March | April 2024

PATROL NEWS

OVER NINETY YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROTECTION



from the STAFF



DO YOU HAVE SOME CHANGE?

Lt. Colonel David A. Flannigan
Assistant Superintendent

When the Missouri State Highway Patrol was created 93 years ago, it was comprised almost exclusively of troopers, with only a handful of civilian employees. At that time, troopers were almost solely restricted to performing highway safety duties and the civilian staff handled clerical responsibilities. As the Patrol's positive reputation grew, so did its responsibilities:

- The Patrol was designated as the agency for both the criminal records repository (now CJIS) in 1934, and for the crash reports repository (now PRD).
- When the need for a statewide crime lab was identified, the Patrol answered the call once again. Our crime lab was one of the first ones in the country when it opened in 1936.
- When the need to test driver competency was proposed, the responsibility was given to the Patrol (1952). Initially, troopers gave driver tests until civilian examination staff were hired.
- When the motor vehicle inspection program (1967) was created to ensure safe vehicles traveled on Missouri's roadways, it was assigned to the Patrol.
- Although troopers handled some criminal investigations in the early days, the statutory creation of the Division of Drug and Crime Control didn't occur until 1983. Today, DDCC is recognized as a trusted statewide resource for a wide variety of investigative services.
- After intelligence gaps were revealed following terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the Patrol was once again the solution. The Missouri Information Analysis Center (2005) became Missouri's 24-hour response to that concern.

The list is longer than the few changes I mentioned. Almost any time a need arose relating to statewide police services or motor vehicle and driver safety, the Patrol has been the answer. Unlike in 1931, careers with the Patrol are now as varied as the people working in them.

As the need for more services has grown, so has the diversity and talent of our employees. I am proud of our employees who work hard to provide quality services to the public and to our criminal justice partners. They have not only adapted to change throughout the decades, but they continually keep the Patrol on the edge for future change. As a tenured employee, I appreciate that employees continue to keep us on our collective toes and increase our comfort with what is on the horizon.

When talking to retirees, the conversation often includes how different things are today. I agree, but we all know the Patrol wouldn't have survived if we were still working under the business model created in 1931. One thing that won't be sacrificed is our Core Values. Integrity, responsibility, respect, professionalism, compassion, resourcefulness, character, and commitment are things that have ensured the Patrol has thrived for nearly a century. They are just as relevant today as they were in 1931, and they are who we are as an agency when everything else is stripped away.

So, what do you think is next for the Patrol? With the talent and dedication of our employees, the sky is the limit. We simply need to keep conceptualizing and preparing for our next challenge. I'm excited to look forward and I hope you are, too!

D.A. Flannigan

CELEBRATING OVER 57 YEARS OF NEWS
PATROL NEWS

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State of Missouri

SANDRA K. KARSTEN, DIRECTOR
Department of Public Safety

ERIC T. OLSON, SUPERINTENDENT
Missouri State Highway Patrol

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The Patrol News is published by the Public Information & Education Division of the Missouri State Highway Patrol in the interest of all active and retired personnel.
(573) 526-6115

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

March | April 2024

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OVER NINETY YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROTECTION

Volume 58 ▪ Number 5

IN THIS ISSUE

04 A Trooper's Hat
05 DPS Team Member of the Month
07 Social Media Snapshots
08 Trooper Bava Toy Drive
10 Retirements
12 Night to Shine
14 From Confetti to Crime Scene
16 Obituaries
18 Teamwork and Commitment
19 Looking Back

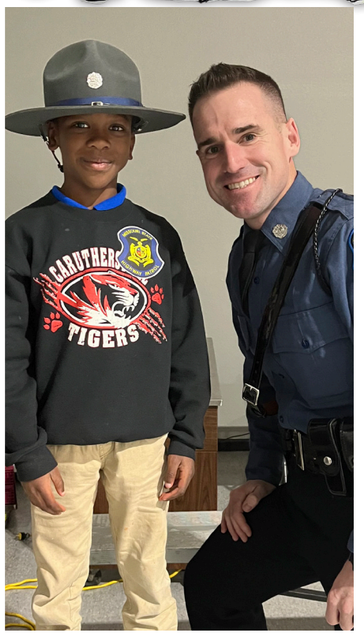
ON THE COVER

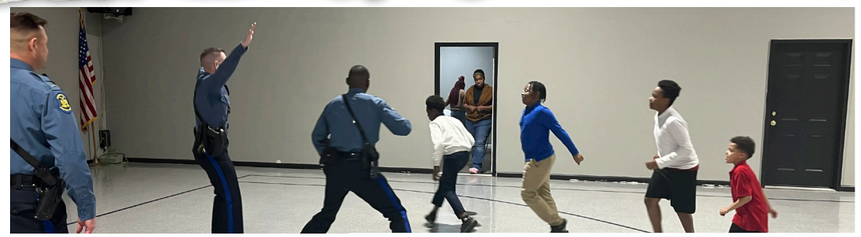
The photo on the front cover features downtown Jefferson City and was taken by the Patrol Photographer Rachel Hays using a drone. "Having a drone license has added a layer of grandeur to visual storytelling. It helps me navigate through a variety of environments and gives me the ability to reach locations that are difficult or dangerous for humans to access. A drone enables me to capture images from different heights, angles, and positions, providing a wide range of creative possibilities. It helps me capture unique details at special events and provides a memorable experience for social media viewers."

A TROOPER'S HAT

Creates Joy at Community Outreach Event







Troopers were challenged to a round of basketball.



Tpr. R. Mike Malone's (Q/RCOD) patrol hat was the favorite accessory of the day.

By Trooper R. Mike Malone *(Q/RCOD)*

A heartwarming scene unfolded at the Divine Holiness Community Outreach Center in Caruthersville, MO, as my campaign hat made its way around a crowd.

Members of Troop E and the Recruiting and Community Outreach Division recently attended an event aimed at fostering positive relationships and delivering much needed supplies to the Divine Holiness Community Outreach Center. However, the event became a memorable occasion for all due to a simple gesture.

While troopers were playing a pickup basketball game (and losing, I may add), my hat became the center of attention when it caught the eye of a curious child. The child quickly grabbed my attention and politely asked, "Can I put that on?" I told him, "Of course!" I playfully placed my hat on the child's head, sparking a chain reaction of joy and excitement with everyone. One by one the children eagerly lined up to try on the campaign hat, each wearing it with a sense of pride and admiration. Many of the children said, "I am a trooper!"

As the event continued, our interactions extended beyond the hat, with conversations about safety tips and the sports they played, talking with them about their aspirations to become troopers. Of course, I took every opportunity to recruit a future trooper. The hat may have started off as a functional piece of my uniform, but it became a positive symbol of connection at the event. Its journey from one child to the next left a lasting impression on both the kids and the troopers, serving as a reminder of the power of small positive gestures in building a stronger community.



DPS Director Sandra Karsten presents the January 2024 Sworn Team Member Of The Month Award to Cpl. Dustin Reed (Q/DDCC).

Corporal Reed Named January DPS Sworn Team Member of the Month

By Sgt. Darrin R. Haslag *(Q/DDCC)*

On Monday, January 29, 2024, Corporal Dustin B. Reed of the Division of Drug and Crime Control's Special Victims Unit was honored as the January 2024 Department of Public Safety Sworn Team Member Of The Month. This award was presented to Cpl. Reed for his diligent work identifying a Missouri suspect in a child exploitation investigation, which began in Indiana. After conducting interviews and executing several search warrants, he identified the individual and discovered thousands of digital files of child pornography in his possession. As a result, he was able to secure indictments on federal charges for the suspect.

Department of Public Safety Director Sandra K. Karsten presented the award to Cpl. Reed. Director Karsten stated, "I thought Dustin had received this award once before and he corrected me. He says this is his third time. We are very proud of the work that you do. You are very tenacious about it. I know that you are going to get all the details, and you are going to be persistent. Whoever the suspect is, we know they are going to jail. They are going to be brought to justice, and so we appreciate all you do for the people that can't speak for themselves. There is no limit to how many times you can be nominated or selected for this award, so congratulations." Cpl. Reed had previously been awarded Sworn Team Member Of The Month in August 2020, and again in March 2021.

Colonel Eric T. Olson was present and commented on Dustin's award, saying, "It certainly takes a lot of commitment to do the job that you do, and I appreciate that very much. I do appreciate the great work that gets done by DFIU (now the Special Victims Unit) every day."

When asked to comment on his award, Cpl. Reed humbly stated, "This is one of many cases that we have going all the time, but none of these would be possible without everybody pitching in and everybody doing work. There is so much more that goes on behind the scenes. I'm just kind of the face on this case. Everybody in this group is instrumental in what we do."

Congrats, Dustin, on a job well done!

WITH sympathy

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

Trooper Joshua R. Summers (I) - grandmother
Ret. Lt. Gregory K. Leftwich - mother
Trooper Taylor K. Leftwich (B) - grandmother
Ret. Sgt. Nate K. Brown - mother
Ret. Cpl. Monty D. Atkins - father
Ret. Sgt. Roger D. Shikles - father
Sgt. Derek T. Shikles (F) - grandfather
Sgt. Logan S. Elliott (G) - father
Ret. Lt. William C. Baker - wife
Sgt. Wallace V. Ahrens (F) - mother
CVO Clinton R. Flynn (A) - father-in-law
Ret. Capt. Robert F. Wolf - mother
Ret. DE III Virginia K. Craven - sister
Ret. Asst. Chief Operator Bill E. Pollard - mother
Ret. Capt. I. David Smith - aunt
Ret. Lt. Col. Bill K. Seibert Jr. - mother
Cpl. Sam D. Carpenter (D) - father
Cpl. Matt G. Yendes (D) - grandmother
Lt. Jeff B. Johnson (D) - father
Ret. Data Entry Oper. Sprv. Carolyn L. Goff – husband



DPS HONORS SERGEANT HALL

Capt. Scott Sater (D), DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Sgt. Tom Hall, and Major Mike Turner pose for a photo.

By Meghan Basinger *(Q/PIED)*
Public Information Specialist III

On February 26, 2024, Sergeant Thomas Hall was honored by the Department of Public Safety as Sworn Team Member Of The Month for February 2024. Sgt. Hall was nominated for his investigative skills that led to a traffic stop on Interstate 44 becoming one of the largest roadside seizures of illegal hydroponic marijuana in Missouri. Sgt. Hall found a total of 1,668 pounds of processed hydroponic marijuana in vacuum-sealed bundles with a potential street value of $5 million. Outstanding job, Sgt. Hall!



Major Mike Turner (Q/FOB) presented Sgt. Tom Hall (D) with a challenge coin.



Herb and I would like to thank my Patrol family for their support during my cancer journey these past several months. We deeply appreciate the texts, cards, phone calls, and donations. We especially appreciate the prayers and know God hears them. We are blessed to be part of the Patrol family.

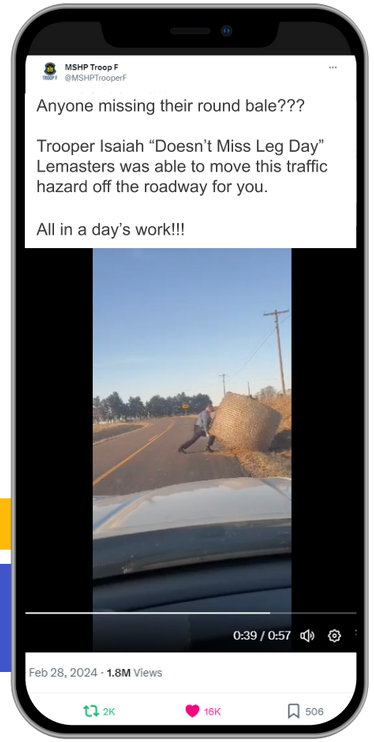
Cheryl Cobb *(Q/ PIED)*
Public Info. Spec. III

Thank you to all who contacted me, sent e-mails and cards, or attended the funeral of my mother, Mary Gilbreath, on December 28, 2023. Your thoughtfulness and concern were greatly appreciated.

Loretta Mitchell
Ret. Program Supervisor

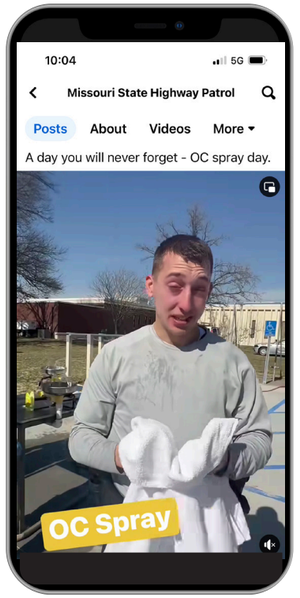
SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT

Trooper Isaiah S. Lemasters (F) became an internet sensation overnight. On February 28, 2024, a 57-second clip was posted to Troop F's X page (formerly Twitter) of dashcam footage showing Tpr. Lemasters moving a large round bale out of the roadway. However, he did not use his cruiser to do this. With no push bars and not wanting to damage his vehicle, Tpr. Lemasters took the hands-on approach. The clip has been viewed over 1.8 million times on X and 1.7 million times on Facebook.



Trooper Adam M. Hitt (F) helped send a special message to the public on Valentine's Day.





The Patrol posted a video of recruits getting OC sprayed in the face as part of their training. Pictured is Recruit Thomas L. Benner (Q/TND) after OC exposure.

ANNUAL JAMES BAVA TOY DRIVE

A HUGE SUCCESS

By Dr. Mark Pottorff *(Q/PIED)*
Curator

In November 2023, Jim and Alyce Bava again asked the Patrol family to help honor their son, Trooper James M. Bava, who made the Ultimate Sacrifice in 2015. Every year since 2017 (except during COVID) the Patrol family has stepped up and helped provide toys for children in hospitals across Missouri.

According to the Bavas, "In 2023, seven troops (Troops A, C, E, F, G, H, I) and General Headquarters participated. Also, Gabby from Troop C held a toy drive as part of a rodeo which collected both toys and cash.

"Three hospitals received donations this year. They were St Louis Children's Hospital in St Louis, Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, and Mosaic Hospital in St Joseph. I'm not sure of the number of donations but it was certainly well into the hundreds if not more. Troop C's trailer was almost full for the donation drop off at St Louis Children's Hospital. This was a compilation of all troops on the east side of the state and GHQ. The donation drops at Mercy Hospital and Mosaic Hospital each filled about half of my van and were from the west side of the state. Also, St Louis Children's Hospital was given a cash donation of $1,720 which came from several of the troops and Gabby's rodeo. I'd say a conservative estimate in the value of the toy donations was around $15,000."

Mr. and Mrs. Bava explained why a toy drive is an appropriate manner to honor their son and his sacrifice. "When James was eight years old, he won a Toys R Us $100 toy raffle. It was during the Christmas season, and when he was asked what he would like to do with the toys, he said he would like to give them to other children who may not have gifts for Christmas. After picking out toys as gifts, we brought them over to the Salvation Army to be handed out to needy children. James had a heart for children at an early age that continued through his adult life. He always had a stuffed animal or two in his squad car in case he worked an incident that involved a child."

Thank you to our Patrol family for such an overwhelming response again this past year and for making the MSHP Tpr. James M. Bava Toy Drive such a success. Tpr. Bava's family concluded that, "It was great visiting all the troops and GHQ, enjoying some delicious Costco cake, and chatting. We are hopeful that this tradition continues for the foreseeable future."



> **When James was eight years old, he won a Toys R Us $100 toy raffle. It was during the Christmas season, and when he was asked what he would like to do with the toys, he said he would like to give them to other children who may not have gifts for Christmas.**



Troop A



Troop G



Troop I



Troop F

Congratulations ON YOUR RETIREMENT

For your years of dedicated service, loyalty, and selfless giving, we THANK YOU.



DON R. BARBOUR
Sergeant
Troop F
Retired February 1, 2024
29 years, 3 months of dedicated service



MIKE S. BELSHE
Sergeant
Troop Q/GD
Retired February 1, 2024
28 years, 1 month of dedicated service



BILL J. BRESTER
Chief Technician
Q/COMMD
Retired February 1, 2024
14 years, 7 month of dedicated service



N. JIM BRITT
Corporal
Troop G
Retired February 1, 2024
28 years, 1 month of dedicated service



S. PRICE RICHARDSON
Trooper
Troop D
Retired February 1, 2024
28 years, 7 months of dedicated service



JEFF D. SPIRE
Sergeant
Troop A
Retired February 1, 2024
28 years, 7 months of dedicated service



S. DAVE RUDLOFF
Sergeant
Troop F
Retired February 1, 2024
27 years, 1 month of dedicated service



HAROLD D. BURNETTE
Technical Support Manager
Q/CJIS
Retired March 1, 2024
17 years, 7 months of dedicated service



SHANNON W. CROUCH
Sergeant
Troop D
Retired February 1, 2024
26 years of dedicated service



JOHN J. HOTZ
Captain
Q/PIED
Retired February 1, 2024
34 years, 7 months of dedicated service



JEFF L. McCULLOUGH
Sergeant
Troop E
Retired February 1, 2024
31 years 1 month of dedicated service



MICHAEL L. PULLAM
Driver Examiner III
Troop E
Retired February 1, 2024.
14 years, 4 months of dedicated service



TOM L. HALL
Sergeant
Troop D
Retired March 1, 2024
28 years, 8 months of dedicated service



DEWEY K. HEPPE
Corporal
Q/GD
Retired March 1, 2024
27 years, 2 months of dedicated service

Photo not available

JAY R. HOLCOMB
Sergeant
Q/DDCC
Retired March 1, 2024
30 years 7 months of dedicated service

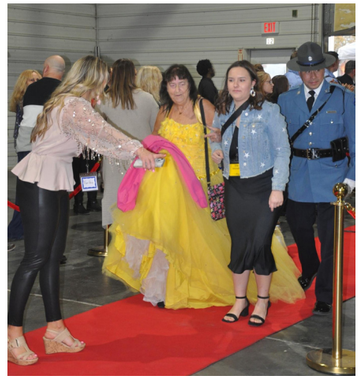


KEN M. ROBINSON
Lieutenant
Q/RDD
Retired March 1, 2024
28 years, 8 months of dedicated service



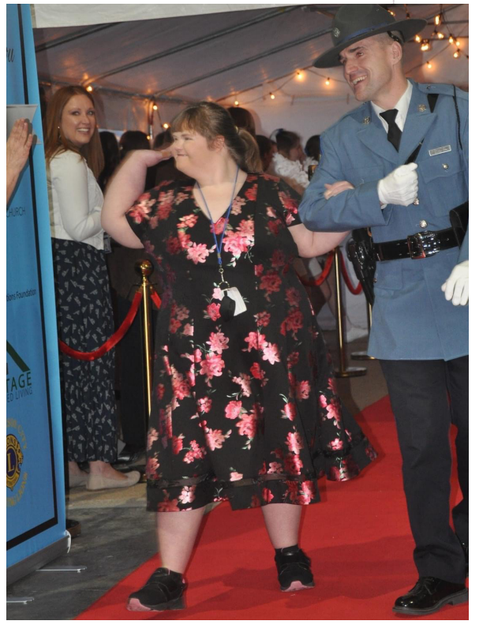
By Tpr. R. Mike Malone *(Q/RCOD)*

On February 9, 2024, Recruiting and Community Outreach Division members attended the Night to Shine hosted by the Tim Tebow Foundation. This extraordinary, prom-style evening celebrates the lives of people with special needs. As the evening began, families from all walks of life gathered in the grand ballroom, their faces beaming with anticipation, ready to start the party. With troopers at their side, the attendees, dressed in their finest attire, were greeted by cheers and applause as they made their grand entrance. The venue was transformed into a wonderland adorned with shimmering decorations and music that ignited the dance floor. Laughter and smiles filled the air as we formed new friendships. In addition to the dancing, countless activities catered to every person's unique interests. Photo booths captured the essence of the evening, preserving the memories of pure joy and happiness. The Night to Shine touched the lives of everyone present, leaving an indelible mark on our hearts. It was a testament to the power of love, acceptance, and the unwavering belief in the boundless potential of every person.





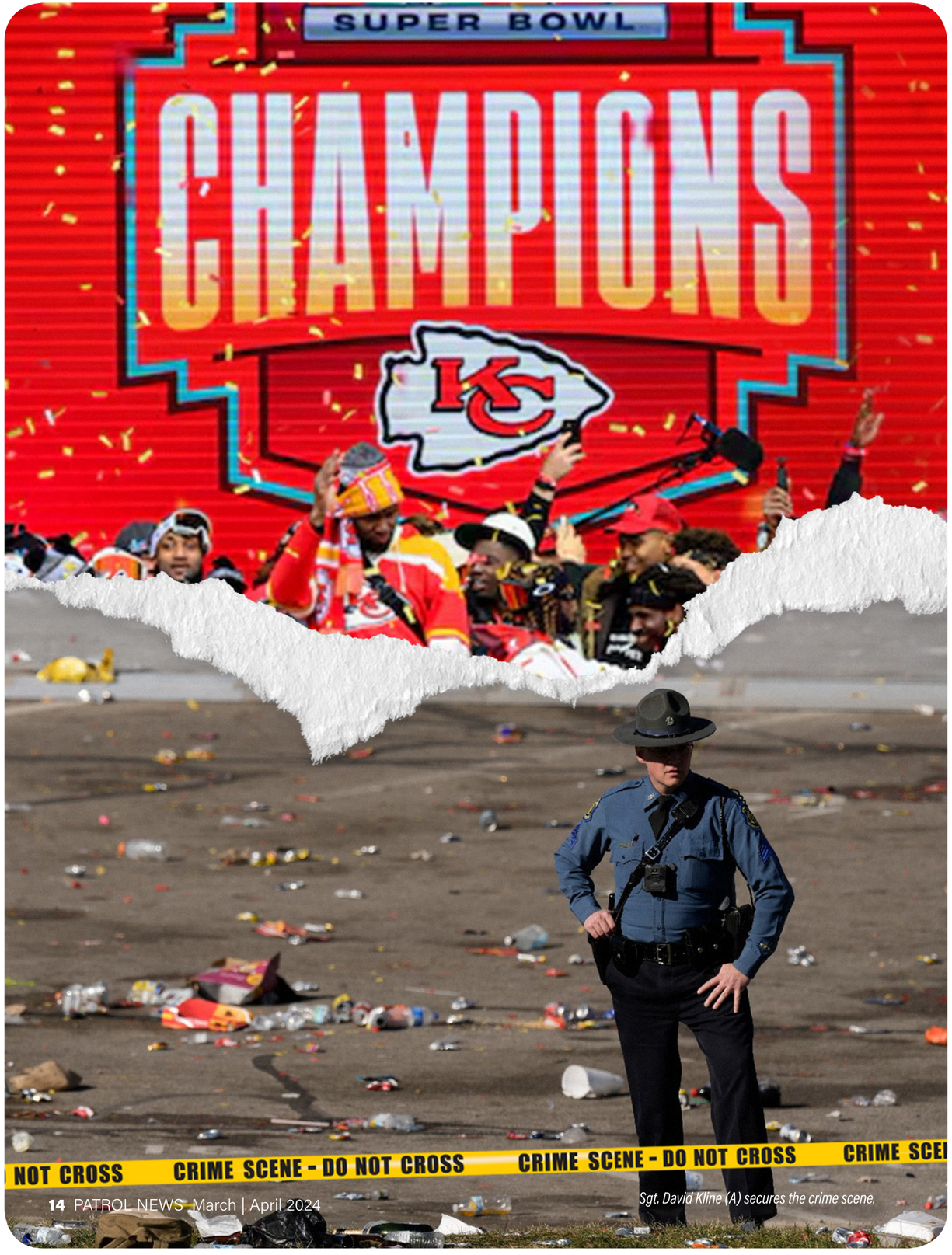
(top, above) Tpr. Roberto Rizo (F) escorted these two lovely ladies on their grand entrance down the red carpet to the ball.



This young lady waved to people as Tpr. Mike Malone (Q/RCOD) escorted her during her grand entrance.



Law enforcement & fire department personnel from around Jefferson City were escorts for this great event.



Sgt. David Kline (A) secures the crime scene.

FROM CONFETTI TO CRIME SCENE

By Sgt. Andrew J. Bell *(A)*

If you're a Kansas City Chiefs fan or a nearby resident of Kansas City, celebrating Super Bowl victories is becoming a new, yearly tradition. The Chiefs have now won back-to-back Super Bowls, so naturally there are back-to-back victory parades. Last year's victory parade was a great success, but preparation and strategic planning can never be taken for granted. So, after weeks and months of planning, this year's Victory Parade and Rally Detail was assembled on February 14, 2024, in the heart of Kansas City (no pun intended, #valentinesday).

The Patrol provided approximately 50 uniformed troopers along with additional Patrol employees assigned to governor security, emergency operations center overwatch, undercover surveillance, radio communications, and logistical support. The primary mission for our troopers was to provide safety and security along the parade route and near Union Station. The Patrol worked collaboratively with nearly 800 officers from 20 different agencies, including agencies from Kansas and our federal law enforcement partners. Several troopers had been assigned to this detail in previous years, but many were experiencing it for the first time. Despite the hundreds of thousands of people, the biggest concern throughout most of the morning was retrieving footballs that had landed on the parade route and were out of reach from the children. Needless to say, many of our troopers got to practice their best no-look pass!

The sun warmed the crowd. Hours became minutes. And the wait was nearly over. At approximately 11:30 a.m., Mr. MVP, Patrick Mahomes, was strolling down the parade route. The crowds cheered loudly, and the confetti cannons erupted boldly. There was a huge sense of gratitude for a beautiful, mild February day, and for the opportunity to be part of a national spectacle. It was a great day!

At approximately 2 p.m., as the Rally was concluding, gunshots rang out, and a large crowd of people near the west stage at Union Station began to run in panic. The radio call came, "We have a shooting at Union Station." Troopers and officers ran into the crowd. Some apprehended suspects, some provided first aid, some comforted lost children, some secured the crime scene, and some searched acres of ground to ensure there were no other suspects or victims unaccounted for. The day quickly turned from great to not-so-great. It was chaotic. It was shocking. It was tragic. However, our troopers did not hesitate. They reacted quickly and were steadfast. Their training and experience kicked in, and they worked together as one team. Compassion and steadiness provided stability for many terrified people. Several members of the media, public officials, and citizens have commented on the quality of professionalism and readiness of our officers. The various law enforcement agencies, emergency medical responders, and a handful of good Samaritans should be commended for their involvement and collaboration throughout the detail and the aftermath of the shooting.

This day will unfortunately be etched into history and remembered as a mass shooting, with one person killed and 22 others wounded, including several children. But it will also be a day when hundreds of officers came together. No matter the patch they wore on their sleeve nor the color of their uniform, a team of brave men and women assembled, determined to serve and protect.



Tpr. Matthew Neely (H) keeps watch at the Union Station Parade Rally



Sgt. Andrew Bell (A) and Tpr. Nicholas Regan (H) along with Shawnee, KS, Police and Riverside, MO, Police, received friendship bracelets from the crowd.

Obituaries



Morgan R. Walker, Jr.

MORGAN R. WALKER JR.

Mr. Morgan Roy Walker Jr., 81, formerly of Jefferson City, MO, died on January 1, 2024, in McAllen, TX. In 1960, Morgan graduated from Marshfield High School. He then attended the College of the Ozarks, completing his studies in 1962. Following this, he enlisted in the United States Navy on June 5, 1962, serving with pride during the Vietnam war until his honorable discharge on May 28, 1964. His commitment extended further as he served in the United States Navy Reserve from 1978 to 1991. Post-military life led Morgan to a career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol in communications. Over 36 years, he climbed the ranks and retired in August 2000 as the chief operations engineer. Survivors include his loving wife, Deborah, four daughters, two sons, 13 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, and two sisters. Memorial contributions may be sent to the American Legion 40/8 nursing scholarship. Make checks payable to VOITURE 1292, or Navy Club Ship 5 for Camp Quality, and mail contributions to 1423 Tanner Bridge Rd., Jefferson City, MO 65101. To learn more about Morgan, visit the Freeman Mortuary website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Walker family.



Russell P. Norton

RUSSELL P. NORTON

Russell P. Norton, 79, died peacefully on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. Russell served the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a commercial vehicle officer, before retiring in 2010. He is survived by his wife, Rena, one daughter, one son, two grandchildren, and one sister. Memorials to St. Louis Zoo Friends Association would be appreciated. To learn more about Russell, visit the Kutis Funeral Home website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Norton family.



Robert G. Martin

ROBERT G. MARTIN

Robert G. "Bob" Martin died February 4, 2024. He was born on a farm near Dixon, MO, on June 15, 1944. Bob graduated from Dixon High School in 1962. After graduating, he was drafted into the United States Army where he served from June 1965 to June 1967. In 1967, Bob joined his brother Tommy as a trooper with the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He proudly served the public and embodied the patrol's motto "Service and Protection." Bob was assigned to Zone 6 (Moniteau and Morgan counties) and retired as sergeant of Zone 6 after 29 years of service. Bob is survived by his loving wife, Mary, three sons, eight grandchildren, five brothers, one sister, and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions are suggested to The MASTERS (Missouri Association of State Troopers Emergency Relief Society). To learn more about Bob, visit the Meisenheimer-Page-Dady Funeral Home website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Martin family.



Larry L. Atkins

LARRY L. ATKINS

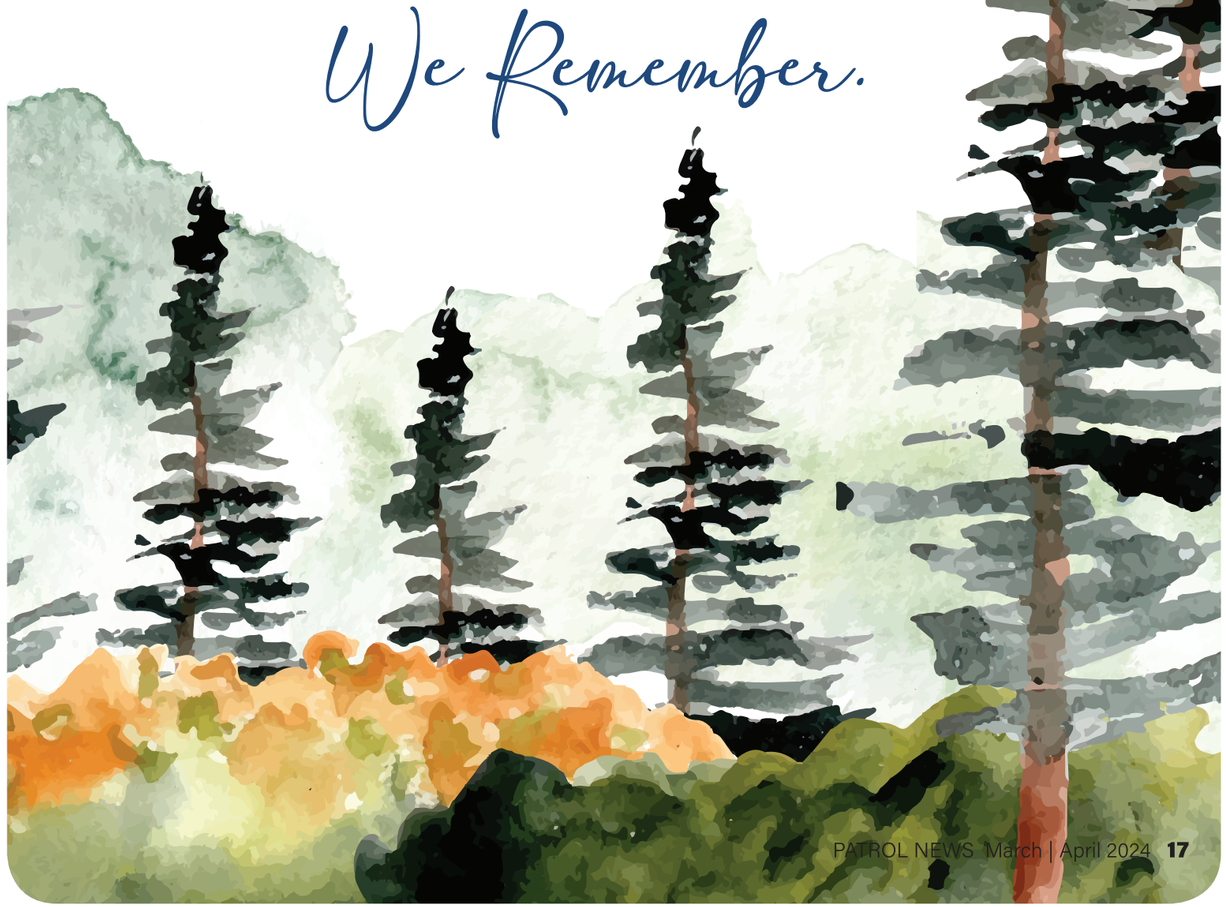
Larry L. Atkins, 84, Rea, MO, died Friday, January 19, 2024, surrounded by his loving family. Larry was a 1957 graduate of Rosendale High School. He was a proud American and served his country in the Missouri Air National Guard from 1957-1959. Larry devoted his life to civic duty. He retired after serving 34 years with the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a chief commercial vehicle enforcement inspector and served as the Andrew County presiding commissioner for 16 years. Larry was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Barbara. He is survived by his four sons, two granddaughters, four grandsons, seven great-grandchildren, one brother, one sister-in-law, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. The family has requested memorial donations to North Andrew Scholarship Foundation. To learn more about Larry, visit the Heaton-Bowman-Smith Savannah Chapel website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Atkins family.



William R. Lawrence

WILLIAM R. LAWRENCE

Mr. William R. "Bill" Lawrence died on January 16, 2024. Bill graduated from Madisonville High School (KY) in 1950 and then received a bachelor of science degree from Murray State College (KY) in 1957. He went on to study and be certified by Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the testing of the SAGE Air Defense System, a project in which he was liaison between civilian contractors (namely AT&T) and the U.S. Air Force. Bill was recruited to serve in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and served two years in-country. After retiring from other work, he worked for the Missouri State Highway Patrol for 10 years as a driver examiner. Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Reida Lawrence, and is survived by two daughters, one son, three granddaughters, one grandson, two great-grandsons, one sister, and many nephews, cousins, and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Lee's Summit Meals on Wheels. To learn more about Bill, visit the Langsford Funeral Home website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Lawrence family.





Pictured are Col. Eric Olson, Major Paul Kerperin (Q/CIB,) Deputy Director Kevin Bond, Investigative Analyst Hunter Surface, Investigative Analyst Casey Schnieders, Sgt. Scott Stoelting, Cpl. Nogi McDaniel, Cpl. Matthew Foster, Tpr. Russell Gibson, Cpl. J.T. Wilson, Lt. Donnie Crump (Q/DDCC), and Capt. Roger Phillips (Q/DDCC).

TEAMWORK AND COMMITMENT

By: Sgt. Darrin R. Haslag *(Q/DDCC)*

On January 12, 2024, seven Missouri State Highway Patrol employees were honored as the December 2023 DPS Sworn Team Members Of The Month for their roles in a homicide investigation led by investigators from the Sikeston Department of Public Safety and the SEMO Major Case Squad. This investigation, and the efforts of the Troop E Criminal Investigative Unit of the Patrol's Division of Drug and Crime Control, along with the division's Investigative Analyst Unit, resulted in a first-degree murder charge in a brutal September 2023 homicide. The Patrol team members honored were Sergeant J. Scott Stoelting, Corporals Nogi H. McDaniel, Matthew B. Foster and Jonathan T. Wilson, Trooper Russell R. Gibson, and Investigative Analysts Hunter N. Ellis (now Surface) and Casey S. Schnieders.

These Patrol team members were part of the multi-agency investigation launched after a Sikeston, MO, woman was found beaten to death in her burglarized home. It took four days to process the crime scene, and through a combination of solid police work and modern investigative techniques, including Highway Patrol Crime Lab DNA analysis, a suspect in the brutal killing was located and arrested.

The award nomination read, "The murder charge that was filed by the Scott County prosecutor in this heinous case was a direct result of the critical thinking, utilization of technology and teamwork of the Sikeston Department of Public Safety, SEMO Major Case Squad investigators, Scott, Nogi, Matthew, J.T., Russell, Hunter, Casey, and other members of the Highway Patrol. They worked efficiently and collaborated seamlessly. The charges that resulted are mere accusations and not evidence of guilt. Evidence in support of the charges must be presented before a court of competent jurisdiction whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence."

DPS Deputy Director Kevin Bond presented the award winners with a plaque, recognizing the group's efforts in the investigation and spoke of his time as a sheriff, specifically his previous work with major case squads. He shared his appreciation for the expertise members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol bring to these types of investigations and highlighted the importance of working relationships between agencies. Deputy Director Bond spoke of how major case squads assemble the "best of the best" to bring these major crimes to a successful conclusion. He thanked the group for the efforts they not only brought to this investigation but also many others they are involved in.

Speaking of the working relationship Troop E CIU has with surrounding agencies, Colonel Eric T. Olson stated, "The Southeast Missouri law enforcement community is really a model for the state and that is because of the effort all the agencies put forth to make it happen." Col. Olson presented the group with challenge coins, speaking of the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Core Values, which were listed on the coin's face. Col. Olson spoke specifically of the core value of Commitment and how that value was not only evident in this investigation but also in other cases with which the Troop E CIU is called to assist. Deputy director Bond also presented the group with a Department of Public Safety Director's challenge coin. Before giving them the coin, Deputy Director Bond read the coin's inscription, which he said is the same phrase located near the entrance to the Missouri State Capital's Senate Chambers. This phrase reads, "Not to be served, but to serve." Deputy Director Bond finished by telling the group, "You've exemplified that."

Congratulations to Sgt. Stoelting, Cpl. McDaniel, Cpl. Foster, Cpl. Wilson, Tpr. Gibson, and Investigative Analysts Surface and Schnieders on a job well done!

Looking Back IN THE PATROL NEWS

55 YEARS AGO

APRIL 1969 - The front page of the April 1969 *Patrol News* featured an architect's drawing of the planned Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy building. Excavation for the new building had started the month before. Another story told of how Tpr. Norman G. Kaden (C) assisted an aircraft which was low on fuel and was requesting assistance to make an emergency landing. Tpr. Kaden made the decision that a straight portion of Missouri Highway 79 near Clarksville, MO was the best place for the emergency landing. He radioed to have the pilot follow his flashing red lights and, with help from other law enforcement, blocked off Hwy. 79, placing flares on both sides of the road. The aircraft landed safely.

45 YEARS AGO

APRIL 1979 - Sgt. L.D. Long (F) reported on an urgent call he received concerning a pregnant woman headed to a Jefferson City hospital. She had run out of gas 18 miles from town and was rather excited, as the baby was coming. Responding to help the woman in her plight was none other than Officer 1, Colonel Alvin R. Lubker. He made contact with the expectant mother and headed toward the hospital with her. An ambulance en route from the hospital met up with the colonel and took the woman on to the hospital. Col. Lubker remarked, "What a way to start a Monday morning."

35 YEARS AGO

MARCH 1989 - This edition featured photos from two K-9 assisted drug busts. Tpr. D.A. Henson and Wico (I) were called to search a Toyota van-truck. After Wico gave a positive response, officers found 350 pounds of processed marijuana in the vehicle. Tpr. G.C. Althage and K-9 Vax (C) responded to a call to search a corvette for drugs on Interstate 44. Vax indicated a positive response to the presence of drugs, but the troopers could not find any contraband. Vax persisted in his positive response, so the vehicle was towed to be searched again. The officers found methamphetamine and numerous unidentified pills inside a bogus aerosol can and a pump-type toothpaste container.

We are not makers of history. We are made by history.

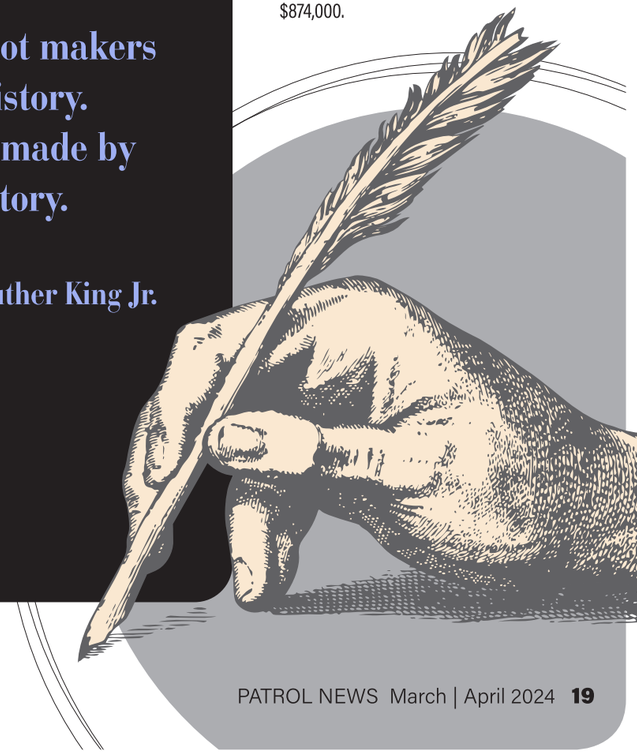
- Martin Luther King Jr.

25 YEARS AGO

MARCH 1999 - The cover featured a photo of Pope John Paul II, who visited St. Louis in January. Security for the Pope's visit required more than 1,700 law enforcement officers, and 130 members of the Patrol were assigned to the visit. The article included a photo of Tpr. Leanne Hall (A) holding a rosary that had been blessed by the Pope. Another article featured Tpr. A.S. Patterson and Tpr. E.P. Ahern (A). The troopers were honored with "Silver Awards," given by KMBC-TV and the Metropolitan Chiefs and Sheriff's Association. The awards recognized officers who performed a dangerous and distinguished act in the line of duty.

15 YEARS AGO

MARCH 2009 - The cover of this edition of the *Patrol News* featured a collage of MASTERS members over the years. This was the 30th anniversary of the founding of the MASTERS, which provides assistance to the families of fallen members of the Patrol. In 1979, Colonel Alvin R. Lubker presented the idea to Governor Joseph P. Teasdale, and the governor approved the formation of the organization. In its first 30 years, the MASTERS assisted 17 families and expended for their benefit in excess of $874,000.



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Sgt. Brad Haggett (E) takes a photo with some of the kids at the Divine Holiness Community Ourtreach Center.

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