

# FLYING WHEEL

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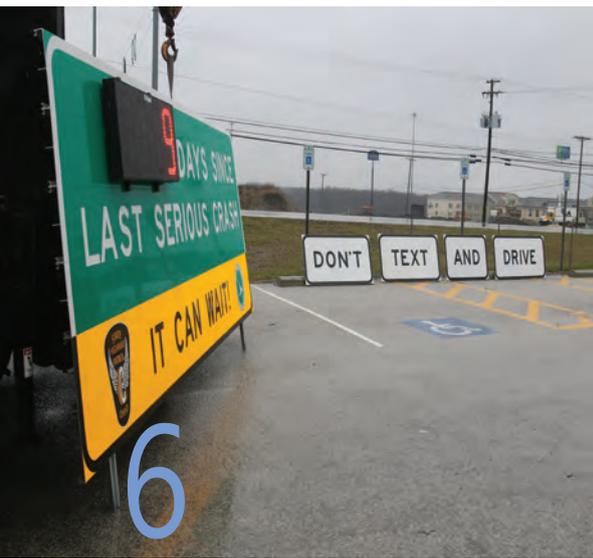


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|--------------------------|--------------------|
| SGT. JOHN F. BEST        | JUNE 17, 1935      |
| PTL. KARL E. BUSHONG     | JUNE 7, 1937       |
| PTL. PAUL L. McMANIS     | SEPTEMBER 28, 1941 |
| PTL. HARRY D. GRIMES     | JUNE 8, 1952       |
| PTL. ROBERT E. KARSMIZKI | MARCH 31, 1957     |
| LT. JAMES A. KIRKENDALL  | OCTOBER 28, 1970   |
| PTL. DAVID L. STERNER    | FEBRUARY 25, 1973  |
| TPR. WILLIAM R. BENDER   | NOVEMBER 20, 1982  |
| TPR. JAMES A. ...        | 1996               |
| TPR. ...                 | 28, 2006           |



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In Remembrance.  
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Ptl. James E. Nory  
JANUARY 7, 1936

Ptl. Charles W. Timberlake

# OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

## *Colonel's Letter*



Each May, we gather as a family in remembrance of the men and women who sacrificed their lives keeping Ohioans safe. The Memorial Service provides time to heal, celebrate our heroes, and display our continued love and support for the survivors left behind.

Seated in the auditorium, we gaze upon the black granite walls of the Patrol Memorial guarded by the eternal flame. We listen to the tolling of the bell as the honor roll of names is read. We watch as each rose is placed upon the Memorial and hear sounds of the 21-gun salute as they reverberate throughout the courtyard. While experiencing these sights and sounds, we pay homage to our fallen and rededicate ourselves to honoring their legacies. We will continue to honor our heroes by upholding the professional image they sacrificed so much to establish.

Each day, across our state and our nation, thousands of men and women perform their life's work. A life dedicated to service above self and filled with potential danger. The Ohio State Highway Patrol remains committed to finding innovative ideas to reduce risk and increase officer safety. The Aviation Unit's new objective, Proactive Patrol, is an example of such innovation.

Proactive Patrol allows for faster response times providing aerial support to troopers and our law enforcement partners. The aircrew actively patrols over predetermined areas during the time when most pursuits and criminal activity occur. Proactive Patrol provides support for the ground units in the field, and aircraft pilots are able to oversee tracking and affect an arrest, minimizing risk to the public and officers involved in the apprehension effort.

What we have accomplished in the last five years is of historic proportions. These successes are a direct result of your service and commitment. For 85 years, Patrol personnel have dedicated themselves to making Ohio safer and that mission has not changed. Ohio is a safer place to live and work because of the efforts of the men and women of the Patrol. Thank you for your leadership and your faithful and steadfast service.

Noblesse Oblige

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colonel Paul A. Pride".

Colonel Paul A. Pride  
Superintendent



# Patrol Memorial Honors Fallen Heroes

For those entering the Leadership Auditorium of the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy, the Memorial Ceremony is a special day. It is an opportunity for family members and friends to remember their loved ones who have been killed in the line of duty and to share that connection with others who have experienced the same.

Fallen Patrol members are honored on the first Friday in May at the Patrol Academy where their journey began. The yearly ceremony keeps their memory alive and provides an opportunity to show appreciation.

The memorial is a time not just to remember troopers and personnel who gave their lives in service to the state of Ohio, but to honor their family members who they left behind. It's a day to pay tribute to the brave individuals who placed service above self, and to recognize the families who have also paid an enormous price.

Troopers, active and retired, escorted the families of the fallen to their seats. The memorial began with the advancement of the Color Guard. Reverend Richard Ellsworth gave the invocation and was followed by Colonel Paul A. Pride's remarks.

Colonel Pride and Department of Public Safety Director John Born both addressed the crowd. Retired Major Robert W. Booker read the roll call of officers killed in the line of duty.

A rose was placed on the Patrol's Memorial Wall, which is surrounded by the Eternal Flame, as each name was read. The names etched in the black granite memorial wall symbolize those who gave much and asked for little. The names are a remembrance of their bravery, sacrifice, dedication and courage.

The ceremony is a time to ensure those fallen officers maintain their rightful place in the hearts and memories of families and friends. It is the duty of the Patrol to continue to provide them with our unwavering support.



# Troopers Attend 2018 National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

Members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol traveled to Washington, D.C. for National Police Week and attended the 2018 National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on Tuesday, May 15.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. National Police Week pays recognition to law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty while protecting others.

When Ohio troopers arrived in D.C., the first event they attended was the candlelight vigil at the National Mall during the evening of Sunday, May 13. The 30th annual candlelight vigil has become an annual tribute and a signature event of National Police Week observances.

Thousands of law enforcement officers, family members, friends and many others from around the world travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in many special events. An estimated 30,000 guests attended the event.

On Monday, May 14, members of the Patrol had the opportunity to go on a tour of the Capitol with members of the Public Safety Leadership Academy, who were also in attendance for the Memorial.

The next stop for Ohio's troopers was at the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on Tuesday, May 15. The troopers attended the Memorial to honor our fellow law enforcement families.

New names of fallen officers are carved on the blue-gray walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers monument

each spring in conjunction with National Police Week. Names engraved on the memorial include fallen officers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, federal law enforcement and military police agencies. This year there were 360 names engraved on the memorial, 129 who died in 2017 and the others whose deaths have just become known. There have been over 21,000 officers' names, including 41 members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, engraved on the monument since 1971. Current projections show the memorial walls are going to be full of engraved names by 2050.

The Memorial was sponsored by the National Fraternal Order of Police, and is organized by the National FOP Committee. This year, there was a live broadcast for those who were not able to attend, but wanted to follow along.



# Ohio Launches First Distracted Driving Corridor

By Alexis E. Bartolomucci

As motorists drive along a 17-mile strip in Trumbull and Mahoning counties, they may notice more troopers on the interstate than usual. This is due in part to the new Distracted Driving Safety Corridor which was launched in April as part of Distracted Driving Safety Awareness month.

The distracted driving corridor was made possible due to the partnership between the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the Ohio Department of Transportation as an initiative to reduce distracted driving crashes, injuries and fatalities.

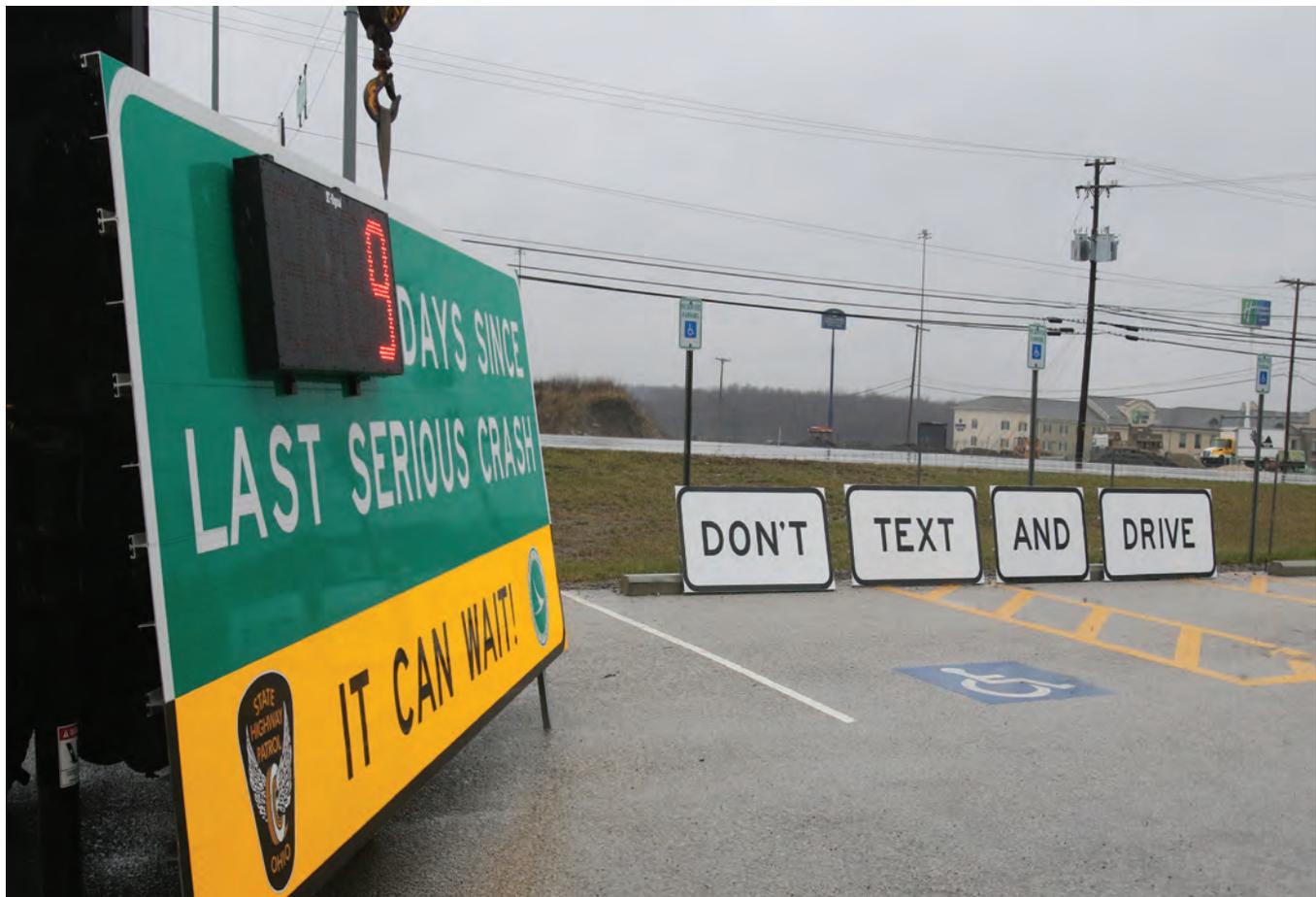
The corridor runs along Interstate 76 and Interstate 80, spanning from Newton Falls Road in Mahoning County to West Liberty Street in Trumbull County. Statistics show this area is one of Ohio's busiest stretches of interstate highway and has a higher rate of crashes involving distracted driving.

"Distracted driving crashes are totally preventable crashes," said ODOT District Deputy Director John Picuri. "Distracted driving is a choice that people make."

The corridor is adorned with signs that notify motorists as they are entering and leaving the corridor. Several other signs bring attention to the motorists that read "How Important Is That Text?" and "Don't Text And Drive." An electronic sign lights up with the number of days since the last serious crash.

The Warren and Canfield Patrol posts are using federal grant dollars to allow high enforcement of troopers looking for violations such as speeding, lane violations and following too close, which may be attributed to distracted driving. The goal is to reduce crashes and dangerous driving behaviors which will result in saving more lives.

"We know that distracted driving is an increasing problem," said Department of Public Safety Director John Born. "Last year we saw a large increase in the number of distracted driving fatal crashes. In fact, the number of fatal crashes in Ohio from reported distracted driving doubled from 2016 to 2017."



Since 2013, there have been almost 65,000 crashes caused by distracted drivers in Ohio. As a result of these crashes, there were 189 deaths and 22,428 serious injuries. From Jan. 1, 2016 to Feb. 28, 2018, the Patrol handed out 2,735 distracted driving violations in Trumbull and Mahoning counties. In that same time period, there were 1,245 distracted driving crashes resulting in three fatalities and nearly 450 injuries.

“Distracted driving continues to be a component in crashes we investigate and continues to rise,” said Lieutenant Jerad Sutton of the Patrol’s Canfield Post. “There are so many things that can distract you from the primary focus of driving.”

Educating motorists on distracted driving and the consequences will be a key element to the success of the corridor. During traffic stops, motorists can expect a pamphlet on distracted driving to be given to them by a trooper titled “If You Think You’re a Multitasker, You’re Wrong.” A distracted driving simulator donated by ODOT to the Safe Communities will also be available for the public to utilize during an event. The simulator gives the public an opportunity to experience what it’s like to drive distracted.

Motorists should keep their focus on the road, not just in the corridor, but wherever they travel to help make our roadways a safer place.



Photo credit: The Vindicator

# Patrol and Ohio Turnpike Dedicate Sign to Fallen Trooper Robert Perez, Jr.

May 15 is celebrated across the country as National Peace Officers Memorial Day, but it's also a day the Ohio State Highway Patrol remembers fallen Trooper Robert Perez, Jr.

Perez was honored by his family, friends, members of the Patrol and other local law enforcement officers on May 15, 2018 – the 18th anniversary of his death. The ceremony was held at the Patrol's Milan Post where Perez was assigned.

The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission organized a Memorial Sign Program honoring workers and troopers killed in the line of duty with a sign dedication ceremony. An "In Remembrance" sign for Trooper Perez was placed alongside a "Move Over for Stopped Vehicle with Flashing Lights" sign at milepost 121, close to where Perez was struck from behind while on a traffic stop. Perez's mother, father and sister all received a miniature replica of his memorial sign during the ceremony.

Ohio Turnpike Commission Executive Director Randy Cole, Colonel Paul A. Pride and Perez family friend Craig James gave remarks during the ceremony.

"This dedication today is not just for the beloved Trooper Robert Perez, but all officers and those of public service," James said.

James told stories about Perez how he was always intent on following the rules, wanted to be in law enforcement, and took a police scanner with him everywhere. He was always trying to help and protect others.

Perez's family took this opportunity to reminisce on the work he had done during his time with the Patrol. Along with family, Perez's coworkers spoke with guests about his dedication to his work with the Patrol.

"Policing is a noble profession, and Robert was a noble servant," Colonel Pride said. "He faithfully represented the Patrol with great pride, dignity and honor."

The turnpike is working with the Patrol to promote Work Zone Awareness and remind motorists to move over for first responders with flashing lights on highways. Perez's sign gives a name and face to the "Move Over" signs, and will allow those to remember him, his dedication to the Patrol and his desire to help people.

At the end of the ceremony, guests were offered red thumb bands, reminding motorists to keep their focus on the road and not drive distracted or text and drive.

Perez's memory and legacy will live on with his family, the Patrol and anyone who drives by his sign and sees his name.



# Jackson District SHIELD

## *46 Law Enforcement Agencies Participate*

Law enforcement agencies throughout southeast Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia collaborated to promote traffic safety and deter criminal activity. In total, 46 agencies participated in the two-day initiative on May 3 and 4.

The two-day initiative targeted 10 counties in southeast Ohio as well as specific areas across Ohio's border that lead into West Virginia and Kentucky.

"The cooperation between agencies shows the level of commitment all of us have to making our communities safer," said Lieutenant Karla Taulbee, Jackson District Criminal Patrol commander. "Multi-agency cooperation enhances enforcement efforts and solidifies our relationships with our law enforcement partners."

SHIELD Details combine the manpower, resources and intelligence efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to "shield" the local populace from criminals by conducting multi-day, saturation enforcement operations in communities to deter criminal activity.

The Jackson Criminal Patrol received support from other Patrol units including Jackson District Investigative Services, Jackson and Columbus Commercial Units, the Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit, the Ohio Investigative Unit, U.S. Marshals, and the OSHP Statistical Analysis Unit.



At the end of the initiative, 289 criminal cases were investigated, including 121 drug cases. The agencies combined for 68 felony drug arrests, 53 misdemeanor drug arrests and 10 stolen vehicle recoveries. There were 84 warrants served, resulting in the arrest of 82 individuals. In total, more than 1,200 grams of illegal/dangerous narcotics were seized. Additionally, there were a total of 1,933 traffic stops resulting in 15 arrests for OVI.

From 2011 to 2013, the Patrol's law enforcement partnerships were dramatically strengthened through SHIELD details where troopers and local law enforcement officers work together to reduce crashes, target criminal activity and wanted felons, and improve the quality of life for citizens.

The Patrol continues to partner with other law enforcement agencies in successful SHIELD details that deploy resources and personnel to address traffic safety and deter criminal activity in predetermined areas.



## Major Fambro promoted to Assistant Superintendent

### *Lieutenant Colonel Black Retires*



Major Richard S. Fambro was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel on April 29, 2018 and was recognized by Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol superintendent, during a ceremony at the Patrol's Training Academy. Lieutenant Colonel Fambro transferred from his assignment in the Office of Personnel to serve in the Office of the Superintendent.

Lieutenant Colonel Fambro began his Patrol career in August 1989 as a cadet dispatcher at the Lancaster Post. He became a member of the 119th Academy Class in January 1990. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Dayton Post, where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1994. In 1997, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Springfield Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2000, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Lancaster Post to serve as post commander. In 2003, he was selected to serve as the Patrol's spokesperson in the Public Affairs Unit. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Logistics and Security Services. As a staff lieutenant, he also served at the Columbus District Headquarters as an assistant district commander. In 2010, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the Office of Investigative Services. As a captain, he also served in the Office of Special Operations and in the Office of Criminal Investigations. In 2014, he was promoted to the rank of major and transferred to the Office of Planning and Analysis. As a major, he also served in the Office of Personnel.

Lieutenant Colonel Fambro completed advance leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2002. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Ohio Dominican University in 2004.



Lieutenant Colonel Michael D. Black, Office of the Superintendent, retired on April 13, 2018, after 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1988 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Piqua District Headquarters. He began training as a member of the 118th Academy Class in May 1989. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Fremont Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Marion Post. In 1995, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Patrol's Training Academy. In 1998, he transferred to the Delaware Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1999, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Hamilton Post to serve as post commander.

In 2004, Lieutenant Colonel Black was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Strategic Services to serve as the Legislative Liaison. As a staff lieutenant he also served in the Crime Lab, Office of Field Operations and at the Columbus District Headquarters. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of captain and served as commander of the Columbus District. In 2012, he was promoted to the rank of major and transferred to the Office of Criminal Investigations. In 2017, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and transferred to the Office of the Superintendent.

He completed training at the FBI National Academy in September 1997 and attended the United States Army War College in 2012.

Lieutenant Colonel Black served in the United States Marines from 1984 to 1988.

## Colonel Pride receives OACP Award



Colonel Paul A. Pride was selected by Chief Brandon Standley of the Bellefontaine Police Department and President of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police as the recipient of the OACP President's Award.

Colonel Pride attended the OACP banquet in Columbus on April 29 where he was presented with the OACP President's Award by Chief Standley.

Each year, the President of the OACP is given the opportunity to choose one person to receive the President's Award. This year, Chief Standley chose Colonel Pride because of his ongoing efforts to bond Ohio's law enforcement agencies through collaborative efforts, executive level meetings and ongoing joint operations.

"He has contributed greatly to making Ohio a safer place to live, work and play," Chief Standley said.

Colonel Pride is a member of the OACP and has worked alongside Chief Standley for a number of years. Chief Standley said Colonel Pride has always shown a high degree of integrity, professionalism and a sincere desire to improve our state.

Chief Standley said he is proud of his selection and believes the rest of the membership feels the same way.

## Lieutenant Greene and Trooper DePizzo receive "Rising Up and Moving On" Award



On July 6, 2016, Trumbull County Children Services contacted Lieutenant Jeffrey S. Greene and requested assistance in recovering a missing 17-year-old girl. Lieutenant Greene contacted Criminal Patrol Investigator Trooper Brian E. DePizzo, also a task force agent with the Mahoning Valley Human Trafficking, to assist with the investigation. Lieutenant Greene and Trooper DePizzo were able to coordinate efforts between North Olmstead Police and Cleveland Ohio Investigative Services.

Lieutenant Greene and Trooper DePizzo were able to respond to the motel with North Olmstead Police, Trooper Andre L. Bradford and Trooper Brian J. Beal and locate the female in a motel room with an adult male. The female was taken into custody, provided medical attention and returned to Trumbull County.

The male was arrested for promoting prostitution and possession of narcotics. A human trafficking investigation was conducted by North Olmstead Police and the Mahoning Valley Human Trafficking Task Force.

For their service to children, Lieutenant Greene and Trooper DePizzo received the "Rising Up and Moving On" Award on April 18.

## Trooper Norman receives local and international awards



In 2017, Trooper David A. Norman was instrumental in seizing vast amounts of narcotics that could have made it into the hands of many Ohioans. Trooper Norman, in conjunction with his counterparts assigned to the Cleveland Criminal Patrol Unit and Summit County Drug Unit, successfully seized over 1,000 pounds of marijuana, 92 pounds of crystal methamphetamine and more than 2 ounces of Fentanyl. One seizure was 34 pounds of methamphetamines and resulted in a state record, while the other two were both 20-pound methamphetamine seizures.

Trooper Norman initiated a new interdiction technique that resulted in more than 20 bulk drug seizures in 2017.

As proof of his hard work and dedication, Trooper Norman was presented with the 2017 Summit County Drug Unit Detective of the year, as well as the 2018 International Narcotics Interdiction Association Narcotics Interdiction Officer of the Year.

## Trooper Kirkendall receives Jefferson Award

On April 17, Trooper Logan M. Kirkendall, Toledo Post, was named a finalist of the Toledo-area Jefferson Awards for his work with the homeless.

The Jefferson Award is a national foundation that inspires action. It was created in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Samuel Bernard as the Nobel Prize for public and community service. The awards are given at both national and local levels, honoring the unsung heroes of the United States.

“It meant a lot to me,” Trooper Kirkendall said. “I enjoy helping people, as I believe in some capacity all troopers do.”

In 2015, Kirkendall and his wife created and began distributing bags containing toiletries to the area’s homeless. The bags included toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, hats, gloves, socks and blankets. In 2016, he approached his local church in Lima and asked for their assistance. Approximately 100 bags were donated by the church.

Kirkendall then brought the bags in to the Toledo Post so he and his fellow units could disperse them to homeless individuals who they may come across in and around the area. In 2017, he saw the demand was still there. He continued to donate his time and efforts, and also distributed the bags to his fellow units and to local departments for them to give out.

He was nominated for the Jefferson Award by District 1 Captain John C. Altman.

“In his five years with the Patrol, he’s distinguished himself in many ways,” Captain Altman said. “He’s always willing and ready to take the time and energy needed to help those less fortunate than him.”



**Photo credit:** Grand Lubell

# Patrol Recognizes New Members of “Over the Hill Club”

The remaining members of the 117th Academy Class celebrated achieving their 30 years of service on March 23 by becoming members of the Patrol’s “Over the Hill Club”. The new members of the Patrol’s “Over the Hill Club” include Lieutenant Colonel Kevin D. Teaford, Captain Chris J. Zurcher, Captain Patrick B. Vessels, Sergeant Sheldon L. Robinson, Sergeant Yvonne L. Thorne and Trooper David J. Schultz.

Members say they’re proud of what they were able to accomplish and are thankful for everything they learned during their career with the Patrol.

During the ceremony, each Patrol member who was inducted received a certificate that said “Over the Hill Club,” their name with current rank, academy class, and their first and most current portrait. Each person called to the stage to receive their certificate had an opportunity to talk about their time in the Patrol and shared some of their favorite memories and stories they’ve had over the last 30 years.

“When I was promoted to sergeant, I realized I could be more of an asset to the organization by guiding troopers to achieve their goals and succeed,” Sergeant Thorne said. “I felt as though the troopers on my shift were my family and I was protective of my family.”

Lieutenant Colonel Teaford said his favorite memory of the Patrol was the day he walked across the stage and received his commission.

“Driving home that day in my uniform was the proudest day of my career,” he said.

Although the “Over the Hill Club” members have many memories they’ll cherish, the people they have met and worked with throughout their career is something they will never forget and will always treasure. Members of the club have represented their organization and their profession at a level like no other.

“There is no other organization in the world that I would rather be associated with,” Lieutenant Colonel Teaford said. “I wanted to be a state trooper when I was 16 years old and would not script my professional life out any different.”



# Retiree Appreciation Month

Throughout April, retirees and active members gathered at Patrol posts and restaurants statewide to share stories, laughs and fellowship. General Headquarters also hosted a retiree celebration on April 20 in the atrium of the Charles D. Shipley Building.





Zanesville



Hiram



Warren



Canton



Ravenna

Flying Wheel 15



## Safety Belt Recognition

Troopers were recognized on April 6 for their seat belt enforcement efforts in 2017. In total, troopers cited 136,400 motorists for not wearing safety belts.



## OVI Recognition

Troopers were recognized on April 6 for leading the state in removing impaired drivers from our roads. In 2017, troopers arrested 27,340 drivers under the influence of drugs or alcohol which led to a reduction in impaired driving fatal crashes.



## Criminal Patrol 4th Quarter

Winners of the Ace and Criminal Patrol Awards were recognized on May 22. These troopers worked diligently to look “beyond the plate” in order to remove drugs from Ohio communities and return stolen vehicles to their rightful owners.

## CEO Landis and SHPFCU Receive Awards

The State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union was awarded with the Desjardins Adult Financial Education Award in recognition of their Cadet Financial Literacy Program.

SHPFCU President and CEO Becky Landis was also awarded with the Claude Clarke Political Inspiration Award. This award recognizes outstanding efforts to increase awareness of credit unions and credit union issues among public policymakers and lawmakers.

The SHPFCU was also awarded with the Dora Maxwell Award for Maria’s Message, an award that has proven social responsibility projects within their membership. The SHPFCU and Ohio Troopers Caring donated \$25 for every loan granted during the two-month period to the Maria’s Message Foundation totaling \$7,200.

The credit union staff also received the Louise Herring Philosophy in Action award for its commitment to “People Helping People” philosophy. The SHPFCU had an annual loan special “We’ve Got Your Back” in the month of May in recognition of National Police Week.



# Safe 6 Initiative Focuses Efforts on Aggressive Driving

The Ohio State Highway Patrol, along with local law enforcement, community partners from Henry, Sandusky and Wood counties, AAA, and the Ohio Department of Transportation District 2 worked together to launch the Safe 6 Initiative.

The Safe 6 Initiative was created in an effort to address aggressive driving behaviors on U.S. 6 - a flat and straight route stretching east to west and is just south of Bowling Green.

Over a three-year period, more than 17 traffic fatalities have taken place in Henry, Wood and Sandusky counties combined on U.S. 6. During the same time period, there have been 252 injuries and 745 property damage incidents. The top causes for the crashes have been identified as failure to yield, failure to keep assured clear distance, left of center, unsafe speeds and improper passing.

U.S. 6 is the second largest federal highway in the United States. It runs from California to Massachusetts, and travels across Ohio farmland in the west, up to Lake Erie and through wooded areas of eastern Ohio.

Patrols were increased during the month of May, and if a motorist was pulled over and cited on U.S. 6, they were given a fact card that covers all of the common violations on that stretch of the road. The fact card included tips for passenger cars and commercial vehicles. Some of the tips included staying focused, obeying traffic control devices, following the speed limit, being patient and more.

U.S. 6 is a highly traveled road across the state of Ohio and with summer weather, traffic increases. Many local residents use U.S. 6 for their daily commutes, but other motorists from outside the state and surrounding areas use U.S. 6 to get to their destinations.

The Safe Communities in Wood, Henry and Sandusky counties utilized their social media presence to bring attention to the initiative and to the subject of distracted and aggressive driving. AAA partnered with the Safe Communities to focus on taking distractions away when driving, such as putting away devices. Edgar Avila, president and chief executive officer of AAA, worked with the local law enforcement on the traffic safety initiative.

May was the kick-off month, but the initiative will continue to run through the summer. The goal of the partnership is to bring awareness to the motoring public through community partners in the hopes of reducing traffic-related injuries and fatalities on U.S. 6.



## Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

Cleveland VTFU – Trooper Jeff A. Kaess received information related to the location of a stolen 1976 Corvette. The Corvette was reported stolen on April 9, 1978 by the Philadelphia Police Department. A for sale ad on Craigslist was recently discovered for the stolen vehicle from 1978. With most records related to the theft of the vehicle purged from databases, VTFU investigators actively worked with the National Insurance Crime Bureau and obtained a theft report of the vehicle and located the victim. With the assistance of the Cambridge District Ohio Investigative Services Section, the vehicle was recovered nearly 40 years later on March 8 at a private residence.

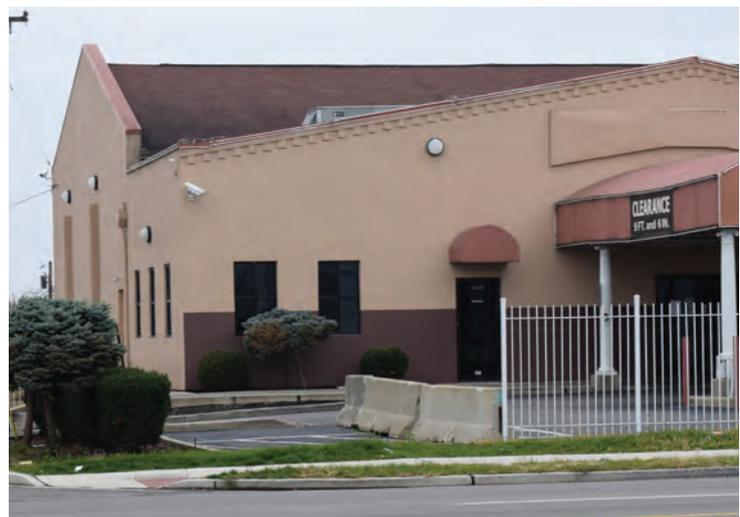


## Ohio Investigative Unit

On May 25, the Ohio Investigative Unit was informed by the Ohio Liquor Control Commission that they revoked the liquor license of a Montgomery County adult entertainment establishment. Agents began investigating the business after receiving complaints of possible human trafficking. While no charges were filed related to human trafficking, the agents were able to purchase drugs using food stamp benefits and cash.

Throughout the eight-month investigation, agents exchanged \$1,764.87 in food stamps to purchase fentanyl, carfentanil, methamphetamines, prescription drugs and marijuana. In all, 114 criminal charges were filed, including 31 felony drug trafficking charges, three felony food stamp charges and 73 illegal sexual activity charges. Agents also filed 117 administrative charges, including drug possession, drug sales, engaging in sexual activity, food stamp trafficking and solicitation.

OIU, the Range Task Force and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office conducted a search warrant on September 28. A nuisance abatement, an emergency shut down, was filed on September 28 by the Montgomery County Prosecutor Mathias Heck. Subsequent hearings have prohibited the Harem from operating for one year.



## Van Wert Post



The Van Wert Post partnered with the Van Wert County Health Collaborative on April 18 as part of Distracted Driving Awareness month. The event took place at Central Insurance where the employees were encouraged to sign the Distracted Driving Pledge to stop driving distracted. There were 141 people who took the pledge to keep their hands on the wheel, eyes on the road and their mind on driving.

## Marietta Post



The Marietta Post partnered with the Marietta College Police Department for an “Arrive Alive” tour on April 6 in support of Distracted Driving Awareness Month. There were 75 college participants who used the distracted driving/impaired driving simulator. Officers also spoke to students and adults about the dangers of driving impaired, as well as texting and driving. Patrons received “Don’t Text and Drive” and “Drive Sober” car magnets.

## Hiram Post



The 16th annual “None 4 Under 21 and Choices Beyond” impaired and distracted driving program for northeastern Ohio high school students was hosted on April 17 at Hiram College. Members of the Hiram Post attended the event to help teach the students about the dangers of impaired and distracted driving.



## Cincinnati Post

Officials from the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office, Blue Ash and Norwood police departments, Hamilton County Safe Communities, OSHP Cincinnati Metro Post, and representatives from AT&T and Ohio Traffic Safety Office visited Xavier University on April 19 during AT&T’s “It Can Wait” promotion. Virtual reality was used to simulate the dangers of distracted driving. Students and faculty were encouraged to experience the simulation and sign an “It Can Wait” pledge.

## Jackson Post



Sergeant Heath Ward and Sergeant Michael L. McManis from the Jackson Post participated in a prom Mock Crash for Wellston and Jackson high school students. The event was held on April 20 at Jackson County Fairgrounds. Other agencies involved included the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Jackson County EMS, Wellston Fire and Police departments and the Wellston Funeral Home. There were a total of 250 juniors and seniors who attended from Wellston and Jackson high schools.

## Cambridge Post

The Cambridge Post, in partnership with the Noble County Sheriff's Office and the Ohio State Extension Office Noble County, participated in a Prom Promise Event to educate high school students of Noble Local and Caldwell schools. Items were donated from Buffalo Wild Wings Cambridge, MADD and the Noble County Sheriff's Office. Lois Briggs, Caldwell resident, was the lead speaker, followed by Sheriff Robert Pickenpaugh of the Noble County Sheriff's Office, the Caldwell and Noble local SADD chapters, and Trooper Tim R. Cunningham of the Cambridge Post. All students in attendance signed a pledge on a banner to make safe decisions.



## Warren District



Law enforcement agencies from Ohio and Pennsylvania partnered for a Click It or Ticket kickoff event on May 14th. The event took place at the first rest area on Interstate 80 in Pennsylvania. There were 20 participants, including troopers from District 4, who attended the kickoff that promoted the importance of wearing a safety belt.

## Lima Post

A Click It or Ticket kickoff event was held in Lima on May 14. Ohio Department of Transportation District 1 Deputy Director Kirk Slusher spoke to the audience. Lima Post Commander Timothy P. Grigsby was in attendance along with Allen County Sheriff Matt Treglia, members of the Lima Police and the Shawnee Township Police Departments. Lima Rotary members, Allen East High School SADD Chapter and members from local hospitals attended in support of the event.



## Fremont Post



Lieutenant Matthew B. Meredith gave a presentation at Bellevue High School on traffic safety and *5 Minutes for Life*. Students dressed up as though they were in a crash and helped out during the “Signal 30” video.

## Xenia Post



Sergeant Matt C. Cleaveland and Teddy Trooper participated in a special detail at Mills Lawn Elementary School in Yellow Springs. The event was geared toward elementary-aged children and Sergeant Cleaveland spoke about street and bike safety. The participants also received coloring books, pencils and badges.

## New Philadelphia Post



Sergeant Edward G. Franke, Lieutenant Mark A. Glennon, along with Urichsville Police Department, Tuscarawas County Safe Communities and Claymont High School staff attended a Click It or Ticket event at Claymont High School in Tuscarawas County on May 23. Students heard a presentation on the importance of safety belt usage. A safety belt survey was also conducted as students, parents and staff entered the school parking lot.

## Lancaster Post



Trooper Patrick M. White of the Lancaster Post was inducted into the Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical Schools Hall of Fame on April 19. Trooper White is a 2005 graduate of the Eastland Career Center Criminal Justice program.

## Wilmington District



Wilmington District units participated in Cincinnati’s Flying Pig Marathon Relay on May 16. Pictured are Staff Lieutenant Wayne V. Price, Sergeant Christina J. Hayes-Grossenbaugh, Deputy Andrew Grossenbaugh and Sergeant Jeremy J. Grillot. Not pictured is Administrative Professional 1 Sandy Rhodes, who competed in the marathon for the 13th year in a row.

## Cambridge Post

In memory of Motor Carrier Enforcement Supervisor Mark Richard Lambert, his widow Betsy Lambert requested donations in lieu of flowers for the funeral. She asked Lieutenant John C. Thorne of the Cleveland District Commercial Enforcement Unit to select a charity that would honor his memory. Ohio ASSIST was selected and received a donation of \$2,740 from friends and family. The donations will completely cover the cost for five participants to attend a Post Critical Incident Seminar.



## Jackson District



Jackson District's Criminal Patrol Trooper Anthony R. Day and his K9 Bruno, Criminal Patrol Sergeant Christopher S. Kelley and AP4 Lynne A. Robinson visited Bishop Flaget Catholic School. Sergeant Kelley spoke with the first grade class about the importance of wearing safety belts. Trooper Day spoke with the entire school about drugs and K9 Bruno's duties.

## Ironton Post



Patrol members and their families attended a University of Charleston versus Notre Dame College basketball ball game to support Drew Scarberry, who attends Notre Dame College. Drew is the son of Administrative Professional 1 Patricia A. Scarberry. In attendance were retired sergeant John Smith, retired Sergeant Jim Hutton, Leah Tackett, Nancy Smith, retired Sergeant Paul Isgett and retired Dispatcher Cindy Isgett.

## Warren District



Staff Lieutenant Michael J. Marucci and Trooper Stephen A. Murphy joined Sergeant Shawn Eckert of the Nevada Highway Patrol on April 28 for his nomination of Sebring High School's Distinguished Alumni Award. Sergeant Eckert responded to the mass shooting in Las Vegas where he rescued a group of people and saved a squad-mate's daughter. Sergeant Eckert is an alumnus of Sebring High School in Mahoning County and worked in the Stark County Sheriff's Office before moving to Las Vegas. When he was nominated for the award, he reached out to the Patrol to join him when he accepted the award.



Trooper Daniel L. DeLuca attended Cardinal Mooney's "Yes Fest" on April 11. "Yes Fest" encourages students and the community to say "Yes" to a healthy lifestyle and "No" to drugs and alcohol.



Trooper Daniel L. DeLuca gave a 5 *Minutes for Life* presentation to a class at the American Karate Studio.



Kids and Cops Campout took place May 18 and 19 at Pymatuning State Park in Andover. The weekend provided an opportunity for local law enforcement to take 50 boys of minority backgrounds, ages 8 - 11, to experience the great outdoors. The boys, who live in Ashtabula and Trumbull counties, went camping, and participated in archery, canoeing, fishing, enjoyed pontoon boat rides and more. The event was free for the participants and funded through donations by local churches, the Fraternal Order of Police and Ohio Troopers Caring.

## Van Wert Post



Troopers and family members from the Defiance and Van Wert posts played in the Paulding Area Support Society Basketball Marathon in Payne. The Battle of the Badges game raised funds to help local individuals who face various kinds of disabilities.

## Jackson Post



Sergeant Heath Ward of the Jackson Post attended a Jackson Rotary Club meeting on March 27th. He talked to the rotary members about the Patrol's drug interdiction activities, how the Patrol partners with local law enforcement agencies and gave tips on how to stay safe.

## Criminal Patrol

The Criminal Patrol Unit trained every trooper in Ohio, and nearly 1,000 police officers, during the Criminal Patrol Baseline Interdiction Training. Over 200 agencies were represented from Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia and NASA. The officers were trained in 50 different classes throughout the state. There will be sessions held later in areas where other outside agencies expressed interest in training their officers.



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## Akron Post



In respect to Police Memorial Week, Trooper John L. Gray's wife, Tiffany, made a lunch bag for each unit at the Akron Post embroidered with their unit numbers. Lieutenant Antonio L. Martos joined Trooper Gray and Tiffany as they brought in the bags full of food and drinks. Tiffany also made a special lunch bag for Administrative Professional 1 Linda Barnes. All of the bags included a card to the units thanking them for what they do every day.

### Brian T. Charles

Captain Brian T. Charles, Special Response Team, retired on March 23, 2018, after 30 years with the Patrol. He began his state career in March 1988 as a Motor Vehicle Inspector assigned to the Granville Post. He began training as a member of the 118th Academy Class in May 1989. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Chillicothe Post. He earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement twice. In 1992, he earned the prestigious Superintendent's Citation of Merit and the Blue Max Award. In 1994, he was selected as Granville Post Trooper of the Year. In 1996, he was selected as Post, District and State Trooper of the Year. In 1997, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Expo Center. In 1999, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Delaware Post to serve as post commander. As a lieutenant, he also served in the Office of Field Operations, Special Response Team. In 2016, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant. In 2017, he was promoted to the rank of captain to serve as commander of the Special Response Team.

Captain Charles earned an Associate of Business Administration degree in business administration from Central Ohio Technical College in 1988. He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2003.



he also served in Fiscal Services, Operations, Support Services and the Training Academy.

Captain Combest earned an Associate of Arts degree in police science from Sinclair Community College in 1996. He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 1997. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business management from Wilberforce University in 1999 and a Master of Fine Arts degree in organizational management from Bluffton College in 2004.

Captain Combest served in the United States Navy from 1983 to 1987.

### Brian A. Rhodes

Staff Lieutenant Brian A. Rhodes, Wilmington District Headquarters, retired on May 21, 2018, after 32 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1985 as a member of the 115th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to the Georgetown Post. In 1992, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Wilmington Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Georgetown Post. In 2002, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and remained at the Georgetown Post to serve as post commander. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Wilmington District Headquarters to serve as an assistant district commander. Staff Lieutenant Rhodes earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in law enforcement from Columbus State Community College in 1985 and completed training at the FBI National Academy in 2005.

Staff Lieutenant Rhodes served in the United States Army National Guard from 1982 to 1985.



### Arthur J. Combest

Captain Arthur J. Combest, Training Academy, retired on March 2, 2018, after 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 1988 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Toledo Post. He became a member of the 118th Academy Class in May 1989. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Toledo Post. In 1994, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. In 1995, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the former Eaton Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2001, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and remained at the Eaton Post to serve as post commander. As a lieutenant, he also served at the Dayton Post. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Field Operations. As a staff lieutenant, he also served at the Piqua District Headquarters. In 2008, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the Columbus District Headquarters to serve as district commander. As a captain,



### Cortrell R. McCruiter

Lieutenant Cortrell R. McCruiter, Critical Communications Center, retired on May 18, 2018, after 28 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1990 as a member of the 120th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to the Ashtabula Post. In 2001, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Wapakoneta Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Mt. Gilead Post. In 2015, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Critical Communications Center.



### **Yvonne L. Thorne**

Sergeant Yvonne L. Thorne, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on April 6, 2018, after 30 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in March 1988 as a member of the 117th Academy Class. She earned her commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Wapakoneta Post. As a trooper, she also served at the Dayton and Piqua posts. In 1997, she was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Milan Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, she also served at the Delaware and Springfield posts and the Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit



### **Donald S. Edgington**

Trooper Donald S. Edgington, Georgetown Post, retired on December 2, 2017, after 28 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1989 as a member of the 118th Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Portsmouth Post. He earned the Criminal Patrol Award twice, and in 2011, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. Throughout his career, he also served at the Portsmouth Post.



### **Daniel W. Andel**

Trooper Daniel W. Andel, Warren District Criminal Investigations Unit, entered disability retirement on April 20, 2018, after 12 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 2005 as a member of the 145th Academy Class. He earned his commission in January of the following year and was assigned to the Ashtabula Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Hiram Post, and the Cleveland and Warren district criminal investigations units.



### **Rufus V. Irby**

Trooper Rufus V. Irby, Cincinnati Post, retired on May 4, 2018, after 38 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1980 as a member of the 107th Academy Class. He earned his commission in May of that year and was assigned to the Lebanon Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Hamilton and Batavia posts, Wilmington District Criminal Investigations Unit and the Wilmington District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



### **Thomas J. Dray**

Trooper Thomas J. Dray, Norwalk Post, retired on March 16, 2018, after 25 years with the Patrol. 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 to the Lima Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Granville and Sandusky posts, and the Columbus, Bucyrus and Findlay District Licensing and Commercial Standards units. In 1997, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement.



### **Eric T. Jackson**

Trooper Eric T. Jackson, Cambridge District Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit, retired on March 2, 2018, after 28 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 Bucyrus Post. In 1995, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Zanesville and Cambridge posts, Cambridge District Headquarters and the Cambridge District Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit.



**Sean M. Starr**

Trooper Sean M. Starr, Wooster Post, retired on May 9, 2018, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1997 as a member of the 128th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Mansfield Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Wooster Post, and the Cleveland and Bucyrus District Licensing and Commercial Standard units.



He served in the United States Marines from 1988 to 1993.

**Richard L. Cologie**

Enforcement Commander Richard L. Cologie retired on February 23, 2018, after 26 years with the Ohio Investigative Unit. He began his career in 1992, when the agency was called the Ohio Department of Liquor Control. He was assigned to the Toledo District Office as an enforcement agent. He was promoted to Assistant Agent-in-Charge in 2006 and was assigned to the Dayton District Office. He also served as the Public Information Officer and oversaw the Sober Truth and Alcohol Server Knowledge programs. In 2006, he was promoted to Agent-in-Charge of the Athens Enforcement Office. In 2010, he was promoted to Deputy Director of Administration. He transferred to Operations in 2012, serving as the Enforcement Administrator.



He was honored with the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Excellence in Service award.

He graduated from Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command in 2004. He graduated from Hocking College with an associates degree in police science. Prior to his service with OIU, Commander Cologie also served as a deputy sheriff and a municipal police officer in Perry County.

**Betty A. Frazier-Ford**

Enforcement Agent Betty A. Frazier-Ford, of the Columbus District Office, retired on March 30, 2018, after more than 30 years with the Ohio Investigative Unit. She began her career in August 1987, when the agency was called the Ohio Department of Liquor Control. She was first assigned to the Cleveland District Office and later transferred to the Columbus District Office. She served as a Sober Truth agent, evidence officer, field training officer, food stamp agent and academy instructor. Frazier-Ford was also assigned to the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force.



Frazier-Ford graduated from Hocking Hills Police Academy. She also received a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice from Defiance College.

**Marcellus M. Roidt**

Portable Load Limit Inspector Marcellus M. Roidt, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on April 27, 2018, after 34 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1984 as a Maintenance Repair Worker 2 assigned to the Findlay District Headquarters. In 2000, he was promoted to Stationary Load Limit Inspector and transferred to the Findlay Post. In 2001, he was promoted to Portable Load Limit Inspector and transferred to the Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2008, he transferred to the Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit as a Stationary Load Limit Inspector. While at the Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit, he also served as a Motor Vehicle Inspector.



**Ines J. Helsley**

Stationary Load Limit Inspector Ines J. Helsley, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on March 30, 2018, after 21 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in August 1996 as a Stationary Load Limit Inspector assigned to the former Eaton Post and remained there throughout her career.



**In the next issue:**

- Buckeye Girls and Buckeye Boys State
- 163rd Graduation
- Retiree Cookout

## Mary K. Starling

Dispatcher Mary K. Starling, Statehouse, retired on May 25, 2018, after 27 years with the Patrol. She began her state career in September 1991 with the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority as a Record Support Clerk. She joined the Patrol in January 2001 as a Dispatcher assigned to the Columbus District Headquarters. In 2015, she was selected as Post Dispatcher of the Year. As a Dispatcher, she also served at the Columbus Communications Center, Technology Communications and Capitol Operations.



## Sherry L. Harkness

Administrative Professional 4 Sherry L. Harkness, Office of Planning and Finance, retired on May 31, 2018, after 30 years of state service. She began her career with the Ohio Department of Aging as a data entry clerk in April 1987. While at the Department of Aging, she was promoted to an Administrative Assistant 1 in 1989 and promoted to an Executive Secretary in 2001. In 2002, she was promoted to an Administrative Assistant 2 and transferred to the Older Americans Act Program Division. In 2007, she transferred to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources as an Executive Secretary. In 2012, she transferred to the Office of Information Technology as an Administrative Professional 3. In 2013, she transferred to the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services as an Administrative Professional 4. In 2015, she transferred to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Office of Planning and Finance.



Retirements in this issue of the Flying Wheel include those employees who retired from March 2018 - May 2018.

## Introducing the Patrol's new dietitian

Whitney Money, a registered and licensed dietitian, has been hired as the new dietitian for the Patrol as part of the Health and Wellness team.

Whitney is a 2012 graduate of the University of Cincinnati, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Dietetics. Following her undergraduate degree, she completed a 10-month dietetic internship through the University of Cincinnati. Since then, Whitney has also accomplished a graduate degree at East Carolina University in 2017, earning a Masters of Nutrition Science.

Whitney has worked in various roles as a clinical dietitian, and as a provider for Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield. She has experience providing individualized nutrition counseling and education, providing motivational interviewing techniques to promote behavior change and providing nutrition interventions for disease management.

Whitney is available in person, over the phone or by email to answer your nutrition related questions and help you meet your nutrition goals. Whitney's primary office is located at the Academy in the Recruitment Section, but she also has a work station in Health and Wellness for those coming in for their physicals. She is available for help with weight management and individualized nutrition counseling. Any division employee or direct family members seeking dietary guidance are welcome to contact Whitney at (614) 466-4044 or [wmoney@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:wmoney@dps.ohio.gov).



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



### 2018 Retiree Events

**August 11, 2018** – Sunbird – Ohio Veterans Home, Sandusky, Ohio

**September 22, 2018** – OSHPRA Annual Meeting and Dinner – Embassy Suites by Hilton, Columbus, Ohio

**November 10, 2018** – 85th Anniversary Celebration – Hyatt Regency Downtown, Columbus, OH

# OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

## Chaplain's Comments



Wouldn't it be great if we always had plenty of time to ponder how to answer a question or respond to a situation? Sometimes we are not quite certain as to whether or not we are qualified to do a certain task. We may not want to take on the added responsibility. We may not believe the suggested action is justified. We may just need time to assess all the factors involved before committing or declining. Such was the case for an individual named Gideon.

Gideon was a leader among the Hebrews at the time recorded in the Book of Judges. He was called upon by God to be part of a reformation which resulted in the destruction of altars erected to pagan gods. This roused the ire of neighboring nations who sent their military to defeat the Israelite army which had been summoned together by the trumpet call of Gideon. Then there came a deciding moment for Gideon. Was he qualified? Was he capable? Was he truly God's choice? He had time to decide how to respond and he sought the sign of having a wool fleece be wet when inspected in the morning and the ground around it to be dry. It happened that way. But Gideon was not satisfied. The next morning he asked for the fleece to be dry and the ground around it to be wet. It happened that way and Gideon accepted the call to lead the Israelites into a victorious battle.

There are times when we are given opportunity to wrestle with the making of a decision. I personally struggled for a long time as I sought signs and answers as to whether I should leaving my engineering work and go back to school to enter the ministry. There was the luxury of time to seek and search. But there are the situations which call for an immediate answer or definite action. However, there is a connection between the two. It is how we have worked through the basic decisions

regarding life that we become equipped to make quick and correct decisions in crisis and critical situations.

A basic philosophy of life and its core values prepares us for the quick decisions which have to be made on a daily basis. Do we do extra training just because it is mandated or to become more qualified and capable of meeting the needs of others? Do we seek more knowledge just to have a degree or is there an honest desire to be able to understand other individuals and be able to interact in a positive manner?

A Trooper has to be ready to make a split-second decision which will make a life or death result. There is no time to seek answer of wet or dry fleece. But there has been the training which continues to further equip the officer how to properly and effectively act in any situation. For all of us, however, there is the important basic decision on how we are to live and make routine responses to life situations each day. Gideon found his way by having faith in his relationship with God. Use the fleece test if you so desire. It will always come out to verify that God is with us. The real question is whether or not we are with Him. A great start to any day or shift is seeking the answer to the question: "What do You have planned for the two of us to accomplish today Lord?"

My colleagues in chaplaincy join with me in thanking you for your service and assuring you of our prayers and support.

Respectfully,

Richard D. Ellsworth  
State Chaplain

## FLYING WHEEL

The *Flying Wheel* is published by the Ohio State Highway Patrol in the interest of the entire Patrol family.

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2018 Retiree Gatherings



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85th Anniversary Celebration  
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Columbus Ohio  
November 10, 2018

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