

## From the Staff ...

Major Sarah L. Eberhard Criminal Investigation Bureau



It's a new year and an opportunity to assess and evaluate. This past year provided the Patrol with both challenges and celebrations. There were areas of growth as well as areas of consistency. Missouri celebrated its bicentennial anniversary and our agency turned 90 years old in 2021. These milestones remind us that throughout our history we have been challenged to grow and adapt to meet the needs of those we serve.

Over time, bureaus have evolved and been realigned so divisions may carry out added responsibilities. Take the Patrol's effort to combat crime, for example. In the late '60s, the Criminal Division investigated crimes such as theft, burglary, robbery, kidnapping, and murder. At that time, the division included the Motor Vehicle Theft and Information Section and the Criminal Records Section. In the '70s, the division welcomed a Narcotics Unit, Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit, and Executive Security Unit. Move forward to 1983, with the passing of Senate Bill 294, and the Division of Drug and Crime Control was created. With the ever-changing demands, today's DDCC has evolved to include rural crime, illegal gaming, human trafficking, digital forensics, and anti-terrorism investigators.

We remain one of the nation's most respected law enforcement agencies because we have consistently served and protected our community members for the last 90 years. Patrol employees receive a tremendous amount of respect and support because they hold themselves accountable and display our core values daily. An example of this support can be found in a story by Corporal Kyle A. Green (F) on page 18 of this issue.

Since our inception, our employees have met each challenge and I expect the coming year to be no different. To every employee: You are vital to our organization. Every job description provides a necessary service to the citizens of Missouri. I encourage you to look to 2022 with confidence and expectation. Because of you, 2022 is going to be a great year for the Patrol.

Sarah Z. Eberhard

## The official publication of the Missouri State Highway Patrol

#### **Celebrating Over 50 Years Of News**

## Patrol News

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Sandra K. Karsten, Director Department of Public Safety

**Eric T. Olson, Superintendent** Missouri State Highway Patrol

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"Over 90 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"

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### Social Media Snapshot



Thirty-one members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol have given their lives in fulfillment of the Patrol's mission of providing service and protection to Missouri's citizens. Participating in Project Blue Light is a way to honor those 31 troopers and the more than 700 other law enforcement officers in Missouri who have made the ultimate sacrifice while performing their duties. >> https://bit.ly/2022BlueLightMSHP



See Insights

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#### Cover \_\_\_

Trooper Nathan Downs accepted the Superintendent's Award from Col. Eric Olson. Gov. Michael Parson congratulated him.

## Scouts Appreciate Local Law Enforcement

By Sgt. Michael A. Mitchell (I) & Tpr. Kordel L. Gibson (C)

The Osage District of the Boy Scouts of America's Greater St. Louis Area Council went big to show support for their area law enforcement agencies. The district, which includes Franklin County, Crawford County, and Southern Warren County hosted a series of law enforcement appreciation events throughout September 2021. In each of the district's communities having a police department, local scouts held an event to recognize their local law enforcement. The events were "hosted" by the sheriff's department and included both the local police department and the local zones of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Each event highlighted the scouts' awareness of the law enforcement officers' commitment to public safety and service. It was a way to honor how officers make themselves available to their communities, scout families, and loved ones whenever needed. Many volunteer scout leaders are current or former military, law enforcement, fire safety, emergency medical technicians, or other first responders.

Zones 7, 10, and 11 from Troop C and Zones 3 and 9 from Troop I were recognized with personalized Certificates of Appreciation from the Osage District scouts. [The Franklin, Crawford, and Warren counties' sheriff's departments, and Union, Washington, Sullivan, Pacific, New Haven, Gerald, St. Clair, Steelville, Cuba, and Bourbon police departments' officers also accepted certificates.] A total of 16 agencies represented by more than 60 law enforcement officers took part in the events. Over 40 scout units, repre-

#### Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law: To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

#### Scout Law

A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

Tpr. Chad Barclay (I) accepts his appreciation certificate from Boy Scout Troop 477 in Franklin County.

Tpr. Kordel Gibson joined area law enforcement from Franklin County in accepting certificates of appreciation from local scouts.



sented by more than 300 scouts and 50 volunteer scout leaders, were part of the 11 law enforcement appreciation days at their various locations.

Thank you, scouts, for honoring your local law enforcement. It was a pleasure to be part of the events.

### **MSHP Hosts School Of Police Staff & Command**



Pictured with the lieutenant colonel are members of class #505 (1 to r, back row) Lt. Scott Lance, Capt. Gara Howard, Lt. Michael Halford, Sgt. Alan Sullivan, and Lt. Jason Cluver; (front row) Lt. Les Thurston, and Lt. Brandon White, who graduated November 19, 2021, Lt. Col. Lance MacLaughlin, and Lt. Joseph Veasman, who will graduate in March 2022. The training began September 7, 2021, and included 22 officers representing 12 departments.

"The Northwestern experience helped me absorb the course concepts and apply them to the overall Patrol function, as well as to my everyday tasks," said Capt, Gara Howard (Q/CJIS). "The course taught me valuable tools and allowed for great networking with other law enforcement agencies."

Congratulations to the graduates!

## **MVI Hargrove Accepts Covert Mission**

#### By Sgt. Bruce L. Reinkemeyer (F)

On November 18, 2021, Motor Vehicle Inspector Supervisor Rich L. Hargrove (F) was assigned to conduct special investigations using a state-owned covert vehicle to ensure licensed inspector mechanics were conducting complete, proper, and thorough safety inspections at stations identified for an undercover investigation. When MVI III Hargrove arrived at the CDL Supersite to pick up the covert vehicle and start his day, co-workers and supervisors were taken back to the 1980s by his choice of apparel for the assignment. His appearance reminded some of the Blues Brothers and others of Michael Jackson due to the fedora he wore. MVI III Hargrove's choice of dress revealed just how seriously he took this assignment, how far he was willing to go to avoid identification as a Patrol motor vehicle inspector, and how much fun he was going to have undercover. At the end of the day, MVI III Hargrove was happy to report that none of the inspector mechanics investigated were "singing the Blues" after their safety inspections as all inspections conducted were complete, proper, and thorough. It was apparent to co-workers and supervisors that MVI III Hargrove enjoyed this "Thriller" of an assignment!



MVI Sprv. Rich Hargrove (F) dressed the part of a covert motor vehicle inspector for his special assignment.

## Communications Operator Trainces Graduate

#### By Chief Oper. Roger D. Martin (Q/CommD)



Congratulations to the Patrol's newest communications operator trainees who graduated from the Communications Operator Academy on November 19, 2021. In addition to the Academy, these trainees will complete an intense, hands-on, 12-month initial training and evaluation program. Pictured are: (l to r, back row) Communications Operator Trainees Gena Brook (G), Mallory Chronister (I), and Evan Norton (H); (l to r, front row) Bailey Chastain (G), and Brittany Stroud (E).



Comm. Oper. Trainee Bailey Chastain (G) earned the Harry W. Duncan Honor Graduate certificate recognizing the member of the class with the highest average score. She is pictured here with Director Corey Chaney (Q/CommD) and Major David Flannigan (Q/TSB).

## Congratulations On Your Betirement!

Jerry L. Arbuthnot MVI III Troop C

Retired December 1, 2021. Nine years, nine months of dedicated service.



Tonya K. Bush
DE Sprv.
Troop D

Retired December 1, 2021. 28 years, five months of dedicated service.





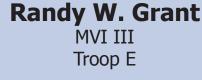
Rhonda L. Czarnecki Assistant Director O/DVSD

Retired December 1, 2021. 39 years, six months of dedicated service.



Allen R. Flannery
Corporal
Troop C

Retired December 1, 2021. 24 years, 11 months of dedicated service.



Retired December 1, 2021. 16 years, four months of dedicated service.



**Larry A. Helm**Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. Sprv.
Troop C

Retired December 1, 2021. Five years, 11 months of dedicated service.





Carol L. Hunter Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II Troop E

Retired December 1, 2021. 10 years of dedicated service.



DeWayne R.
Sickels
CDL Examiner

Retired December 1, 2021. 12 years of dedicated service.

Troop F

## Congratulations On Your Betirement!

Patricia L.
Whitsell
CDL Examiner
Troop H

Retired December 1, 2021. 16 years, nine months of dedicated service.



Keith A. Almond
Sergeant
Troop E

Retired January 1, 2022. 20 years, 11 months of dedicated service.





Richard L. Anderson Trooper

Retired January 1, 2022. 27 years, seven months of dedicated service.

Troop D



J. Scott Ashby
Sergeant

Sergeant Q/DDCC

Retired January 1, 2022. 25 years of dedicated service.



Retired January 1, 2022. 27 years, two months of dedicated service.



Virginia K. Craven

DE III

Troop A

Retired January 1, 2022. 32 years of dedicated service.





Jeanette L. Ford
Clerk Typist III
Q/TND

Retired January 1, 2022. 32 years, three months of dedicated service.



Rick L. Fry Chief CVO Troop C

Retired January 1, 2022. 29 years, one month of dedicated service.

## Congratulations On Your Betirement!

Steve R.
Gisselbeck
Corporal
O/GSD

Retired January 1, 2022. 23 years, 11 months of dedicated service.



Douglas J. Hedrick Lieutenant Troop H

Retired January 1, 2022. 29 years of dedicated service.





Mary A. Hollmann

DE III

Troop C

Retired January 1, 2022. 27 years, seven months of dedicated service.



Brenda S. Hornecker DE III Troop C

Retired January 1, 2022. 30 years, two months of dedicated service.



Retired January 1, 2022. 33 years, one month of dedicated service.



Vicki K. Nelson
Chief DE
Troop G

Retired January 1, 2022. 18 years, eight months of dedicated service.





Gary C. Swartz
Sergeant
Troop C

Retired January 1, 2022. 30 years of dedicated service.



Jason J. Whitt
Sergeant
O/GD

Retired January 1, 2022. 28 years, five months of dedicated service.

## PLWM: The Science & Art Of Leadership

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

The Missouri State Highway Patrol's Police Leadership: The West Point Model Class #5 graduated November 19, 2021, after three intense weeks of study and in-class discussions. The members of the class traveled to General Headquarters one week each month over a three-month period. The class welcomed attendees from almost every troop and several divisions, as well as the Missouri Department of Public Safety and the Illinois State Police.

Lieutenant Colonel Lance M. MacLaughlin welcomed everyone to the ceremony and congratulated them on their achievement. "You have put in a lot of hours and lot of work. Please take this back to your agency and use it. You are the future of your agencies. This training will make all of you better leaders, and you as better leaders make better subordinates. Remember as leaders you are training your replacements."

Major Vince A. Rice (Q/ASB) also spoke to the class. He indicated approximately 350 Patrol employees have attended this training. "It's starting to show that classes coming in have been exposed to the language. Perhaps their supervisor has attended. That's what we're hoping for." He also recognized the PLWM instructors and asked if they had any final thoughts before certificates were presented to each attendee.

Corporal Justin W. Turner (F), a PLWM instructor, thanked the class for

giving their attention throughout the course and encouraged them, "Seek the books of all kinds of leaders. Become a student."

PLWM Instructor/Director Brian K. Hoey (Q/CLD) advised the class to, "Practice, practice, practice. This gets better with practice. I hope we taught you the science and art of leadership. As leaders we often try to be preachers, prosecutors, or politicians. We preach sermons. We put people on the stand and try to poke to holes in what people say and we try to convince others of what we believe as leaders. We need to be scientists. Scientists hypothesize, experiment, and then we come up with conclusions. The conclusions tell us if our hypothesis is true or not. It's the same for the leadership process. Come up with a theory, analyze and explain, and get feedback." Director Hoey admitted he enjoyed being able to tell a group of law enforcement officers to be scientists. "The application is the art and that is where your talent comes in. All of you have it. Thank you, from me as a colleague and a citizen, for participating and for everything you do out there."

Human Resources Division Assistant Director Amanda L. Renn, also a PLWM instructor, reminded the class that leadership promotions come from within an agency. "Take the opportunity to lead and to lead up."

Class members were pleased to have completed the course and it was obvious each small group enjoyed a special camaraderie.

"I'm pleased with the course," said Lieutenant Mike D. Lynch (E). "I came in expecting quite a bit and I actually got more than I expected. There are a lot of things I looked at that I wished I would have done differently in my career. Going forward I know there are a lot of things I'll look at differently. I can see the advantage of reaching out across divisions, because the problems our people face are similar whether you are a member, radio, or Crime Lab."

Captain Casev Faro, District 11 Commander for the Illinois State Police, appreciated how the PLWM course utilizes smaller groups of students. "This enhanced learning and created better relationships within the class. I've been to other leadership trainings/courses, but I liked how this one had models and different theories to solve problems, rather than just an overall leadership message. The videos shown in the class enhanced the material taught. The generational differences piece was very impactful, and made me realize how important it is for supervisors to understand this in order to best lead and motivate their personnel."

Congratulations, PLWM Class #5!



Members of PLWM Class #5 celebrated by taking a group photo with their instructors.

# 112 th Recruit Class Graduates

#### By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

"Sergeant Armstrong, the colonel has given the command," said Captain Joseph L. Armistead (Q/TND). "Present the 112th Recruit Class for graduation."

As directed by Sgt. Andy A. Armstrong, the 112th Recruit Class entered the room standing tall and marching in step to a cadence strongly affirming, "a trooper's life is meant for me."

Once everyone was assembled, Pastor Dale D. Richey, Pisgah Baptist Church, Excelsior Springs, MO, gave the invocation and later the benediction. Troop F Color Guard members Sergeant Ron D. Kyle, Sergeant Nick J. Borgmeyer, Corporal Tim C. Fick, and Trooper Brandon L. Harris presented the colors flawlessly with respect and presence. Sergeant Andy A. Henry (H) sang the national anthem.

Governor Michael L. Parson provided the keynote at graduation. During part of his comments, he addressed the new troopers' families and friends. "I want you to understand the importance of their job and supporting them," said the governor. "These troopers are going to get the call to go and they are going to go. I think it's important to recognize what they do is important."



Sgt. Ron Kyle, Sgt. Nick Borgmeyer, Tpr. Brandon Harris, and Cpl. Tim Fick prepare to present the colors.

He told the new troopers they would rely on their training throughout their career. "The day will come that you'll have to utilize your training," said Gov. Parson. He told the class they needed to be prepared to make the right decisions and would be held accountable for everything they did. He reminded them they are public servants. "Your job is to help people every day ... I wish each and every one of you well. Congratulations!"

Judge Patricia Breckenridge, Supreme Court of Missouri, administered the Oath of Office to the new troopers. Prior to doing so, she congratulated the class and told them while working as a judge in her home county, she worked with local troopers who appeared in her court. "I found them to be the most respected professionals and the most quality individuals. It is a most particular privilege to be here today," she said.

It was official, 25 new troopers had just joined the ranks of the Missouri State Highway Patrol!

After presenting diplomas to the class, Colonel Eric T. Olson congratulated them. In the weeks prior to graduation, he had met and spoken with every member of the class. He said many of them spoke about the high caliber of training and camaraderie among the class. The colonel also shared that each member of the 112th Recruit Class understood the importance of establishing strong relationships in the communities they lived.



The 112th Recruit Class reports for graduation!

He asked them what leadership trait was the most important for a successful leader. "You're going to have an opportunity in your new zone to lead and to follow," said Col. Olson. Class members told him leaders must be honest and willing to do what they ask of others. "We agreed that leaders must take responsibility for their actions as well as the actions of those they lead. One of you said a leader must 'own it.' I couldn't agree more. Several of you value a leader who listens and is intentional in his actions, a critical thinker." The colonel shared that one person told him a leader has to understand that decisions lead others in a direction and the leader must be able to look ahead and determine if that path is headed toward success. "All of these leadership traits are important and I'm impressed with your insight," he said.

The colonel closed by telling the class, "Your career path will be long, but it will be interesting and it will be rewarding. And, if I can ever do anything to help you along that path, to help you be successful on your journey, please don't hesitate to let me know. Congratulations."

Four class awards were presented during the graduation ceremony. Trooper Brandon T. Dorff accepted the Physical Fitness Award. Trooper Mathew D. Easton accepted the Academics Award. Trooper Nicholas I. Kucsik accepted the Firearms Award. Trooper Nathan W. Downs accepted the Superintendent's Award, which is presented to the person with the most points overall.

Trooper William M. Henderson, Troop A, served as class commander of the 112th Recruit Class. On behalf of the class, he expressed his appreciation to those who had supported them and trained them throughout their Academy experience. He then shared the impact a trooper can have and how a local trooper had become a mentor to him and his friends.

"He engaged himself in our young adult lives and left an impression on

The names (hometowns) and first assignments of members of the 112th Recruit Class are listed below:

#### **Troop A**

Isaac L. Kimball (Columbia, MO), Zone 5, Ray & Carroll Counties Joshua W. Eickhoff (Alma, MO), Zone 8, Lafayette County Gregory A. Stineman (Cole Camp, MO), Zone 11, Cass County William M. Henderson (Edwards, MO), Zone 15, Henry County

#### **Troop C**

Markus G. Burns (Greenridge, MO), Zone 7, Warren County Lane C. Coleman (Ozark, MO), Zone 8, St. Charles County Brandon T. Dorff (Collinsville, CT), Zone 10, Franklin County Nathan W. Downs (Troy, MO), Zone 9, St. Charles County Brent W. Katzing (Sedalia, MO), Zone 9, St. Charles County Maurice Lang Jr. (Raymore, MO), Zone 2, N. St. Louis County Patrick B. Martin (Jacksonville, IL), Zone 10, Franklin County Tyson O. Murphy (Imperial, MO), Zone 1, N. St. Louis County Collin J. Nichols (Troy, MO), Zone 7, Warren County Joshua T. Parrott (Smithville, MO), Zone 8, St. Charles County

#### **Troop D**

Marissa L. Harris (Montgomery City, MO), Zone 15, Stone & Taney Counties

Christopher T. Schmidt (Rogersville, MO), Zone 4, Stone & Taney Counties

Scott J. Walden (Holt, MO), Zone 14, Barry County

#### Troop E

Kyle L. Hogan (Gainesville, MO), Zone 4, Bollinger/Cape Girardeau/ Scott Counties

Nathaniel V. Bishop (Willow Springs, MO), Zone 9, New Madrid & Pemiscot Counties

Tyler S. Reinke (Lincoln, MO), Zone 10, Dunklin County Richard W. Wylie (Wheaton, MO), Zone 11, Stoddard County

#### **Troop F**

Matthew M. Guinnip (Hallsville, MO), Zone 16, Camden & Miller
Counties

Matthew D. Easton (Hannibal, MO), Zone 17, Camden & Miller Counties

#### **Troop I**

Nicholas I. Kucsik (Bonnots Mill, MO), Zone 3, Crawford County Elijah D. LeBlanc (Anderson, MO), Zone 2, Phelps & Maries County

### -Graduates

Continued from page 11.

me that would never fade away," said Tpr. Henderson. "At some point in our lives, someone from this agency has undoubtedly had an effect on each one of us. Something that made us think, 'That is what I need to do."

"On my way to Jefferson City, the day before we began the Academy, I found myself extremely nervous," said Tpr. Henderson. "I messaged that now retired trooper I had met all those years before and told him I was nervous and possibly going to be sick. He said to me, 'It's going to be ok. That hat requires a little sacrifice'. 112 you have made that sacrifice. Now, go out and make it worth it."



Tpr. Brandon Katzing (A) congratulates his brother, Tpr. Brent Katzing (C). The Katzings are the fifth set of twins to serve as members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.



Tpr. Brandon Dorff (C) signs his Oath of Office.



The Honorable Patricia Breckenridge, Supreme Court of Missouri, congratulates Tpr. Scott Walden (D).

"As long as our decision-making process goes through the Patrol's Core Value filter first, we can take care of all the things that come out on the other side."

– Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent, in his remarks to the 112<sup>th</sup> Recruit Class upon their graduation.

## 12th CVO Class Graduates

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

On December 2, 2021, six happy commercial vehicle officers talked about their training experience in the minutes before graduation. Four of the six were new to the Patrol and attended 22 weeks of training. CVO I Brian M. Grier (H) and CVO I Maurice T. Riddle (A) were commercial vehicle inspectors previously and joined the class for 18 weeks.

The six classmates were understandably ready for graduation day. "It was a long stay," said CVO II Riddle.

All of them agreed that they had good instructors and learned a lot. CVO I Jennifer D. Suchman (A) said she enjoyed Stop and Approach training and found it extremely beneficial. "It brought everything we'd been learning together."

"Every instructor had a genuine passion for the subject they were teaching," said CVO II Riddle. His fellow officers agreed and CVO I Ashlie M. Close (E) added the instructors each had a niche.

"[Sergeant Matt B.] Koch (Q/TND) kept it interesting and informative," said CVO I Grier. "He is very serious, but delivers the information in an entertaining way."

They unanimously named Sergeant Aaron K. Griffin (Q/TND) as their favorite instructor and remembered everything involved in defensive tactics as being the hardest part of their training.

Captain Kevin C. Kelley (Q/CVE) served as director of ceremonies for the graduation. He welcomed everyone and then told those present the class started with 12, and only six were graduating.

"That is how hard this training is. I want to say thank you to their families. Without their support, these six commercial vehicle officers wouldn't have been able to complete the many weeks of training. We are bordered by eight states and that brings many trucks to our roadways. You'll be patrolling our highways making our state safer."

Colonel Eric T. Olson congratulated the class and recognized their commitment. "I can't tell you how pleased I am to see you make it to this day. It has taken a lot of commitment, which is one of our core values," the colonel said. "It is an interesting time in our society. I don't think our jobs and the tasks we perform have been any more important than they are today. This year, we are seeing an increase in traffic fatalities. The work you do is the first line of defense regarding

what is traveling in trucks on our high-

ways. Thank you."



Congratulations to the 12th CVO class (from l to r) CVO I Ashlie Close (E), CVO I Alexandria Wilbanks-Miller (A), CVO I Jennifer Suchman (A), CVO II Brian Grier (H), CVO I Ty Kixmiller (A), and CVO II Maurice Riddle (A).

Two awards were presented during the graduation ceremony. Commercial Vehicle Officer I Ty M. Kixmiller (A) earned the Firearms Award with a 96 percent. Commercial Vehicle Officer I Jennifer Suchman earned the Academic Award with a 95 percent.

Judge Scott Evans, Jefferson City municipal judge, administered the Oath of Office to the class and Col. Olson presented their post licenses to them. Retired Data Processing Specialist II Sylvester A. Kixmiller presented his grandson, CVO I Ty Kixmiller, his license.

At the end of the graduation, the 12th CVO Class shared a class video they had created showing their families some of their training experience.

Congratulations to the 12th CVO Class!

Capt. Kevin Kelley (Q/CVED) presents the Firearms Award to CVO I Ty Kixmiller (A).

CVO I Ashlie Close (E) signs her Oath of Office with Judge Scott Evans as witness. Listed are the names and assignments of the 12th CVO Class:

Ashlie M. Close – Troop E
Brian M. Grier – Troop H
Ty M. Kixmiller – Troop A
Maurice T. Riddle – Troop A
Jennifer D. Suchman – Troop A
Alexandria M.Wilbanks-Miller – Troop A

## Death

### Walter D. Ryan



Walter D. Ryan, 89, died on Thursday, November 4, 2021. Mr. Ryan joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member of the 16th Recruit Class on December 1, 1956. He was stationed in both Troop I and Troop C during his career and worked as a road trooper, zone corporal, zone sergeant, motorcycle trooper, and helicopter pilot. Mr. Ryan served on the Missouri State Fair detail for 23 years. He retired September 1, 1988, after 32 years of dedicated service. He was preceded in death by his wives, Dorothy Ann (Laramie) Ryan and Sharon

Ruth (George) Ryan, and a daughter. He is survived by four children, 12 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and numerous extended family, and friends. Visit the Bopp Chapel website to read Mr. Ryan's obituary at https://www.boppchapel.com/obituaries/obituary-listings?obId=23021030. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Ryan family.

### Ronald L. Lenzini



Ronald L. Lenzini, 88, of Macon, MO, died November 5, 2021, at the Samaritan Hospital in Macon, MO, fol-

lowing a lengthy illness. He served in the United States Army from 1953-55. Ron was stationed in Germany as an Army artillery fieldman. He was injured while on duty. He was appointed to the Patrol on October 12, 1958 as a member of the 19th Recruit Class. After graduation, Ron was assigned to the Brookfield Zone of Troop B and worked there until 1966 when he was reassigned to Troop B Headquarters. He was promoted to corporal and was one of the original 18 members assigned this newly created rank. He served Macon and Shelby counties until his promotion to sergeant when he assumed the duties of desk officer. He retired in March 1989 after serving and protecting the citizens of Missouri for 32 years. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Raeann of the home, and a daughter. He was preceded in death by a son. The family suggests memorials to the Bevier High School Athletic Department. To learn more about Ron, visit the Greening-Eagan-Hayes Funeral Homes website at https://www. greeningeaganhayes.com/obituary/ ronald-lenzini. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Lenzini family.

## Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:

Lt. Craig R. Kicker (F) - father-in-law Ret. Sgt. Ronald W. Jones - daughter Ret. Lt. Keverne L. McCollum - father Spec. Asst. Dianna L. Neier (Q/TND) - father

MVI I Brandy J. Cadwallader (A) - grandmother

Ret. MVI Sprv. Gleta L. Shelton - mother

Ret. Sgt. Herbert J. Hoffmann - wife Comm. Oper. III Emily L. Smith (D) grandmother

Cpl. Clay D. Moeller (A) - mother

Ret. Info. Analyst II Karen S. Kempker - father

Sgt. Chris L. Cerroni (B) - mother-inlaw

Ret. CIT III Wilma E. Hauser - husband

Ret. Clerk Typist III Barb M. Eiken - husband

Lt. S. Andy Coats (A) - father-in-law Ret. Asst. Chief Oper. Teresa J. Taylor - father

Ret. Chief DE Patti R. Zvolanek - father Ret. Chief Radio Oper. Steve J. Zvo-

lanek - father-in-law

CJIS Trainer Mike S. Zvolanek (Q/CJISD) - grandfather

Sgt. Rich A. Stewart (Q/RCOD) - father-in-law

Ret. Cpl. Ronald L. Mattison - mother Chief Technician Randy L. Vanscoy (Q/CommD) - sister

Comm. Oper. III Abby L. Howard (H) - father-in-law

Sgt. Garrett J. Loring (Q/DDCC) - grandfather



### John M. Kelemen



John M. Kelemen Sr., 85, died Tuesday, December 7, 2021. Mr. Kelemen joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as an automotive service technician on December 31, 1982. He retired on August 31, 2002. He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Carol Jean Kelemen (nee Ruhl). Mr. Kelemen is survived by his daughter, son, four grandchildren, extended family members, and friends. His family suggests memorial contributions may be made to Backstoppers Inc. Visit the Kutis Funeral Home Inc. website at https://www.kutisfuneralhomes. com/kelemen-john-m-sr/ to read the notice. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Kelemen family.

### John T. Prine



John T. Prine, 73, died peacefully Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at his home on Table Rock Lake, from complications after a stroke. He earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Drury University in Springfield, MO, and joined the Marine Corps Reserves while still in college. John was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol on July 2, 1972, as a member of the 41st Recruit Class. He served for 34 years as trooper, criminal investigator, and as commanding officer of Troop D. He retired as a captain on August 1, 2006. John was given the distinguished honor of being the Patrol's 2002 Officer of the Year after being nominated by his peers. He served in the Marine and Army Reserves for 24 years. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Robbie Prine, of Springfield, two daughters, and two granddaughters. The family suggests memorials be sent to Wounded Warrior Project (www.woundedwarriorproject.org) or to The MAS-TERS (themastersmo.org). Visit the Walnut Lawn Funeral Home website at https://www.walnutlawnfuneralhome.com/obituaries/John-Thomas-Prine?obId=23366820 to learn more about John. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Prine family.

## Lawrence D. Jefferson



Lawrence D. Jefferson Sr., 98, of Gallatin, MO, died Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at Liberty Hospital in Liberty, MO, surrounded by his loving family. He served in the United States Army during World War II from July 23, 1943 to December 21, 1945. He was awarded five Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, the Legion of Merit, and Victory medals for his participation in the European, Rhineland, Ardenness, and Northern France campaigns. In 1950, Lawrence began his career with the Missouri Highway Patrol as a weight inspector in Cameron, MO. In 1951, he attended training at the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy to become a trooper as an individual, rather than a member of a recruit class. During his years of service, he was assigned to Clinton, Caldwell, Dekalb, and Daviess counties, and ended his career working at the Troop H Headquarters. He proudly served the citizens of Missouri for 36 years, retiring as a sergeant on December 31, 1985. Lawrence was preceded in death by his wife and siblings. He is survived by his son, daughter, six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, one great-greatgrandson, and additional extended family members. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Active Aging Resource Center in care of the Stith Funeral Home in Gallatin,

Continued on the next page.



#### — Jefferson

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MO. To learn more about Lawrence, visit the Stith Funeral Home website at https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/23043139/l-d-jeff-jefferson. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Jefferson family.

#### Ronald G. Beck



Ronald G. Beck, 69, of Springfield MO, died Friday, November 12, 2021, in his home. He joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a research analyst assigned to the Information Systems Division on December 15, 1986. He was promoted to research and planning manager November 18, 1999, serving in the Patrol's Statistical Analysis Center. He retired on February 1, 2013. Ronald is survived by his wife of 41 years, Janna, of the home, two daughters, three grandchildren, a brother, and many friends. His wife, Janna, said the Patrol family meant a great deal to him. She suggested those wishing to send a memorial send it to The MASTERS, 780 County Road 383, Whitewater, MO 63785. Ronald was cremated and no formal services were planned. For more information about Ronald, visit the Walnut Lawn Funeral Home Ltd., DeGraffenreid-Wood Crematory website at https://www. walnutlawnfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Ronald-Gene-Beck?obId=23065399#/ obituaryInfo. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Beck family.

## Wayne E. Talburt



Wayne E. Talburt, 62, of Sycamore, MO, died Friday, November 26, 2021, at Cox Medical Center South in Springfield, MO. He earned a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice, corrections, and sociology from College of the Ozarks. He earned a Master's in public administration from Missouri State University in Springfield in 1993. He worked for the Missouri State Water Patrol beginning in January 1981, and became a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol when the agencies merged in January 2011. Mr. Talburt retired at the rank of lieutenant in July 2016. During his work as a public servant, he served as dive team supervisor, dive team instructor, academy instructor, and criminal investigations instructor. He had numerous teaching experiences during his service: Missouri State Water Patrol Dive Team instructor, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, Missouri State Water Patrol Academy, Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy, Missouri State Conservation Department Academy, and St. Charles Police Academy. Mr. Talburt held numerous professional certifications and received several honors and awards for his work. He is survived by his wife, Ramona, three children, his mother, and many other family members. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to College of the Ozarks in care of Robertson-Drago Funeral Home, 211 West Main, West Plains, MO 65775. To learn more about Mr. Talburt, visit the Robertson-Drago Funeral Home website at https://www.robertsondrago.com/wayne-eldontalburt/. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Talburt family.

## Edward E. Dingman



Edward E. Dingman, 74, of Aurora, died December 1, 2021. He served his country in the United States Army from 1966 to 1968 and was in Vietnam during the Tet Offensive. Ed graduated from the Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy in 1971 and was assigned to Troop A, Lee's Summit. In 1976, he transferred to Aurora, MO, in Troop D, Springfield, where he remained until he retired in 1999. In addition to his wife of 53 years, Judy, Ed is survived by his daughter, son, grandchildren, extended family, and many friends. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Missouri's National Veterans Memorial or the 17th Artillery Regiment Association's Scholarship Fund, all in care of the Crafton-Cantrell Funeral Home. To learn more about Ed. visit the Crafton Cantrell Funeral Home website at https://www.craftoncantrellfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Edward-Eugene-Dingman?obId=23279888. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Dingman family.

## Deaths

### Robert J. Hagan



Robert J. Hagan, 86, of Jefferson City, MO, died Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at Villa Marie Nursing Home. He earned his degree in criminal justice from Lincoln University in Jefferson City. He served his country in the United States Navy Reserves. He joined the Patrol in August 1956 as a driver examiner. In October 1958, he was appointed to the 19th Recruit Class. His first assignment was as a road officer in Troop C, and he went on to be an instructor at the Academy. He was on the Dive and Recovery team for a brief time and was a long-time member of the Patrol's Pistol Team, where he won countless trophies and awards. He was among the state's top marksmen for many years. Bob served as Troop C safety officer, an Academy instructor, in the Personnel and Training Division, and the Traffic Division. In 1983, when the Driver Examination Division was formed, he was assigned as director of the new division. In 1991, he became part of the superintendent's staff serving as staff assistant and was given the task of creating the troop inspection program. He retired as a captain in 1992. Survivors include a daughter, a son, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters, and many nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 65 years, Marcia, and a daughter. The family suggests memorials may be sent to the American Legion Post 5, 1423 Tanner Bridge Road, Jefferson City, MO

65101, or to the Missouri State Troopers Association, 1729 East Elm Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101. For more information about Bob's life, visit the Dulle-Trimble Funeral Home website at https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/23291461/robert-joseph-hagan. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Hagan family.

### Lonnie R. Lejeune



Lonnie R. Lejeune, 58, of Sikeston, MO, died December 10, 2021, in St. Louis, MO. He was a retired U.S. Navy chief petty officer and Missouri State Highway Patrol corporal. Lonnie was a true patriot and perhaps best known for having a big heart and always lending a helping hand to anyone in need. In his downtime, he loved restoring classic cars in his custom-built workshop and spending time with family, friends, and his numerous beloved dogs.

Born July 13, 1963, in Fayetteville, NC, to the late Herman Lejeune and Gladys Toler, Lonnie went on to graduate from Douglas Byrd High School in 1981. While there, he was a member of the ROTC Honor Guard. In April 1982, Lonnie entered the United States Navy and proudly served on active duty until April 1988. He was a submarine sonar basic maintenance technician aboard the USS Hammerhead (SSN-663) and deployed often around the world in defense of the United States. Lonnie then served in the U.S. Navy Reserves

as a master-at-arms. While in the reserves, he deployed to Bahrain, Iraq, and Kuwait (Ali Al Salem Airbase), and to Fort Jackson in South Carolina. He was selected for numerous honors and assignments and was a decorated veteran, being awarded three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medals, five Good Conduct medals, and the Submarine Warfare Specialist qualification. His greatest Navy accomplishment was his promotion to the rank of chief petty officer. He retired from military service in 2006 after 23 years of dedicated service.

Alongside his distinguished military career, Lonnie pursued another passion – law enforcement. He started as a uniformed officer with the Raleigh (NC) Police Department. Following that, he accepted a position in the Patrol's 69th Recruit Class in 1995. He was first assigned to Troop C, St. Louis, and transferred to Troop E, Poplar Bluff, in 2001. Lonnie became a commercial vehicle enforcement trooper in 2007. In 2013, he was promoted to the rank of corporal. He fulfilled many special assignments as a trooper, including U.S. Department of Transportation schools in Jefferson City, MO; Federal Nuclear School in Las Vegas, NV; Joplin, MO, tornado support; Poplar Bluff, MO, flood relief; Wappapello flood relief; civil unrest in Ferguson, MO; the Stockley trial verdict; presidential debates between Donald J. Trump and Hillary R. Clinton; and President Donald Trump's visit to Cape Girardeau, MO. During his service to the citizens of Missouri, he accepted the Patrol's Lifesaving Award, the Department of Public Safety Employee of the Month, the Missouri Peace Officers Association Hank Johnson Award Officer of the Year, and the Missouri Police Chiefs Association Medal of Honor.

Lonnie is survived by his wife of 21 years, Jeannie Gossett Lejeune, of the home in Sikeston. He is also survived by his two sons, Bradley (and his wife, Haleigh) Coleman and Lonnie

Continued on the next page.



### \_ Lejeune

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Lejeune, both of Sikeston; a brother, Lloyd (and his wife, Renee) Lejeune of Fayetteville, NC; two sisters, Lisa Lejeune Kiser of Sanford, NC, and Lori Lejeune, of Iron Mountain, MI; his father- and mother-in-law, Dale and Joan Gossett, of Sikeston; and a brother-inlaw, Kenneth (and his wife, Tammy) Gossett, of Eagle River, AK.

Visitation occurred Thursday, December 16, 2021, at the Ponder Funeral Home, in Sikeston. Services took place Friday, December 17, 2021, at the Sikeston High School Field House in Sikeston, MO, under the direction of Ponder Funeral Home. Interment immediately followed at the Missouri Veteran's Cemetery in Bloomfield, MO, with full military and Patrol honors.

Pallbearers included retired Navy BU1 (SCW) Jerald Talbert, retired Navy MAC (FMF) Danny Williford, retired Navy MAC David Markham, Captain Ben Jones (Q/RCOD), Sergeant Doug M. McDaniel (E) and Corporal Josh B. Doyle (E). Honorary pallbearers were Navy Lt. Keith Almond, Lonnie Dale Lejeune, Bradley Coleman, Lloyd Lejeune, Kenneth Gossett, and Gentry Friend.

Memorial donations may be made in Lonnie's honor to the Sikeston PAWS Humane Society, 1900 Compress Rd., Sikeston, MO 63801.

## Michael E. Weaver



Michael Elston Weaver, 82, of Willow Springs, MO, died Monday,

December 20, 2021, at Willow Care Nursing Home. On September 14, 1957, he was married at Batesville, AR, to Kathy Young. Mr. Weaver was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member of the 27th Recruit Class on June 1, 1964. He achieved a bit of fame during his years as a safety officer by conducting programs at several local schools and radio stations, and even appearing on Aunt Norma's Children's Hour, teaching children about safety and to obey state laws. He retired as a sergeant on July 30, 1994. He is survived by his wife, Kathy, of the family home, two children, four grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Fair Haven Children's Home and may be left at or mailed to Robertson-Drago Funeral Home, 211 West Main, West Plains, MO 65775. To learn more about Mr. Weaver, visit the Robertson-Drago Funeral Home website at https:// www.robertsondrago.com/michael-eweaver/. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Weaver family.

## A Heart Of Glass Formed From A Heart of Gold

By Cpl. Kyle A. Green (F)

Troop F recently had someone stop in and drop off beautifully handmade "thin blue line" glass hearts. You may be asking yourself, "What's the purpose of these kiln formed works of art?" "Why would someone make one for each person in the troop?" The answer is very simple: It's a kind gesture, a thank you to our employees for serving the communities' needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These fused glass, pocket-sized hearts are the brainchild of Mrs. Michele Spry, a Boone County resident. She started dabbling in glass making to learn a new skill and use her creativity. In 2020, she presented employees at Boone Hospital Center with something they could wear or keep in a pocket. She wanted to remind our medical community their hard work, personal sacrifice, and dedication was truly appreciated. After making something for the Boone Hospital Center fam-

ily, she then turned her efforts to the law enforcement community.

Making the hearts is no easy task. Mrs. Spry fires up her two kilns to 1,500 degrees. The glass is carefully warmed up and cooled down multiple times over a 48-hour period. The hearts were presented to Captain Corey J. Schoeneberg and Lieutenant Craig R. Kicker with a request they be given to all Troop F employees as a reminder that the community cares.

Mrs. Spry is also involved in other acts of kindness for her community. She is part of the Angel Gown Program, an active member of the Honor Flight Program, and part of a new program called Honor Everywhere, which is a virtual reality experience created for the veterans who are unable to travel on an Honor Flight.

Thank you, Mrs. Spry, for your creative reminder that our communities support law enforcement.



Troop F employees each received a "thin blue line" heart as a token of appreciation.



Mrs. Michele Spry (center) presented "thin blue line" hearts to Capt. Corey Schoeneberg and Lt. Craig Kicker.

## **Troop B Names Kelly Honorary Trooper**

By Cpl. Justin S. Dunn (B)

On December 14, 2021, Captain Erik A. Gottman, commanding officer of Troop B, presented Linn County resident Levi Kelly with a Missouri State Highway Patrol Honorary Trooper Certificate at Troop B Headquarters, in Macon.

On September 18, 2020, at approximately 11:55 a.m., Ms. Stephanie A Bressan, of Springfield, IL, was involved in a traffic crash on U.S. Highway 36 at the Chariton River in Macon County. Ms. Bressan was traveling westbound in her 2006 Hyundai Santa Fe when she fell asleep while driving. The vehicle traveled off the south side of the road, struck some large rocks, and went airborne. The vehicle landed in the Chariton River and became partially submerged.

Ms. Bressan stated she could not get her door open but was able to open the window as her vehicle started to sink. She was attempting to get out of the vehicle as

it slowly sank. She shared with me she was petrified of water she could not see through and thought she was in trouble. She stated she saw a man, later identified as Mr. Levi Kellv. on the bank of the river. Ms.

Pictured are (1 to r) Capt. Eric Gottman (B), Mr. Bo Bressan (Ms. Bressan's son), Ms. Stephanie Bressan, Mr. Levi Kelly, MVI Sprv. Mike Kelly (Levi's father), and Ms. Shelly Huffmon (Levi's mother).

Bressan said Mr. Kelly swam to her vehicle and was able to lift her out through the window before her vehicle became completely submerged. Mr. Kelly kept her calm and assisted her as they swam to the riverbank. His quick action was instrumental in saving Ms. Bressan's life.

The Patrol presents the Honorary Trooper Certificate to citizens who perform

in an exemplary manner and under dangerous conditions to aid another. It is also presented when a citizen assists a member in the performance of their duties. A trooper nominates someone for this award.

Thank you, Mr. Kelly, for taking action in a dangerous situation to assist a person in need.

# Thank Clfou

Thank you so much for your department's generous donation of 3,870 pounds of food for our pantry. It was very kind and thoughtful of your department to conduct a holiday food drive. Your donation will be so helpful in allowing us to have food available for those in need during the holiday season. God bless you for your caring hearts and have a wonderful Christmas season and a New Year full of health, laughter, and love!

> For Him. Marilyn DeFeo Volunteer Executive Director Samaritan Center

The 505th School of Police Staff and Command was made possible through the efforts of several individuals. Northwestern University Center for Public Safety recognizes and thanks Colonel Eric T. Olson, Captain

Joseph Armistead, and the men and women of the Missouri State Highway Patrol for their hospitality and assistance offered to SPSC class #505. We thank you for your tireless efforts.

I just wanted to say thank you to the Patrol family and express my heartfelt appreciation for all who sent cards and condolences on Richard's passing. I miss you all, and it warmed my heart to hear from you! I received many wonderful messages of comfort and each one was truly appreciated. Thank you.

> God Bless and Merry Christmas! Ret. Fis. & Bud. Analyst III Jan Amsinger

On behalf of our entire family, I would like to thank everyone who was

at the service, sent cards, texted, and called with their heartfelt condolences after the death of my dad, retired Sergeant L.D. "Jeff" Jefferson Sr. I am so blessed to have had such a role model in my life and to have been given the opportunity and privilege of sharing badge #159 with Dad (a combined total of 66 years). Please know that your kindness, thoughts, and prayers were a great comfort to us.

> God bless and be safe, Ret. Sgt. L.D. "Denney" Jefferson

We would like to express our

appreciation to our Missouri State Highway Patrol family for the prayers, calls, cards, and other expressions of sympathy upon the recent death of Edward E. Dingman (retired 195), husband and father. He was proud of his years of service with MSHP. The honor guard from Troop D provided the final bit of recognition, a particular formality that was always of importance to him.

> Judy Dingman Leslie Dingman James and family Eric E. Dingman and family

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### **Tpr.** Costley Prevents Serious Crime

#### By Sgt. Michael P. McClure (D)

Trooper Zachary T. Costley (D) accepted the Department of Public Safety Sworn Team Member of the Month award at a presentation December 28, 2021, at Troop D Headquarters. Tpr. Costley was recognized for his investigative work subsequent to a vehicle stop which thwarted a possible kidnapping.

On August 8, 2021, Tpr. Costley was on duty patrolling U.S. Highway 65 in Taney County when he observed a vehicle with expired registration. While conducting the traffic stop, the driver refused to identify himself and Tpr. Costley called for backup. Two officers arrived at the scene and Tpr. Costley advised the driver he was under arrest. The driver resisted, requiring all three officers to secure the man in handcuffs after a brief struggle. A search of the man's pockets revealed a list of items that raised Tpr. Costley's suspicions. The items included duct tape, zip ties, a bat, and a stun gun. Tpr. Costley applied for a search warrant, and after receiving one, searched the vehicle locating some of the listed items in the vehicle. He



(l to r) Major Greg Smith (Q/FOB), DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Tpr. Zachary Costley (D), Col. Eric Olson, and Capt. Justin McCullough (D) pause for a photo after the award ceremony.

also applied for a search warrant for the driver's cell phone and learned the man and his wife were allegedly conspiring to kidnap their children from a foster home. Home security camera footage from the foster home recorded the man recently casing the home. Tpr. Costley's vigilance and attention to certain criminal behaviors augmented with his immediate action most likely prevented a serious violent crime from happening.

Missouri Department of Public Safety Director Sandra K. Karsten presented the award to Tpr. Costley.

Colonel Eric T. Olson also congratulated Tpr. Costley on his award and said, "This is an excellent example of the impact we have." He also said officers should recognize and follow their instincts during a traffic stop, even when the situation seems as simple as a registration violation.

Congratulations Trooper Costley!