ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DIGEST

Internet Edition

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Illegal Crops
This foliage represents some of the 19,136 marijuana plants found growing in a forest south of Young. Several entities at DPS were involved in the eradication of the plants on Oct. 3. The marijuana plants were discovered by members of the Gila County Narcotics Task Force. DPS Air Rescue flew the marijuana plants to a secure location where they were destroyed. Officers are looking for two suspects who were observed cultivating the marijuana prior to the raid.

New HRIS system will have subtle impact on DPS employees

The Arizona Department of Administration (DOA) recently announced its plan to implement the new statewide Human Resources Information Solution (HRIS) system on Dec. 29.

The new system, which is powered by cutting-edge software, will provide all state agencies in Arizona with a single, sophisticated computer network for the administration of payroll, personnel and employee benefits.

From a payroll standpoint, DPS employees will see only one significant change between the current payroll system and HRIS.

(Related article on HRIS on page 10).

According to Lu Himmelstein, DPS Finance manager, the major change will involve the entering of employee "weeklies."

Himmelstein said that because HRIS will be a "positive" time reporting system, it will require the entry of weeklies into the time system in order for paychecks to be calculated and generated. In other words, Himmelstein said HRIS will generate paychecks based on the amount of time (weeklies) entered into the system.

"The new system will place a much higher priority on the timeliness of entering weeklies into the DPS Time System in order to ensure proper payment to employees," Himmelstein said.

To meet the time line required by HRIS, Himmelstein said DPS weeklies will need to be transmitted to DOA by 1 p.m. on the Monday of the pay week.

Himmelstein said this will require timekeepers at DPS to enter all weeklies into the DPS Time System by noon each Monday of the pay week.

She said this is a change from the current General Order which requires entry by 4 p.m. each Wednesday.

Recognizing that operational needs will prevent 100 percent compliance with this requirement, Himmelstein said that contingency plans have been developed at DPS to ensure employees receive appropriate pay in the event their weeklies are not entered by the deadline.

Although these contingency plans will be in place, Himmelstein said it is imperative that all DPS employees strive to meet the Monday deadline once HRIS goes live.

If DPS weeklies are not entered on time, Himmelstein said the defaulted time record may not reflect actual hours worked by the employee and will require the agency to submit adjusted time records

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From Director Dennis Garrett's

Vantage Point

Beginning with the first payday in January, the Arizona Department of Administration (DOA) will implement the state's new human resource, benefits and payroll system called HRIS (Human Resource Information Solution).

While this transition should have minimal impact to most Department employees, there will be a noticeable change involving the completion and entry of time sheets into the Department's Time System. Because HRIS is a "positive" time reporting system, it will generate paychecks based on the amount of time (weeklies) entered into the system. This places a much higher priority on the timeliness of entering weeklies into the DPS Time System in order to ensure proper payment to employees.

To meet this new payroll deadline, timekeepers will be required to enter all weeklies into the DPS Time System by noon on the Monday of pay week. This is a change from the current General Order which requires entry by 4 p.m. each Wednesday.

Recognizing that operational needs will prevent 100-percent compliance with this requirement, contingency plans have been developed to create defaulted time records to ensure employees will receive appropriate pay in the event their weeklies are not entered by the deadline.

While these defaulted time records will ensure proper payment, the Department will still require entry of a time sheet reflecting actual hours worked. In the event the defaulted time record does not represent actual hours worked, an adjusted time record must be submitted to HRIS after the pay period has passed to ensure accurate leave balances. For this reason, it is imperative that all employees strive to meet the Monday deadline.

As with any major conversion, the transition to HRIS system may present many challenges. Agency representative are working to ensure as smooth a transition as possible to HRIS. Your patience throughout this process is appreciated.

Gila Bend-area construction zone proves to be trap for suspected marijuana smugglers

A road construction zone about 30 miles south of Gila Bend on S.R. 85 has proven to be an effective staging area in the war against drugs.

While observing traffic passing through the construction site Oct. 21, DPS Highway Patrol Officer Bryce Bigelow probably couldn't believe his eyes when a vehicle passed in front of him. Bigelow said when the vehicle slowed, he spotted several packages bundled in duct tape resting unprotected on the rear seat.

Trusting his instincts, the Gila Bend-based officer went after the vehicle and when he activated his lights, the pursuit was on. Some four miles later, the pursuit came to a halt. That's when Bigelow found 316 pounds of marijuana inside the vehicle. Bigelow told the Duty Office that federal charges are pending against the suspect, adding that he also seized a stolen 9mm hand gun.

Later that evening, DPS Highway Patrol Officer James Anderson was working traffic control in the same area when another suspicious vehicle passed his location. Anderson, like Bigelow, spotted several bundles resting uncovered on the rear seat.

This time the pursuit lasted about 20 miles and reached speeds of more than 110 mph before the motorist abandoned his vehicle leaving behind 350 pounds of marijuana. The suspect was not apprehended.

On Sept. 30, Anderson and fellow Highway Patrol Officer Jeff Mitchell arrested five suspects for narcotics violations.

The two had their patrol cars parked in the construction area near a flag man. While watching the vehicles pass through the zone, Anderson noted the distinct odor of marijuana as two vehicles slowly approached a flag man.

After stopping the two vehicles, Anderson and Mitchell found 372 pounds of marijuana. Along with the arrests, the officers also seized a 1992 Toyota Camry and 2001 Suzuki.

Tunnel mastermind sentenced

A federal judge in Tucson on Oct. 27 sentenced William Dillon, 40, to 25 years in prison for conspiring to move tons of cocaine from Mexico into the United States via a tunnel that connected a Naco, Sonora, residence with a trailer in Naco, Ariz.

Dillon, a Tucson resident, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to transport cocaine May 13. Dillon and his associates used a 210-foot tunnel to move more than 25 tons of cocaine into the United States before law officers, including DPS detectives, discovered the tunnel in December 1996.

Since that discovery, more than 40 people have been convicted and sentenced in connection with the smuggling operation, a U.S. Attorney's Office spokesman said.

The Digest is published monthly by the DPS Training and Management Services Bureau for the employees and retirees of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Employees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted t o *The Digest* by mail, EMS or Telephone (602-223-2313).

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The Digest can be accessed directly from the DPS World Wide Web home page at http://www.dps.state.az.us/digest .
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DPS and the war against terrorism

Baker's behind-the-scenes role benefited soldiers' families

DPS Officer William "Dusty" Baker, a 23-year law enforcement veteran, recently returned to full-time work at DPS following a two-year military activation.

Baker, who is assigned to Firearms Training at the Department, said he is very glad to be back at work following his lengthy call to duty.

"I really missed my friends at DPS and I even missed my job," Baker said.

During Baker's extended military activation, he was never actually far from home. In fact, Baker was stationed in Arizona during his entire activation.

Although he was close to home, many would say Baker's responsibilities during his activation were just as important, if not more important, than any function he could have potentially performed oversees.

As a first sergeant with the Arizona Air National Guard, Baker was responsible for taking care of and supervising an entire squadron of troops assigned to the Air National Guard's Security Forces.

Some of Baker's day-to-day responsibilities consisted of preparing troops for deployment oversees and ensuring that they were fit and ready for mobilization.

Baker's troops, who were responsible for providing security at U.S. air bases, were sent to locations throughout the world.

Early in his activation, Baker was also part of a team that helped train military personnel who were placed in U.S. airports following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C.

Perhaps one of the most important things Baker was responsible for during his activation was assisting families of his unit the entire time the troops were deployed.

"If the families of a soldier aren't doing well, the soldier oversees will not do well," Baker said. "That's an established fact."

Prior to deployments, Baker would help his troops and their families ensure that all necessary legal documents were in place such as family wills and powers of attorney.

When his troops were gone, Baker would check on their families and find ways to help them if they needed assistance with such things as house repairs, yard work and the payment of bills.

"If a family had a plumbing problem in their house, I would become a plumber for the day or I would find a plumber who would work for a reduced price so that the family's finances would not be strained," Baker said.

Four troops from one of the teams Baker helped deploy had wives at home with newborn babies. Another deployed troop had a wife and a child who decided to leave Arizona and move in with family in Michigan until deployments were over.

Baker helped take care of that family by watering and mowing their lawn while they were gone.

Baker was eligible to be deployed oversees himself until he was promoted to first sergeant early in his activation.

Although the promotion basically kept him from being deployed oversees, Baker was proud to inherit the increased responsibilities of the new rank because it gave him the chance to serve as a "father figure" to other troops.

In the end, all of Baker's troops returned safely, and he was allowed to return to work at DPS.

Shortly before his return to DPS in October, Baker was honored for the efforts he put forth during his activation.

On Sept. 17, the Tempe Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee presented Baker with its prestigious Don Plough Award.

Each year, the committee presents the award to both the outstanding commissioned and non-commissioned members of the air wing.

Baker was selected for the award because of his efforts in preparing members of his security unit for deployment oversees and his dedicated service to the country.

Baker received the award in the presence of his wife, Beverlee, and two children, Brittnee, 12, and Audree, 10. Also attending were Baker's supervisors at DPS, Sgt. Dan Ryan, and Lt. Iven Wooten.

LoJack Corp. honors DPS' Steve Norlin

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Steve Norlin, a six-year law enforcement veteran who patrols freeways in the Phoenix-area, received a special commendation from the LoJack Corporation for recovering a stolen vehicle with the help of the company's special tracking system.

A member of the LoJack Corporation's law enforcement relations team in Arizona, retired DPS Officer John Gantt, presented the commendation to Norlin in July.

In the commendation, Gantt said that Norlin's attention to duty in response to a LoJack activation, coupled with outstanding police work and use of resources, resulted in yet another successful LoJack recovery.

The commendation also said that Norlin's excellent police work has made Arizona a safer place to live.

The events that led to Norlin's commendation took place July 9 when the veteran DPS officer was on routine patrol in central Phoenix.

During Norlin's patrol that day, the LoJack tracking system in his patrol vehicle beeped and a code flashed on the screen. The code revealed that he was very close to a stolen vehicle that was just north of his location.

Within minutes, Norlin spotted the stolen GMC Suburban behind a home near 37th Avenue and McDowell Road in Phoenix.

But the vehicle wasn't all Norlin found. When other officers arrived and the vehicle was examined, more than 1,400 pounds of marijuana was located behind the vehicle's front seat.

In an interview with *The Arizona Republic* following the incident, Norlin said that finding the marijuana in addition to the stolen vehicle was an "added bonus."

In the end, three suspects were arrested and all were charged with possessing and transporting marijuana. One was charged with possessing a stolen vehicle.

Several law enforcement agencies in the Phoenix-area use LoJack tracking systems, Gantt said.

"Officers with the systems can track stolen vehicles by monitoring a screen in their patrol cars that informs them if they are getting closer to or farther away from missing vehicles," Gantt said.

"It's a real blast using the system," Norlin told *The Republic*. "It's like playing "Hide 'n Seek.' Ninety-nine percent of the time , we'll find it."

Letters

Dear So. Communications Staff:

Thank you for your invaluable help and complete cooperation in apprehending two murder suspects from Tennessee. Because of your help, these two individuals were returned to Tennessee to face multiple capital murder charges. It probably would not have happened as quickly or efficiently without the assistance from Dispatchers Shannon Mapes and Carol Reese.

C. Berkeley Bell, Jr.
District Attorney General
Greeneville, Tenn.

Governors' Cup golf tournament

Supporting the DPS Family Support Group

The first annual "Governors' Cup" golf tournament was played Sept. 13 at Coyote Lakes Golf Club in Surprise. The benefit tournament, which featured a field of 144 golfers, raised more than $50,000 for the DPS Family Support Group. Above (from left), former Arizona Gov. Rose Mofford, DPS Col. Bill Reutter, Gov. Janet Napolitano and DPS Director Dennis Garrett pose for a photo just prior to the start of the event. Below, the first winners of the "Governors' Cup" pose with their trophies presented during a luncheon following the tournament. The four combined to shoot a 14 under par 58. Team members were (from left) Art Coughanour, Jim Jertson, Marty Jertson and Steve Demory. The Family Support Group provides financial assistance to DPS employees, retirees and families who find themselves enduring a crisis.

Downloading porn on DPS computers can result in firing

During the last legislative session, a bill affecting all state employees was passed and signed by Gov. Janet Napolitano.

House Bill 2498 prohibits state employees from knowingly using agency-owned or agency-leased computer equipment to access, download, print or store pornographic material.

The bill, effective Sept. 19, states that an employee who violates this legislation may be disciplined or dismissed from state service.

Pornographic material, according to the bill, is material that depicts nudity, sexual activity, sexual excitement or ultimate sexual acts as defined in section 13-3501.

The bill states that the only time state employees may access pornographic material using state-owned computers is when it is done in conjunction with a bona fide, agency-approved research project or other agency-approved undertaking.

According to DPS Lt. Jack Lane, the Department's legislative liaison, the bill requires agency heads to give, in writing, any such approvals for employees to access pornographic material.

Lane said that because investigators within three different functions at DPS actually have legitimate reasons to access such material from time to time, a general overall letter of approval was drafted by the director's office so that those investigators can continue to do so when necessary.

This general overall letter of approval, Lane said, will allow for continued efficient operations at DPS because those three functions will not have to seek individual approval letters from the director every time they may need to access material that is pornographic.

Lane said DPS employees who may need to access pornographic materials from time to time in the course of their duties include those assigned to the Computer Forensics Unit, Internal Affairs and the Information Technology Section.

The general letter of approval pertains to personnel from those three functions, Lane explained, while other DPS employees will have to seek individual approval in order to be granted a waiver to access such material.

Lane said that members of the Computer Forensics Unit are often required to use

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With promotion, Birnbaum to oversee various Crime Lab units

HOWARD BIRNBAUM

Long-time DPS employee Howard Birnbaum has been promoted to the position of assistant scientific analysis superintendent within the DPS Crime Laboratory system.

In his new post, Birnbaum will be responsible for a variety of critical tasks, including the planning, coordinating, directing and evaluation of work performed by personnel within the various DPS Crime Laboratory units.

Prior to his recent promotion, which became effective Aug. 2, Birnbaum served as quality assurance manager within the Crime Lab.

Birnbaum, a Wisconsin native, began his career with DPS in January 1986 as a questioned document analyst. Six years later, when the Questioned Document Unit became part of the crime laboratory system, Birnbaum was reclassified as a criminalist IV.

In 1997, Birnbaum was promoted to supervising criminalist and in June 2002 he was promoted to quality assurance manager.

Birnbaum, who has bachelor of science degrees in biology and police science and administration, is currently working on obtaining a masters degree in criminal justice from Arizona State University West.

During his tenure at DPS, Birnbaum has received a number of awards and accolades for professional excellence in his field.

Birnbaum was also a member of the Questioned Document Unit at DPS when it received a Director's Unit Citation for outstanding performance. In addition, Birnbaum received a Special Recognition Award last year from the Scientific Analysis Bureau.

During his career at DPS, Birnbaum has also served as treasurer for the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners and has served on the board of the directors of the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners.

Birnbaum has been married to his wife, Maurita, for 30 years. The couple have two children, Christine and Nick.

Armor company says it's discontinuing some body armor made with Zylon fiber

Some issues have arisen concerning whether body armor made from the material Zylon will provide ballistic protection to wearers for the life of the vest.

As a result of these concerns, Second Chance Body Armor, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of soft body armor, announced Sept. 22 that it was discontinuing its Ultima and Ultimax line of vests made with Zylon fiber.

According to a memo released by Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard, Second Chance Body Armor, Inc. is also studying its other products which use Zylon in combination with other fibers, such as its Triflex line of hybrid vests.

Goddard's memo said the problem with Zylon fibers was first discovered in 2001, and Second Chance has determined that its vests made from Zylon might not perform as expected.

For those who own vests made with Zylon, Second Chance has offered to either upgrade the vest with a "performance pack," replace it with another type of vest called "Monarch Summit"at a reduced price, or provide access to a warranty adjustment trade-in program that would give officers a prorated refund based on when they bought their vest.

For DPS officers who own a vest made from Zylon and who are not satisfied with the options the company has offered, the Department will place those officers back on its reimbursement list to receive $475 toward the purchase of a new vest, said DPS Sgt. Robbie Milam, adding that officers wanting to be placed back on the Department's reimbursement list can only do so if they have not already taken advantage of options provided by Second Chance Body Armor, Inc.

For DPS officers who might choose the option of upgrading a Zylon fiber vest with a "performance pack," it should be noted that this upgrade is not NIJ certified either by itself or when used in conjunction with a vest, Milam said.

Use of the upgrade will not affect the warranty or other guarantees which Second Chance has on its vests.

The procedure for receiving a performance pack or replacing a vest is detailed on the Second Chance web site at www.secondchance.com. Further questions about body armor and the Department's assistance with this recent issue can be directed to Milam at Ext. 2658.

DPS detective plays major role in seizure of $2.3 million in cash

DPS Detective Ken Nelson, a 26-year law enforcement veteran, recently played a very significant investigative role in the seizure of $2.3 million in drug proceeds.

The seizure was definitely the largest cash seizure in Nelson's eventful career at DPS and also one of the biggest cash seizures area law enforcement officers have seen in quite some time.

The events that led to the Aug. 23 seizure began when Nelson received information from a concerned citizen that two suspects would be traveling from Columbus, Ohio, to Phoenix with a substantial amount of cash.

After Nelson received substantial information about the upcoming money transport, he and an agent from the U.S. Customs Service flew to Columbus where they established surveillance on the suspected transport vehicle, a full-sized tractor-trailer rig.

When the vehicle left Columbus, Nelson and the Customs agent learned that the vehicle had turned south upon leaving town and was headed to Atlanta, instead of Phoenix.

As it turned out, the vehicle took the "detour" to collect more cash. In fact, when the vehicle stopped in Atlanta, it picked up an additional $1.5 million and another suspect.

When the vehicle left Atlanta, Nelson and the U.S. Customs agent followed the vehicle, money and suspects to Tucson where a "street jump" was conducted at a residence with the help of several other officers.

During the bust, officers located the cash in a plain brown box and in two black suitcases. The cash consisted mostly of $20 and $100 bills, Nelson said.

The amount seized from the vehicle totaled $2.1 million while another $200,000 was subsequently seized during the service of another search warrant in Columbus.

Nelson said the seized money most likely was proceeds from a large drug cartel based in Mexico that distributes cocaine and marijuana in Chicago, Colombus and Atlanta.

Nelson said investigators believe the substantial cash seizure will do considerable damage to the cartel as its members scramble to make up for a $2.3 million loss.

Nelson said the most unusual thing about the recent seizure is that everything went very smoothly during the entire operation.

"Cases like this one sometimes don't go very well," Nelson said. "Transport vehicles can often get lost and intelligence information that is given to you can often be wrong. This operation, for some reason, went like clockwork."

Nelson, who is assigned to the multi-agency HIDTA task force, said many aspects of the investigation into the drug cartel are still on-going.

Cash haul

Shown above is some of the $2.3 million in cash that was confiscated as a result of efforts put forth by DPS Detective Ken Nelson. Nelson, a 26-year law enforcement veteran, said the seized cash was proceeds of a large drug cartel based in Mexico. Nelson said the cartel distributes cocaine and marijuana in the United States.

Craft Market

DPS employees John Smith (left) and Roseanne Martinez (center) inspect some of the items for sale at the DPS Craft Show Oct. 2 at the DPS Headquarters Building in Phoenix. Several DPS employees bought and sold craft items at the popular event that benefits the DPS Family Support Group. At right is DPS Officer Angela Madrid.

John Trumball's commissioned painting of the signing of the Declaration of Independence

DPS officers stand guard over Declaration

For nine straight days in early October, several DPS officers were responsible for guarding one of the most important documents in American history -- the Declaration of Independence.

At least two DPS officers stood guard over the historic document each hour it was on display from Oct. 4-12 at the Arizona State Capitol Museum in Phoenix.

The Declaration of Independence, which many historians describe as this nation's birth certificate, was at the Arizona State Capitol Museum as part of a special tour presented by the Declaration of Independence Road Trip project.

The tour will eventually bring the document to more than 40 U.S. cities.

DPS' involvement with the tour began when the Declaration of Independence arrived in front of the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix on Oct. 3.

Crowds of school children and onlookers cheered when the document arrived at the capitol and was removed from a vehicle by two employees from the Postal Service.

Two DPS honor guard members escorted the workers as they carried the Declaration of Independence into the museum section of the state capitol building.

Once the encased document was inside of the museum, it was placed on a special stand where it was viewed by at least 21,000 people during the next nine days.

To help ensure that the valuable document would remain safe and not be stolen, two uniformed DPS officers flanked the item every minute it was on display at the capitol. DPS officers changed shifts throughout each day.

In the end, some 42 DPS officers from every division of the agency covered 60 separate shifts of "guard" duty.

The DPS officers on duty at the end of each day placed the Declaration of Independence in a special vault within the state capitol so that the document would be secure in the evening. The vault DPS officers used at the capitol also contains the Arizona State Constitution.

Each morning, another set of DPS officers would remove the document from the vault and prepare it for display. Many of the DPS officers who guarded the document said that it was an extreme honor considering the document's ability to remind people of the freedoms that all Americans enjoy.

The Declaration of Independence on display was one of only 25 remaining copies of the 200 broadsides printed on July 4, 1776, by Philadelphia printer John Dunlap.

Dunlap was ordered to print the document by the Continental Congress after it had voted in favor of independence from England two days before.

The copy on tour is owned by television producer Norman Lear who bought it at an auction in 2000 for a reported $8 million. Lear's copy is one of only two in private hands. The other 23 extant copies belong to universities, museums, foundations and libraries.

Detective Ken Nelson, a 26-year DPS officer, was one of the officers assigned to guard the document during its stop in Phoenix.

"It was fun and quite an honor," Nelson said. "It will definitely be one the neatest memories of my career."

DPS' involvement in guarding the Declaration of Independence was coordinated by DPS Sgt. Bob Mitchell from the Agency Support Division (ASD) and DPS Sgt. Bob Ticer from Media Relations.

Ticer said all of the DPS officers who guarded the document donned either their Class A uniforms or their Honor Guard attire.

"Our officers looked extremely sharp and professional," Ticer said. "Many people, especially children, were just as impressed with the DPS officers standing next to the Declaration of Independence as they were with the document itself. Our officers and their professional appearance definitely added to the experience of those who came to view the historic display."

Officers can have some personal records sealed

Law enforcement officers who believe that their lives or safety may be in danger can have some information in their personal records stored at public agencies sealed for added protection.

Agencies that can seal personal records information, which oftentimes include an officer's home address and phone number, include the Motor Vehicle Division, the Voter Registration Office, and the offices of county recorder, assessor and treasurer.

A special form, however, must be completed by officers for each agency they want to have seal their personal records, said DPS Lt. Dave Myers of the Department's Training and Management Services Bureau.

Myers said that DPS officers interested in having their personal information sealed at the aforementioned agencies may obtain the required forms by contacting the liaison within their respective divisions at DPS.

The liaison within the Department's Agency Support Division is DPS Sgt. Bob Mitchell who can be reached at phone Ext. 2251. Names of the liaisons for the Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, and Criminal Justice Support Divisions will be published in the *Digest* as soon as they become available.

When officers obtain the appropriate forms for each agency, they must explain on the forms why they believe the sealing of their records will enhance their safety, Myers said.

"Officers must also explain on the appropriate forms why they believe that their life or safety, or that of a family member living with them, is in danger," Myers said. "When officers complete the forms to have their home address, telephone numbers, and voting precinct number sealed within voter registration records, they can also list the names and birth dates for each registered

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Who Is She?

Although apparently camera shy as a youngster, that's probably not the case today. Who is she? Guess correctly and win either a denim or polo shirt courtesy of the Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona.

Interdepartmental e-mail entries should be addressed to Art Coughanour, badge no. 3131. Please remember to include your badge number with your entry.

Internet entries:
acoughanour@dps.state.az.us

Interdepartmental mail:
The Digest, mail drop 1200

Snail mail:
The Digest
Arizona DPS
P.O. Box 6638
Phoenix, AZ 85005

Winner of the September contest was Officer Sarah Clayton who submitted a photo of herself. No one was able to correctly identify the Metro West Highway Patrol officer. Because there were no correct entries, the shirt goes to Sarah.

The war on drugs

Slow traffic conditions proved to be the demise for this suspected drug runner.

After receiving information of a suspicious vehicle on S.R. 90 near Benson, DPS Detective Joe Dopadre told the Duty Office that U.S. Border Patrol agents and Cochise County-area DPS narcotics officers followed the vehicle into Sierra Vista.

As the motorist entered Sierra Vista, he became bogged down in traffic at which point officers were able to execute the traffic stop and remove the suspect from the vehicle.

Dopadre said the officers then seized 1,020 pounds of marijuana during the Oct. 22 incident.

***

Upon stopping a motorist for speeding Oct. 16, DPS Officer Brian Greene played a hunch and it resulted in the seizure of 337 pounds of marijuana and the arrest of a male subject.

Greene told the Duty Office that he stopped the motorist on U.S. 93 about 10 miles north of Wickenburg. After receiving conflicting responses from the motorist, Greene summoned a Yavapai County Sheriff's deputy and his canine, Marco.

Marco alerted on the trunk area of the 1998 Mercury where the officers found the contraband.

***

A traffic stop on U.S. 85 about 30 miles south of Gila Bend Oct. 16 by DPS Highway Patrol Officer Tim Elmer was a lesson in the ol' domino theory – once the first one falls, so will the others.

During the traffic stop, Elmer requested fellow Highway Patrol Officer Jeff Mitchell to stop two "heat vehicles" that were accompanying the vehicle he had just stopped.

Together, the officers seized 695 pounds of marijuana and turned the three suspects over to the U.S. Customs Service.

***

"Angel" proved to be a devilish experience for these two drug-smuggling suspects.

While patrolling I-17 near Holbrook Oct. 16, DPS Highway Patrol Officer David Ernst stopped a vehicle for an equipment violation. After observing indicators of drug trafficking, Ernst told the Duty Office that he summoned the services of DPS Canine Officer John McFarland and his canine, Angel.

Angel alerted to the rear of the vehicle where the officers eventually located six pounds of crystal methamphetamine which also led to the seizure of a 1993 Toyota Camry.

***

An expired license plate proved to be the undoing for this suspected drug runner.

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Brian Preston said he stopped the motorist Oct. 14 on S.R. 90 near Benson. Preston then requested and received assistance from a U.S. Border Patrol canine team. The dog hit on the 2002 Dodge truck where the officers found 33 bundles (683 pounds) of marijuana in the bed of the truck.

Along with the seizure of the pickup, the officers also arrested the driver.

***

An I-40 traffic stop near Flagstaff Oct. 11 led to the impoundment of 780 pounds of marijuana, three passenger cars, a commercial vehicle and $2,100 in cash.

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Mace Craft said he also arrested the driver of the commercial vehicle during the mid-morning incident.

***

A stop for speeding on I-40 about 25 miles west of Kingman eventually turned into a case for U.S. Navy investigators.

DPS Canine Officer Joe Lapre said he stopped the motorist Oct. 9 and learned that the driver was on active duty status with the U.S. Navy. Upon learning that the man was suspected of criminal activity overseas, Lapre searched the vehicle and found $45,500 in cash.

The suspect was arrested and turned over to the U.S. Navy along with the money.

***

DPS Canine Officer Mike Godinez and his partner, Scherbo, made life miserable for this drug-running suspect during an Oct. 7 traffic stop on I-40 near Kingman.

Godinez told the Duty Office that after stopping the vehicle for a registration violation, he conducted a probable cause search of the 1995 Plymouth van and found of five kilos of cocaine.

***

Money certainly has a way of capturing someone's attention.

DPS Canine Officer John Armstrong can attest to that after stopping a 1999 Chevrolet Tahoe for numerous traffic violations Oct. 1 on I-10.

After the stop near Eloy, Armstrong searched the vehicle and came up with almost $195,000 in cash which was impounded along with the suspects' SUV. Two suspects were also arrested.

Inside DPS

30 YEARS OF SERVICE
McCance, William C., 796, Commander

25 YEARS OF SERVICE
Yevin, Don M., 2428, Systems Software Analyst

20 YEARS OF SERVICE
Gregory, Lisa M., 3295, Intelligence Research Specialist

NEW EMPLOYEES
Featherston, Gregory D., 6277, Cadet Officer

Geronimo, Eduardo M., 6275, Cadet Officer

Glickman, Matthew M., 6278, Cadet Officer

Klaproth, Carl R., 6280, Cadet Officer

Lenox, Norrane S., 6290, Support Services Assistant

Molter, Benjamin L., 6282, Cadet Officer

Padgett, Frank E., 6283, Cadet Officer

Phillips, Robert K., 6284, Cadet Officer

Procunier, Jason L., 6285, Cadet Officer

Regalado, Suzanne G., 6291, Administrative Assistant

Scott, Daniel T., 6286, Cadet Officer

Zenke, Tiffany M., 6287, Cadet Officer

RETIREMENTS
Goodwin, Timothy R., 2784, Sergeant II, 23 years

DEPARTURES
Armenta, Monique D., 6279, Cadet Officer

Davis, James R., 6167, Officer

Fields, Roy K., 6116, Officer

Gardner, Amy K., 5995, Dispatcher

Kamouzis, John J., 5599, Officer

Lorenzen, Aaron S., 6200, Officer

Lucero, David, 5559, Officer

Meister, Lucas, 6148, Officer

Wyatt, Brent A., 6067, Officer

BIRTHS
Rex Cooper Jergenson – 8 lbs., 8 oz. Born Sept. 24 at Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital, Glendale, to Mitch Cooper and his wife, Deanna. Mitch is assigned to HP Metro Central.

Desirei Elizabeth Contreras – 7 lbs., 5 oz. 19.5 inches. Born Oct. 1 at Good Samaritan Hospital, Phoenix to Gennie Contreras and husband, Isidoro. Gennie is a criminal records specialist assigned to the Applicant Team, Phoenix.

Summer Madison McFarland – 7 lbs., 4 oz., 20 inches. Born Oct. 6 at Thunderbird Banner Health Center to Officer Shane McFarland and wife Sandy. Shane is assigned to the Governor Protection Detail.

Shayla Faith Grzelak – 7 lbs., 6 oz., 21 inches. Born Oct. 8 at Navapache Hospital, Show Low, to Detective J.J. Grzelak and wife, Melissa. J.J. is assigned to the Navajo-Apache Task Force in Pinetop.

OBITUARIES
Consuelo "Connie" Ramirez, 76, of Glendale, passed away on Sept. 22. She was the mother of Officer Eloy Ramirez. Eloy is assigned to Southern Investigations.

Kimberly Jean Nichols Tittes, 32, of Scottsdale, passed away Sept. 28. She was the wife of Officer Jasen Tittes. Jasen is assigned to HP Metro East.

Oletha Evelyn McMillan, 75, of Glendale, passed away Sept. 30. She was the mother of John McMillian. John is a facilities maintenance technician in Phoenix.

Mark Jerome Planeta, 39, of Phoenix, passed away in late October. He was the brother of retired DPS Officer Andy Planeta. Andy now works for Southwest Truck Insurance in Albuquerque.

CORRECTION
Officer John Tonn is married to Brenda Tonn at RMIN, not Rebecca as reported in last month's Digest.

A job well done

William Dimas
Facilities Custodial Supervisor

I just wanted to send a note of appreciation for Gloria Smith. It seems that over the last several years she's met the responsibility of cleaning the entire Tucson facility more often alone than those times when she's had consistent help.

As you are aware, our other Facilities employee has been out for quite some time and Gloria has been managing the work of two people. Several weeks ago, we sustained a large stain on the carpet in the supervisors' office.

Gloria quickly asked to schedule a day to tackle this added task on top of her routine maintenance. She modified her work hours to accommodate this and did a wonderful job.

Gloria is always smiling and ready to tackle anything we ask. Each year before our annual Dispatcher Open House in April, she checks with us to find the best day to clean our break room from top to bottom.

She is currently organizing the bid process for the carpet cleaning for our entire building. Again, these tasks are in addition to doing the cleaning and maintenance of what is normally the responsibility of two people.

Over the years, we've noticed that whenever Gloria is out for any extended period of time, it becomes noticeable.

Things just don't get done quite the same; they don't get that special touch.

In closing, I would like to reiterate what I'm sure you already know, Gloria Smith is a dedicated, hardworking, personable employee and it's a pleasure to work with her. She is truly a gem.

Celina Murrieta-Gonzales, Supervisor
Tucson Communications

Records ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

voter residing with them.

"By doing this, the records of the registered voters who live with the officer can also be redacted to provide those individuals with additional safety and privacy," Myers said, adding that each form an officer completes must also be notarized.

Other individuals who can decide to have information within their personal records sealed include prosecutors, public defenders and judicial officers.

Human Resources asks DPS employees to be patient with HRIS

While preparing to enter the new Human Resources Information Solution (HRIS) system, those spearheading the project at DPS ask that agency employees be patient and understanding throughout the implementation process.

The system, expected to "go live" Dec. 29, will provide all Arizona state agencies with a single, sophisticated computer network for the administration of payroll, personnel and employee benefits.

The state Department of Administration (DOA) has been developing the system for more than two years because of an increasing need to replace today's aging state personnel/payroll system.

Terri Laurel, an administrative services manager with Human Resources who is assisting DPS' effort to implement and adapt to the new system, said that DPS employees will not be immediately impacted by the system change aside from the new requirement that employee weeklies must be entered much earlier than currently required (see related article, page 1).

Although agency employees will not be significantly impacted by the new system, Laurel said that customer service within the Department's Human Resources and Payroll sections may be hindered somewhat as personnel within those sections learn how to operate the new system.

"Patience and understanding by DPS employees during this time of great change and learning will be greatly appreciated," Laurel said.

Laurel commented that DPS has identified Agency Training Facilitators (ATFs) who will be responsible for end user-training of HRIS at the Department. The ATFs will assist Payroll and Human Resources personnel with their training.

Training will be available to the rest of the Department as Phase II functionality pieces are made available some time next year, Laurel remarked.

When "Phase II" of the project rolls out, Laurel said the system will allow DPS employees and managers access to some items of personnel information directly from their personal computers at work.

In addition, Laurel explained that DPS employees will have the option of maintaining some of their personnel/payroll information such as withholding amounts and home/work address changes through a secured Internet site.

During an upcoming transition period to the new system, expected to last several days, Laurel said the current state personnel system will not accept personnel actions, employee transfers, labor distribution changes, classification actions or benefit transactions.

All these transactions will be held until Dec. 29 when HRIS is "live."

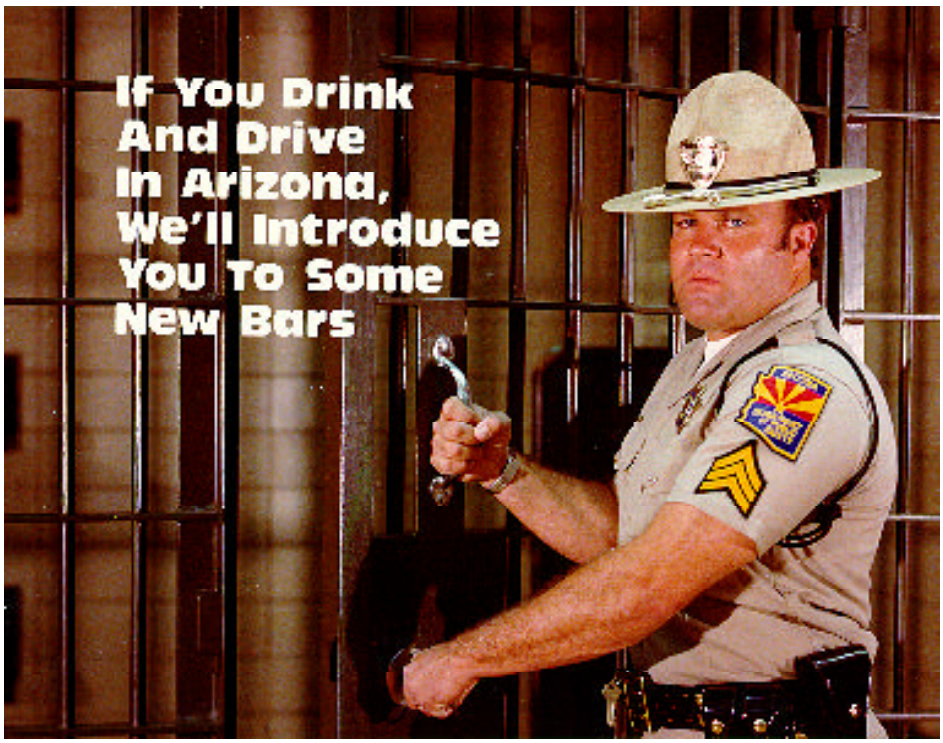
When HRIS does go "live," Laurel said there will also be a "fine-tuning" process to address data that does not convert correctly and for other agency-specific adjustments needed for HRIS compatibility.

"Again, patience and understanding by DPS employees during this time of great change will be highly appreciated," Laurel said.

Other DPS employees along with Laurel who played critical roles in assisting DPS' implementation of the new HRIS system include Tanya Schuler, Chuck LeBlanc, Lu Himmelstein, Glenn Tomooka and Jeff Kelemecz.

"This was really a team-effort project involving personnel from Human Resources, Information Technology and Payroll," Laurel said

More information about the HRIS project can be obtained on the Internet at www.hris.state.az.us. Laurel may be contacted at 602-223-2397.



Payroll system ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to DOA after the pay period has passed.

As part of the transition to HRIS, Himmelstein said that DOA has established cutoff dates for various transactions in the current payroll system.

In fact, between Nov. 21 and Dec. 29, which is the HRIS "go live" date, changes to existing direct deposits or submission of new direct deposits will be restricted.

"These restrictions will be necessary to ensure a smooth transition from the old state payroll system to HRIS," Himmelstein said.

Porn ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

agency computers to access pornographic material during the course of the numerous child pornography investigations they conduct.

Lane said sergeants assigned to Internal Affairs may need to access such material when conducting an investigation into allegations that a DPS employee has been downloading such material using a state-owned computer.

In addition, Lane said that personnel from the Information Technology Bureau may need to access pornographic material at work while conducting internal audits of agency computers to assist investigators or to prevent such acts.

The letter that provides permission to access such material in the course of their duties is on file with each function and is also on file at DPS for public inspection pursuant to A.R.S. §39-121, Lane said.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Down the Highways

November 1968

Arizona Highway Patrolmen Corwin Brundrett and Doug Henderson descended down a 900-foot cliff to help recover the bodies of two men killed Nov. 17 when their car failed to negotiate a curve and plunged 1,500 feet into the Salt River Canyon.

Attempts to recover the bodies through use of an Air National Guard helicopter were futile when the pilot could not land or hover at the bottom of the sheer canyon because of high altitude and a 60-degree slope at the canyon's base.

According to the news story in *The Arizona Republic*, the two patrolmen "finger-held tumbleweeds and dagger-sharp brush to gain toeholds to the spot where the bodies were found."

November 1978

Dick Landis, District 4 commander in Yuma, was promoted to captain from lieutenant Nov. 30 and will move from Yuma to the Phoenix area to become the Department's governmental liaison officer.

***

The Arizona Justice Planning Supervisory Board approved a $41,000 criminal information system for DPS after two months of heated debate, *The Arizona Republic* reported in its Nov. 20 edition.

The federally-funded computer system revived a jurisdictional overlap between DPS and the Border Narcotics Strike Force. Legislators attempted to resolve the conflict by assigning intelligence gathering duties to the strike force and enforcement to DPS.

November 1983

In early November, DPS Highway Patrol officers were introduced to a new field sobriety testing technique aimed at assisting them in determining blood-alcohol contents of motorists suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Upon completion of horizontal gaze nystagmus (HGN) training, Highway Patrol officers should be able to "guesstimate" how much the DUI suspect had to drink based on the person's eye movements.

DPS officers won't rely strictly on HGN as standardized field sobriety tests will continue to be used, said DPS Lt. Col. Larry N. Thompson, Highway Patrol Bureau chief.

November 1988

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Rob Cahoon told *The Digest* in its November edition that he believes he officially opened the Arizona "snowbird" season with this recent arrest.

Cahoon stopped a violator on U.S. 60 near Apache Junction for reckless driving.

When the officer approached the vehicle, he noticed that the driver was wearing only his shoes. The Colorado resident complained that it was too hot to wear any type of apparel. He also asked if his birthday suit would be considered appropriate attire for his upcoming appearance before the judge.

***

A high-speed chase Nov. 7 near Willcox ended when the suspect's vehicle rolled enabling a DPS Highway Patrol officer to find 581 pounds of cocaine.

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Buddy Pope was driving an unmarked car when he clocked a Chevrolet Blazer doing 61 in a 55-mph zone on U.S. 666 south of Willcox. Pope attempted to stop the driver to issue a warning, but the Blazer increased its speed and the pursuit was on.

Eventually, the pursuit reached Interstate 10 where the driver lost control of the Blazer. As the Blazer rolled, the driver was ejected, but suffered only minor injuries. Inside the vehicle, Pope found the cocaine valued at about $80 million if sold on the streets.

November 1993

A 44-year-old Colorado man was critically wounded by DPS officers and a Yavapai County Sheriff's Office deputy during a Nov. 10 shootout near Camp Verde.

The shooting climaxed an incident which began in Phoenix when the suspect allegedly "carjacked" a luxury taxi cab after the driver refused to drive the suspect to Denver.

It ended just off I-17 about 90 minutes later when the taxi came to a halt after running over spikes put across the interstate by DPS officers. DPS Media Relations Officer Bob Stein said the gun battle began when the suspect exited the maroon-colored Lincoln Town Car brandishing a .380-caliber semiautomatic pistol.

Stein said after the Denver-area man refused to drop the weapon and pointed it at the officers, four DPS officers and the sheriff's deputy opened fire, hitting the suspect at least seven times.