

# PATROL NEWS

March-April 2020



“Over 85 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”



*Cover story on page 3.*

# From the Staff ...

**Major Greg K. Smith**  
**Field Operations Bureau**



In 2016, staff from the Field Operations Bureau attended an informative training presentation on the Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) in San Antonio, Texas. The information was presented by Texas state troopers who had assisted in its development. The curriculum trains road officers how to recognize the signs of human trafficking and child exploitation when officers contact the public during routine traffic stops. The training goes hand-in-hand with the Patrol's primary mission **to serve and protect all people by enforcing laws and providing services to ensure a safe and secure environment.**

Captain Norman A. Murphy, assistant commander of the Field Operations Bureau, worked extensively with the Texas Department of Public Safety to coordinate a training plan to effectively teach members of the Patrol and other law enforcement agencies. This plan was put into action with the first training session taking place at General Headquarters in July 2018. The training was a huge success and was taught by several Texas state troopers, a Texas Department of Family and Protective Services investigator, the Missouri Attorney General's Office, and the Missouri Information Analysis Center. Forty people attended the first session with six receiving additional training allowing them to train other officers.

IPC instructors from Field Operations Bureau, Division of Drug & Crime, Gaming Division, Governor's Security Division, and Training Division, with the assistance of the MIAC and the Missouri Office of Prosecution Services, have now provided IPC training and made presentations to over 1,000 troopers, probation and parole officers, state park rangers, and numerous other law enforcement agencies from around Missouri. Officers who have attended the training have commented how eye opening the training was and how it has provided them with the knowledge and skills to take the next step when they suspect something isn't right during a traffic stop or during contact at a gaming property. The results have been phenomenal and the coordination between road troopers, Gaming officers, and DDCC investigators is proving successful. Since July 2018, troopers have documented 172 incidents, which resulted in 113 arrests, 124 sex offender contacts, and 25 victims identified/rescued. The IPC Crimes Against Persons Training Unit of the Texas Department of Public Safety has recognized several troopers for their outstanding efforts to protect and rescue young trafficking victims.

The Patrol has an outstanding reputation for removing impaired drivers, drug interdiction, and arresting criminals. IPC training has added another critical tool in the tool belt of troopers and law enforcement officers from around the state. I am extremely proud of the ongoing efforts of troopers and how those efforts are making a tremendous and potentially lifesaving impact on the lives of those who are most vulnerable.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G.K. Smith".

The official publication of the  
Missouri State Highway Patrol

*Celebrating Over 50 Years Of News*

# PATROL NEWS

Michael L. Parson, Governor  
State of Missouri

Sandra K. Karsten, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Eric T. Olson, Superintendent  
Missouri State Highway Patrol

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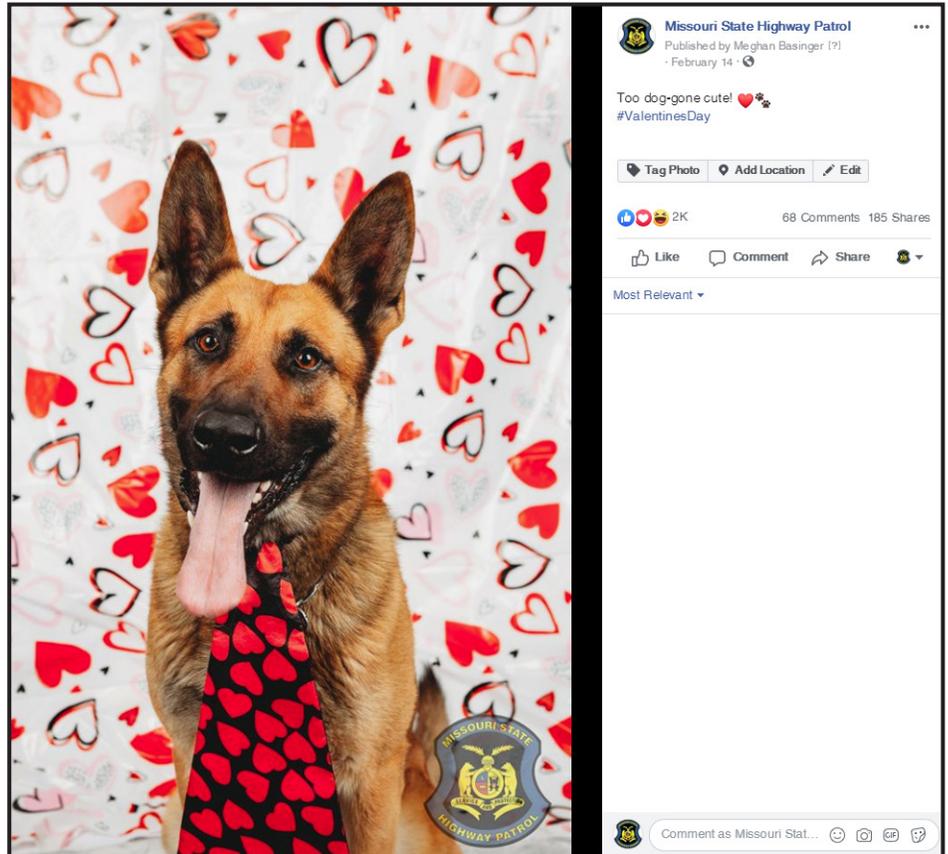
# PATROL NEWS

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"Over 85 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"

Volume 54 • Number 5

## Social Media Snapshot



*Who's a good boy? K-9 Rony is! He was all smiles for the Valentine's Day photo shoot (tie and all)! This photo got over 2,000 reactions and reached 45,000 people.*

## Cover

*Members of the 109th Recruit Class learn how to properly deploy the ASP baton.*

# Crime Laboratory Division Is Growing!

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

A groundbreaking ceremony on November 8, 2019 helped make plans look more like a reality for the Patrol's Annex. The groundbreaking marked the start of construction to enlarge the Annex by 7,956 square feet! The new space will be home to the Crime Laboratory Division's DNA Section. Construction is being handled by Cahills Construction Inc. of Rolla, MO, with an expected cost of \$2,270,000. Director Brian K. Hoey, Q/CLD, and Laboratory Manager Susanne R. Fleetwood, Q/CLD, took time for an interview about the project. Here's what they had to say:

**Patrol News editor:** How much time passed from recognizing the need for the addition to the groundbreaking ceremony on November 8, 2019?

**Director Hoey:** The need has been recognized for years. For many years we requested an entire new lab. In late 2016, when DNA backlogs began to rise, officials began to take notice. Discussions regarding sexual assault kits began in earnest. We initially discussed needing more FTEs, then the question of space came up again. We made the initial request to staff in June 2017, which became a decision item for the Legislature in August 2017 and was approved in May 2018. The Patrol's command staff and the Department of Public Safety were very supportive. The blueprints were completed in the spring 2019, a bid process ensued with the bid being awarded in August 2019. Construction began in October 2019 and is scheduled to be completed October 13, 2020. We should be moved in by year's end and up and running early 2021. From the original conception of the idea to functional lab, it will have been nearly five years.

**Patrol News editor:** From your perspective, what does this addition mean to the Patrol's Crime Lab?

**Director Hoey:** It is huge in both a metaphorical and literal sense! The



Official groundbreaking photo: Major Sarah Eberhard (Q/CIB), Crim. Sprv. Ruth Montgomery (Q/CLD), Major Vince Rice (Q/ASB), Director Brian Hoey (Q/CLD), Ms. Tonie Cahill (Cahill's Construction), Lt. Col. Malik Henderson, Mr. John Jones (Cahill Construction), Col. Eric Olson, Director Cathy Brown (Q/FFD), Crim. Sprv. Shawn Bailes (Q/CLD), Major Lance MacLaughlin (Q/ESB), Crim. Sprv. Brittany Baldwin (Q/CLD), and Major Mike Turner (Q/SSB).

lab is going to be 8,000 square feet. Currently, our GHQ DNA operations are operating in roughly a combined 3,000-square-foot area. Metaphorically, this is a big deal. We are very cognizant of the pressure on us to bring DNA case backlogs and turnaround times down, including the sexual assault kits. We understand that the law enforcement community and criminal justice system expects more from us. Quite honestly, the citizens of Missouri deserve better. With more capacity, we will operate more efficiently and effectively, and we are more capable of expanding our DNA staff to handle caseloads, which we accomplished in the FY '20 budget with five additional DNA FTE. What frequently gets overlooked when discussing constructing a "DNA addition" is the fact that the nearly 3,000-square-foot vacated by the DNA discipline will be reclaimed by other disciplines in the lab (Latent Prints, Firearms, and Trace), allowing them the opportunity to expand and become more efficient and effective as well.

**Patrol News editor:** How many employees will share the new space?

**Lab. Mgr. Fleetwood:** Presently, 19 people are scheduled to work in the new facility. Nine are from the DNA Casework Section, five from CODIS, and five from the recently created DNA Screening Section. Since these groups share many instruments and processes, we will combine several elements to capture space and maximize efficiency.

**Patrol News editor:** Can you describe the new space?

**Lab. Mgr. Fleetwood:** Specific areas will include screening evidence for biological material and DNA, DNA extraction, and a "clean room." The clean room is where we perform a critical step of the DNA analysis, the polymerase chain reaction. This process copies areas of DNA about a billion times, so it can be used to compare crime scene evidence to known individuals. This process serves two purposes, it isolates our areas of interest

*Continued on the next page.*

## — Laboratory

Continued from page 4.

and it “amplifies” the amount of DNA, so we have enough to analyze. The reason there must be a “clean room” is twofold. If we are making a billion copies of something, we certainly don’t want a “contaminant” getting copied. Secondly, when we have a billion copies of highly concentrated, purified DNA, we certainly don’t want that out of the “clean room” to commingle with DNA that hasn’t been through the copying process yet. If that were to occur, we could end up having a billion times a billion (a quintillion) copies of the original DNA floating around. I would point out that our personnel are outstanding, trained, and diligent. The clean room provides an additional safety net.

**Patrol News editor:** Anything else you want to share?

**Lab. Mgr. Fleetwood:** It has been a challenging, but rewarding experience to go through this process. They don’t teach you lab building, government budgets, geotechnical surveys, or convincing-the-Legislature classes in biology school. Consequently, much of our involvement in this process has been like building a plane in flight. We will be happy to get into the building and do what we do best: Use DNA as the extraordinary crime fighting tool that it is and perform the important work we do for the great citizens of Missouri.

“Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.”

— Eleanor Roosevelt, political figure/diplomat/activist

# Comm. Oper. Trainee Goes Above & Beyond

**By Tpr. Sam D. Carpenter, Troop D**

On January 16, 2020, Communications Operator Trainee Jason L. Stephens accepted the Department of Public Safety’s December 2019 Non-Sworn Employee of the Month award. Jason was recognized for going above and beyond his assigned work responsibilities, and the care and concern he showed an elderly couple who was being scammed out of \$9,300.

In August, Jason was working at the front desk of Troop D Headquarters. He received a call from an elderly woman who said her husband had shipped \$9,300 in cash to a person they did not know. The couple had been instructed to hide the cash in a magazine and ship it to a person in Maryland using UPS. The scam victims were from outside the Troop D area and their money was headed to another state, but the woman was desperate for assistance. She had tried several times to reach someone at UPS without success. Jason helped her obtain the tracking number for her package and the phone number for the UPS receiving location. Utilizing this information, the woman finally reached someone in Maryland and stopped delivery of the package. Ultimately, the package with the money was returned to her.

Jason also relayed the information to the local sheriff’s office, so they could investigate further. Jason could have simply transferred the caller to their respective troop or local sheriff’s office, but instead took a broader view of his role as a communications operator. He made the choice to do more than what was expected of him. Through his quick thinking and willingness to help, Jason saved the couple from a financial disaster.

“Jason is to be commended for his resourcefulness and persistence in bringing this situation to a successful resolution,” said Colonel Eric T. Olson. “He is very deserving of the employee of the month award.”

“Jason performed his job in an exemplary manner and he is well deserving of this award,” said Captain John Enderle, Troop D.

Thank you, Jason, for setting an excellent example for us of what doing a little extra can accomplish.



Pictured are DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Comm. Oper. Trainee Jason Stephens, Troop D, Col. Eric Olson, and Captain John Enderle, Troop D.

# DPS Recognizes Corporal Greenan

By Sgt. Jeff R. Kinder, Troop G

The Department of Public Safety December 2019 Sworn Employee of the Month award honored Corporal R. Mike Greenan, Troop G, in a ceremony January 16, 2020. Cpl. Greenan currently serves as Troop G property control supervisor. The award came as a result of Cpl. Greenan's immediate response, quick and thorough investigative work, and bravery, which led to the capture of a murder suspect in Texas County in October 2019.

On October 10, 2019, the Texas County Sheriff's Department notified Troop G communications of a male subject lying in the ditch near the junction of Missouri Highway 17 and Missouri Route W. The man was bleeding profusely from the chest as a result of a gunshot wound. He told witnesses he had been shot by someone he knew. Cpl. Greenan had just reported for duty when the call came in and overheard the dispatch. He quickly responded to the scene where first responders were treating the victim. Once on scene, Cpl. Greenan learned the identity of the suspect, a person with whom he was familiar due to previous enforcement action. Unfortunately, the victim died as he was being transported to a hospital.

Cpl. Greenan drove to Mountain View, MO, in an attempt to locate the suspect, who had recently bonded out of jail for a different offense. He located the father of the man who had provided the bond and learned valuable and incriminating evidence about the suspect's intentions during an interview. After the interview, Cpl. Greenan was traveling on Route W when a vehicle belonging to the suspect met him. Shortly thereafter, he located the vehicle in a private driveway and saw the suspect running toward the residence. He pursued the suspect on foot and took him into custody without incident. Cpl. Greenan continued to investigate and interview potential witnesses. That afternoon, he obtained first degree murder and unlawful use of a weapon warrants for the suspect.



Pictured l to r: DPS Director Sandra Karsten presented Cpl. Michael Greenan with the December 2019 DPS Employee of the Month award. Col. Eric Olson is also pictured.

Cpl. Greenan's rapid response, coupled with his interviewing and investigative skills quickly resulted in murder charges being filed against the suspect.

"Cpl. Greenan's tenacity in investigations has served him well during his Patrol career," said Captain Bruce D. Fiske, Troop G. "Even though his current assignment does not require him

to perform the line function, his initiative serves to remind us regardless of our job, we are all troopers. His actions reflect the highest standards of our agency."

Colonel Eric T. Olson presented Corporal Greenan with a superintendent's challenge coin and congratulated him on being named DPS Employee of the Month for December 2019. "I appreciate Cpl. Greenan's attention to duty and commitment to public service," said Col. Olson. "He is very deserving of this honor."

## "IF I COULD JUST GO BACK ..."

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

The "If I Could Just Go Back ..." video uses photographs, music, and testimonials of victims and family members. The video, released October 24, focuses on risky behaviors behind the wheel, such as: drinking and driving, failure to use occupant restraints, inattentive driving, texting, and excessive speed. It is appropriate for those 14 years of age and older. The Patrol's Public Information & Education Division and Training Division's MultiMedia Unit created the new generation 15-minute video. Public information officers at each troop headquarters are available to schools, civic organizations, and churches to present a safety program which includes the showing of "If I Could Just Go Back ..." There is no cost for the program.

The video is a collaborative effort among the Missouri State Highway Patrol, State Farm, Evergy, Farm Bureau, Operation Lifesaver, and Bloomsdale Excavating Co. Inc. Additional sponsors include the family and friends of the late Mr. Dave Mudd, Missouri Electric Cooperatives, and The Builders' Association.

IF I COULD  
JUST GO BACK

# NEW OUTDOOR RANGE PROVIDES MUCH NEEDED TRAINING SITE

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

At 2:30 p.m., January 8, a groundbreaking ceremony took place at the site of the new outdoor range north of state surplus property on Missouri Route 179. Governor Michael L. Parson, Department of Public Safety Director Sandra K. Karsten, Colonel Eric T. Olson, and Director Catherine R. Brown, Q/FFD, spoke briefly at the event.

“This new facility will have an impact on people’s lives,” said Gov. Parson. “In today’s time, you have to be trained to face anything. You don’t know what you’re going to come up against. Everyone wearing a uniform, the sacrifice they make—I can’t say enough about them.” Gov. Parson said Missouri needs to have the best possible for law enforcement, no matter what agency. He said he was willing to do whatever he could “... to make Missouri safer and to support law enforcement.”

Currently, the Patrol does not have an outdoor range and must utilize ranges owned by state or local agencies and, in some cases, private gun clubs. This results in scheduling difficulties and travel expenses. The new outdoor range will accommodate rifles, shotguns, and pistols. The facility will include a 50-person classroom, shoot

house (concrete/ballistic structure that can be used for tactical live fire training), bomb disposal area, and parking. The range will be utilized by current Patrol members for training and annual qualifications, recruits in Academy training, and other agencies attending classes taught by the Missouri State Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy. Other law enforcement agencies in the mid-Missouri area will have access to the range as well.

In his remarks, Col. Olson stressed that quality law enforcement training is essential. “This new range provides access to a professional facility,” said Col. Olson. “I want to thank Gov. Parson, the House of Representatives, and the General Assembly for approving the project. Thank you to DPS for its support.”

The Missouri Legislature appropriated \$2.8 million for the project in the FY 2019 budget. The property upon which the new facility will be constructed is already owned by the state.

“This project gives the Training Division a top-notch outdoor firearms training facility that we’ve needed for so many years,” said Sergeant Eric J. Keim, Training Division firearms instructor. “We’ve never had an outdoor range. We’ve always had to borrow other facilities. Long drives and scheduling conflicts became the norm and that resulted in valuable training time lost. Not only will we be able to provide better training for our troopers and recruits, but we’ll be better equipped to provide training for officers from across Missouri.”



Major Lance MacLaughlin, Q/ESB, District 139 Rep. Jared Taylor (Western Christian County), Colonel Eric Olson, Governor Michael Parson, DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Director Cathy Brown, Q/FFD, Major Vince Rice, Q/ASB, and Capt. Jerry West, Q/TND, used gold painted shovels to break ground officially for the new outdoor range facility.

# CFI Generously Supports Area First Responders

*By Tpr. Sam D. Carpenter, Troop D*

A generous donation from Contract Freighters Inc. of Joplin, MO, provided a new inflatable boat capable of swift water rescue for Troop D's marine enforcement troopers. The company donated \$15,000 each to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and the Joplin (MO) Fire Department,

Baxter Springs (MO) Fire Department, Miami (MO) Fire Department, Oronogo (MO) Fire Department, and Carl Junction (MO) Fire Department. The Duquesne (MO) Police Department received \$10,000. CFI President Greg Orr indicated the donations were a way to recognize first responders.

"This type of boat makes our job so much easier and safer," said Sgt. Walter L. Burr, Troop D. "We have used boats like this in the past to make swift water rescues. During one such rescue, the side of the boat got punctured and we were still able to finish the job and make it safely back to shore."



*(l to r) Pictured are Tpr. Kotter Kasischke, Sgt. Walter Burr, and Tpr. Sam Carpenter, all Troop D, CFI Vice President Mike Hinz, CFI President Greg Orr, CFI Outreach Coordinator Stephanie Klang, and CFI Marketing Director Katlin Owens."*

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## PATROL HISTORY TRIVIA

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*By Ret. Capt. Ernest M. Raub*

Colonel Hugh H. Waggoner implemented an innovative program in 1947 to promote greater uniformity in troop operations throughout the state. Special Order 43-47 read:

"Effective Nov. 1, 1947, the troop commander of each troop is to spend three consecutive days in another troop as designated by the schedule which follows. The visiting troop commander shall appear at the troop headquarters office by nine o'clock of the morning he is scheduled to visit

the troop. This will necessitate traveling to the troop the evening or night before. Arrangements for rooms are to be made by the troop commander who acts as host. Three days are to be spent in the troop, one of which is to be in the office, the other two on the road and in the troop zones. A study is to be made of the office routine as to how the work is delegated and handled, the schedule of working hours, the records and reports that are made out and filed, and the methods used in

assembling the data for the reports. The troop commanders are to familiarize themselves with the operation of the radio station as to the procedure for handling messages, how dispatches are handled between the station the cars and between the station in the network. There should be some discussion of the problems of the respective troops and what solutions were made to these problems. Study the accident

*Continued on the next page.*

## — TRIVIA

*Continued from page 8.*

statistics and the method of selective enforcement used to cut the accident rate in the troop area. The remaining days are to be spent touring the troop and to acquaint the troop commander with the troop highways and zones.”

Using this concept and a rotating schedule, every troop commander observed operations in every other troop in the state over the next several months. Col. Waggoner’s purpose was clearly stated: “... to bring more uniformity to the organization and greater harmony among commanding officers.” Each commander was required to write a detailed report to the superintendent after each visit to another troop area reporting what had been learned. The program provided a wide exchange of ideas, policies, and understanding. Commanders could better view issues from how they would impact the entire organization rather than a single troop area. For those captains who were later promoted, the experience also made them better prepared to serve in the higher ranks.

The program is similar in many ways to one implemented in 1994 by the Staff Inspection Section of the Research and Development Division. In that program, troop lieutenants are assigned for two weeks to assist the Staff Inspection Section with a staff inspection of another troop. The byproducts of insight, sharing ideas, offering and obtaining solutions to problems, enhanced conceptual skills, being better prepared for promotion, and greater uniformity are identical.

*(\*This article was printed originally in the March 1996 issue of the Patrol News.)*

“Do what you can,  
with what you have,  
where you are.”

— Theodore Roosevelt,  
president/conservationist/  
naturalist/writer

# Looking Back ... in the Patrol News

## 50 years ago

*March 1970* — This issue included a feature about Troop I with pictures. Troop H submitted this: Several years ago while on a “try to contact” Trooper John A. Leonardo met the person he was to contact on U.S. Highway 71 north of Maryville, MO. While trying a quick turnaround, Tpr. Leonardo’s patrol car skidded on the slick pavement. He lost control, left the road, and “took out” approximately 100 feet of fence, posts, and a telephone pole on the Austin Spoor farm. Mr. Spoor was a longtime friend of the Patrol. He asked a local sign painter to create a sign that said, “Leonardo’s Landing Strip—Closed.” The painter refused his request because he knew the only Leonardo in the county and said he would know who painted the sign. They reached a compromise. The painter provided a sign that said, “John’s Landing Strip—Closed.” Mr. Spoor said Tpr. Leonardo was the last person who “landed” on the farm.

## 40 years ago

*April 1980* — The cover showed three members of the Patrol preparing to assist police officers manning firetrucks at a fire station during the firemen’s strike in Kansas City, MO. An article recognized Sergeant J.E. Shirley’s outstanding professionalism as a polygraph operator. He administered his 4,000th polygraph examination on February 22, 1980. The article said occasionally a person visited the office to say hello to Sgt. Shirley and chat with him. His co-workers would later find out that same person was someone Sgt. Shirley had helped convict.

## 30 years ago

*March 1990* — This issue announced the Patrol was transitioning from American Red Cross First Aid to Emergency Medical First Responder training. The back cover included a photo of instructors and students in the first commercial driver license examiner training session. The five-day training session took place at the Safety Center at Central Missouri State University (now University of Central Missouri) in Warrensburg, MO. The class included driver examiners and their sergeants.

## 20 years ago

*April 2000* — Trooper Aaron M. Harrison, Troop E, accepted the February 2000 Department of Public Safety Employee of the Month award. The award recognized Tpr. Harrison’s initiative to investigate reports of anhydrous ammonia theft in his area. In conjunction with the Cape Girardeau Sheriff’s Office and Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force, Tpr. Harrison’s investigation led to 20 people being arrested for stealing anhydrous ammonia from local Co-ops.

## 10 years ago

*March/April 2010* — This issue paid tribute to Colonel Jim F. Keathley, who retired March 10, 2010. Colonel Ron K. Repogle became superintendent. The Automated Fingerprint Identification System turned 20 years old. Retired Lieutenant Colonel Ralph G. Biele was inducted into the Special Olympics Hall of Fame.

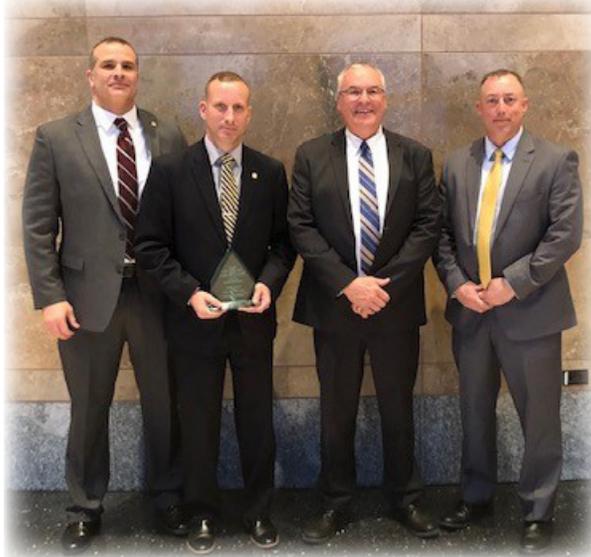
# Sgt. Johnson Accepts Distinguished Service Award

By Capt. Paul D. Kerperin, Q/DDCC

On January 9, 2020, Sergeant Jeff D. Johnson, Q/DDCC, accepted a Distinguished Service award from the U.S. Attorney's Office Eastern District of Missouri. The ceremony took place at the Thomas F. Eagleton United States Courthouse in St. Louis, MO. Each year, attorneys with the U.S. Attorney's Office take this opportunity to recognize members of law enforcement for their work in the cases being adjudicated. Sgt. Johnson's work as a liaison officer between the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the U.S. Attorney's Office-Cape Girardeau led to him being honored.

Sgt. Johnson streamlined the process for referring fire-arm/drug cases to the U.S. Attorney's Office for federal prosecution. During 2019, he was single-handedly responsible for referring 40 new cases that would have otherwise gone unknown. These were mainly cases derived from arrests made by road troopers in the Troop E area.

"To us, it's important to recognize an officer's contribution," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Sorrell. "I met Sgt. Johnson during a zone sergeants'



Standing with Sgt. Jeff Johnson (holding award) are Lieutenant Donnie Crump, Q/DDCC, AUSA Keith Sorrell, and Sergeant Scott Stoelting, Q/DDCC.

meeting at Troop E Headquarters. I was there to let them know we wanted to prosecute cases involving a traffic stop which led to the seizure of guns

or drugs. We hoped for better coordination between the officers and the U.S. Attorney's Office, which would enable us to learn about these cases more quickly. I felt we could do a better job with these cases."

"All of the troopers were responsive to the request for assistance. Sgt. Johnson became instrumental in streamlining the process of evaluating cases and choosing ones to forward to us. He's been an absolute gold mine," said Sorrell. "Jeff is one of those guys who works really hard and everything he's done is just ... *extra*. His work is representative of dozens and dozens of troopers out there every night making those stops and doing the dangerous work of walking up to the car doors. When I get them, their investigations are ready to go, they are worthy of being prosecuted at that moment. It's important to me to say thank you to Sgt. Johnson and the troopers he works with. It's working out well between the agencies over the last eight to nine months."

"I'm glad something is being written about this. I don't think the public truly knows how good their troopers are," said Sorrell.

## Henman Named Outstanding Volunteer

By Lt. D.J. Hedrick, Troop A

On February 6, 2020, the St. Joseph PTA Council recognized Driver Examiner III Donna S. Henman, Troop H, as Lafayette High School's Outstanding Volunteer. Lafayette High School's Principal, Dr. Ashly McGinnis, noticed DE Henman's hard work and chose her to be this year's outstanding volunteer.

DE Henman has been a volunteer at Lafayette High School for the last eight years. She has been extensively involved in Lafayette's Touchdown Club, Band Boosters, and Parent-Teacher-Student Association. She has served in many different capacities including secretary to president and is known as the person to call to get things accomplished.

Criteria for this award included:

- Genuine passion for volunteer service.
- Going above and beyond what is asked and finding new and innovative ways to serve.
- Encouraging those who volunteer and inspiring others to become active in volunteering.
- A significant accomplishment in the past year involving volunteers or volunteer service.

DE Henman has been with the Missouri State Highway Patrol for more than 15 years. We would like to congratulate Donna on her service to her community and making the lives of young people in her community better.



This Lafayette High School Facebook post announced that our very own DE Donna Henman was selected as the school's outstanding volunteer.

# Troopers Provide Support During Victory Parade

By Sgt. Andrew J. Bell, Troop A

On Wednesday, February 5, 2020, nearly 100 Patrol personnel were assigned to the 2020 Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl Victory Parade in downtown Kansas City, MO. At the request of the Kansas City (MO) Police Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol assisted with traffic control and related duties for the parade. The related duties included governor security, operations center overwatch, undercover surveillance, reuniting lost children with their parents, providing first aid, being observant of suspicious behaviors, and most importantly of officer presence. The Patrol worked col-

laboratively with nearly 20 agencies. Communications personnel ensured our troopers could communicate with each other and the various agencies. Due to the scope of the event, interoperability was vital for the safety of the citizens as well as the officers assigned to the detail.

The forecast was typical for a February day in the Show-Me State: 60% chance of snow, cloudy, and a high temperature of 29 degrees. Thankfully, the bulk of the snow stayed to the south and east of Kansas City and did not accumulate. However, the bitter cold temperatures prevailed as troopers reported to their posts at 6:30 a.m. The parade began at 11:30 a.m. at Berkley Park

near 2nd and Grand Avenue. It moved south on Grand Avenue to Pershing Road then traveled west on Pershing Road to Main Street, ending at Union Station for the rally at approximately 1:30 p.m. Troopers remained at their posts until approximately 4 p.m. to ensure a safe and secure environment for all attendees. Throughout the detail, troopers interacted with thousands of spectators and endured the elements. Many of the attendees thanked and praised the troopers for their dedicated service.

Troopers and civilian personnel from Troops A, D, F, H, as well as GHQ (D/DCC, Governor Security Division, and the Communications Division) were assigned to the detail.

*Tpr. Brian Peters, Troop A, took a few moments to show a new friend his patrol vehicle.*



*Tpr. Michael Owens, Troop A, paused for a picture with these excited KC Chiefs fans.*



*Cpl. Chad North handled traffic direction at this intersection.*

# THERE'S A NEW GAME IN TOWN

**By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED**

In a conversation between the Troop C public information and education officers, Corporal Juston R. Wheelley and Corporal Dallas R. Thompson, the topic of new public service announcements came up. The two corporals agreed that it was time for something different. Both remembered past projects with the St. Louis Cardinals and St. Louis Blues.

“When I heard about the new XFL team coming to St. Louis,” said Cpl. Thompson, “I knew we needed to reach out to them. St. Louis is a sports city and a football city. I thought working with them would be a great way for us to get some new safety messages out there and help introduce the new team.”

This reinvented professional XFL launched in February 2020. Originally, the eight teams were going to play a 10-game season followed by a single game division championship and a league championship. However, the COVID-19 situation ended the season early. The XFL suspended operations on March 20.

“Originally, I had no idea who to contact with the Battlehawks to begin

*The Patrol teamed up with the St. Louis BattleHawks to promote traffic safety.*

this journey,” explained Cpl. Thompson. “I got online and found a generic email address of info@xflbattlehawks. I sent a quick email to that address and within an hour, the senior manager of marketing, Catherine Boyle, returned an email to me and said she loved the idea.”

The Battlehawks organization has made it clear that it is all about the community and trying to give back, as well as bring communities together. “They also recognize the gap that has been made between a lot of communities (especially youth) and law enforcement,” said Cpl. Thompson. “They were thrilled with our idea of working together when we presented it to them.”

Over the next couple weeks Cpl. Thompson and Cpl. Wheelley met with the marketing team to discuss ideas and logistics of recording the PSAs. The Public Information & Education Division provided several PSAs specifi-



cally for the project. Cpl. Thompson requested the help of four additional Troop C troopers to assist with the recordings, and Sergeant Bob J. Parr, Q/RCOD, provided his recording/directing skills to the project. On Tuesday, February 18, the troopers met a group of players at the Battlehawks’ practice facility in Earth City (former Rams facility).

“We met with the team’s marketing director, as well as the offensive line and quarterback,” said Cpl. Thompson. “These men were outstanding to work with. All of them were energetic and enthusiastic about participating. This made the recordings fun and easy to create.”

The PSAs are being shown on the large screens during the games in the Dome at America’s Center. The entire

*Continued on the next page.*



Filming included this group of professionals from the BattleHawks XFL team and the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Pictured (l to r) are: Andrew McDonald (OT), Tpr. Estaban Reynoso, Michael Miller (OG), Cpl. Juston Wheelley, Sgt. Alexander Michajiczenko, Bruno Reagan (OT), Jordan Ta’Amu (QB, kneeling), Cpl. Dallas Thompson, Brian Folkerts (OG), Tpr. Jordan Brown, Jake Campos (OG), and Tpr. Alonzo Collins.

## — GAME

Continued from page 12.

Battlehawks' organization recognizes that a lot of their fans will be enjoying the games and some will drink alcohol. One PSA encourages fans to designate a sober driver or hire a ride home after the game. Another PSA recognizes how much of a problem distracted driving is.

"Troopers and Battlehawks alike want all the fans traveling to and from games to arrive safely," said Cpl. Thompson.

## WHAT IS THE XFL?

Although it is professional football, there are some noticeable differences between the XFL and the NFL. There are no extra points after a touchdown, but the teams can choose to run a play for one, two, or three points afterward. The XFL allows multiple forward passes as long as the first one is from behind the line of scrimmage. A tie at the end of the game is handled via a "shootout" approach. Additional changes related to the play clock, kick/punt returns, and replay challenges are aimed at making the games last less than three hours. The XFL is owned by WWE CEO Vince McMahon with Mr. Oliver Luck serving as commissioner. Games are broadcast on Saturdays and Sundays on ABC, ESPN, Fox, Fox Sports 1, and Fox Sports 2.

## Kliethermes' Commitment, Resourcefulness Recognized

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

Department of Public Safety Director Sandra K. Karsten presented the DPS January 2020 Non-Sworn Employee of the Month award to Criminalist III Dawn R. Kliethermes in a ceremony on February 10, 2020. The award recognized her exceptional laboratory work, organizational skills, and efforts to save the taxpayers' money.

Criminalist

Kliethermes has served as the Patrol's AFIS site administrator since 2011. The national Automated Fingerprint Identification System uses digital imaging to obtain, store, and analyze fingerprint data to identify criminal suspects. As the administrator, she is responsible for testing the system, reporting any issues, and ensuring these issues are addressed in a timely manner. Criminalist Kliethermes also responds to the needs and inquiries of Crime Laboratory Division latent print personnel and all Missouri AFIS users, which disrupts her other criminalist duties.

When the state was testing an extensive upgrade of its AFIS system, Criminalist Kliethermes discovered

ways to increase the efficiency of the system. For the last three years, she has worked with AFIS engineers to further enhance the system, including working with the FBI to avoid a vendor fee, saving the state \$52,000.

Following the May 22, 2019, Jefferson City tornado, she insisted on working despite the fact Governor Michael

testing was the only way to make sure that all Missouri law enforcement agencies had access to this vital system.

Colonel Eric T. Olson presented Criminalist Kliethermes with a superintendent's challenge coin and congratulated her. "Dawn, it is evident you are deserving of this recognition. Your commitment and resourcefulness are great examples for all of us."

"Dawn is not only a great employee and deserves this recognition, but she is an exceptional person who checks all the boxes of the Core Values, Mission and Vision," said Director Brian K. Hoey, Q/CLD. "The irony of Dawn getting this formal recognition is that she doesn't seek recognition for her work. Dawn is a low growth need, intrinsically motivated person who seeks the value of the work itself, not recognition for doing it."

"The Crime Laboratory Division is very proud of Dawn's accomplishment," Director Hoey continued. "We are lucky to have her, and the citizens of Missouri are lucky to have her analyzing latent print evidence."

*Congratulations, Criminalist III Dawn Kliethermes!*



DPS Director Sandra Karsten (right) presented the January 2020 DPS Employee of the Month to Criminalist III Dawn Kliethermes, Q/CLD. Col. Eric Olson (left) congratulated Criminalist Kliethermes.

Parson had given state employees the day off. Criminalist Kliethermes believed it was essential for the state to take part in the testing of an AFIS software update that had occurred the day before the tornado. She knew the

# The Final Piece Of The Puzzle

## Investigation Leads To First-Degree Murder Charge

*By Sgt. Andrew J. Bell, Troop A*

Family, friends, and co-workers gathered at 10 a.m., Friday, February 14, 2020 to congratulate Lieutenant Darron F. Blankenship, Q/DDCC, and recently retired Sergeant Gregory P. Martin to accept the Department of Public Safety's Employee of the Month award for January 2020. Director Sandy Karsten presented the award to the dynamic duo for their investigation into a 2015 murder case. The two veteran investigators, who have been teamed as partners for years, were responsible for a first-degree murder charge being filed in a four-year-old murder case.

In 2017, the Missouri Attorney General's Office requested that the Missouri State Highway Patrol review a 2015 shooting death. No charges had been filed because indications were that the victim had been fatally shot in self-defense by an 18-year-old. The teenager's father claimed to have witnessed the shooting.

As Lt. Blankenship and Sgt. Martin began their review of the case, they conducted a systematic statement analysis of the original 911 recording following the shooting. Their analysis identified several discrepancies. They had an independent medical examiner review the case. Lt. Blankenship and Sgt. Martin also reconstructed the crime scene and determined the shooting could not have occurred as originally described.

In 2019, armed with the new evidence and facts they had gathered, Lt. Blankenship and Sgt. Martin met with the young man who had originally claimed to have shot the victim in self-defense. Upon being re-interviewed, he disclosed that the shooting had been a murder committed by his father. The interview was the final piece of the puzzle that resulted in a first-degree murder charge. The case has not yet gone to trial.

"We appreciate what you have done in this particular case and what you have done throughout your career for



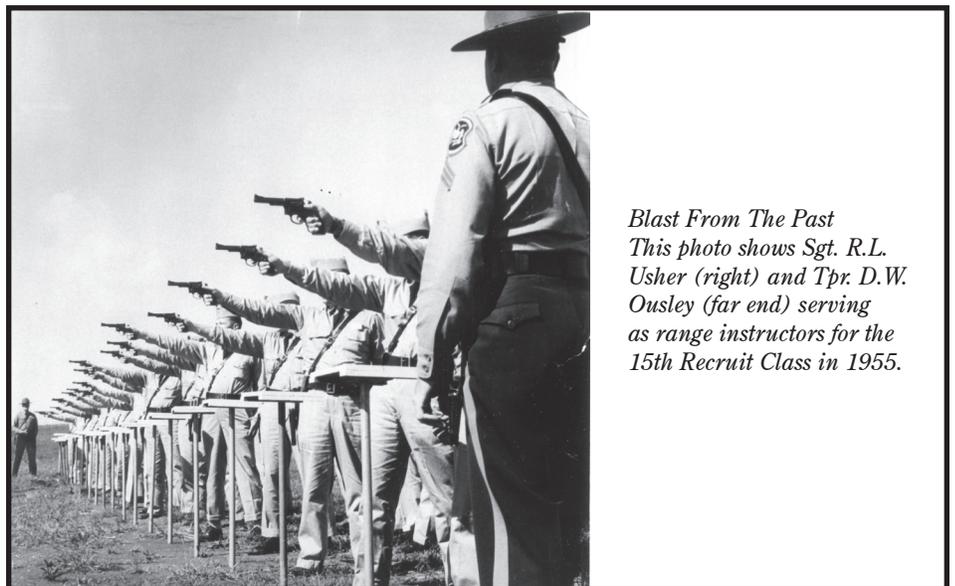
*Major Sarah Eberhard, Q/CIB, DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Lt. Darron Blankenship, Q/DDCC, retired Sgt. Greg Martin, and Lt. Col. Malik Henderson, Q/ASO, paused for a photo after the presentation.*

those people for whom you've made a difference," said Director Karsten.

Lieutenant Colonel Malik A. Henderson presented Lt. Blankenship and the now retired Sgt. Martin with a superintendent's challenge coin. "On one side of the coin the Patrol's core values are listed," said Lt. Col. Henderson.

"Two of those values come to mind regarding to this investigation: Commitment and Professionalism. The manner in which you were committed to this investigation was outstanding."

*Congratulations, Lt. Blankenship and retired Sgt. Martin!*



*Blast From The Past  
This photo shows Sgt. R.L. Usher (right) and Tpr. D.W. Ousley (far end) serving as range instructors for the 15th Recruit Class in 1955.*

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# *Congratulations On Your Retirement!*

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**William T. Cooper**  
Sergeant  
Q/DDCC

*Retired December 1, 2019.  
29 years, five months  
of dedicated service.*



**Gary W. Riggs**  
Sergeant  
Troop D

*Retired January 1, 2020.  
33 years, five months  
of dedicated service.*



**Dave C. Bauer**  
Sergeant  
Q/DDCC

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
30 years, 1 month of dedicated service.*



**Melinda Burks**  
Lab. Evid. Tech. II  
Q/CLD

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
Five years, two months  
of dedicated service.*



**Jim R. Eggen**  
CIT III  
Q/CJISD

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
24 years, 1 month of dedicated service.*



**George H. Falterman**  
Sergeant  
Troop G

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
23 years, one month  
of dedicated service.*



**Donna F. Fields**  
MVI III  
Troop A

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
23 years, nine months  
of dedicated service.*



**Randy E. Fish**  
Comm. Oper. III  
Troop G

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
23 years, six months  
of dedicated service.*



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# *Congratulations On Your Retirement!*

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**Debbie L. Freeman**  
PRD Tech. III  
Q/PRD

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
33 years, six months  
of dedicated service.*



**Brad D. Moore**  
Sergeant  
Troop C

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
28 years, one month  
of dedicated service.*



**Jeff L. White**  
Sergeant  
Q/DDCC

*Retired February 1, 2020.  
23 years, seven months  
of dedicated service.*



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## **Retiree News**

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Retired Computer Information Technology Specialist Roger D. Ittner II sent these pictures. He says he lives in the country and has a drone. The drone's landing area was an old helipad symbol and was showing signs of wear. So, he decided to replace it with a symbol he has "... always looked up to and admired. Every time I land now with Orville (the drone), I'll be reminded of what a great place MSHP was, is, and always will be, and how very fortunate I was to have been able to work there."



# WHAT'S IN A VIN?

*By Cpl. C. Nate Bradley, Troop A*

Since 1981, motor vehicle and trailer manufacturers have used standardized 17-digit vehicle identification numbers. What do all those letters and numbers represent? Through understanding how these numbers are constructed, we can derive a significant amount of information from vehicle identification numbers. The **World Manufacturer Index** is assigned to each manufacturer by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. These codes are not unique and might be used by different manufacturers

Vehicle Information Section represents the last eight characters of the VIN. It begins with the 10th digit, which represents the model year. However, the model year might not represent the same year the vehicle was built. The cut-off is July 1. Vehicles assembled prior to July 1 belong to that year's model, while vehicles assembled after July 1 would be attributed to the next model year. A Chevrolet Camaro assembled on September 1, 2020 will be a 2021 model year, while the same vehicle assembled on June

theft expert Sergeant Larry "Whip" Wilson writing a bunch of numbers on a notepad. He was calculating the check digit mathematically. Sadly, that algorithm is lost on me. Fortunately, we have VIN Assist and NCIC which can calculate these numbers automatically. Have you ever tried running a VIN through NCIC only to have it return as "non-conforming?" The NCIC database calculates the check digit automatically. If the VIN returns as non-conforming, check the digits again to see if you made an error. There are



**10<sup>TH</sup> DIGIT INDICATES MODEL YEAR**

through the years. The WMI code is useful with manufactured trailers. I used the following website to search for the WMI: <https://vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/mid/>.

The **Vehicle Descriptor Section** contains information related to the restraint system, specifications, model series, body style, transmission, engine type or displacement, and gross vehicle weight rating for SUVs and light trucks. The section is not standardized from manufacturer to manufacturer, therefore the data might be inconsistent between model lines. For instance, a Ford Focus might contain different information than a Ford Taurus.

3, 2020, will be a 2020 model year. The 11th character represents the manufacturing plant where the vehicle was built. Keep in mind, some vehicles, such as a Chevrolet Tahoe, are made in assembly plants located in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Each plant utilizes a different confidential marking system for the secondary or hidden identification numbers. The last five or six digits represent a sequential production number. General Motors uses six digits, while some Ford models use the last five.

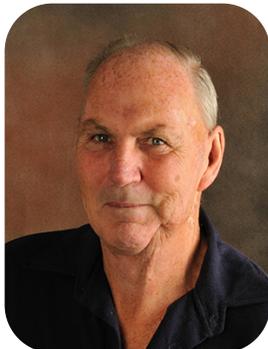
Now for the "check digit." The check digit, or ninth character, is a mathematically calculated number. It is a built-in security code for the VIN. When I first began my career on the Patrol, I remember seeing auto

occasions where the VIN format will not conform to NCIC standards but is actually correct.

I use Carfaxforpolice.com to run all VINs I encounter. When you combine the Carfax vehicle history report with other sources of vehicle history information from the insurance industry and the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System, a more complete picture forms. There is no single database which will provide this information. Just because the vehicle is not entered into NCIC does not mean it is not stolen. Law enforcement officers are able to obtain access to these additional databases. Please email or call me if you have questions.

# Death

## Robert P. Eddleman



Robert P. Eddleman, 80, of Poplar Bluff, MO, died Thursday, January 16, 2020 at Westwood Hills Health and Rehabilitation Center. Mr. Eddleman proudly served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol in 28th Recruit Class in August 1965. He retired as a sergeant after almost 30 years of service in May 1995. Survivors include his wife, Alice, three children, seven grandchildren, a brother, and a sister. Memorial donations may be made to The MASTERS, 780 County Road 383, Whitewater, MO 63785, or St. Vincent De Paul 215 S. Broadway, Poplar Bluff, MO., 63901. To learn more about Mr. Eddleman, visit the Cotrell Funeral Service website at <https://www.cotrellfuneralservice.com/notices/Robert-Eddleman>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Eddleman family.

## Gail J. Pacey



Gail J. Pacey, 66, of Jefferson City, MO, died peacefully on Saturday, January 4, 2020 at her home. Gail was a 1971 graduate of Mount Lebanon High School in Mount Lebanon, near Pittsburgh, PA. She received her bachelor's degree from William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri. Gail was employed as a Criminal Analyst with the Missouri State Highway Patrol and retired after 30 years of service in February 2007. After retirement, she worked for Cole County Residential Services. She is survived by her brother, two sisters, nieces, nephew, and friends. Her husband, Russ Pacey, preceded her in death. Memorials may be made to the Goldschmidt Cancer Center. For more information about Gail, visit the Houser-Millard Funeral Directors website at [www.millard-familychapels.com](http://www.millard-familychapels.com). The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Pacey family.

## Forrest McKeage



Forrest W. McKeage, 72, of rural Alma, MO, died Saturday, January 11, 2020 at Western Missouri Medical Center in Warrensburg, MO. He is a 1966 graduate of Sweet Springs (MO) High School. Forrest joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a commercial vehicle enforcement inspector in 1968. He retired as a commercial vehicle officer supervisor in 2002. In addition to his wife, Betty (Limback), Forrest is survived by four children, 10 grandchildren, one brother, two sisters, a sister-in-law, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a daughter. Memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran School or Saint Paul Lutheran High School in care of Campbell-Lewis Funeral Home. For more information about Forrest, visit the Campbell-Lewis Funeral Home website at <https://www.campbell-lewis.com/obituary/forrest-mckeage>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the McKeage family.

# Death

## Herbert A. Campbell



Herbert A. Campbell, 83, died on January 7, 2020. He served his country for two years in the United States Army before joining the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

In January 1962, he began working as a driver examiner. Herbert became a trooper in September 1964 and retired at the rank of sergeant in February 1991. Survivors include his wife, Vicki (Averett) Campbell, a son, five daughters, 15 grandchildren, one brother, one sister, other relatives, and friends. Herbert was preceded in death by his first wife, Evelyn (Houser), one son, and three brothers. To learn more about Herbert, visit the McDaniel Funeral Service website at <https://www.mcdanielfuneralservice.com/obituary/herbert-campbell>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Campbell family.

# Thank You

My family and I would like to thank the Patrol for attending my father's visitation and memorial service, and the many cards and emails I received. The support from the Patrol is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

*Account Clerk III Dianne P. Stricker, Troop C*



On behalf of our family we thank everyone for the calls, cards, flowers, and prayers we received after the death of our mother/mother-in-law Esther Lucille Smith. A special thanks to all those who attended the visitation and funeral service. The thoughtfulness and support our family received from the Patrol family is greatly appreciated.

*Ret. Admin. Office Support Asst. Jan S. Kudlack  
Ret. DE Sprv. Gary R. Lane*



My sons and I want to thank the Patrol family for supporting us with their presence, prayers, and cards following the loss of my husband Gerald. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

*Retired DE Supervisor Virginia Fenton.*

## Sympathy

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

DE Sprv. F. Jennifer Jackson (A) - brother  
MVI III Mike D. Jackson (A) - brother-in-law  
Ret. Chief Oper. Brian D. Douglas - mother  
Tpr. Jared O. Prater (D) - grandmother  
Ret. Sgt. Mark J. Thomas - father  
Tpr. J. Scott Baughman (A) - grandmother  
CVO Sprv. II Gerry W. Johnson (H) - mother  
Ret. Major Hugh E. McKay - father  
Ret. Computer Oper. III Jerry P. Cord - wife

Ret. DE III Ron S. Mantych - wife  
Ret. DE III Dana Uttendorfer - husband  
Tpr. Thomas J. Hecker (H) - grandfather  
Sgt. Greg D. Smith (D) - father-in-law  
Tpr. Barbara A. Collins (Q/GD) - grandmother  
MVI II Roland H. Cretel (A) - father  
Tpr. Amanda F. Sapp (B) - father  
Comm. Oper. III Jeffrey K. Herzer (H) - father  
Comm. Oper. III Gerald D. Leigh (D) - wife's grandmother  
CVO II Matt C. Hodges (E) - father

Recruiting: 1-800-796-7000 • Email: [mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov](mailto:mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov) • Home Page: <http://www.mshp.dps.mo.gov>  [www.facebook.com/motrooper](http://www.facebook.com/motrooper)  
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@MSHPTrooperG @MSHPTrooperH @MSHPTrooperI @MSHPTrooperDDCC @MSHPColonel @MSHPRecruiting

## *Troopers Make Special Delivery*

### *Submitted by Troop C*

On Sunday, March 1, 2020, Troop C Troopers responded to Connor McCoy's 11th birthday party, hosted by his mother, Sarah Patterson, in Arnold, MO. Ms. Patterson advised troopers that in lieu of birthday gifts, Connor was requesting canned and nonperishable foods to donate to a program called Brenden's Friday Backpacks. Launched in 2011, this program focuses on feeding hungry kids over the weekend. We surprised Connor's family and guests with our own contribution of food toward his birthday campaign.



*Pictured (l to r) are: Trooper Trevor H. Elliston, Troop C, Connor McCoy, and Ms. Sarah Patterson.*