In Memory of
Colonel Jack B. Walsh
ON THE COVER
Colonel Jack B. Walsh, who served for 10 years as Patrol superintendent, died May 22 at Kobacker House in Columbus. He was 79. Please see story on page 4.

4. COLONEL JACK B. WALSH
Colonel Walsh’s legacy as superintendent includes decreases in traffic fatalities, attention to trooper well-being and dedication to fuel economy during the 1979 energy crisis.

8. SAVING LIVES
As the 2014-15 school year concludes, so does another successful year of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s outreach to high school students with an anti-drug, anti-alcohol and pro-good decisions message.

10. PATROL MEMORIAL
Family and friends of the Patrol gathered at the Academy on May 8 to honor our officers and support personnel killed in the line of duty as part of the annual Ohio State Highway Patrol Memorial Ceremony.

12. SHIELD DETAILS
Two Shield Details have positive impact on traffic and communities in Trumbull and Franklin counties.

21. AROUND THE STATE
Traffic safety partnerships, charitable activities, speech details, special events and more: see what’s happening in your area of the state.
The Patrol has yet again lost a great leader with the passing of retired Colonel Jack B. Walsh, who served as Superintendent of the Highway Patrol from 1979 to 1989. He died peacefully in late May. Please keep his lovely wife Huey and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

I recently stumbled upon an article Colonel Walsh wrote for the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin in 1981, titled “Officer Reaction: The Key to Survival.” In this article, Colonel Walsh set the scene of a gray, cold November afternoon, as an OSHP trooper approached an automobile with two male occupants. They were stopped for weaving across lanes.

The driver couldn't produce registration papers for the car, so the trooper asked him to step out of the vehicle. Immediately upon exiting the car, the driver reached above the visor, stating he wanted to grab a cigarette. The trooper commanded him, “Hold it!” while drawing his gun. The driver pulled back, slowly, with a pack of cigarettes in hand.

They exchanged words, Walsh wrote. “What the heck are you gonna do, shoot me?” the driver exclaimed. The trooper responded, “No, just no more sudden movements, and no, you can’t smoke.”

At that moment, the passenger started to open the glove compartment in front of him. The trooper’s next memory was the sound of a pistol cracking.

The first round struck his left shoulder, and rounds continued to impact his chest and stomach. The shooting lasted three seconds, and the officer stood frozen the entire time—never moving, never re-drawing his weapon.

Then, Walsh clarified: the driver and passenger were instructors at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy, and the officer was a veteran trooper going through new firearms survival training.

The training scenario described by Colonel Walsh seems to play out all too often. That’s why it is imperative that we take our training seriously and do everything in our power to keep our selves and others safe. Remembering to buckle up, wear our vests, watch our speed, resist complacency and to remember what’s important now (the five tenants of Below 100).

Decades have passed since Colonel Walsh's time served as superintendent, yet officer safety remains one of the most important notions we can instill in our troopers. On the heels of our spring ceremonies dedicated to fallen officers locally and nationwide, our attention is drawn to the frightening realities of our profession. Since President John F. Kennedy established National Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week in 1962, nearly 10,000 officers have died in the line of duty.

I am particularly grateful for your fantastic work over the Memorial Day reporting period. Holiday weekends are busy to begin with, but troopers were also pulled from the road to respond to the situation in Cleveland. Throughout the Division, nobody missed a beat and I am certain your presence and professional demeanor were crucial to the safety of Ohioans both in Cleveland and on roadways across Ohio.

Thank you for your hard work during the Memorial Day weekend and for the work you do every day. The Highway Patrol continues to demonstrate tremendous strength, remarkable courage, and great character. The work you do is making a difference and Ohio is a safer place because of YOUR efforts. The Ohio State Highway Patrol continues to prove itself as one of the finest in the nation, and it is my honor to serve as the Superintendent.
In Memory of

COLONEL

JACK B. WALSH

Superintendent, 1979-1989
Colonel Jack B. Walsh, who served for 10 years as Patrol superintendent, died May 22 at Kobacker House in Columbus. He was 79.

His legacy as superintendent includes enormous decreases in traffic fatalities, attention to trooper well-being and dedication to fuel economy during the 1979 energy crisis. He served almost 30 years with the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

He was also a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Jack Walsh was born on July 30, 1935 in Portsmouth, Ohio. He graduated from Cedarville High School in 1953 and served as an MP in the United States Army from 1955-1957 before his Patrol career.

Colonel Walsh worked as a Patrol dispatcher in 1958, but less than a year later, entered the 50th Academy Class to become a trooper. He was assigned to Marietta, Springfield, Chardon, and Norwalk before receiving his first command assignment in 1972 as Hamilton post commander. He served as an assistant commander of the Columbus district before transferring to general headquarters at the rank of captain.

During his tenure at general headquarters, Colonel Walsh served as administrative assistant to Colonels Chiaramonte, Blackstone and Reiss. In 1979, Walsh was in his third year as commander of the Piqua District when he was chosen to replace the retiring Colonel Adam G. Reiss. He was 43 years old at the time.

During his superintendent tenure, Colonel Walsh curbed a five-year increase in fatal crashes on rural roads by implementing selective enforcement in specific places with traffic problems. Fatal crashes on rural roads decreased drastically as a result, at a 25 percent decline from 1979-1986.

Fuel conservation was a major focus for many Americans in the early 1980s, and the Patrol was no exception. Colonel Walsh led the Patrol to save nearly 9.5 million gallons of gasoline over nine years, using technologies...
How can our family say thank you enough for all the wonderful support we received at the time of Colonel Jack Walsh’s death? The many visits to the hospital, the tender loving care we received before, during and after the funeral – it was beyond our wildest dreams.

Jack would have been so honored knowing you were all there for our family – and I somehow believe he was right there among us. He suffered a long, long time, but never did I hear him complain. He was always very positive, and very proud to have been a trooper.

Thank you again, everyone, for your wonderful support during this very sad time.

Love,
Huey Walsh
and family

and policies that limited cruiser energy consumption. The average fleet’s miles-per-gallon increased 30 percent.

Colonel Walsh initiated Operation Confiscate Illegal Narcotics (CIN) to curb drug trafficking known to travel on Ohio roadways. The operation followed President Ronald Reagan’s signing of the $1.7 billion Federal Drug Bill, allocating funds to law enforcement agencies throughout the country. The Patrol’s drug seizures increased rapidly, requiring upgrades to the crime laboratory to keep up with evidence submissions.

Colonel Walsh oversaw the construction of a new fitness center at the Academy in 1986, equipped with modern training and exercise equipment, as part of an effort to improve physical fitness of troopers. The health and fitness focus stretched to other aspects of trooper life, including a longer cadet training period and a program tracking officers medically throughout their Patrol careers to identify potential health problems.

He further emphasized officer safety on several other fronts, including the use of high-visibility clothing during traffic control and new self-defense and firearms training designed to instill officer confidence in every situation.

Additional expansions to the Academy under Colonel Walsh included the creation of Heritage Hall, which displays a collection of Patrol memorabilia preserved for future cadets, officers, employees and retirees to enjoy. The hall was dedicated in 1985. Colonel Walsh was responsible for the Patrol Memorial in the Courtyard displaying names of those killed in the line of duty. At the time, 31 names were inscribed into the black granite monument.

After retirement, Colonel Walsh worked at Grange Insurance in their Special Investigation Unit. He was a founding Member of “A Special Wish Foundation,” a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to granting the wishes of children with life-threatening disorders. He was recognized nationally and internationally for his work with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, National Safety Council, Ohio Peace Officers’ Training Council, North Central Region of the National Crime Information Center, and the National Transportation Research Board.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Huey (Bevis) Walsh, whom he met at a 4H dance during the Ohio State Fair in 1952. He is also survived by children Julie Walsh, Jennifer (Dean) Wilson and Dr. Steven (Chaureen) Walsh; grandchildren Scott (Nicole) Walsh, Morgan Walsh and Lyndsay Walsh; and one great-grandchild, Madison Walsh.
Ten Important Things that Dad Taught Me

1. Marry a Good Woman
   Dad married one and raised two. I learned from his example and did the exact same thing.

2. Accelerate Through a Curve

3. Have Integrity
   Doing the right thing when someone is watching is obedience. Integrity is doing the right thing when no one is watching.

4. Be Somebody’s Advocate
   Dad was always mine. In fact, his doing so may have caused the 1986 Buckeye Football Team to lose to Michigan 24-26. Ask me and I will be happy to share the story if you want to know more.

5. Let Your Son Play in Your Golf Foursome
   He will learn a lot about what it means to be a good man by being around other good men. For those of you that were kind enough to let me join you, I am forever grateful.

6. Be Present and Enjoy the Moment
   Life is more journey than destination. Look around, pay attention, and be present in your life.

7. Life is Good
   In any situation, it is easy to focus on the negative. Always try to find the positive (or at least the humor). You will lead a much happier life.

8. Remember Who You Are
   Dad used to say this with a little smile. When I was younger, I thought he was telling us not to go out and embarrass him. Now I realize that he was telling us something else. Your actions and words have an impact not only on you, but on the people who love you. Imagine how much better the world would be if everyone would remember who they were.

9. Be Fearless
   Don’t be afraid to stand up for what you know is right, even if there may be negative consequences for doing so.

10. Be Someone’s Hero…He was mine.

Love You Dad,
Dr. Steven Walsh

The text above, which appeared in Colonel Walsh’s funeral program, was written by his son.
As the 2014-15 school year concludes, so does another successful year of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s outreach to high school students with an anti-drug and alcohol and pro-good decisions message. Through various programs including 5 Minutes for Life and IMPACT, troopers have reached over 24,000 students in the last year.

Trooper Craig Monte, who presents 5 Minutes for Life about 10 times each year, notices that the students’ attention is held by the shocking statistics about drug use. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2,700 teens abuse a prescription drug for the first time each day.

“They’re still in these formative years. You want to get to them early in high school because these are individuals who have their entire careers ahead of them, whether it’s in college, the workforce, the military, or whatever,” Tpr. Monte said. “I don’t know what their life plan is, but I guarantee it doesn’t involve being in prison.”

As the name suggests, a 5 Minutes for Life presentation is short and sweet. A trooper and an Ohio National Guard member talk to student athletes for about five minutes, before or after a practice. Some principals request that they speak to the entire student body.

Drugs aren’t the only focus of the program. Troopers touch on dangers of driving impaired or distracted and speak generally about making good decisions. The National Guard representative reminds students that illegal behavior can prevent someone from acceptance into the military—a path many listeners might be considering.

Some are skeptical at first, Tpr. Monte said. Many may feel bombarded by anti-drug messaging they’ve consumed over the years from TV commercials, radio ads and school presentations. Yet, by the end of the presentation, most students are on board.

“I have had students come up to me and tell me, based on things that recently happened in their community with high school students, that the timing just couldn’t have been better, and they wish I could have been there two months before,” Tpr. Monte said.

After the presentation, the ball is in the high schoolers’ court. Students are encouraged to volunteer as ambassadors to their school, tasked with spreading the drug-free message through presentations and social media.

Another program, IMPACT, is making headway in its tenth year of reaching students of southeastern Ohio. Approximately 6,000 high school students filled into the Convocation Center at Ohio University this year during prom season for a program involving a lively atmosphere and a poignant message.
IMPACT is presented by Prom Pledge, Impact, Inc., a non-profit founded for the purpose of saving lives through an energetic assembly-style setting. Prom season is a target of many programs aiming to curb dangerous behavior in high schoolers because it's seen as a rite of passage for many teenagers, explained one of the program's organizers, Sergeant Jeremy Mendenhall. Students are more likely to drink at their prom celebrations or spring break.

"More often than not, at the end of the program, we have students saying they've never thought about these things before, and that IMPACT made them think," Sgt. Mendenhall said.

Students are entertained by a local DJ and fed pizza to create a welcoming, comfortable environment where they'll learn about issues that affect them and their peers.

This year's focus was on the importance of keeping your word, with a presentation by Alex Sheen, founder of the nonprofit Because I Said I Would. Students received blank "promise cards" to fill in with their own promises, like never driving while drunk, being honest, or always putting their phone away before getting behind the wheel. Past speakers have shared their stories of family members dying of alcohol poisoning or holding responsibility for the death of friends following crashes involving alcohol.

The students also see a staged crash scene as they walk past their buses toward the center, as well as a multimedia presentation focused on choices involving alcohol, drugs, poor driving habits and peer pressure.

Similar crashes are staged throughout Ohio in the spring so students can see what a car looks like after a crash and watch first responders responding as they would to a real situation. It makes the devastating results of driving impaired or distracted up-close and personal.

Troopers also support programs like Maria's Message, whose namesake is the 21-year-old daughter of Columbus-based sports anchor, Dom Tiberi. Maria died in a car crash in 2013 due to an unknown distraction, and her father now travels statewide to teach young people about the dangers of distracted driving. Troopers often speak at his presentations to underscore the severity of driving distracted.

"These kids are the future of our nation and state," said Colonel Paul A. Pride. "When we can reach out to them and make them reconsider dangerous behavior like drinking and driving or using illegal drugs, we're preventing tragedies from occurring down the road for them. If we can reach just one, it's worth it."

*Left: Because I Said I Would* founder Alex Sheen speaking at IMPACT. *Right: Dom Tiberi talks about Maria's Message.*
The few hundred people gathering for the annual Ohio State Highway Patrol Memorial Ceremony on May 8 felt grateful to, once again, see no new names added to the Memorial Wall. The tone was still somber as the 40 officers and five support personnel killed in the line of duty were honored for their sacrifices.

Family and friends of our fallen officers were escorted to their seats by troopers acting as honor escorts—five of whom are retirees back in uniform for the occasion.

Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol superintendent, and John Born, director of the Department of Public Safety, both addressed the crowd. The Saluting Battery performed a weapons salute, and Lieutenant Kelly Weakley and Trooper Christopher Krantz played “Taps.”

The Columbus Division of Police and OSHP performed a Memorial Flyover before retired Lt. Colonel Gilbert H. Jones, now president of Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees’ Association, read the roll call of officers killed in the line of duty. A rose was placed on the Memorial Wall for each fallen officer as the memorial bell rang.

After the Memorial Salute by retired Lieutenant John M. Moore and Trooper Justin N. Slusser, the Columbus Division of Police Pipers closed with a rendition of “Amazing Grace.”

In addition to the patrol memorial, personnel participated in other local, state and national memorial ceremonies. Troopers represented the division at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy in London, Ohio, to honor all Ohio officers killed in the line of duty. Troopers also participated in county memorial events around the state.
State Route 328 was dedicated as the Carl “Shorty” Thrush Memorial Highway on May 14 in honor of Patrolman Thrush, who was killed in the line of duty. The 29-year-old was answering a crash call on a snowy, slush-covered State Route 93 in Vinton County on Feb. 6, 1972, when his vehicle hit an icy patch, collided with another vehicle, and rolled over an embankment. Many members of his family and law enforcement attended the dedication.

“State Route 328 was dedicated as the Carl ‘Shorty’ Thrush Memorial Highway on May 14 in honor of Patrolman Thrush, who was killed in the line of duty. The 29-year-old was answering a crash call on a snowy, slush-covered State Route 93 in Vinton County on Feb. 6, 1972, when his vehicle hit an icy patch, collided with another vehicle, and rolled over an embankment. Many members of his family and law enforcement attended the dedication.”

Allyson Poynter of Lima, daughter of Jim and Tina Foltz (Defiance)

• The Patrolman Gary P. Poynter Memorial Scholarship: Claudia Foltz, daughter of Jim and Tina Foltz (Defiance)

Attorney General Mike DeWine presented law enforcement leaders from across Ohio with legislative proclamations for their participation in the Ohio “Below 100” Campaign at the Ohio Statehouse. The program’s goal of fewer than 100 line-of-duty deaths annually, across the country, has not been achieved since 1944.

The vice-chairman of the Below 100 campaign, Denis Valone, called it the most impactful program he’s been a part of at the ceremony on May 6.

“We can reduce this number to below 100,” Valone said. “We can easily cut out 30, 40 deaths a year with this program.”

Reporter Angela An of WBNS-10TV in Columbus served as emcee for the event. Colonel Paul Pride, Buckeye State Sheriff’s Association President and Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer, and Westerville Police Chief Joe Morbitzer, president of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, received the proclamations after speeches by both Valone and DeWine.

DeWine spoke about the memorials across Ohio he attends annually, and how they inspire him to support programs like Below 100 that aim to protect those who protect us.

“When you talk to the family members, and you see many times their very young children, it breaks your heart,” he said. “So I think we all have a commitment to bringing the number to under 100 nationwide, bringing it to zero in Ohio and keep working every single year.”

OTC Scholarships

The Ohio Troopers Coalition awarded four scholarships to high school seniors, each in the memory of a Patrol officer. Every year, students are selected based on criteria including class rank, test scores and involvement in school government and community service. Scholarships are renewable for four years based on academic performance.

• The Patrolman James A. Fredericka Memorial Scholarship: Haley Landers, daughter of Michael and Christi Landers (SRT)

• The Patrolman David L. Sterner Memorial Scholarship: Daniel March, son of Paul and Pamela March (Elyria)

• The Trooper Jonathan P. Seabolt Memorial Scholarship: Anthony Dechoudens, son of Anthony and Rebecca Dechoudens (Milan)

• The Trooper Gary P. Poynter Memorial Scholarship: Claudia Foltz, daughter of Jim and Tina Foltz (Defiance)

Highway dedicated to ‘Shorty’ Thrush

Dennis and Ernie Thrush, sons of the highway’s namesake, attended the May 14 dedication.

State Route 328 was dedicated as the Carl “Shorty” Thrush Memorial Highway on May 14 in honor of Patrolman Thrush, who was killed in the line of duty. The 29-year-old was answering a crash call on a snowy, slush-covered State Route 93 in Vinton County on Feb. 6, 1972, when his vehicle hit an icy patch, collided with another vehicle, and rolled over an embankment. Many members of his family and law enforcement attended the dedication.

Flying Wheel 11
Two Shield Details have positive impact on traffic, communities

Criminals in Franklin and Trumbull counties faced swift arrest in May, as two separate Shield Details united local, state and federal resources to fight crime and strengthen communities.

The two-day long efforts “shielded” local communities from crime through a focus on drug use, drunk driving, outstanding warrants, traffic violation and general illegal behavior.

“We want to combat crime efficiently and effectively,” said Major Michael Black. “By partnering with many different agencies in the area, we all have more resources at our disposal. That means we can target specific criminal behavior in the best way.”

Heroin was a primary focus of the Trumbull County enforcement May 8–9—the largest shield detail to date. Those arrested for drugs were offered treatment options on the spot. Every motorist stopped, even for minor traffic violations, received a brochure on how to fight addiction.

That detail resulted in multiple arrests for violations including drug possession, outstanding warrants, illegal weapons possession and food stamp fraud.

More than 100 officers from agencies across Ohio traveled to Trumbull County to assist OSHP, from agencies including the Warren Police Department, Trumbull County Sheriff’s Office, Trumbull County Adult Probation, Ohio Adult Parole Authority, Drug Enforcement Agency, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, United States Marshals and the Ohio Investigative Unit.

Heroin was also center-stage during the Franklin County detail May 6–7, when 26,000 doses of the drug were seized. OSHP and the shield partners also seized 43 pounds of marijuana, made 84 felony arrests and 103 misdemeanor arrests. OSHP partnered with the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office for the enforcement.

“Motor vehicles are involved in nearly all criminal activity, so we can play a major role in reducing the drug abuse epidemic,” Major Black said.

“It’s all about uniting with like-minded people to protect communities of Ohio. This is a tremendous example of what law enforcement can accomplish when working together.”

Leadership Training

Retired U.S. Navy Captain Steven W. Knott gave a presentation in May on leadership tactics to Ohio State Highway Patrol lieutenants and above, as well as the 2014 State Trooper of the Year, State Dispatcher of the Year, OIU State Agent of the Year, Administrative Professional 4s, and the members of the Public Safety Leadership Academy. The presentation at the Leadership Auditorium used examples from the Battle of Gettysburg to show why supervisors should understand what influences and motivates their subordinates.
Members of the 114th Academy Class joined the Patrol’s “Over the Hill” club at a ceremony on April 9, showing appreciation for their 30 years of dedicated service.

Recipients from left: Trooper Patricia Nemeth, Circleville Post; Major Brigitte Charles, Office of Personnel; Lt. Steven Click, Training Academy. Not pictured: Trooper Ricky Brown, Jackson District Commercial Enforcement.

30 years and counting

After 25 weeks of intense paramilitary training, the Patrol’s 157th Academy Class graduated on April 10. Justice Sharon L. Kennedy of the Supreme Court of Ohio provided the keynote address. She encouraged the graduates to remember this moment of accomplishment and to persevere for continued success.

“Have confidence that you have been given the greatest training Ohio has to offer in the field of law enforcement,” she said. “But it is incumbent on each of you to build on that so you can strongly serve as guardians of our highways and of this great state.”

Additional remarks were provided by Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol superintendent, Director John Born, Ohio Department of Public Safety, and Captain Shawn Lee, Academy commandant. The Oath of Office was issued by Judge Peter B. Abele, Fourth Appellate District, Ohio Court of Appeals.

Courses completed by the 157th class included Core Values, crash investigation, criminal and traffic law, detection of impaired drivers, firearms, physical fitness, self-defense and emergency vehicle operations.

Class speaker Trooper Andrew D. Meadors of Dayton congratulated his fellow graduates and thanked the family and friends who provided guidance and support.

“Without you, the bills wouldn’t have been paid on time, the kids wouldn’t have been tucked in at night, and I don’t know who would have been willing to read my ever-growing stack of flash cards back to me,” Meadors said. “My wife still knows most of the senior staff’s unit numbers.”

Four graduates received special honors for top performance in various fields of study at the Training Academy.

- Overall performance and top performance in academics – Trooper Nathan L. Waldock, Attica, Ohio
- Top performance in driving – Trooper James T. Coffland, Thornville, Ohio
- Top performance in firearms – Trooper Ricky M. Henderson, Addyston, Ohio
- Top performance in physical fitness – Trooper Brian L. Swick, Mentor, Ohio

Each of the graduates reported to their posts on April 13. The graduates’ first 60 working days will be a field-training period under the guidance of a veteran officer. The new graduates are assigned to 23 of the Patrol’s 58 posts.
Retirees gather for 2nd Annual Cookout

The OSHP Academy was transformed into a reunion once again by good food and old friends at the Second Annual Retiree Cookout, attended by nearly 400 retirees and guests. The event on June 12 was a great success, in part thanks to staff from Columbus GHQ and the Academy for helping run the event, members of the Patrol Auxiliary for grilling hot dogs and hamburgers, and cadets of the 158th Academy class that greeted and assisted visitors.

Retirees were treated to a performance by the Drum and Bugle corps in the Leadership Wing before Colonel Pride addressed them, thanking them for their attendance and continued commitment to the Patrol. Much of the event focused on what ways the past, present and future are responsible for the Patrol’s legacy.

“Your leadership mattered in years past and continues to matter today,” Col. Pride said. “You represent the past, but we want to keep you close to us.”

Two guests were recognized as the oldest retirees in attendance. The first was Harold “Pappy” Heinz at 95 years old. He joined the Patrol in 1954 as a member of the 43rd class and retired as a sergeant in 1975. The second was Walter R. Howell at 86 years old. He joined the 32nd Academy class in 1951 and retired from service as a lieutenant in 1984.

Other guests included Speaker of the Ohio House Cliff Rosenberger and every living retired superintendent of OSHP.

During the presentation inside the Leadership Wing, the cadets waited outside in the courtyard at attention, hidden by thick screens that covered the windows. At Colonel Pride’s direction, the screens rose up and dramatically unveiled the cadets.

Once retirees made their way to the gymnasium to eat, they were able to interact with the Cadets and see how times have changed since their Academy days.

OSHP is thankful for the following event sponsors: the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees’ Association, the Ohio State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union, the Ohio Troopers Coalition and the Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary.
VEHICLE THEFT AND FRAUD UNIT

Pamela Jones was reunited this April with the ’67 Corvette that was stolen from her husband, Paul, in 1973—five years after he made the purchase during his senior year. After the theft, they never saw the vehicle again, until a recent joint investigation including the Ohio State Highway Patrol recovered it and contacted the couple.

Pam flew to Ohio from their home in Texas this week to retrieve the Corvette. Paul couldn't make the trip because he suffers from Alzheimer’s, but despite his condition, he remembers every detail of the car. It was shipped back to Texas, and after a classic car mechanic makes sure it’s road worthy, Pam plans on driving her husband around as much as he wants.

A joint investigation helped Pamela Jones (front) recover her husband’s car, which was stolen in 1973.

Pictured next to Pam are some of the men and women involved in the investigation, which included the Ohio BMV Investigations Unit, the National Insurance Crime Bureau and the Patrol’s Columbus Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit.

CRIMINAL PATROL

Troopers find heroin, marijuana worth $59,600

March 25: Troopers stopped a 2000 Mercury SUV for a speed violation in Fairfield County at 7:45 p.m. During interaction with the occupants, troopers detected an odor of marijuana. A probable cause search of the vehicle revealed a small amount of marijuana and 149 grams of heroin, worth $59,600.

Troopers seize crack, prescription pills from Fairfield County

April 14: Troopers stopped a 2008 Buick LaCrosse for speed and marked lanes violations in Fairfield County at 5:30 p.m. Upon contact with the driver, troopers observed marijuana residue in plain view. During a plain view search, troopers discovered 253 various prescription pills, 24 oz. of liquid codeine and 56 grams of crack located in the vehicle. The contraband has an approximate street value of $7,500.

Troopers seize marijuana in Madison County

March 27: Troopers stopped a 2014 Infiniti SUV for a speed violation in Madison County at 10:14 a.m. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed 13 pounds of marijuana, worth $65,000, in the vehicle’s trunk.
In May, law enforcement personnel with the Ohio Investigative Unit, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the United States Secret Service conducted a total of 34 search warrants, with 30 taking place throughout Ohio, three in Florida and one in Georgia. One administrative liquor inspection was also conducted at a permit premise in Springfield.

During those search warrants, agents filed a total of 525 administrative charges against 22 Ohio liquor permits. Agents seized a total of 148 electronic video gambling devices. The administrative charges were knowingly permitting public gambling, keeper of the place, and operating an electronic gambling machine.

Criminal charges will be filed at a later date, as law enforcement agencies continue their investigation.

The case is part of an ongoing investigation that began in 2013, when OIU, the Secret Service and the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor’s Office began looking into those responsible for manufacturing, importing, distributing and operating illegal video slot machines.

After all pending criminal proceedings are completed, agents will present the administrative charges to the Ohio Liquor Control Commission. If the commission finds the liquor permit premises violated Ohio’s administrative rules, they have the authority to issue penalties including fines, suspensions or revocations.

Other agencies involved in the investigation include the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office, Euclid, Parma and Springfield (Clark County) police departments, as well as the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office in Florida.

Other Activity:

- As part of the Trooper Shield detail, agents in the Canton Office conducted an illegal sales search warrant in Warren on May 8. During the search warrant at 2382 West Market Street, agents seized 197 bottles and cans of various brands of liquor and beer, one handgun and marijuana. One person was arrested on four counts of illegal sales, and was issued a summons to appear for keeper of a place and possession of marijuana.

- In May, agents charged 64 people for offenses such as drug abuse, underage alcohol and underage tobacco during the annual Rock on the Range rock festival at the MAPFRE Stadium, formerly known as Crew Stadium. Other charges included illegal possession of liquor and CCW violations.

Top: OIU agents were on hand at the Rock on the Range rock festival in Columbus. Bottom: OSHP Aviation assisted OIU agents with a moonshine investigation in March.
Trooper Sean P. Williams was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for lifesaving efforts. On December 7, 2014, Trooper Williams was on patrol in Findlay when he saw a Findlay police officer pull into a residence with emergency lights and siren activated. Trooper Williams stopped to see if the officer needed assistance, and Officer Brooks Deitrick told him he was responding to a call reporting a person thought to be highly intoxicated and unresponsive in a vehicle parked in the driveway of the residence.

While the officers spoke, the male subject started having a seizure inside the vehicle. Trooper Williams and Officer Deitrick stabilized the man to prevent him from hurting himself, and then the subject went still and silent. Trooper Williams determined the man wasn’t breathing, so he and Officer Deitrick pulled him out of the vehicle to perform CPR. After approximately 10 chest compressions, the man lunged upward, gasped for air and started breathing on his own. Trooper Williams and Officer Deitrick stayed with the man and kept monitoring him until paramedics arrived on scene and transported the subject to the hospital.

Public Safety Intelligence Analyst Robert Smith was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for his efforts to assist a crash victim. On December 30, 2014, Analyst Smith was driving on State Route 315 in Franklin County when he saw a crashed sport utility vehicle on the left side of the roadway near Interstate 670.

He immediately stopped to see if the driver was injured and found the woman had been thrown into the passenger side floor board and that her head was pinned against the passenger door. When Analyst Smith opened the passenger door, the victim moved her head and gasped for air. Analyst Smith then called 911 and waited with the injured driver until emergency medical personnel arrived on scene.

Trooper Joshua G. Stryker earned a Certificate of Recognition for lifesaving efforts in a dangerous situation. On February 21, 2015, Trooper Stryker reported a car fire on Interstate 71, south of State Route 95. A suspect was standing near the burning vehicle. After ensuring no one else was inside, Trooper Stryker ordered the suspect away from the vehicle.

Each time Trooper Stryker got close to the suspect, the man ran back toward the fire, and ultimately ran into traffic, yelling, “I’ll let a truck run me over.” With traffic approaching, Trooper Stryker tackled the suspect in the middle lane and dragged him off the roadway, eventually securing him with help from two good Samaritans. When questioned, the suspect said he started the fire in an attempt to kill himself.
Congratulations to the dispatchers and supervisors honored at this year’s Ohio Gold Star Awards Program on April 10. The recognition comes from the Ohio Chapters of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, International and the National Emergency Number Association at a biennial luncheon.

2013 Gold Star Certificate Recipients
Dispatcher Heidi Maloy (Sandusky Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Drew Fry (Portsmouth Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Brandy Lauermilt (Athens Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Mitchell Saunders (Jackson Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Katherine Welbaum (Dayton Dispatch Center)

2013 Double Gold Award Recipients
Team Award Winners
Dispatcher Janice Miro and Elizabeth Worrell (New Philadelphia Dispatch Center)

2014 Gold Star Certificate Recipients
Dispatcher Courtney Franklin (Columbus Communications Center)
Dispatcher Carrie Wolford (Mansfield Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Heidi Maloy (Sandusky Dispatch Center)

2013 Solid Gold Nominees
Dispatcher Tonya Birchfield (Lancaster Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Adam Quinn (West Jefferson Dispatch Center)

2014 Solid Gold Nominees
Dispatcher Tracy Caughey (Wooster Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Casey Morrison (Canfield Dispatch Center)

2013 Double Gold Nominees
Dispatcher Amy Tiongco and David Spratt (Cambridge Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Diane Holubeck, Janice Miro, Dan Shaffer, Joelle Johnson, Elizabeth Worrell and William Courtright (St. Clairsville Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Steve Numbers (Van Wert Dispatch Center) and Kattie Richards (Findlay Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Amy Zatvarnicky and Stephanie Palumbo (Warren Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Cheryl Ferguson and Jamie Arnold (Lancaster Dispatch Center)
Dispatcher Adam Brown and Ryan Gilkison (Lebanon Dispatch Center)

Gold Star Certificates recognize the overall excellence of a dispatcher’s work, whereas Double Gold and Solid Gold Awards represent dispatchers’ outstanding response to particular incidents. The dispatch center accompanying each dispatcher’s name represents his or her location during the incident.
Facebook:

I have to share with you what brought me a smile this evening. While driving eastbound on I-70 at around 5:20 p.m., I saw a trooper ahead on the side of the highway with his lights on. I got over and as I passed, I saw him, knees in the grass, changing the tire of a stranded motorist. This may seem like part of the job, but to me it’s more. Please know I am so proud of our law enforcement and this Trooper should be applauded for doing a good deed. God bless you all.

Big salute to the awesome trooper I saw on St. Rt. 68 today. Helping a young man change a flat tire! Now I call that awesome!

This is going to sound awkward but here goes. I was recently pulled over for OVI in Stark County and although I lost my job over it and will have to pay fines I am so thankful that this happened. I feel like I can now get the help that I need. The arresting officer was very nice as well. I’m just thankful I did not kill someone or myself in the process, so thank you OSHP, keep up the good work!

I want to say thank you to the officer that helped the person on I-70 eastbound this morning, between Huber and Columbus, change their flat tire on their car. Thanks again.

I just wanted to give a huge shout out to the OSHP. In less than one week, I have heard about or seen troopers down on the ground changing tires for people. What a great service for those that we normally only hear the bad stories. They may not thank you for the tickets, but I guarantee they are thankful to have you around during these times!

Wanting to give credit when credit is due! I got a flat tire this morning and was stuck without my jack and other tools. An OHP officer pulled up behind me and came to my rescue. Not only did he have everything to change my tire, he changed it for me. Hands down, an amazing cop! Thank you so very much Officer Matt and the OHP for being so helpful and kind!

Kudos to the trooper who was helping change a tire for a motorist south of 303 on I-271 this morning around 7:30 a.m. It made my day and it’s nice to know that OSHP offers help to those who need it. Thanks.

Twitter:

A sampling of messages received or through social media and mail

Thank Yous

@MarcHeyford

Ohio State Police officer helping a stranded motorist. Driver so happy, she poses for picture. Good job officer @OSHP

@BirdNerd112

THANK YOU!! to the @OSHP Troopers that changed my flat and got me back on my way this afternoon on highway 23. I was truly in a pinch.

@BrookeN美元

@OSHP - Just passed one of your troopers helping change a tire for a stranded family. #awesome #thankyou
Auxiliary

Auxiliary Colonel Hite Retires

Auxiliary Colonel Denis Hite retired from the Patrol on June 30, after more than 20 years of dedicated service. He was commissioned as a member of the Auxiliary in March 1993 and later served as Auxiliary Major for the Warren District. He was named the State Auxiliary Officer of the Year for 2013 and was recognized as District Auxiliary Officer of the Year multiple times.

During his time as Auxiliary Colonel, he worked on a number of initiatives to improve the Auxiliary, including securing non-profit status for the organization and equipping Auxiliary officers with improved traffic vests. He retired after 39 years with First Energy as a Supervisor at the Eastlake Power Plant. He also worked as a contract maintenance repair worker at the Chardon Post.

Athens Post

The Athens Post recently commended Auxiliary Lieutenant Mary Jean McPherson in the Patrol’s “Above and Beyond” e-publication for assisting the post during a winter storm. On February 21, Athens and Hocking Counties experienced a major winter storm. Auxiliary Lieutenant McPherson volunteered her time by coming on post that morning and answering phones calls about road and weather conditions, taking calls for service and greeting the public that came on post. The storm intensified in the afternoon and Auxiliary Lieutenant McPherson ended up volunteering nearly 11 hours, providing a valuable service to the public and assisting the post’s staff.

Xenia

Top: Lieutenant Douglas Eck and Greene County Safe Communities presented a check to Xenia Christian High School for winning the 2015 Spring Break Seat Belt Challenge. Safe Communities conducted unannounced seatbelt surveys at each Greene County high school and awarded the school with the highest compliance rate $250. The students will decide how the school will use the money, which was donated by individuals and local businesses.

Bottom left: In March, Trooper Paige Miranda, who also serves as a sergeant with the 810th Quartermaster Company of the United States Army Reserve, completed a three-week warrior leadership course at Camp H.B. Cook in Ball, Louisiana. She earned a superior designation for her communication and leadership skills and was noted for her positive attitude throughout the course.

Bottom right: Trooper Trey Greene paused with some young people at the Beavercreek Christian Learning Center’s Public Safety Day on May 7. Trooper Greene reinforced the importance of buckling up and being safe around traffic.
Retiree Appreciation Month — April, 2015

Colonel Paul A. Pride once again designated the month of April as “Retiree Appreciation Month.” Posts around the state hosted events this spring to celebrate Patrol retirees. Below is a sampling of photos from those events.

Van Wert Post employees planted a willow tree at the post on April 9 in honor of Van Wert retirees.

Retirees, including Judy Hale (right), welcomed Carrie Rosario to the retired ranks in February.

Batavia held a cookout in appreciation for retirees at their post on April 24.

More than 50 retirees and guests were welcomed back to the Xenia Post on April 25.
A small group gathered in Swanton on April 24: Dwayne Dotson, Mary Merillat, Mike Weiderman, Vern Fisher, Joy Dodson, Mike Mann, Jason Lankey, Mike Faber.

The Gallipolis Post hosted retirees for lunch on April 24 and planted a buckeye tree in honor of the late Dave Profitt, who was a sergeant at Gallipolis at the time of his passing. His widow Mary and daughter Jacqueline were present for the planting of the tree. The tree donated by Captain Richard Meadows.

The West Jefferson Post threw a breakfast for retirees on April 17.

The Gallipolis Post also paid tribute to K-9 Roy, who passed in March at 13-1/2 years of age. Roy retired in 2011 after working with Trooper Gary Wolfe. He helped seize more than $1 million in illegal drugs and currency in his eight-year career.

The Milan Post celebrated the contributions of their retirees on April 10. From left: Erie County Sheriff Paul Sigsworth, Mike Weber, Ellen Wilkinson, Bernard Whatley, Jim Pickering.

The Bucyrus District also paid tribute to K-9 Roy, who passed in March at 13-1/2 years of age. Roy retired in 2011 after working with Trooper Gary Wolfe. He helped seize more than $1 million in illegal drugs and currency in his eight-year career.
Trooper Marvin L. Pullins received the Gallia County Law Officer of the Year Award from the Gallia County Gun Club. The Gallia County Gun Club hosted an appreciation dinner in June for area law enforcement with approximately 100 people in attendance. During the dinner, Trooper Pullins was presented with the Gallia County Gun Club’s Sergeant Dale Holcomb Memorial Award, an engraved handgun.

After the dinner, law enforcement competed in a handgun combat course competition. The Ohio State Highway Patrol team received first place.

Post 90 set up a display at M&M Custom Cycle on US 250 just north of the Ohio Turnpike, attracting 70-80 people—including the future trooper seated on the motorcycle.

Major Rick Fambro spoke about the importance of buckling up at the Tri-State Click It or Ticket event at the AAA Office in Fairfax, Ohio.

Piqua Post troopers joined forces with their law enforcement counterparts on May 5, 2015 to announce the “Live to Ride, Ride to Live” motorcycle safety campaign. The partnership with Gover Harley Davidson highlighted basic motorcycle safety tips and stresses the importance of being properly endorsed, riding safe by obeying traffic laws, and riding sober. Motorists were reminded to use extra caution, to check their blind spots prior to making lane changes and to look twice prior to pulling out onto the roadway.

Trooper Rocky Hise, wolf den leader of Cub Scout Pack 59, gave scouts a tour of the post and taught them about the duties and responsibilities of a trooper and the daily functions of a Patrol post including dispatch, secretary, supervisor and daily maintenance duties.

Chloe Sellers was recognized by the Gallipolis Post for her courage and assistance when her grandmother suffered a medical emergency while driving.

Seven female officers along with retired Major Lisa Taylor, attended the Celebrate Women2015 – Making a Difference Conference in March. Left to right: Retired Major Lisa Taylor, Staff Lieutenant Dianna White, Trooper Alexis Guilty, Major Brigette Charles, Sergeant Tiffany Coriell, Trooper Brandi Allen, Trooper Kristi Comstock, and Trooper Katheryn Banks.

Two Monroeville students received “Saved by the Belt” awards in May after seat belts saved their lives. Left to right: Firefighter Curt Stang, Alexandria Schaefer, Paige Marie Leitz, Trooper Ryan Thomas, Lieutenant Doug Hamman and Sergeant Kent Jeffries.
Rob E. Jackson

Captain Rob E. Jackson, Technology and Communication Services, retired March 13, 2015, after 25 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1990 as a member of the 119th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to Dayton. In 1991, he transferred to the Lancaster Post. In 1998, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to the Technology and Communications Services. While in Technology and Communication Services he was promoted to lieutenant in 2001, staff lieutenant in 2005 and captain in 2011.

He earned his Bachelor of Specialized Studies in communication from Ohio University in 2001. He completed advanced training at Northwestern University’s School of Police Staff and Command in 2004.

Douglas B. Bradley

Sergeant Douglas B. Bradley, Granville, retired December 12, 2014, after 29 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1985 as a member of the 115th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to Toledo. In 1990, he transferred to Wapakoneta. In 1993, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to the Jackson Post where he served as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he has served at the Piqua and Eaton posts, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement, Training Academy and the Granville Post. He was Wapakoneta’s Post Trooper of the Year in 1992.

Darryl L. Edge

Sergeant Darryl L. Edge, Fremont, retired December 26, 2014, after 26 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1988 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to Lima. He became a member of the 118th Academy Class in March 1988. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to Van Wert. During his career with the Patrol, he has served at the Defiance, Mt. Gilead, Sandusky and Fremont Posts. He was selected as Van Wert Post Trooper of the Year in 1993 and 1995 and Post and District Trooper of the Year in 1996.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from Chaminade University of Honolulu. He completed advanced leadership training at the Police Executive Leadership College in 2008.

Timothy C. Johnson

Sergeant Timothy C. Johnson, Administrative Investigation Unit, retired May 29, 2015, after 27 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1988 as a member of the 117th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to Lebanon. In 1990, he transferred to the Dayton Post where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1993 and Post and District Trooper of the Year in 1997. He earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 1994 and 1995. In 1998, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to the Wapakoneta Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2000, he returned to the Dayton Post. In 2008, he transferred to the Piqua Post. In 2011, he transferred to the Administrative Investigation Unit.

D. Bryan Kirk

Sergeant D. Bryan Kirk, Office of Criminal Investigation, retired on May 8, 2015, after 23 years of service. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned the Mt. Gilead. In 1993, he transferred to Circleville. In 1997, he transferred to the Office of Criminal Investigation as a plainclothes investigator. In 2006, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Columbus District Criminal Investigations Section. In 2011, he returned to the Office of Criminal Investigation.

Donald E. Ryan

Sergeant Donald E. Ryan, Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement, retired on May 15, 2015, after nearly 28 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1987 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to Cambridge. He became a member of the 117th Academy Class in March 1988. He earned his
commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Marion Post, where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1992.

In 1993, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Gallipolis Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1996, he transferred to the Cambridge Post. In 1997, he transferred to the New Philadelphia Post. In 2011, he transferred to his most recent assignment at the Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement Unit.

Toby J. Smith

Sergeant Toby J. Smith, Mansfield, retired on May 29, 2015, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1990 as a member of the 120th Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to Norwalk. As a trooper, he has served at the Canton and Milan posts and at the Training Academy.

In 2000, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to Granville as an assistant post commander, before returning to the Academy. In 2003, he transferred to the Mansfield Post. In 2007, he served as a temporary spokesperson in the Public Affairs Unit. Sergeant Smith also served in Employee Relations and at the Mt. Gilead and Mansfield posts.

He completed training at Northwestern University’s School of Police Staff and Command in 2008 and earned a Bachelor of Science in management and a Master of Science in project management from DeVry University.

Paul G. Brunsman

Trooper Paul G. Brunsman, Chardon, retired on May 1, 2015, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in as a cadet dispatcher assigned to West Jefferson. He became a member of the 115th Academy Class in November 1985. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to Delaware.

In 1987 he transferred to the Ashtabula Post. In 2003, he transferred to his most recent assignment at Chardon.

He earned an Associate of Science from Cincinnati Bible College and Seminary in 1980 and a Bachelor of Arts in entomology from the Ohio State University in 1982.

Martin O. Flipse

Trooper Martin O. Flipse, Bowling Green, retired June 8, 2015, after more than 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in 1985 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to Findlay. He trained with the 117th Academy Class and earned his commission in September 1988. He has been assigned to Bowling Green throughout his career and was Post Trooper of the Year in 2009.

Jeffery T. Fowler, Sr.

Trooper Jeffery T. Fowler, Sr., Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement, retired May 1, 2015, after 31 years of service. He trained with the 113th Academy Class and earned his commission in September 1984. He was assigned to Cambridge until 1990, when he transferred to Zanesville where he was Post Trooper of the Year in 1996. In 1999, he transferred to Granville; in 2002, to the Governor’s Residence Detail; and in 2012, to Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement.

Craig T. Franklin

Trooper Craig T. Franklin, Fremont, retired June 25, 2015, after 25 years of service. He joined the Patrol in January 1990 as a member of the 119th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to Defiance. In 1996, he transferred to the Sandusky Post. In 2008, he transferred to Fremont.

Gregory M. Hurd

Trooper Gregory M. Hurd, Lancaster, retired on May 20, 2015, after 23 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to Athens, where he received a Certificate of Recognition in 1996.
In 1999, he transferred to Jackson, where he was Post Trooper of Year in 2000. He transferred to Athens in 2002, returned to Jackson in 2007 and transferred to Lancaster in 2008.

**David K. Mills**

Trooper David K. Mills, Lancaster, retired February 20, 2015, after nearly 31 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1984 as a member of the 113th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to Circleville where he was Post Trooper of the Year in 1989. He also served at West Jefferson, Columbus District Headquarters, the Central Ohio Motorcycle Unit and Lancaster. He earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement four times, a Certificate of Recognition in 1990 and the Blue Max Award and the prestigious Superintendent’s Citation of Merit in 1994.

**Kyle A. Ross**

Trooper Kyle A. Ross, Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement, retired on June 12, 2015, after 25 years with the Patrol. He began his law enforcement career with the Richland County Juvenile Court as a juvenile home detention coordinator. In 1989, he joined the Richland County Sheriff’s Office as a deputy sheriff. He joined the Patrol in January 1990 as a member of the 119th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Findlay Post. As a trooper, he has served at the Findlay, Bucyrus, Ashland, Mansfield, and Mt. Gilead Posts and Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1994, 1995, 1999 and 2010.

**Daniel J. Warniment**

Trooper Daniel J. Warniment, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement, retired on May 8, 2015, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1990 as a member of the 119th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Defiance Post. In 1992, he transferred to Wapakoneta, where he was Post Trooper of the Year in 1993. In 2001, he transferred to Piqua District Commercial Enforcement.

**Robert N. Webb**

Trooper Robert N. Webb, Portsmouth, entered disability retirement April 20, 2015. He joined the Patrol in 2007 as a member of the 148th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to Chillicothe. In 2010, he transferred to Portsmouth.

**Corinna S. Elling**

Motor Carrier Enforcement Supervisor Corinna S. Elling, Findlay District Commercial Enforcement, retired December 31, 2014, after 31 years of service. She joined the Patrol in 1983 as a driver license examiner in the Findlay District. In 1992, she was promoted to driver license examiner 2 and transferred to Findlay’s Commercial Enforcement Unit. She was promoted to motor carrier enforcement inspector in 2000 and motor carrier enforcement supervisor in 2003.

**Mark A. Landis**

Motor Vehicle Inspector Mark A. Landis, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement, retired on May 29, 2015, after 30 years with the Patrol. He began his Patrol career in May 1985 as a motor vehicle inspector at the Piqua Post. In 1987, he transferred to his most recent assignment.

**Richard D. Terepka**

Joseph M. Weiland
Motor Vehicle Inspector
Joseph M. Weiland, Columbus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on March 1, 2015 after more than 12 years with the Patrol. He began his Patrol career as a maintenance repair worker 1 assigned to Logistic Services. In March 2002, he was promoted to a maintenance repair worker 2 and remained in Logistic Services. Later that year, he was promoted to a maintenance repair worker 3 and transferred to the Alum Creek Facilities. In 2010, he was promoted to a motor vehicle inspector and transferred to his most recent assignment at Columbus District Commercial Enforcement Unit.

Beverly S. Kirk
Dispatcher Beverly S. Kirk, Dayton Dispatch Center, retired May 1, 2015, after 21 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in February 1994 as a dispatcher assigned to the former Eaton Post. In 2002, she transferred to Dayton. She earned a diploma in nursing from Dayton School of Nursing in 1979 and an Associate of Business Administration degree in accounting from Miami-Jacobs Career College in 1987.

Virgil L. Dehoff
Infrastructure Specialist 2
Virgil L. Dehoff, Cleveland District Headquarters, retired on April 3, 2015, after 44 years with the Patrol. He began his career with the Patrol in March 1971 as a radio technician assigned to the Massillon Post. He retired from that position in October 1996. He returned to state service that December as an infrastructure specialist assigned to Cleveland District Headquarters. In 2002, he was promoted to infrastructure specialist 2.

Sherry L. Ford
Administrative Professional
1 Sherry L. Ford, Circleville, retired on April 30, 2015, after 30 years of state service. She began her state career in May 1985 with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles. She joined the Patrol in 1987 as a clerical specialist at Circleville. In April 1989, she was promoted to an accountant and transferred to Fiscal Management. Later that year, she transferred to the Training Academy as a word processing specialist. In 1990, she returned to the Circleville Post.

Michael E. Lankford
Maintenance Repair Worker 2
Michael E. Lankford, Wooster Post, retired on May 29, 2015, after 16 years with the Patrol. He began his career with the Patrol in March 1999 as a Maintenance Repair worker 2 assigned to the Wooster Post where he has served throughout his career.

Mark D. Wampler
Maintenance Repair Worker 2
Mark D. Wampler, Springfield, retired on April 3, 2015, after 14 years of service. He began his career with the Patrol in March 2001 as a maintenance repair worker 2 assigned to the former Eaton Post. In 2002, he transferred to the Dayton Post and in 2004, he transferred to Springfield.
When I was young, my parents stressed that I should show respect to my elders. This trait was strengthened and practiced in the Army, even though some of my “elders” were not that much older than me. Now, however, as I consider my age, I realize there are less and less individuals for whom I am called upon to show respect. Does this mean that the older we become, the less respectful we have to be? This is far from the truth, which leads me to realize that the practice of respect is both missing from our daily lives and that it can also be a real challenge when practiced without primary respect to the highest of all authorities.

In Romans 13:7 we read: “show respect to whom respect is due; honor to whom honor is due.” From my perspective, we have lost the practice of respect for our elders and for those in positions of authority. When I went to school—now I am showing my age—there was always a polite respect shown to teachers as well as fellow students. My mother was a substitute teacher, and this could have been a problem because she was strict and had a rule about gum chewing in class. If she saw any student chewing gum, she would quietly speak his or her name and point to the waste basket. There was no protest. There was simply a whispered, “I’m sorry,” which went along with the proper deposit into the waste basket. Nor was there any complaint to me about how foolish or mean my mother was. She was respected.

Yes, I realize there were pranks played and jokes made about teachers and administrators behind their backs, but there was respect for their authority and the rules and regulations of that day.

There was respect for law enforcement and the rules they were enforcing. We may not have always agreed with what was being enforced, but we accepted, with the awareness that the matter could always have a chance of being negotiated in the court system. Either age has blurred my memory or things were different a few years ago when it came to showing respect.

But along with this observation, there is a challenge regarding “blind respect.” In the opening verse of the 13th chapter of Romans we read: “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.” For me, this means I am called upon to show obedient respect for those in authority. I may not always agree with methodology, but that is not a reason to be disrespectful of authority, or to not obey the rules, regulations and commands, or to fail to give total support to the mission.

This is true not just for law enforcement, but work in all areas of life, including the church and its ministry. But the challenge comes when the earthly authority leads in a different direction from the authority of God. This is what happened in Nazi Germany. Good people who believed in respect for their leaders were led astray from the ultimate authority—God and His Word. If there is no ultimate authority, then there is no litmus test to see where the line is to be drawn.

We become stronger and more effective in our mission—whatever the mission may be to which we are committed—when we show primary respect to Divine Authority and follow through with respect to whom respect is due according to that authority.

It is great to be part of the Ohio State Highway Patrol where respect for established authority can always be given without reservation. May it always be that way.

Richard D. Ellsworth
State Chaplain
Troopers partnered with numerous agencies for Shield Details in Franklin and Trumbull counties. See story, page 10.