankfully a great deal of light has been shed on a dark situation."

The organization has already locked down a title sponsor in PepsiCo, which umbrellas Pepsi, Frito Lay, Tropicana, Quaker and Gatorade.

Ameen has also appeared on the NBC talk show "Last Call with Carson Daly," to promote the Wings for Warriors mission.

The Republic piece noted that Wings for Warriors, "offers guidance and counseling in dealing with military and governmental entities to secure health care, financial and legal benefits.... [and] offers families financial assistance for visiting wounded loved ones throughout the U.S."

In other words, the organization will help recovering veterans navigate their way through government red tape and bureaucracy in search of benefits and support. The Wings for Warriors website can be viewed at wingsforwarriors.org.

Memorial Hike

Group pays homage to Bruce Harrolle through memorial hiking event on Bear Mountain

Oct. 13 marked three years since DPS Officer/Paramedic Bruce Harrolle tragically lost his life in a helicopter rescue accident on the side of Bear Mountain near Sedona.

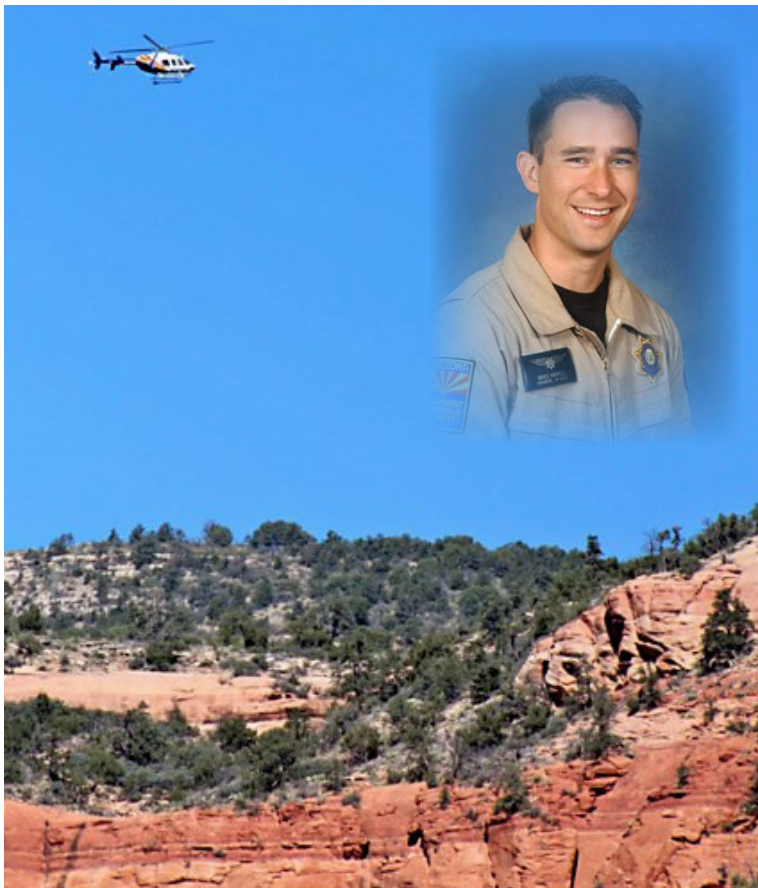
For the third year in a row, in honor of Harrolle's memory, a large group of family, friends and former DPS coworkers gathered for a hike to and from the accident site.

"Fortunately, rather than dwelling on the loss of Bruce to our family, we have been able to focus this time to get together with family, friends, and the public safety community," said Bruce's widow, Angela, of the hike.

About 30 people turned out for the hike, which began at 9 a.m. on Oct. 13 and covered nearly two miles to reach the accident site. The weather was warm and breezy making the hike enjoyable for all.

Once hikers gathered at the accident site, the DPS Ranger helicopter from Flagstaff did a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The DPS Ranger helicopter from Flagstaff can be seen conducting a ceremonial fly over during the Bruce Harrolle memorial hiking event on Oct. 13; the group of hikers gather for a photo prior to ascending Bear Mountain; a few of the hikers traverse a flat spot prior to beginning a more strenuous portion of their hike on Bear Mountain.

Harrolle hike . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

ceremonial flyover. Some hikers then paid tribute to Harrolle through reflection and story sharing.

There is a plaque positioned near the accident site that acknowledges Harrolle's memory. Each person hiked at his or her own pace and then gathered for a BBQ once everyone returned from the site.

Among the many folks attending the event was Bruce's widow, Angela, and Bruce's two children, Addison, age 7, and Justice, age 5. Also in attendance were Bruce's parents and several of his other family members. Many of those in attendance wore special t-shirts designed to commemorate the event and honor Bruce's memory.



IIMPACT receives lofty award from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

The DPS administered task force was recognized for supporting the ICE mission and greatly contributing to immigration enforcement

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Director John Morton recently chose the DPS administered Illegal Immigration Prevention and Apprehension Co-Op Team (IIMPACT) to be a recipient of his agency's prestigious Inter-agency Award.

IIMPACT is a cutting edge, multi-agency task force made up of personnel from DPS, the Phoenix Police Department and ICE.

The group was awarded the ICE Inter-agency Award on Oct. 5 for its support of the ICE mission and its major contributions to immigration enforcement within the Phoenix metropolitan area.

The group was also given the award for its exceptional cooperation and collaboration with ICE.

A letter was recently sent from ICE to DPS Director Robert Halliday congratulating him on IIMPACT receiving the award.

The letter states, "IIMPACT exemplifies the relationships that both promote

joint initiatives and improves intergovernmental programs and relations. The ICE Interagency Award demonstrates the dedication of your employees and their commitment to strong law enforcement partnerships."

Several individual DPS employees were named in the award documentation for their roles within IIMPACT.

Named for their contributions to IIMPACT were the following DPS employees: Capt. Robert Smart, Sergeant Mark Hoerrmann, Detectives David Rafael, Mark Biver, Rod Ferguson, Joe Delgado and

John Begley, as well as Detention Transport Officers Erik Ibanez and Frank Valenzuela.

IIMPACT's mission is to utilize innovative and strategic investigative methods to deter, disrupt and dismantle violent criminal organizations engaged in human smuggling activities in the greater Phoenix and Maricopa County areas.



The last day DPS employees were allowed to make an online contribution to the State Employees Charitable Campaign (SECC) was Thursday, Nov. 10. However, official SECC paper pledge forms could still be turned into DPS Capt. Heather Holley up until Monday, Nov. 14.

While the pledge drive portion of the SECC is winding down at DPS, the agency's fun and creative fundraising efforts for the campaign are just around the corner.

Several future SECC fundraising events are planned at DPS that will directly benefit various SECC charities, including:

- The DPS Salsa Challenge on Nov. 17
- The DPS Bake Sale and Breakfast Extravaganza on Dec. 1
- The DPS Chili Cook-off and Basket Raffle on Dec. 8

New Kawasaki photos, including Digest cover photo, were taken by John C. James, Jr.



DPS Motor Officers Jesus Reyes (left) and Jacob Pruet motor through Phoenix's Deck Park Tunnel atop their new Kawasaki bikes. In the inset photo, a classic Kawasaki is shown next to retired DPS Sgt. Ken Goodall.

The grand return of the Kawasaki to DPS

The brand synonymous with the historic, classic image of an Arizona Highway Patrol motorcycle returns to DPS with a new model both motor officers and budget-conscious managers love

by DPS Officer Carrick Cook
Public Information Officer

Diligence and determination recently paved the way for a new motorcycle in the DPS Motor District. In August of this year, Kawasaki made its triumphant return to the agency.

The historic image of an Arizona Highway Patrol motorcycle is the Kawasaki KZ 1000, a bike that is still being ridden today by motor officers all over the country.

In 2005, Kawasaki ceased its production of the KZ 1000 requiring agencies, including DPS, to look for a replacement.

In the search for a new type of motorcycle for its officers, it was imperative that DPS find a model with an anti-locking braking system (ABS). This was essential because most major highways in Arizona had been resurfaced with rubberized asphalt.

This new surface makes it difficult for motor officers to hear the ominous sound of the front-wheel locking up during extreme braking.

The BMW RT-1150 was eventually chosen by DPS as the replacement for the Kawasaki because of its advanced braking system and performance. Since that time, two other motorcycles with ABS have made appearances in the DPS Motor District - the BMW RT-1200 and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

Photo by John C. James, Jr.



DPS Motor Officer Jacob Pruet atop his new Kawasaki bike at a recent in-service training event in the Phoenix area.

Motors . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

the Honda ST-1300.

However, due to the high purchase price and maintenance costs associated with these motorcycles, another option was necessary at DPS.

In 2008, Kawasaki re-entered the police motorcycle market with the introduction of a new police bike - the Concourse 1400 police motorcycle. DPS Officer Jacob Pruet, a motor instructor, began researching the idea of using this new Kawasaki police bike as a DPS motorcycle.

During his research, he contacted several other agencies across the country to learn about their experiences with the bike.

His contacts with those agencies led him to discover a motorcycle dealership in Hayden, Idaho that would soon prove to be critical in bringing the Kawasaki back to DPS.

That dealership, Beaudry Motorsports, is the only authorized dealer to produce the police version of the Kawasaki Concourse 1400. It has outfitted the police motorcycle for law enforcement agencies across the country, including the Salt River Police Department here in Arizona.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Photo by John C. James, Jr.



DPS Motor Officer Jacob Pruet (above) played a key role in the process that brought the new Kawasaki bikes to DPS.

Motors . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Pruet obtained the purchase price, options and maintenance costs associated with the new Kawasaki for comparison to the BMW's and Hondas in use at DPS. He also obtained extensive information on the Concourse's performance ratings.

Pruet presented the results of his research to the commander of the DPS Motor District, Captain Burley Copeland, who found his research to be very encouraging. Armed with great information about the bike, Copeland ultimately decided to move forward with obtaining some of the Kawasakis for use at the agency.

In June of 2011, DPS took delivery of five of the new bikes. Just two months later, the bikes went into full DPS service on freeways in the Phoenix area.

Pruet was issued the first Kawasaki and is impressed with the bike so far.

"I was overtaken by the bike's overall performance," said Pruet, referring to the first time he rode the Concourse. "It was extremely easy to ride and the transition from the previous bike was simple."

Pruet has also had a very positive experience with Beaudry's customer service.

"Beaudry's customer service and willingness to help our agency has been great," Pruet said.

In comparison with the other bikes in use by DPS, the Kawasaki is about \$7,000 cheaper for each bike and maintenance costs are substantially less.

With the purchase price being so reasonable, DPS was able to buy five Kawasaki's for the price of four Honda ST-1300's.

Captain Burley Copeland is continuing to outfit his motor officers with the best equipment possible and has said, "We continue to re-evaluate our motorcycle fleet and, as of now, the Concourse appears to be the best option for our agency."

So far, the Kawasaki Concourse 1400 seems like a great fit in the DPS motor program and the agency is very grateful that Kawasaki has re-entered the police motorcycle market.



Photo by DPS Photo Lab



Classic Kawasakis

DPS Motor Officers relied upon the Kawasaki KZ 1000 bike (shown above) for many years. The bike became the classic image of a DPS motorcycle.

Photo by DPS Photo Lab



The workhorse

In 2005, Kawasaki ceased its production of the KZ 1000 bike (shown above), requiring police agencies, including DPS, to look for a replacement bike.

Ready to assist DPS employees

Department welcomes two new members to its growing chaplaincy program



Chris Reed



Roger Stressman

DPS recently welcomed two new chaplains into the Department's chaplaincy program, Chris Reed and Roger Stressman.

Chris Reed grew up in Owasso, Okla., and received his B.S. from Manhattan Christian College in Kansas. He received his M.A. from Hope International in Fullerton, Calif. When away from his DPS chaplain duties, he serves as executive pastor at Christ's Church of Flagstaff. With DPS, he will be assigned to District 2.

Roger Stressman graduated with a B.A. from North Central College in Naperville, IL, and a Master of Divinity Degree from The Evangelical Theological Seminary of Naperville, Ill.

He also earned his Doctor of Ministry degree at The School of Theology at Claremont, Calif.

He has served as an ordained minister since 1947, as a pastor and as a District superintendent for the United Methodist Church.

Now in his retirement, he also serves as a Chaplain for the Mesa Police Department and will be serving DPS employees in Metro East.

DPS chaplains are standing by near you

With 28 DPS chaplains now stationed throughout Arizona, Department employees will find it easier than ever to locate an agency chaplain who lives near their assigned area of the state. If you would like to find out who your nearest DPS chaplain is, you can do so from any DPS computer by clicking on the following link: <http://intranet/Home/cat.asp?cid=265> Once you have clicked on the link, which will take you to a page on the DPS Intranet, you can download and view the latest DPS chaplain roster that includes contact information for each chaplain. Employees can also contact the DPS Duty Office at (602) 223-2212 or call Terry Green, the supervising chaplain of the DPS chaplaincy program, at (520) 510-9805 to find out how to reach a chaplain in their area.

DPS chaplaincy program exists to help you

Currently, DPS has 28 chaplains serving across the state.

Each chaplain is a volunteer; many are actively serving full-time with a local congregation, others are retired ministers.

These men and women are trained at helping people through stressful and difficult times. In addition to their years of ministry experience, DPS chaplains have also been trained to serve within the law enforcement environment. In fact, many of them have prior military or law enforcement experience.

Chaplains are a safe and effective sounding board because they are sworn to protect the privacy of those who speak with them.

DPS employees and their family members can call on them when they need to vent, when they need advice or when they just need a friend.

The conversations DPS employees and their family members have with a chaplain are confidential.

DPS chaplains are good listeners and can share encouraging counsel. If a person's situation is more critical or chronic, some of the DPS chaplains are certified counselors to help DPS families with many personal and relationship needs.

DPS chaplains are often called upon to help at scenes by consoling victims, calming witnesses and by encouraging department employees and other first responders.

They frequently help with next of kin notifications, both assisting DPS employees and caring for traumatized family members.

Each chaplain is committed to serving and each is proud to be associated with the men and women of DPS.

Apocalyptic scene on Interstate 10

DPS Officers are put to the test after a blinding dust storm causes several massive pileups along Interstate 10 near Picacho Peak

A dust storm of epic proportions, with winds of up to 50 mph, traveled through the Picacho Peak area along Interstate 10 on Oct. 4. The storm, which lasted for several hours, caused several massive pileups along the major interstate involving dozens of vehicles. A man from Texas was killed in the series of crashes and more than a dozen people were injured.

“This was an abrupt, sudden dust storm that caused zero visibility and resulted in dozens of vehicles, including commercial trucks and passenger cars, slamming into one another in violent fashion,” said DPS Officer Carrick Cook. “The scenes looked like something from a horror movie or war zone.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



Photo by Officer Carrick Cook

LIKE A WAR ZONE: A DPS Motor Officer arrives at the scene of one of the massive dust-related pileups on Oct. 4.

Photo by Kelly Presnell/Arizona Daily Star



DPS Officer Carrick Cook tries to shield his face from blowing dust at the scene of one of the massive pileups that occurred Oct. 4 on Interstate 10. Cook, a public information officer, later spoke to the news media about the pileups.

Dust storm . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Numerous DPS Officers began to respond to the collisions as soon as the first emergency calls started coming in around noon.

However, dozens of first responders, including 20 DPS Officers, were slowed substantially in their attempt to get to the various scenes by the very dust storm that caused the pileups.

“Many DPS Officers were forced to drive through the wall of dust at speeds as low as 5 mph just to ensure safe arrival at the collision sites,” said Cook.

In fact, Cook said it took nearly two hours for many officers to work their way through the dust to find the grim reality of what happened.

“And things didn’t get any easier when officers arrived at the collision scenes,” Cook said.

Once officers actually made it to the crash sites, many were forced to wait out the blinding storm until they could establish exactly how many cars were involved and to assist in the rescue of the injured.

In total, 16 cars were involved in just

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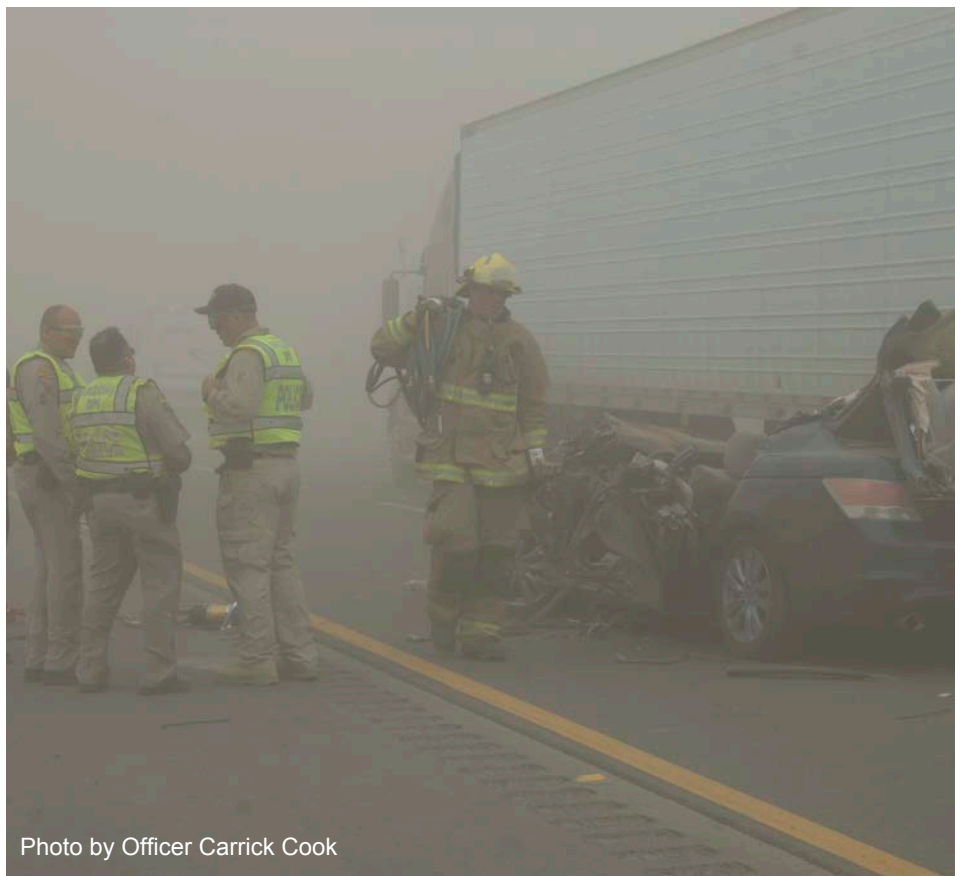


Photo by Officer Carrick Cook

DPS Officers and a rescue worker can be seen in the photo above at the scene of one of the dust-related pileups on Oct. 4 on Interstate 10.

“

With help from the Pinal County Sheriff's Office and the Arizona Department of Transportation, DPS Officers closed I-10 from milepost 212 to 219 for more than eight hours to investigate the collisions and allow other first responders, along with cleanup crews, to work.

”

Dust storm . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

one of the various pileups. This largest pileup ultimately claimed the life of the 66-year-old man from Texas.

The vehicle he was traveling in slammed into the back of a semi-truck and lodged itself underneath. The collision killed him almost instantly and critically injured his wife, the driver of the vehicle.

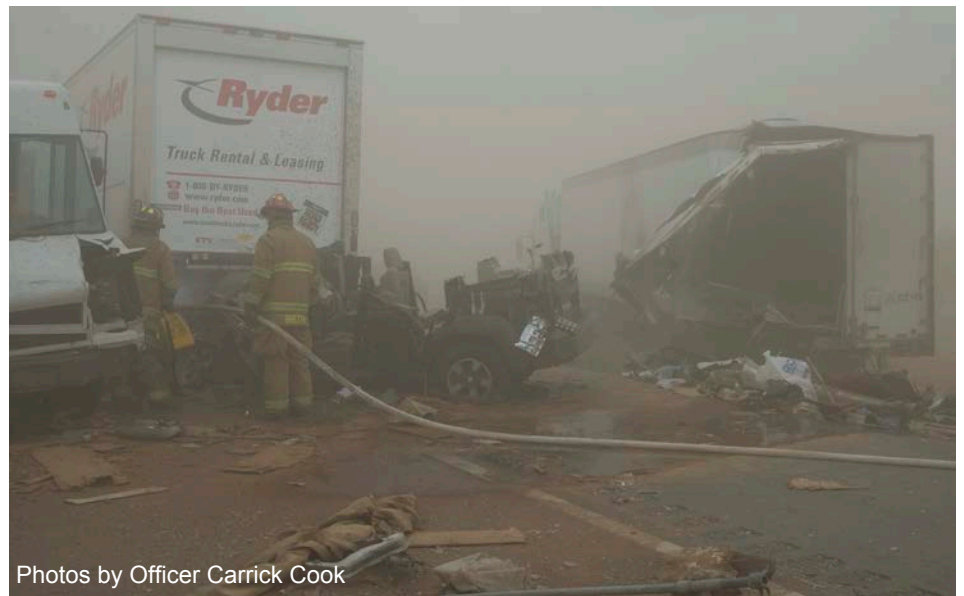
With help from the Pinal County Sheriff's Office and the Arizona Department of Transportation, DPS Officers closed I-10 from milepost 212 to 219 for more than eight hours to investigate the collisions and allow other first responders, along with cleanup crews, to work.

Dust storms are common across Arizona during dry and windy conditions, and walls of dust more than a mile high can blanket an area in a matter of seconds, sometimes reducing visibility to zero.

“Winds from the southwest were gusting at up to 40 mph throughout Arizona on Oct. 4,” said Jessica Nolte, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Phoenix.

“These winds have accumulated so much that when they move through the region they start to pick up the dry top soil,” she said. “It can be a very rapid development.”

The Phoenix area was enveloped in a beige haze for much of the day, obscuring the view of the mountains that surround the metropolitan area.



Photos by Officer Carrick Cook

COMPLETE DEVASTATION: Shown above are photographs from the scene of just one of the dust-related pileups that occurred Oct. 4 on Interstate 10 near Picacho Peak. DPS Officers found it extremely difficult to get to the scenes, and even harder to work in the blinding dust once they arrived.



Photo by John C. James, Jr.

Monica Aviles

by Kellen Chavez, Digest Staff Writer

During the recent 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks against the United States, one of DPS's own did her part to volunteer for a local nonprofit organization and one of its tribute projects for the anniversary.

Through an organization called Hands On Greater Phoenix, DPS Criminal Records Specialist Monica Aviles helped military children make a variety of arts and crafts while their parents browsed a book fair at the Papago Military Reservation.

Aviles said, "The kids made tambourines out of paper plates and noodles and they got to decorate them. They also made hats and wrote letters."

Her volunteer efforts at the book fair, however, are just one example of how Aviles, who has been with DPS since 2004, gives back to the community through volunteer work.

For over two years, Aviles has worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters, acting as a big sister to a, now, 8-year-old girl.

She said, "She's very open minded so I signed her up at the YMCA and she's done swimming, ballet, karate, just pretty much anything."

She added that she tries to visit her "little sister" every Saturday.

Aviles also volunteers on a regular basis on Saturdays for HomeBase Youth Services of Native American Connections, cooking breakfast for the homeless youths that the organization tries to help.

As a seasoned volunteer, Aviles has advice for other DPS employees when it comes to giving back to the community.

"If you are interested in volunteering, find an organization to volunteer with that is a true fit with who you are," Aviles said. "Thankfully, there are so many opportunities right now for volunteers that it should be easy for someone to find that special organization".

Setting a fantastic example

DPS Criminal Records Specialist Monica Aviles enjoys giving back to the community in a wide variety of ways

DPS personnel continue tradition of policing the Arizona State Fair

This year's event took place from Oct. 14 through Nov. 6 with breaks on Mondays and Tuesdays



Photo by Jim Jertson

State fair sentinel

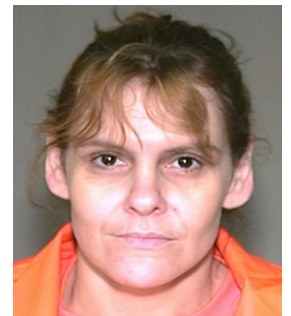
DPS Captain Ramon Figueroa (above) serves as a sentinel in front of a souvenir booth at the Arizona State Fair on Friday, Oct. 21. Figueroa was among a large contingent of sworn DPS personnel this year who continued the long-standing agency tradition of ensuring the safety of fair patrons. Thanks in large part to the vigilance of the DPS personnel who worked this year's event, the thousands of people who attended the fair were able to enjoy its food, rides and attractions without worrying about their safety.

Woman sentenced in the death of DPS Officer Chris Marano

Will serve the rest of her life in prison for leading police on pursuit that led to Marano's death

On Thursday, Oct. 20, in front of a packed courtroom, Superior Court Judge Susanna Pineda sentenced Georgia Lynn Baker, 45, to natural life in prison for her role in the 2009 freeway chase that killed DPS Officer Chris Marano.

Slightly more than one month earlier, a jury returned a verdict of guilty on all counts against Baker which included first degree murder, auto theft, and felony flight in connection with Marano's death.



Georgia Baker

In addition to her sentence of natural life in prison, Baker also was sentenced to six years in prison on her felony flight conviction and 11 years in prison on her auto theft conviction.

On Dec. 17, 2009, she was driving a stolen SUV that DPS officers were trying to stop.

During the chase, Marano was attempting to lay out "stop sticks" to end the pursuit, but was hit by a pursuing DPS officer's patrol car.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

Got Digest?

If you are a DPS employee who has a hard time accessing the DPS Intranet to view The Digest, you can be issued a username and password to view it from any computer. You can also receive e-mail alerts each time a new issue publishes. E-mail jjertson@azdps.gov if you would like more information about this convenient option.

Photo by John C. James, Jr.



Chris Marano's widow, Shelly Marano, speaks to the news media shortly after Georgia Baker was found guilty on all counts in connection with Chris's death.



Chris Marano

every day.”

DPS Director Robert Halliday said justice was done in the case thanks in large part to the professional work of the DPS investigators involved in the case along with the efforts of personnel from the Maricopa County Attorney's Office.

Many DPS representatives and supporters spoke at Baker's Oct. 20 sentencing including Director Robert Halliday, former Director Roger Vanderpool, Chris Marano's widow, Shelly Marano, along with DPS Officers Alex Lopez, Carrick Cook and Dalin Dorris.

DPS Deputy Director Dennis Young was also present at the sentencing along with Maj. Jack Lane, who was chief of the Highway Patrol Division at the time of Marano's death.

Marano . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Marano was rushed to John C. Lincoln Hospital-North Mountain after being hit where he was pronounced dead. The officer who struck Marano incurred a hand injury and was also taken to a hospital for treatment.

Baker eventually abandoned her vehicle and fled on foot into a neighborhood. She was later apprehended on the balcony of a Phoenix condominium where she was attempting to hide.

Drug-recognition experts examined Baker and determined she was impaired at the time of the chase.

With his death, Marano, at age 28, became one of the Department's youngest officers to make the ultimate sacrifice and one of the few to have died in the line of duty so close to Christmas. He left behind a wife and four daughters.

Following Baker's conviction and sentencing, DPS issued a statement to the media saying, "The Arizona Department of Public Safety believes

"Chris's untimely death while serving the people of Arizona is something nobody in the DPS family will ever forget. "

justice was served in the case against Georgia Lynn Baker. Hopefully, Chris Marano's family and fellow officers will now have some closure. Chris's untimely death while serving the people of Arizona is something nobody in the DPS family will ever forget. Chris was a terrific DPS officer who truly enjoyed serving and protecting the citizens of Arizona. He is missed





THE GOOSE THAT LAID THE GOLDEN EGG: When the semi truck above crashed on I-40 near Flagstaff, DPS Officers played a key role in making sure the crash resulted in something positive for local charitable organizations.



DPS Highway Patrol Officers responded to an unusual mess on Oct. 7 when a grocery store delivery semi truck carrying around 500,000 eggs collided with a stationary truck on Interstate 40 near Flagstaff.

The semi, which was heading to a Fry's warehouse, rolled over into the median after striking the other vehicle. The top of the semi truck's trailer became detached during the roll-over and the eggs spilled into the median, immediately destroying about 400,000 of them.

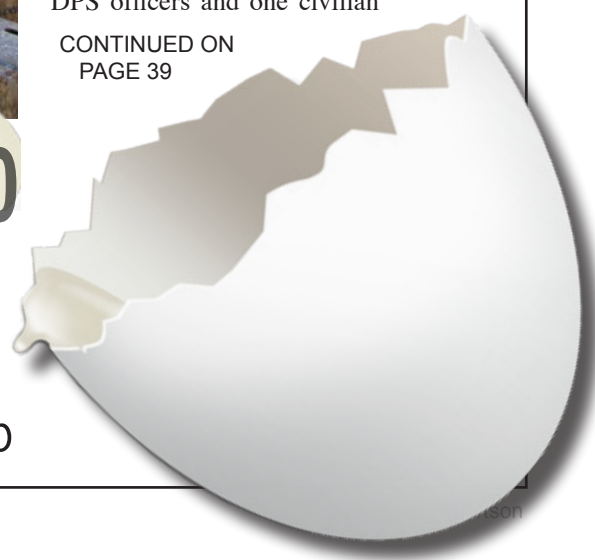
Thankfully, nobody was seriously hurt in the early morning crash that was caused by icy road conditions.

DPS Sgt. Steve Robson said that four DPS officers and one civilian

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 39

Eggnormous Crash on I-40

When a truck carrying 500,000 eggs rolled over-medium on I-40 creating a hard boiled problem, DPS officers made things sunny side up



Photos by Jim Jertson



Annual DPS Craft Show held Oct. 20 at agency headquarters

The festive seven-hour event featured 31 tables and 25 different craft vendors

Featuring a wide array of different foods, gifts and decorations, the Annual DPS Craft Show was held at the DPS headquarters building in Phoenix on Oct. 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. DPS Financial Services Specialist Lea Jarvis organized the event that featured 31 tables with 25 different vendors. More than 200 DPS employees and guests showed up to peruse the tables of goods for sale that ranged from books to Christmas ornaments to tamales and meatball sandwiches to handmade candles, soaps, homemade pajamas and cuddly toys for children. Jarvis said, "It was great fun. We added two additional tables this year and I am looking at how we can add additional tables for future craft shows." Most of the craft vendors at the event were DPS employees. By renting out table lots, DPS raised \$660 through the craft show that will be donated to charity. In addition, a few craft vendors used their personal profits from the DPS Craft Show to assist charities such as the Out Of Darkness suicide prevention program, the 100 Club and the Bruce Harrolle Paramedic Scholarship.



Auto Theft Investigators Seminar

Photos by Gary Keltz



Training: Seminar attendees are shown here partaking in one of the many training courses offered at the AATIA seminar.

DPS helps host annual auto theft investigators seminar

The early October event provided attendees with key training and networking opportunities

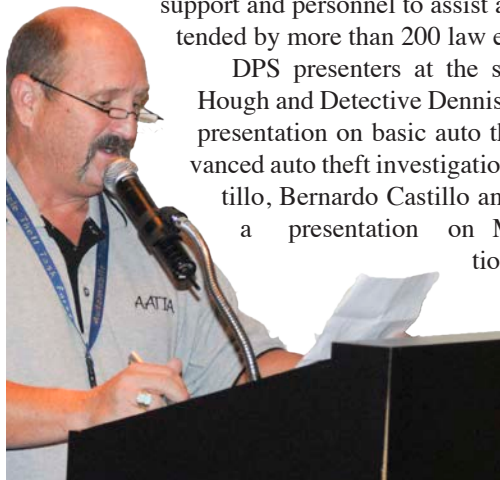
DPS played an integral assist role in hosting the 2011 Arizona Auto Theft Investigators Association (AATIA) Seminar Oct. 4-7 at the Aquarius Hotel in Laughlin, Nev.

AATIA, which is led by DPS Sgt. James Hough, co-hosted the event with the Arizona Auto Theft Authority.

The DPS Vehicle Theft Task Force provided additional support and personnel to assist at the seminar that was attended by more than 200 law enforcement personnel.

DPS presenters at the seminar were as follows: Hough and Detective Dennis McNulty gave a two-part presentation on basic auto theft investigation and advanced auto theft investigation, Detectives Miguel Castillo, Bernardo Castillo and Sigifredo Casillas gave a presentation on Mexico vehicle registrations and identifications,

Detective Charles Warner instructed a class on trailer identification and Criminal Intelligence Analyst Steve Jimenez gave a presentation on criminal intelligence and



Sgt. James Hough
AATIA President

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

Several receive major awards at seminar

Several individuals and groups received special recognition at the awards banquet portion of the recent AATIA seminar for their work during the past year. Those individuals and groups are shown below and on the following page of *The Digest*.

Auto Theft Investigators of the Year



Task Force Officer Dan Spencer (second from left) and Tucson P.D. Det. Steve Simmers (far right)

Auto Theft Prosecutor of the Year



Mordock Holloway (center)

Insurance SIU of the Year



Victor DiGiovine (center)

AATIA seminar . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

analysts relating to auto theft.

Jimenez, Administrative Secretary Nancy Temporado and Administrative Services Officer Mary Curfman assisted at the seminar registration booth and throughout the week with administrative tasks.

DPS Photographic Specialist Gary Keltz also attended and took pictures during the seminar and awards banquet.

A total of 210 law enforcement personnel attended the conference, which was aimed at providing current training and the opportunity for attendees to meet other auto theft investigators.

Instructors were also brought in from across the country to present the latest training on auto theft investigations.

Hough said, "Classes included all aspects of auto theft investigations. The classes were geared for law enforcement. Some of the classes catered to the civilian insurance investigators. It was a well-rounded set of classes."

The classes were set up as break out sessions allowing the attendees to choose the classes they attended. Some of the popular classes were offered twice allowing the attendees to arrange their schedule to attend those classes that met their needs.

More than 40 DPS employees attended the seminar. Arizona POST allowed 12 hours of continuous training credit to those who attended.

U.S. Marshal Christopher Hoye served as the keynote speaker during the opening ceremony while Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu spoke during the awards banquet.

LOOK OUT FOR

Coverage of the 3rd Annual DPS Salsa Challenge in the next Digest



THE EVENT WAS HELD ON NOVEMBER 17, 2011 AT THE DPS HEADQUARTERS IN PHOENIX

Proceeds benefitted the State Employees Charitable Campaign (SECC).

Awards CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Task Force Officer of the Year



DPS Det. Charlie Warner (center)

Outstanding Service Towards the Reduction of Auto Theft in AZ



DPS Det. Tim Wiedemann (center)

Outstanding Public Service



DPS Det. Mike Ruiz (center)

Law Enforcement Unit Award



Pima County Squad of the Tucson P.D. and DPS Vehicle Theft Task Force

Jason Schechterle Scholarship Ball

Be More AWARDS 2011 WINNER Be More Entertaining



Nathaniel Fink



Justin Birtcher



Alarie Fink

The 100 Club of Arizona presents scholarships to the children of three DPS employees

The scholarships were officially awarded on Sept. 24 at the 5th Annual Jason Schechterle Scholarship Ball

On Sept. 24, the 100 Club of Arizona hosted the 5th Annual Jason Schechterle Scholarship Ball where 48 young students, including three children of DPS personnel, received 100 Club scholarships totaling more than \$159,000.

Those accomplished students from DPS families who received scholarships were Nathaniel Fink, son of Sgt. Martyn Fink, Justin Birtcher, son of Officer Gary Birtcher and Alarie Fink, daughter of Sgt. Richard Fink. Alarie was the recipient of the Skip Fink Memorial Scholarship.

Scholarships are awarded to immediate family members of public safety officers or firefighters who actively serve in Arizona. Scholarship recipients are chosen based on application and essay quality as well as interview performance.

The 100 Club received 121 applications and conducted interviews with 62 of those applicants before finalizing the list at 48. Of the 48 scholarships given out, several are named in memory of fallen DPS Officers, including Bruce Harrolle, Don Beckstead, Doug Knutson and Skip Fink.

The Scholarship Ball itself, which was a black-tie affair, was held at the Arizona Grand Resort and began with a social hour and silent auction.

In addition to the scholarships, the 100 Club presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. William Leighton for his career dedication to the treatment of burn and accident victims, including Jason Schechterle.

This year also marked the first-ever Jason Schechterle Scholarship Golf Tournament. It was held on Friday, Sept. 23, at the Arizona Grand Golf Course.

**DPS
EMPLOYEES
IN THE
SPOTLIGHT**

On Sept. 30, *DPS Detective Brady Wilkins* was honored at a luncheon hosted by the Professional Exchange Club of Scottsdale. The civic group recognized Wilkins for his work as part of the successful High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Task Force and the Metro Intelligence Support Technical Assistance Center (MISTIC).

DPS GIITEM Det. Kirk Phillips and fellow task force member Scott Krassow recently received the Unit Citation Award from Mesa Police Department. The two were given the award because they were instrumental in the capture of three armed robbery suspects in Mesa on June 17, 2011.

On Oct. 8, *DPS Highway Patrol Officer Benjamin Molter* received an Officer of the Year Award from the Palo Verde Chapter of the Arizona Society, Sons of the American Revolution during their annual Law Enforcement Breakfast. Molter is assigned to the Phoenix area.



DPS detective recognized by ICE for his role in human smuggling investigation

Receives award from the Homeland Security Investigations arm of the federal agency

The Homeland Security Investigations arm of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency recognized DPS Det. David Raphael for the key role he played in a successful human smuggling operation.

Raphael, a seven-year DPS veteran, received his recognition from ICE through an award he was given this Fall. The award was given to a select group of individuals and groups that ICE felt made significant investigative accomplishments in the area of human smuggling.

It was Raphael's work during the 2010 investigation dubbed "Operation Take it to the Bank" that caught the attention of those charged with handing out the ICE awards.

"Operation Take it to the Bank" involved investigators from (DPS), Phoenix Police Department and ICE, along with assistance from the Goodyear Police Department.



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

A total of 62 vehicles were seized during the operation and one of the primary suspects in the probe was found to be organizing and providing vehicles to human smugglers. Raphael was one of the key investigators in the case that essentially shut down the suspect's robust criminal operation that helped enable human smuggling activities.

Several men were arrested in the case and charged with human smuggling, operating a criminal syndicate, fraud and fraudulent schemes and identity theft.

IIMPACT investigators believe this same operation provided a vehicle involved in a fatal crash along State Route 82 near Sonoita in June of 2009. Eleven undocumented aliens were killed in that crash.

The Homeland Security Investigations awards program is designed to recognize exceptional performances in the areas of investigative accomplishments, team work, mission support, and public service.



One of DPS's four-wheel drive trucks tackles a hill during the off-road driving course held for WSB field technicians and supervisors.



A four-wheel drive DPS vehicle travels down a bumpy trail during the recent off-road driving course held for WSB field technicians and supervisors.



A four-wheel drive DPS truck tackles a narrow, bumpy trail during the off-road course.

In an effort to prepare DPS Wireless Systems Bureau (WSB) field technicians and supervisors for some of the challenges they could face driving in rugged terrain, a special off-road driving course was recently held for them.

The course took place over two days, Oct. 3 and 4, at three separate locations: a Phoenix area driving track, a Phoenix area river bottom and in the mountain trails near Gold Canyon.

Two DPS Officers who are certified Arizona POST 4x4 Driving Instructors, David Mowry and Darren Holweger, taught the class to five WSB field technicians.

During the driving track portion of the course, students were taught vehicle dynamics along with approach, departure and break over angles.

At the river bottom, the course covered water-crossing techniques along with techniques for driving in mud and sand.

Of course, in the mountain trails, students were taught how to properly climb and descend a hill.

“This is one of those special classes that is full of great information but is also very fun for students,” said Jeremy Knoll, a DPS Telecommunications Systems Maintenance Supervisor.

Knoll said the relatively new class was developed at DPS because off-road driving is one

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33

DPS Off-Road Driving Course

A group of employees assigned to the DPS Wireless Systems Bureau complete a very unique and thrilling driving course



DPS conducts “grand” motor coach inspection detail at the Grand Canyon

More than 200 motor coaches were inspected and more than 450 violations were discovered during the three-day event

The Highway Patrol Division at DPS and the National Park Service, along with other partners, joined forces in late September to conduct a significant motor coach inspection operation on roadways in the Grand Canyon National Park.

The operation, which is held annually at the Grand Canyon National Park, takes place to ensure motor coaches, or buses, are in good working order and safe enough to be transporting large groups of people.

The operation is a critical component of improving highway safety because statistics indicate that 80 percent of all motor coach crashes are directly related to viola-

tions involving motor coach vehicles and equipment, and/or their operators.

During this year’s operation, which took place Sept. 26-28, a large contingent of DPS officers completed comprehensive safety inspections of all motor coach vehicles that entered the National Park.

In addition to inspecting the mechanical components of motor coaches, the officers also ensured motor coach drivers had the proper credentials for operating such vehicles.

Furthermore, officers ensured the drivers were capable, at the time of inspection, of safely and legally operating a motor

coach.

The following are the results of the operation:

- DPS and its law enforcement partners inspected 218 motor coaches during the detail.

- DPS and its law enforcement partners inspected 18 commercial vehicles during the detail.

- 20 of the inspected motor coaches were placed out of service by officers for mechanical/equipment violations.

- 22 of the motor coach drivers who were contacted were placed out of service by officers for significant violations. The most common violations committed by motor coach drivers were hours of service violations and falsifying records regarding duty status.

- 477 total violations were discovered by officers during the operation.

- One motor coach operator was arrested for DUI drugs during the operation.

Lt. Col. Jack Hegarty, who oversaw the DPS Highway Patrol Division at the time, said the operation was a success.

“Roadway safety is the Arizona Highway Patrol’s top priority,” Hegarty said. “The motor coach inspection detail in the Grand Canyon National Park increased the safety of all travelers on Arizona’s highways, especially those traveling in large passenger busses.”

During this year’s detail, DPS officers also had the opportunity to educate motor coach drivers and companies on the federal guidelines for passenger bus operations.

DPS was assisted in this detail by federal and local police agencies, including the National Parks Service, the Mohave County Sheriffs Office and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

Off road . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

of the top causes for collisions involving agency vehicles. In addition, it is the WSB field technicians and supervisors who do a majority of the off-road driving at DPS.

“Our technicians have to drive off-road frequently in order to get our agency’s telecommunications equipment which is often located on remote mountain tops throughout Arizona,” Knoll said.

WSB plans to put each of its field technicians and supervisors through the new course in the near future.

Crime Lab work



Mark Goudeau

DPS Crime Lab receives accolades following the recent Baseline Killer trial

After the Oct. 31 conviction of serial killer Mark Goudeau on multiple counts of murder, the Phoenix Police Department expressed gratitude for the efforts of the DPS Crime Laboratory for its extensive DNA analysis and trial testimony.

The DPS Crime Laboratory was able to apply state-of-the-art DNA analysis, not then available at the Phoenix Police Department laboratory, to originally identify Mark Goudeau as the Baseline Killer.

This came at a time when his identity was unknown to the investigative taskforce working around-the-clock on this serial murder case.

The DPS Crime Laboratory was able to find DNA on a victim who was sexually assaulted and murdered in her bathtub. The DNA was identified to Mark Goudeau, which then connected the bullet in this killing to Goudeau, and also linked him to several of the other murders with matching bullets even though the weapon was never found.

These two analyses by the DPS Crime Laboratory were the two major breakthroughs in this case. The prosecutor in the case commended the Laboratory for the excellent testimony provided by the DNA analysts who completed the numerous items analyzed.

No DPS Officers hurt in dramatic pursuit that ended in shooting

The suspect in the Nov. 11 car chase tried to run down a DPS officer

No DPS officers were injured in a dramatic, hour-long car chase Nov. 11 that ended in a shooting in north Phoenix.

At about 9:30 p.m. on Nov. 11, DPS Officers attempted to stop a black Lexus sedan for speeding on the northbound Loop 101 in the West Valley.

The car sped northbound, reaching speeds of 120 mph, and officers pursued the Lexus until it exited on the surface streets.

A Phoenix Police Department helicopter was able to track the Lexus as it sped through neighborhoods and various other surface street areas.

With the Phoenix Police Department helicopter still overhead, the suspect eventually stopped his vehicle inside the tunnel at the southbound on-ramp for Interstate 17 at Rose Garden Lane.

The suspect exited his vehicle but returned to it when other officers arrived.

During his attempt to escape, the suspect drove his vehicle directly at a DPS officer, who fired his handgun, strik-

ing the suspect one time.

The suspect's vehicle then collided with the officer's car and into the freeway barrier wall. The suspect remained in his vehicle after the collision.

At that point, officers from the Phoenix Police Department used a ballistic shield and a canine to subdue and arrest the suspect.

The suspect was then taken to John C. Lincoln North Mountain Hospital with serious injuries.

Editor's note:

The staff assigned to the DPS Photo Lab in Phoenix plays a much-appreciated role in supplying photos for The Digest. Many photos without photo credits in this issue were taken by DPS Photographic Specialist Gary Keltz or Photographic Specialist Dick Parkans.

DPS officers go south of the border to teach commercial vehicle class

On October 25, members of the DPS Border Liaison Unit traveled south of the border to San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, Mexico where they presented a basic commercial motor vehicle (CMV) class.

The DPS personnel traveling to the city, which is located in the northwestern corner of the state of Sonora, Mexico, were Sgt. Johnny Villaneda along with Officers Miguel Castillo, Bernie Castillo and Sigifredo Casillas.

Earlier in the month, the safety manager for a commercial motor carrier company operating in the region requested training from DPS on what his drivers could expect during a commercial vehicle inspection in Arizona.

The safety manager also thought it would be beneficial if his drivers and other employees learned more about what constitutes an out of service violation, and the requirements on the Driver/Vehicle Examination Report once it is issued.

Because providing the training to the requesting motor carrier company would ultimately improve safety on Arizona's highways, particularly when the carriers' trucks are in Arizona, DPS was happy to provide the training.

In the end, the DPS group provided the training to a total of 28 people from several different motor carrier companies who have trucks that operate both north and south of the border. The students included drivers, mechanics, and safety managers for the various companies.

The class the students were taught was a four-hour block of instruction that covered the North American Standard Level I inspection steps, the North American Standard Out-of Service Criteria handbook and the Driver/Vehicle Examination Report.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: A map showing the state of Sonora, Mexico. Some of the workers employed in Mexico by commercial motor vehicle companies listen to the DPS personnel teach the basic commercial vehicle class. The DPS instructors, who are all part of the agency's Border Liaison Unit, can be seen teaching the class to the attentive students who consisted of drivers, mechanics, and safety managers from various commercial motor carrier companies.

Test
your
skills

Something is not right

See if you can find the differences in these two pictures in less than 90 seconds. There are five differences. The differences are revealed on page 39 of this Digest for your peace of mind. Only spend a few minutes on this. Photo by Gary Keltz. Photo manipulation by Jim Jertson.



Contemplating

As president of the Arizona Auto Theft Investigators Association (AATIA), DPS Sgt. James "J.D." Hough had a lot on his plate at the recent AATIA Seminar in Laughlin, Nev. In the photo above, which was taken at the annual seminar, Hough can be seen contemplating some information related to the event. Hough's attention to detail, along with the efforts of several others who helped with the seminar, ensured the event took place without a hitch. Attended by more than 200 people, the AATIA seminar provided attendees with key training opportunities related to auto theft investigations. The event also provided attendees, including more than 40 DPS employees, with invaluable networking opportunities.



Letters



Dear Director Halliday:

During the week of May 1, 2011, I was scheduled to attend a business meeting in the Tucson area. Wanting to take advantage of Arizona's beauty, I arrived a couple days early to do some hiking. Prior to my trip, I had mapped out my routes, checked in with local park offices, verified my plans and re-stocked my survival gear and supplies.

As an experienced hiker, I felt I had taken all of the necessary precautions and began the week with a great hike at the Catalina Mountains State Park.

However, my hike up Finger Rock Canyon to Mt. Kimball in the Santa Catalina Mountains the next day would turn out to be a very different experience.

What could have turned into a tragic day for my family and myself is now simply a humbling footnote in my personal history.

The positive outcome that resulted from that frightening day had everything to do with the selfless actions taken by DPS Pilot Brian Amos, DPS Officer/Paramedic Christopher Hecht, and DPS Officer/Paramedic Neil Williamson.

Also proving vital to the positive outcome that day were two non-DPS personnel - Sgt. Economidis and Deputy Degan.

After summiting Mt. Kimball and admiring the beautiful vistas, I began my descent. Roughly 30 minutes into it, I realized my tranquil hike was turning into anything but.

Despite my preparations and my best efforts, I realized I had managed to lose both the trail and myself.

What followed was roughly 2.5 hours of searching in vain for the trail. I eventually made the decision to call 911 for assistance. From the very moment my call was connected, the emergency staff did an exceptional job in handling the situation and in handling me.

Their approach and demeanor was not only professional, but calming and reassuring, something I was in need of at that



"The moment I saw DPS Officer/Paramedic Neil Williamson put himself in harm's way by climbing out of the rescue helicopter onto a narrow cliff on my behalf, I knew that all would end well."

point.

This same professionalism was mirrored by the DPS flight crew that came to rescue me. The moment I saw DPS Officer/Paramedic Neil Williamson put himself in harm's way by climbing out of the rescue helicopter onto a narrow cliff on my behalf, I knew that all would end well.

The entire team's command of the situation, their familiarity with my self-induced plight, and their compassionate approach were exemplary.

One of the key rules of survival is to not panic. When I saw nothing but precipices and cliffs around me, I admit my confidence was shaken.

While uninjured, my pride and confidence were dashed upon the canyon floor. The DPS flight crew instinctively knew this and made reassuring me a focal point of our conversation.

They walked me through each step of the procedures they and their team would be taking. Knowing those details helped bolster my assessment of the situation and allowed me to quickly re-discover my focus and confidence, even if my pride still remained back on the mountain.

All of their efforts were then paralleled by the masterful and delicate maneuvering of ace pilot Brian Amos.

I had managed to find myself on a precipice that was all but impossible to reach and yet Mr. Amos managed to pilot his craft with a delicate hand, despite the thermals, difficulty and danger. The entire crew's actions were cautious, swift and purposeful.

I cannot begin to adequately express my deep appreciation for what the team did for me that day.

Every lost hiker should be so lucky and fortunate to have their safety and well being in the hands of Amos, Hecht, and Williamson along with the two non-DPS personnel who helped me that day - Sgt. Economidis and Deputy Degan.

Thanks again from the bottom of my heart.

Timothy Ballas

Dear Director Halliday:

I want to thank you for the support DPS recently provided to the suicide prevention training our agency hosted.

I had the privilege of meeting DPS Chaplain William "Bill" Glennie who assisted with the training along with Bob Douglas, the director of the National Suicide Foundation.

In addition to the employee training courses held throughout the week, we hosted a family night so that family mem-

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Letters . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

bers could have an opportunity to share and better understand the stark realities our officers face on a daily basis and the consequent emotional toll that can take.

The fact that Chaplain Glennie and Bob Douglas are both retired from law enforcement was certainly critical to the success of our training. Equally important is the fact that both Glennie and Douglas have decades of experience working with officers experiencing depression and are highly trained in this area.

After our suicide prevention training concluded, many employees have told me how much they appreciated the fact that we were able to bring such a sensitive subject out into the open so professionally and compassionately.

The insight and information provided during the training by Glennie and Douglas will prove invaluable to the health, safety and well being of the men and women that I am privileged to lead.

Tom Ryff

Chief of Police

Tempe Police Department

"I learned to slow down and will now drive as if he, or any other officer, is behind me at all times. That is what I am preaching to my children too. Thank you very much for the valuable lesson learned."

Dear Director Halliday:

I wish to heartily compliment DPS Officer Dalin Dorris for his help one evening when the battery in my Toyota Prius bit the dust.

I had called for roadside service and the tow truck was on its way.

However, my friend and his little dog were with me and I needed to get them to a gas station in Anthem so they could to catch a ride with another friend of mine to

Sedona.

In the dark of night and in wild traffic, Officer Dorris offered to drive them five miles north to Anthem for me. Bless his heart.

His assistance and kind demeanor was a great relief to me.

Carolyn Holland
Sedona, AZ

Dear Director Halliday:

My name is Tammy Achtenberg and I am writing to let you know that you have an excellent officer on your force.

I was pulled over by this DPS officer on June 21, 2011 for exceeding the speed limit. I was nervous to say the least.

The officer was very professional and informative.

I learned to slow down and will now drive as if he, or any other officer, is behind me at all times. That is what I am preaching to my children too.

Thank you very much for the valuable lesson learned and for having such great DPS Officers on your staff.

Tammy Achtenberg
Phoenix, AZ

Truck driver to DPS Officer: there is a little MJ in the back



A DPS Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer located more than 3,000 pounds of packaged marijuana (similar in appearance to the marijuana shown above) inside a commercial vehicle following a Sept. 6 traffic stop.

On September 6, 2011, a DPS Commercial Vehicle Enforcement officer stopped a northbound commercial truck for an equipment violation on Interstate 17 near New River. During the officer's contact with the driver, several indicators of criminal activity were observed. For example, the driver was missing certain paperwork, had no reason for travel (unloaded), had excessive down time, and had an unknown reason for traveling to Albuquerque. With his suspicions raised, the DPS Officer asked the driver for consent to search the vehicle. The officer's request, however, was denied. At that point, a drug-sniffing canine was called to the scene. Upon arrival, the canine alerted to the commercial vehicle, giving the officer probable cause to search it. Before the probable cause search was started, the driver admitted to the officer that there was marijuana in the trailer. In fact, he said there was a "little marijuana" in there. When the DPS Officer asked the driver how much a "little" was, he said 1,000 pounds. The subsequent search by the DPS officer revealed just over 3,000 pounds of marijuana in the commercial vehicle's trailer. The "little" load of marijuana was separated into two parts - one part destined for Missouri and the other destined for Georgia. The marijuana was seized and the driver was arrested on various drug-related charges.

Inside DPS

30 Years of Service

Rodecap, Ron, 3115, Sergeant II

Scheck, Douglas P., 3100, Officer

Shull, John D., 3099, Sergeant

25 Years of Service

Smith, Rebecca M., 3893, Senior Police Communications Dispatcher

20 Years of Service

Bauman, Alice W., 4591, Senior Police Communications Dispatcher

New Employees

Follrath, Adam G., 7366, Telecommunications Tech Trainee

Lusk, Dennis L., 7368, General Counsel

Noriega, Lucia, 7367, Detention Transport Officer

Departures

Barton, Michelle K., 5347, Records Supervisor

Boyle, Danielle E., 6691, Criminal Records Specialist

Brookshire, Diana E., 5966, Police Communications Dispatcher

Clark, Nathaniel R., 7329, Capitol PD Officer

Elliott, Weston K., 7339, Capitol PD Officer

Hernandez, Christina, 5150, Administrative Assistant

Hiepler, Karla J., 6884, Fixed Wing Pilot II

Johnson, Michael S., 7331, Capitol PD Officer

Krishnan, Sandy, 6532, Applications Systems Analyst

Lopez Jr., Jose A., 5228, Wide Area Network Engineer

Logue, Gary W., 7194, Officer

Stadler, Jennifer, 5604, Administrative Services Officer

Retirements

Arthur, Gail M., 6315, Administrative Assistant

Clymer, Betty J., 5211, Administrative Services Officer

Earl, Danny J., 5535, RMIN Field Services Coordinator

Lewis, Charles M., 4566, Officer

Lindsay, Dennis J., 3332, Communications Tower Tech

Markwell, Sheila, 3190, Sergeant II

Morris, Kenneth W., 4384, Sergeant II

Rios, Martin F., 1597, RMIN Field Services Coordinator

Repine, Pat A., 4768, Budget Analyst

Schumacher, Paul E., 3505, Telecommunications Technician

Tucker, Tammie, 6784, Executive Assistant

Wooten, Iven, 2902, Major

Deaths

Retired DPS Lieutenant Ballard Bullion, badge no. 350, passed away on Sept. 14.

DPS Retiree William F. Reaser, badge no. 167, passed away on Oct. 2.

DPS Retiree Donna Efaw (Cokrill) passed away on Oct. 2.

Retired DPS Capt. Frank Hutcheson passed away on Oct. 16.

Retired DPS Officer Ruben Valente passed away on Oct. 20.

Retired DPS Lt. George Pember-ton passed away Oct 21.

Sheila D. Kerr, wife of DPS Retiree Johnny Kerr, passed away Nov. 10.

Eggs . . .

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

reserve remained at the scene for a lengthy period of time to investigate the collision, inspect the commercial vehicle and help with the massive clean up.

Thankfully, most of the undamaged eggs did not go to waste. This was because Robson contacted several non profit organizations in the Flagstaff area immediately after the collision to see if they were in need of eggs. This, of course, occurred after Robson called the company that owned the eggs and received their permission to donate the nutritious, but highly perishable items.

The DPS officers on scene ended up spending about one hour assisting in the salvage effort by selecting the good eggs and carrying them to waiting transport trucks. By the end of the effort, the DPS officers had moved about 36,000 good eggs.

The amount of damaged eggs was so immense that it took roughly five hours, along with a front end loader and a semi sized dump truck, to clean up that portion of the mess.

Thanks in large part to efforts of the DPS personnel at the crash scene, the good eggs ended up being salvaged and used at places like churches, food banks, homeless shelters and women's shelters in the Flagstaff area.

Photo contest answers

1. *There is more orange juice in the glass in one photo.*
2. *The pen in Sgt. Hough's hand is slightly larger in one photo.*
3. *The green table throw extends a bit farther in one photo.*
4. *The seminar I.D. card hanging around Sgt. Hough's neck is larger in one photo.*
5. *The small red belt above the handle on the fire extinguisher box has shifted positions ever so slightly in one photo.*

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DIGEST

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Down the Highways

September 1976

DPS and the Shiprock Police Department investigated an incident in which DPS Officer Jim Voitta was dragged about 200 yards with an arm stuck in the window of a car being driven in reverse.

The incident occurred Sept. 1 on S.R. 504 near the Arizona/New Mexico border.

A suspected drunken driver had closed the window on the patrolman's arm when the officer reached in to shut off the ignition.

The officer freed his arm after the driver stopped in reverse and started forward again. Voitta then fired five shots toward the car. The car was chased at speeds of more than 100 mph.

The suspect's vehicle, which also suffered a blowout, turned onto a dirt road and was eventually forced off the dirt road by Voitta's patrol car, ending the chase.

October 1981

The integrity of the DPS Air Rescue operation was upheld by a jury's recent dismissal of a \$1 million lawsuit.

The lawsuit alleged negligence by DPS in futile attempts to save a drowning man who reportedly ignored two road barricades before driving his four-wheel drive vehicle into the Tanque Verde Wash on Jan. 15, 1978, the October Digest reported.

Tucson Air Rescue Pilot Dave Ruhlman and Paramedic Steve Lump were un-

able to reach the man before he was swept away by raging flood waters.

September 1986

On Sept. 5, well-known comedian and actor Richard Pryor was stopped for speeding west of Kingman by DPS Highway Patrol Officer Ben McKinnie. The ticket charged Pryor with driving at least 88 mph on Interstate 40.

After the stop and the ticket, McKinnie said Pryor and his girlfriend wanted to have some photos taken.

"They were taking pictures of eventful things on their vacation. This was one," McKinnie said. "He wanted to take some photos with me and, of course, he wanted handcuffs on."

October 1991

On Oct. 9, Arizona Gov. Fife Symington placed DPS Director Rick Ayars and Deputy Director Randy Sterna on administrative leave with pay pending the outcome of an investigation into possible criminal or questionable administrative activities at DPS.

After the review was completed by the U.S. Attorney's Office and the FBI, the two top DPS officials were cleared of any criminal or administrative wrongdoings and returned to work Oct. 17.

"People in this department were just tremendous in their support during the suspension," Ayars said. "I logged telephone

calls from supporters on a legal pad. It took seven pages."

September 1996

While patrolling U.S. 89 near Gray Mountain Sept. 5, DPS Highway Patrol Officer Jay Atwater stopped a vehicle for excessive speed. While obtaining consent to search, Atwater noticed the driver of the vehicle reaching into a fanny pack.

Atwater stopped him and inside the pouch he found a handgun along with \$2,000 in cash. Atwater also located a second fanny pack and inside it, the DPS officer retrieved \$72,000 in currency.

Atwater arrested the man on various charges.

October 2001

While patrolling northbound U.S. 89 about 25 miles north of Flagstaff on Oct. 5, DPS Officer John Adams stopped a 1991 Lincoln for speeding. During the stop, Adams' canine, Kevin, alerted on the vehicle.

A subsequent search revealed 12 pounds of cocaine stuffed inside a large speaker box. Adams arrested the two occupants of the vehicle and seized the cocaine.

About a week earlier, Adams and Kevin teamed up to find another eight pounds of cocaine. That traffic stop occurred on Interstate 40 about 10 miles east of Flagstaff. After opening the vehicle's trunk, Adams said he found the contraband concealed underneath a false floor.