

the Safety Signal

July 2008

NEW DL TEST FACILITY EARNS PRAISE

Renovated site in Old Mill Plaza features state-of-the-art technology

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By Jim Powell

Staff Writer

An open house at Yukon's new driver license testing facility revealed newly renovated

furnishings and office space as well as state-of-the-art testing technology.

Oklahoma Department of Public Safety officials joined the Yukon Chamber of Commerce and city officials to commemorate the opening of the new office at 334 Elm, site of the former Conrad Marr Drug Store in Old Mill Plaza.

The previous location of the facility, across the street at 301 Elm, had become too small for the growing volume of driver license applicants. City officials and the agency worked together to have the facility relocated to the larger site.

"We were real pleased with the turnout for our open house," said Karen Gentry, director. "We're excited that the city wanted to invest in our agency in helping the

citizens of Oklahoma."

Citizens can take Oklahoma's class D written and



Commissioner Kevin Ward (left) thanks city of Yukon Mayor Ward Larson for his assistance and support of the project with Karen Gentry, director of Driver License Examining.

driving test for automobiles and motorcycles, obtain an Oklahoma identification card and can take the written test for a commercial driver license. However, the CDL driving test must be taken at the agency's Midwest City facility until July when it too will be offered at the Yukon location.

A computer testing system has replaced the pencil and paper testing method so multiple applicants can now have their testing done simultaneously. Applicants can use one of five kiosks which

have touch screen monitors that display test questions along with a photographic scenario of each situation.

"We see that as a real plus," Gentry said. "This is all done now with advanced technology which will actually speed them through the process. We can have five people actually testing at the same time and being graded at the same time."

The facility opened in January but the open house was delayed until the office was fully furnished. A grant from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration allowed for the purchase of much of the furniture and technical equipment for the new site which also features classroom space.

The office is now seeing over 1,400 applicants a month and with the addition of CDL testing "we'll even see larger numbers," Gentry predicted, adding that the site is also going to be handling much of

New exam station *(Con'd.)*

the department's training classes.

"This is going to be used as a multiuse facility in that we're going to relocate all our training programs here," she said. "We're going to be training all of our new driver license examiners here and we'll also be doing yearly in-service training so examiners will be coming from all over the state to this location."

With the future surge of driver license applicants and examiner training classes, the local economy should be positively affected.

"It's had a real positive impact," Gentry said of the facility. "People shopping, eating, buying gasoline here. It gives an opportunity to showcase the city of Yukon."

And to deal with a greater number of customers visiting the Yukon location, another employee has been added and there will likely be more hires in the future.

"We've added a third examiner and it appears that if the numbers continue to increase, we're going to continue to look at increasing the manpower to better serve the community," Gentry said. "Eventually down the road we hope to relocate a supervisor here."

Driver License Examining division news

"June has been a busy month for the Midwest City driver license testing station," reports Hearther Overstreet, examiner with the Edmond station. "Examiners Thomas Niles, Scott Dickey, Anthony Lister, Patrick Sanders, Roxanne Davola, Rhonda Jarvis, Steven Goodson and myself bid the Midwest City National Guard Armory a sad farewell. The doors closed the last day of June and our talented examiners have been relocated to the other testing stations in the metro area.

"On the bright side, I attended the Tinker Air Force Base Community Dining Out event where I had the rare opportunity to meet and chat with Lt. Gov. Jari Askins and former mayor of Oklahoma City Mick Cornett."

The event brings together various contractors and businesses with the Tinker community to celebrate joint ventures in working together, and to recognize military and community achievements as well as welcome or bid farewell to incoming/outgoing commanders.

"Locally, DL Examiner Steven Goodson is continuing his education this fall," said Overstreet. "He said the enrollment process was a breeze, and he looks forward to completing his degree at Redlands Community College."

From the Stillwater station, DL Examiner Margie Ralston reports that she and husband enjoyed a pre-celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary. They rented a house boat on Lake Powell in Utah where she said it was beautiful. Their actual wedding date is August 20.



Lt. Gov. Jari Askins and DL Examiner Hearther Overstreet

Letter from a troop commander



Trp. Mike Moler

After reading several articles as of late, I felt compelled to write about a trooper who does his job day in and day out with little or no fanfare, and no desire for the spotlight or recognition. We truly live in a day and age where the squeaky wheel gets the grease. One does not have to look very far to find someone who is trying to convince us of the great job they are doing or how important and vital they are to an organization. This type of attitude has put a new twist on an old quote that is used tongue-in-cheek here at Troop A, “Well said is better than well done.”

I think it is time we face the facts. The single most important entity on the Oklahoma Highway Patrol is without a shadow of a doubt, the road trooper. They are the boots on the ground and the ones who are on the front line. They encounter the day-to-day battles out on the road; they know the sights and feelings of even the lowest of humanity and they experience the highs and exhilaration of great achievement. We as an agency should never lose sight of this fact.

One such trooper who personifies these characteristics is Trp. Mike Moler #748. Mike does not require “attaboys,” pats on the back, or constant praise; however, all human beings need those things at some point. Trp. Moler shows up for work every day and does what is expected of him and more. He has overcome several obstacles, one being the transition from Capital Patrol to trooper. Trp. Moler knew this would be a time he would have to prove himself worthy of the title of state trooper and has accomplished this task by being a humble servant to the citizens of Oklahoma and to his partners. Trp. Moler is constantly taking calls for his partners, helping others, and personifying the characteristics of servant leadership. One cannot be around Trp. Moler and dislike him. His willingness to help and the way in which he does it is so genuine that you cannot help but be impressed by his selflessness.

Trp. Moler is a testament to the true Benjamin Franklin quote, “Well done is better than well said.” I would like to express my appreciation to Trp. Moler for his service to Troop A, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, and the citizens of this state. Thank you to Trp. Moler and all the troopers just like him who quietly and selflessly go about their duties and strive to do their best to make this the elite law enforcement agency in the state.

*Cpt. Trent Pettigrew #58
Troop A Commander*

Liaisons efforts prove successful

The Oklahoma Highway Safety Office discovered a problem. But nothing that couldn't be solved by a creative brainstorming session, federal funding and five dedicated troopers. Now OHSO boasts a 300-percent increase in traffic safety campaign participation by local law enforcement agencies; an astounding feat even by extreme measures.

"After assessing the overall traffic safety picture statewide, it was clear we needed to expand our reach. Our assessment showed that the heaviest participation in Oklahoma's comprehensive highway safety plan basically ran along the interstate corridors but wasn't reaching the rural areas," said Oklahoma Highway Safety Office Director Scott Watkins. "We needed to figure out a way to get agencies in the rural areas involved. We knew many of them were not familiar with the highway safety grant process and should be encouraged to participate in the application and accountability processes."

Watkins said the solution had to involve building relationships before it could be successful.

"We realized in order to build relationships with these agencies, we would need liaisons who could approach them and get them engaged in the process by basically selling safety in rural Oklahoma," said Watkins.

OHSO project managers wrote the grant, submitted it to the commissioner's and chief's office for approval, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration budgeted federal funds for the law enforcement liaison program.

In May, five troopers began serving as liaisons covering the state of Oklahoma, and Supervisor Lt. George Brown said their additional duties keep them very busy.

"Once they decided to create law enforcement liaisons, interviews were conducted and five troopers were selected," said Brown.

Trp. Steve Nightengale's region is Troop I and Troop J, Trp. Antonio Porter covers Troops B and K, Trp. Scott Green has Troops L and C, Troops D and E are Trp. Steve Nabors' area and Trp. Chance Slater is assigned to Troops F, G and H.

"These guys work primarily Monday through Friday during traditional business hours. Their goal is to visit every law enforcement agency in their region," said Brown. "To police departments, sheriff's offices, etc., they will introduce the current traffic safety campaign and encourage participation."

Brown said that the information received from agencies who participate in the campaigns is crucial to public safety.

"Once the LELs get all

of the law enforcement agencies in their regions to participate, then they revisit them after each campaign is concluded and help them complete their activity reports," said Brown. "Those reports are then submitted to the highway safety office who compiles them. The information lets us better pinpoint problem areas throughout the state, and subsequently we are able to assess and address the problem areas as part of the state's comprehensive highway safety plan."

These visits represent only a small portion of the duties the LELs are required to complete.

"The current safety campaign will run through September 1 as each of them generally last a month or two," said Brown. "But in the meantime, the LELs are responsible for coordinating various safety emphasis activities within their regions such as safety check points or seat belt checks, as well as educational functions like introducing the rollover simulator."

Brown said the LELs go into schools and encourage students to adopt safe driving habits, and they assist with public awareness by contacting local media to conduct interviews or public service announcements.

"These guys are always doing what we call 'canned

Liaisons *(Con'd.)*

interviews' with the media for high-travel dates such as holidays," said Brown. "This type of interview is just basically a safety message for radio and television to be broadcast before and during increased travel times. They also promote public awareness with the media by conducting regular interviews and safety presentations."

Often times private companies contact the liaisons.

"Our guys stay really, really busy," said Brown. "We get regular requests in our offices for troopers to interact with private companies. In fact, we recently participated in a safety fair hosted by a trucking company for their drivers. When these troopers are not working with the police departments, holding check points or conducting media interviews, they are being trained in programs regarding highway safety issues. The training occurs at least once a month."

They are also required to meet with groups like MADD, the Safe Community Alliance, SADD and the Victims Impact Panel along with various other advocacy groups.

"We are getting the word that these law enforcement agencies, particularly the smaller ones, have really liked seeing a trooper take time to come in and visit with them," said Brown. "We believe the small

agencies are just as important as the bigger ones, and they are the backbone of the police force throughout Oklahoma. It is good to build bridges with them, and we rely on them to report their activity so we can learn where the problem areas are."

Brown said the LEL program is prototypical.

"The state of Georgia has done something similar where they have placed their troopers regionally like we have," said Brown. "Their program was really effective, and I don't think our program is going to go away anytime soon."

Watkins reports that the participation in the mobilization of the recent "Click it or ticket" traffic safety campaign was so successful that the momentum has overlapped into the "Drunk driving, over the limit under arrest" campaign currently in progress.

The information from the reports that are required to be completed by every agency is invaluable, Brown said.

"NHTSA has the funding, but they won't know our needs until they receive our reports, and that's yet another reason the LEL program is so beneficial," said Brown. "The information gathered from these agencies helps us develop our state's highway safety plan, and identifies specific problem areas within the state. We present our plan on how to address those problems to NHTSA who budgets in accordance. It's a really great program for the state of Oklahoma."



Trp. Steve Nightengale



Trp. Antonio Porter



Trp. Scott Green

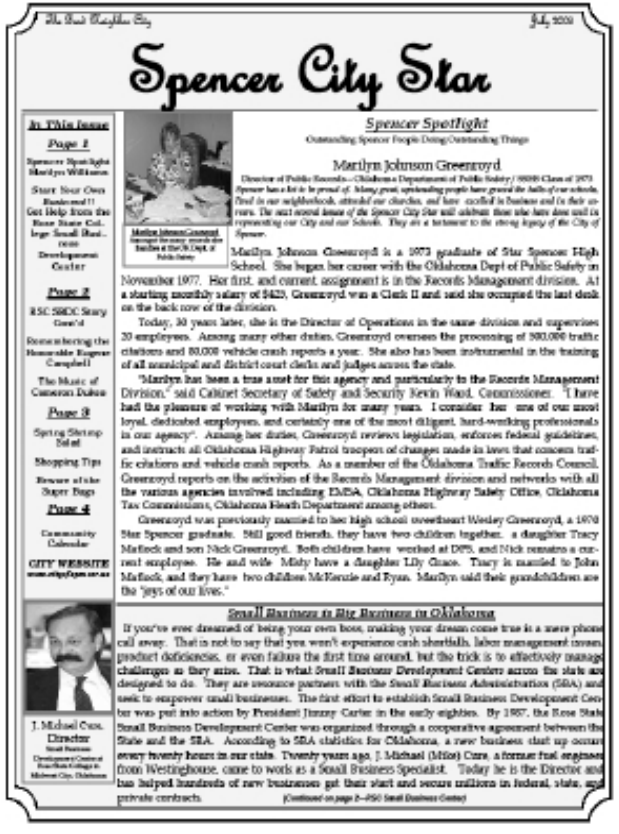


Trp. Steve Nabors



Trp. Chance Slater

Greenroyd highlighted in local paper



Director of Operations Marilyn Greenroyd stays busy with her daily duties in the Records Management division.

Cabinet Secretary of Safety and Security Kevin Ward, commissioner. "I have had the pleasure of working with Marilyn for many years. I consider her one of our most loyal, dedicated employees, and certainly one of the most diligent, hard-working professionals in our agency."

Among her duties, Greenroyd reviews legislation, enforces federal guidelines, and instructs all Oklahoma Highway Patrol troopers of changes made in laws that concern traffic citations and vehicle crash reports. As a member of the Oklahoma Traffic Records Council, Greenroyd reports on the activities of the Records Management division and networks with all the various agencies involved including EMSA, Oklahoma Highway Safety Office, Oklahoma Tax Commission, and the Oklahoma Health Department among others.

Months ago while teaching a large class of court clerks from all over the state, Marilyn Greenroyd, Records Management director of operations, ran into an acquaintance. Sheila Bell, city of Spencer court clerk, recognized Greenroyd from when they attended Spencer High School. While visiting, Bell urged Greenroyd to submit a summary of her career with the Department of Public Safety and a photo so it could be published in the *Spencer City Star* news. The following article was published:

Marilyn Johnson Greenroyd is a 1973 graduate of Star Spencer High School. She began her career with the Oklahoma Dept. of Public Safety in November 1977. Her

first, and current, assignment is in the Records Management division. At a starting monthly salary of \$425, Greenroyd was a Clerk II and said she occupied the last desk on the back row of the division.

Today, 30 years later, she is the director of operations in the same division and supervises 20 employees. Among many other duties, Greenroyd oversees the processing of 500,000 traffic citations and 80,000 vehicle crash reports a year. She has also been instrumental in the training of all municipal and district court clerks and judges across the state.

"Marilyn has been a true asset for this agency and particularly to the Records Management division," said

eViews



Trp. Barry Campbell

Subject: Trooper Barry Campbell #303

My sister was involved in a collision on Interstate 240 at Western a month or so ago. It was around 4:30 in the morning and she was on her way to work when she struck an object in the road, causing her to crash into a light pole. Trooper Campbell came to the scene. While there, he made sure my sister was okay then inspected her vehicle, pulling out a tent from underneath her vehicle.

After the vehicle was towed from the scene, he offered to take my sister home, which is in Choctaw. She told him that wouldn't be necessary and asked if he'd just drive her to the McDonald's where she would wait for her husband to pick her up. When she couldn't reach her husband, she called me and I picked up my sister. When she first got in my car, she told me that Trooper Campbell was so professional

and kind to her and put her at ease. I am so very close to my sister and appreciate Trooper Campbell being so thoughtful and kind to her during such a traumatic situation. Please convey my appreciation to Trooper Campbell.

Respectfully,
Billie J. Watkins
Administrative Assistant
Investigations - Troop Z



Maj. John Harris

I want to thank Maj. John Harris for the help he gave to my daughter Shantell. Shantell is 20 years old and was driving home from Oklahoma City to Chandler on the turnpike when she had a flat tire. It was very hot and during the 5 o'clock rush hour and people were driving upwards of 70 mph. My fear was that even though she was off on the shoulder of the road, we have heard over and over about people being hit.

After she called and told me about it, I decided to contact my brother-in-law who lives in Oklahoma City to drive out and help her. Shantell soon called me back and said Maj. Harris had just then stopped to help her.

She said she asked him, "Are you an angel?" And he jokingly said no, that he was Superman. Shantell told me that she wouldn't need my brother-in-law's help because "Superman had arrived."

eViews *(Con'd.)*

She said when he changed that tire, she observed him, and she thought to herself that after watching him, she could probably change it if needed in the future.

So on the night of July 4, she had another flat tire. This time she was on I-40 near Clinton on her way to Colorado. After two hours, she and her friend did manage to change that tire.

So thank you Maj. John Harris. I told my fellow DPS employees about you stopping to help my daughter and they commented that they generally didn't hear of someone with your rank doing such a thing. I want you to know you are appreciated, and you taught Shantell what I couldn't.

Sincerely,
Margie Ralston
Driver License Examiner



Not only on the road, but in the halls of the agency, Maj. John Harris has been known to extend professional courtesy. It just so happens the two young girls (above) stopped Harris to talk to him, which is typical for children when they see an officer in uniform. But the girls seem to really appreciate it as they giggled when Harris knelt down to their level and took time to visit with them. Their mother was in the building to obtain an accident report.

Trooper's daughter scores high in national competition



Mallarie Roberts, 13-year-old daughter of Trp. Eric and wife Mistie Roberts, competed with Tulsa's Tumbling and Trampoline team, widely recognized as "T3," at the national championship and Junior Olympic Championship competitions hosted by USA Gymnastics. She placed first in her level of the tumbling competition and took 10th in the trampoline division. Two athletes from the competition qualified and will represent the United States at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

Mallarie has been competing for only two years and has her eyes set on a much higher goal someday. She practices approximately nine hours each week and up to 18 hours before national competition.

"In order to qualify for the Olympics, you have to be in the senior elite division," said Trp. Roberts. "Mallarie competed at Level 7 in both events this year, but has now been moved up to Level 8, and she may be at Level 9 by next year's national championship. She has a bit further to go before she can qualify for the Olympics, but hopefully she will be there in the future."

The Tulsa trampoline and power tumbling team walked away with numerous medals from the event held in early July. Mallarie is a student of the Bristow public school system.



Troop H news

By Rhonda Wallace
Troop Secretary

Rhonda Wallace reports that daughter of Cpt. Brad and D'Linda Neidy, Taylor, 16, recently competed in the Big I Qualifier Tournament at Dornick Hills Golf Course in Ardmore. She tied for third place. First- and second-place spots in the tournament automatically advanced to compete in the same tournament on the national level. So when the second-place golfer announced she would not be able to attend the national tournament due to a scheduling conflict, Taylor took over the second-place slot when she hit a birdie on the first hole in a playoff.

"She made a 20-foot putt, so the Neidys will be headed to North Carolina for the National



Taylor Neidy, daughter of Cpt. Brad and D'Linda Neidy, is about to take her third shot at the green above "old stone face" at Dornick Hills Golf Course in Ardmore. (Photo courtesy D'Linda Neidy)



Trp. Tanner Keasler

Big I Junior Classic Tournament," said Wallace. "We all wish her luck." The tournament will be held August 4 - 7.

"Trp. Tanner Keasler is headed to Iraq. He is leaving August 16 and will be gone for 12 months," said Wallace. "So keep Tanner and his family in your prayers." Keasler and wife Valerie have a 6-month-old son, Case.

C.A.R.E. across America

By Carla Campbell
Administrative Assistant

Eight state police agencies combined enforcement efforts along Interstate 40 for a 12-hour period on July 5 for a special C.A.R.E. Across America initiative. The event ran in conjunction with the Combined Accident Reduction Effort (Operation C.A.R.E.) Fourth of July activity period which began at 12:01 a.m. on July 3 through midnight on July 6.

State police agencies from Arizona, Arkansas, California, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas placed troopers every 15 miles along I-40 from coast to coast.

State troopers saturated 2,547 miles from Barstow, California to Wilmington, North Carolina.

"We wanted travelers to know that we were out there for their safety and protection," said Cpt. Chris West. "Troopers across the United States concentrated their enforcement activities on alcohol-related offenses, speed and restraint violations.

Operation C.A.R.E. originated in 1977 when Michigan and Indiana state police began strict enforcement activity, and subsequently unified efforts. C.A.R.E. now encompasses all 50 states and Canada. There are six

Operation C.A.R.E. periods each year comprised of the most heavily traveled holidays and two special enforcement campaigns.

"This was a high-visibility saturation effort conducted from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. on July 5," said West. "Motorists were encouraged to call *55 from their cell phones to report aggressive or erratic driving behavior. We wanted everyone to have a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend."

Troop J news

By Denise Robinson

Communications Sergeant

“We would like to welcome our new trooper, Caleb Swickey and his wife Audrye,” reports Denise Robinson, communications sergeant. “They are living in Enid and are expecting their first child this winter.

“Troop J Secretary Sara Fleming is still off work with her son, Jeremiah, and she may be able to return in September. Jeremiah has been in and out of the hospital for the last five months. Last update from Sara is that he is eating better and feeling better,” said Robinson.

Trp. Donald Kraft, Troop Z Investigations, sent a couple of rather unique pictures to Robinson. “These pictures were given to me to promote the reinstatement of motor vehicle inspection,” said Robinson. “This vehicle really does exist and these are real pictures. Trooper Kraft advised

the driver was transporting the bull so his daughter could ride it in a parade.”

To explain how the incident came about, and how he was able to take the photographs, Kraft said he wasn’t on duty when he received a phone call from a friend.

“A buddy of mine called me and said ‘you ain’t gonna believe what I just saw. I just met a guy whose got a bull in his car, and the top half of the car is chopped off,’” said Kraft.

It was indeed a vehicle being driven down the road with a very large bull standing from the front passenger seat, overflowing into the back seat.

“So I got my camera and drove to the location but didn’t see him,” said Kraft who went back to his house and called his friend to tell him he didn’t find the car. No sooner

had he hung up the phone when his friend called back with another sighting.

This time Kraft located the subject.

“I couldn’t believe it when I saw him,” said Kraft. “When I pulled up behind him, I took a couple of pictures. Then I got a picture from the side. This guy had been to the history day celebration in Canton where his daughter rode the bull in a parade. Then he loaded the bull in his car and drove it about 23 miles to his sister’s house.”

The vehicle is a Pontiac Grand Am, and the initials “NHD” drawn on the side of the bull stood for National History Day.

Kraft said he has e-mailed the photo to some of his friends telling them, “this is why we need to bring vehicle inspection back; to keep bulls from riding down the road.”



A driver transports a bull from Canton, Oklahoma, 23 miles to his sister’s house. His daughter had just ridden the bull in Canton’s history day parade.

Photo taken by Trp. Donald Kraft.

Gives new meaning to the term “cattle drive”



Troopers receive advanced survival training

Troop W recently sent Trp. Mark Cranford and Trp. Ben Chapman to Richmond, Kentucky to attend the Advanced Marine Officer Survival Training session. Cranford and Chapman spent three days training with Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife wardens in marine survival and in-water defensive tactics.

“They were both very complimentary of the quality of the training and the camaraderie and hospitality shown them by the Kentucky game wardens,” said Cpt. George Green. “The

troopers are working on a lesson plan to get this new training CLEET certified in order to provide it to members of Troop W and future attendees of the Troop W Water Enforcement Training Class.

Green, Lt. Greg Giles and Troop W Marine Technician Scott Croasdale recently spent the day at Table Rock Lake in Missouri with Sgt. Wayne Talburt of the Missouri State Water Patrol observing the use of an advanced side-scan sonar.

“All were greatly impressed with Talburt’s

expertise and professionalism, and the capabilities of the side scan,” said Green.

Troop W recently purchased two side-scan sonars with boating safety grant funds to put into use locating sunken objects.

“On one of the first days these sonars were in use, Lieutenant Giles utilized one to locate an airplane that had crashed into Ft Gibson Lake and submerged in water 40 feet deep,” said Green. “The aircraft was later raised and recovered by a civilian contractor.”



Trp. Mark Cranford



Trp. Ben Chapman



Lt. Greg Giles



Scotty Croasdale



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JUL 07 2008

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July 2, 2008

Kevin L. Ward, Commissioner
State of Oklahoma
Department of Pubic Safety
P. O. Box 11415
Oklahoma City, Ok 73136

Dear Commissioner Ward,

We greet you in the name that's above every name, Jesus Christ. This letter is just to say THANK YOU for allowing the Oklahoma Highway Patrol to work in conjunction with True Vine Boot Camp. The Highway Patrol has played a pivotal role in this effort to save our children from being a statistic. Our main objectives are to promote prevention and intervention. Because of the team effort we are reaching goals and changing lives. May God bless you and thank you again for your support and encouragement.

Yours through Christ,

Elizabeth Adams
Elizabeth Adams, Youth Director

F.L. Wilson

F. L. Wilson, Senior Pastor

"A Bible Teaching Church With A Vision For Evangelism"

Applicants begin next phase for 59th academy



The training staff had just a couple of weeks of down time before testing began for the 59th academy.

“We are looking forward to another successful academy,” said Lt. Chad Bradley who served as assistant commandant for the 58th. “The list of applicants has been culled down from 473, and physical testing began July 7.”

Bradley said of the 473 applicants, 50 withdrew and of the remaining number, 230 showed up for testing. Eighty-five applicants failed the physical agility portion, 14 failed the written test which left 131 who are now in the background phase of the process.

“We have seven applicants who are currently serving in the military in Iraq,” said Bradley. “We will begin backgrounds on them and they will test in late October upon their return from overseas.”

The Help Desk receives new face, new name

Information Systems Services Coordinator Darleen Dukes said “Earlier this year the DPS Help Desk group went through some major changes and upgrades. Our name changed, we added more people, and we upgraded our offices to a more efficient work area.

“The new modular units, paint and carpet make the area makes for a very pleasant work environment. Our name is now Information Systems - Tier 1 Help Desk. Our office number is still 425-2086, our operators are Heidi Davis and Jenifer Martin on Tier 1. Tier 2 Services Coordinator Billy

Henderson and an open desk for Tier 2 techs is available to assist our user community.

“The renovation took some time but once completed, we are moved back in and ready to resume business as usual. Stop by and take a look. We are pleased and proud of our changes.”



Kyle Zevenbergen (top) and Nelson Creach (above), both of IS Tier 2 Client Support, assist DPS employees as directed by Jenifer Martin (top right, left), mobile computing technician, and Heidi Davis, Help Desk technician. Employees contact the division with all requests regarding computer problems.

Davis (bottom right) assists employee Frank Churchwell, Maintenance division, at the walk-up window in the newly renovated area.

Outtakes

Any DPS employee will tell you, to know her is to love her. Bea Ellerbee (far right), administrative assistant to the assistant commissioner, celebrated a very special birthday in July. Beautiful flowers (and lots of them), gifts, floating candles, were all part of a surprise lunch at Bellini's (bottom right) given by fellow employees Lisa Armstrong (left),

Nancy Shipley, Ginger Greene and Deanna Hargus. Following lunch, a surprise reception was held in the commissioner's conference room with cakes, candy and pink and white balloons everywhere. There she was honored and lauded by Assistant Commissioner Billy McClure, among others. Bea has been with the department 27 years.



Heidi Davis, Help Desk, is putting money in the slot machine but said none necessarily came back out. She recently took her very first trip to Las Vegas, and said the event she enjoyed most was attending a costume party that raised money for the prevention of breast cancer. The theme was "Past, Present and Future - Vegas Style," and she showed up in full gladiator gear. Hm, wonder why *that* picture wasn't submitted?

Retirement



Brenda Christy (above, right) is presented a certificate by Commissioner Kevin Ward for 40 years of service to the agency at her July retirement ceremony. Records Management employees Claudia McClaran (left), Sylvia Ross, Vicki Dean, Sharmon Pollard, Kelli White, Amber Bowman, Susan Power, Carol Mosley, Judy Owen, Komece Mitchell and Janet Johnson organized the gathering.