124th Trooper Recruit School
October 28, 2012 – March 29, 2013

125th Trooper Recruit School
May 12, 2013 – October 4, 2013
**From the President’s Desk**

D/Sgt. Christopher Luty

**MSPTA Member Satisfaction Survey**

In late September and early October, MSPTA members were asked to participate in an MSPTA Member Satisfaction Survey. A similar survey Board will use this survey as a guide in most expense related to the MSP. MSPTA’s Trend Report was completed by 100 members. The results will be available at www.mspta.net.

- Each party strikes two names, and the department selects a name. In case of an employee or an employee’s continued assignment will be transferred to the TRB.
- A Special Circumstances Transfer may occur when the TRB determines that an employee’s actions have created a situation where the employee’s continued assignment will be detrimental to the effective operation of the work site, result in loss of credibility or tarnishing of the department’s image, or renders the employee ineffective at his or her work site. Either the department or the individual employee may request a Special Circumstances Transfer.
- Should the department reassign a sergeant without reasonable explanation, or if the sergeant believes the reassignment was arbitrary, a sergeant can appeal the reassignment to the TRB. The TRB can either affirm or reverse the reassignment, but cannot modify the reassignment, and their decision is not subject to appeal.
- It’s easy to recognize that each of the three areas of responsibility for the TRB are very different, yet have significant impact on the affected employee or the seniority of enlisting members of the Michigan State Police. As a member of the TRB, I have been able to attend the Third District meeting and a couple of interesting items that I have not addressed about the TRB. The TRB is the manner in which I drive the project to completion. The TRB is the Michigan State Police Troopers Association is compiling articles, comments, and photos for a special tribute magazine honoring Tpr. Paul Butterfield, who made the ultimate sacrifice September 9, 2013. This book will not be a yearbook type publication as MSP did to honor its members. The book will not be a yearbook type publication as MSP did to honor its members.

**Role of President**

When I announced my decision to step down as president of the MSPTA, I promised the membership the transition to a new president would be as seamless as possible. Those efforts started last Monday, December 9, when President-Elect Nate Johnson started working with me at the MSPTA office. Given the lack of pressing matters at the office right now, the timing for this transition could not be better. Nate and I have already had the opportunity for in-depth discussion involving many topics affecting the MSPTA, and Nate has or will accompany me to several scheduled meetings. I believe Nate’s passion for the MSPTA will serve our membership well.

**District Meetings**

The December cycle for district meetings is upon us. I would like to apologize for not being as active as possible. The issue of inadequate employee pension contributions was also a concern for the members attending the district meetings thus far. Given this will be the last district meeting cycle during my presidency, I had hoped to attend each meeting and express my thanks for your support the past seven years. With the holiday season upon us, I have elected to spend time with my family instead of traveling the state for meetings. Please accept my apologies and I hope you understand.

**Below 100**

The department launched training camps. On September 100 Students are invited to attend. Not all could be there, including myself. The TRB Board members did attend, including Vice President Hickok and President-Elect Johnson. Simply put, the training encourages police officers to be more cautious in their daily, mundane activities in an effort to keep them safer. One of the behaviors that will be targeted by the department is the manner in which we drive our patrol vehicles. The department intends to program our in-car cameras to activate when patrol car speeds reach 85 mph. I suspect those who are disregarding the speed limits may be law not will have a difficult time explaining their actions. Other situations not allowed by law might not be so easy to explain.

**Pension Contributions**

The issue of inadequate employee pension contributions was also a concern for the members attending the district meetings thus far. Given this will be the last district meeting cycle during my presidency, I had hoped to attend each meeting and express my thanks for your support the past seven years. With the holiday season upon us, I have elected to spend time with

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**Michigan Trooper**

Many active and retired members have called asking about our magazine. My apologies for the delays in getting it out. I remain sensitive to our members’ desires to continue to publish a magazine. For several various reasons, all which fall under my control, it has been difficult to publish a magazine in a timely manner.

In an effort to maximize our efforts and efficiency related to the magazine, I have appointed MSPTA Marketing Director Pat Strzałkowski as the Michigan Trooper Editor. I want to thank Yvonne Brantley for all of her hard work, dedication, and patience as she juggled her new promotion and continue while trying to get our magazine published. She did an admirable job under difficult conditions.

**Tpr. Paul Butterfield Special Tribute Magazine**

The Michigan State Police Troopers Association is compiling articles, comments, and photos for a special tribute magazine honoring Tpr. Paul Butterfield, who made the ultimate sacrifice September 9, 2013. The intent of the magazine is to allow enlisted members of the Michigan State Police to memorialize their thoughts or experiences about Tpr. Butterfield.

Once complete, the special tribute magazine will be mailed to those on our regular Michigan Trooper magazine mailing list. Those not on the list who would like a copy of the special tribute magazine should send their contact information, including mailing address, to Pat Strzałkowski at pat@mspta.net.

Tpr. Butterfield’s badge number now adorns our magazine and the MSPTA website.

**Elections**

At the October Quarterly, I announced that I would not seek reelection for the position of president of the MSPTA. On the surface, this decision appears sudden and abrupt. I assure you, it was neither. Many factors were involved when my decision became final, both personally and professionally. This decision was not an easy one. This was the hardest decision I’ve had to make in almost 24 years of service.

I pleased that Nate Johnson and Joe Cavanaugh, both with extensive MSPTA experience, opted to seek election to the office of MSPTA President. Both are more than capable of doing a fine job, and I will do everything in my power to ensure the transition is seamless.

**Transitioning the Role of President**

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see PRESIDENT, page 4
from PRESIDENT, page 3

October 1. Vice President Hickok has been involved in discussions with the Office of Retirement Services as well as MSP Human Resources. You can expect more information from him in the very near future.

Eight-Hour Workdays

It has also been brought to my attention that many work sites are reverting to eight-hour workdays for the upcoming pay period encompassing the Christmas and New Year holidays. Rumor in the field is that there was an email from “Lansing” ordering the return to eight-hour days. Appendix B, Paragraph 1c of the labor agreement allows the department to revert to eight-hour days in a pay period where more than one holiday exists, but does not allow the department to change shift start times. I will ask Vice President Hickok to contact MSPTA board members and their respective post representatives to determine if this matter merits a grievance.

And Finally …

I hope each of you had a very happy holiday season. It has been an honor to serve the MSPTA membership, and I thank you for your support during my time in office.

In-car video has been around for a while now. I can still remember the reaction when video cameras first came into use within our department. It was felt by many it would be like “big brother” is always watching. That was the talk at the time in the locker room, “Oh, great now we can really be Monday morning quarter backed”. After the initial aversion wore off it didn’t take long to realize the cameras were a good thing. There is still some ongoing debate over the use of in-car video, however, its use now seems to be widely accepted. I don’t remember what the original impetus was to start using them, but it soon became evident they were a useful tool.

Some of the arguments for having in-car videos were to help increase convictions from patrol initiated arrests, reduce liability and be able to review citizen complaints alleging misconduct by our members. As time passed, we learned video recordings capturing incidents out on the road were in fact extremely useful in all of the above.

The department would be well served if every goose was outfitted with a video camera system. We are over the initial aversion to the change and the associated growing pains. Cameras aren’t cheap though, I understand that, especially when electronics evolve for the better at a quick pace and added cost. When first installed we used VCR equipment mounted in the trunk. I don’t know what the cost was, but I’m sure it was significant. Add the changeover from video tape equipment to digital recording which also had to have been expensive. That changeover wasn’t all that far behind the cost of the original equipment which had already become obsolete.

Once again this is a very useful tool as I’m confident that cameras have saved many dollars in frivolous lawsuits while at the same time saving our members from the related grief, embarrassment and in some cases their jobs from fabricated complaints. A problem occurs when all patrol cars are not equipped or, of the ones that are equipped, some units are inoperable. When the cameras are not operating consistently it gives arrestees the avenue to argue in court that their incident was not recorded because they were not involved in the alleged behavior when in fact the equipment was actually malfunctioning.

It probably won’t be long until we will be streaming live video on demand broadcast from our patrol cars to a desktop at the post or dispatch center. I can imagine a trooper calling in a chase and by the click of a mouse the sergeant back at the post or out on the road could be watching the chase live as it unfolds.

Two things happened recently that brought my attention to in-car video and prompted this article. One was the murder of Trooper Paul Butterfield. I have been told that his patrol car was not equipped with in-car video. Despite in-car video being the norm, having no role in the investigation the culprit was caught. Functioning in-car video would have been invaluable. In this case, a very fortunate set of circumstances immediately following the incident enabled our investigators to narrow their search and quickly capture the suspect. With no video to assist investigators, had it not been for that fortunate set of circumstances, the suspect may have eluded capture. Thankfully he did not.

The second incident involved a routine traffic stop that resulted in nothing more than a verbal warning issued by the officer. Displeased with getting pulled over, the motorist complained that the stop was racially motivated and an internal investigation was launched. Unfortunately for the officer the audio on the system was not working (a repair order had been previously submitted). It came down to whom to believe, the motorist’s allegations or the officer’s account of doing his job. A fully functioning video recording system would have immediately exonerated the officer in this incident. Without the audio portion of the recording the perception of the officer’s actions could go either way. This gave the motorist more to argue and unfortunately added credence to his allegations, which ultimately were not validated.

There is now more demand from our members and the public they serve for functioning in-car video equipment. Video systems have become accepted and commonplace. To me the overall value in terms of officer safety, resolution of citizen complaints and reduction in liability far outweighs the cost of implementing in-car video in all MSP patrol cars.

Please continue to keep Tpr. Paul Butterfield and his family in your thoughts and prayers, as well as Tpr. Andrew Lambert as he battles his cancer diagnosis.

D/Sgt. Duane Hickok

The Michigan Trooper magazine is back!

Having realized just how much a majority of our membership and our associate membership enjoys the printed version of this publication, it is back!

As current editor of the magazine, I first want to thank you for your patience waiting for this issue to go to press. MSPTA President Chris Luty had a wonderful and thoughtful idea when he suggested the MSPTA publish a special tribute issue honoring Tpr. Paul Butterfield. That issue was recently mailed. Our hopes are that it serves as a fitting memorial and tribute, helping each of us to remember all of the good that was Paul’s life.

Next I want to extend an invitation to our readership to get involved with this magazine. Quite honestly, a big reason for the lapse between issues has simply been due to a lack of material submitted for publication. You will note as you read this issue, the articles reflect a “2013 Year in Review” theme. To the MSPTA membership, this is your magazine. What do you want to read about within these pages? I encourage you to look through previous issues for ideas.

There have been regular “columns” in the past, including news from each district, “A Board’s Eye View,” “The Final Word (Favorite Quotes),” etc. I hope to continue featuring the “Register of Deeds,” but need your help. The above.

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D/Sgt. Duane Hickok
Counsel’s Corner

Worker’s Compensation and Integrity

Lawrence P. Schneider
MSPTA General Counsel

Suppose a worker cannot work because of an injury, but falsely claims the injury occurred at work when it really occurred at home. If the worker claims and receives workers’ compensation benefits, we would call that situation workers’ compensation fraud – taking money to which the worker is not entitled.

Similarly, if a worker is regularly performing the very same activity that he claims he cannot perform at work, most persons would agree the worker is committing workers’ compensation fraud by collecting those benefits and falsely claiming inability to work. The worker is taking benefits to which he is not entitled. So what is it called when this happens?

• A trooper is unquestionably injured in the line of duty; and
• The trooper unquestionably cannot perform the full range of his or her regular duties as a direct result of the injury; and
• The employer directs the trooper to apply for duty-disability retirement; and
• Immediately after the trooper is removed from work on a duty-disability retirement, the employer’s workers’ compensation carrier stops paying workers’ compensation benefits that are legally owed, saying that the trooper is not disabled?

That doesn’t really happen, you say. Read on.

Tpr. Donutlover (not his real name) injured his ankle in the line of duty years ago. He has had many surgeries, all paid through workers’ compensation. He had worked on a light duty status for several years. When Donutlover sought a transfer last year, the Department of State Police stepped in and said, “Wait, you’ve been on light duty for a long time. You have an ankle injury that prevents you from performing the full range of State Police duties. You cannot transfer. Instead, you must leave the department. You are directed to apply for disability retirement.” Tpr. Donutlover did not want to retire. He wanted to continue working. He wanted the transfer. But there was nothing that could be done, given the severity of his ankle injury. ORS quickly approved a duty-disability retirement with the full support of the MSP. Donutlover reluctantly turned in his MSP equipment and retired. As had been promised, he began receiving workers’ compensation benefits.

A week or two later, the workers’ compensation carrier for the MSP notified Donutlover that it had arranged for him to be seen by a doctor that it regularly uses to conduct what it calls “independent medical exams.” Donutlover complied and went to the exam. He was astounded when he received the doctor’s report: it said he was not disabled from his duties. He was more astounded when the MSP workers’ compensation carrier advised him that since he was not disabled, he was no longer eligible for workers’ compensation benefits. He was most astounded when he looked to his long time employer, the MSP, who had required him to leave the department because he was disabled, and was essentially told, “Sorry, that’s the way the system works.”

That’s just an isolated mistake, you say. Read on.

Sgt. Mayjur (not his real name) injured his right (dominant) hand in the line of duty. He had many surgeries, all paid through workers’ compensation. Finally, he was told he needed a thumb fusion. In purely layman’s terms, the second joint beneath his right thumb was “welded together” so that it is immobile. The condition has crassly been described as “claw hand.” Sgt. Mayjur wanted to return to work so he brought his department issued firearms, pepper spray and taser to physical therapy with him, asking the therapists to help him find a way to be able to use these tools again. He was told it could not happen – that he would never have the thumb dexterity he would need to safely and effectively use these tools or firearms. Sgt. Mayjur, like Donutlover, reluctantly submitted his application for duty-disability retirement. It was quickly granted, with full support from the MSP. He reluctantly turned in his MSP equipment and retired.

Worker’s Compensation and Integrity

Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue

Every day, I am amazed by the way the Michigan State Police (MSP) provides “Service With A Purpose” to communities statewide; serving citizens who choose to break the law and law-abiding citizens too. As we usher in 2014, I’d like to take a moment to reflect on a few of the department’s accomplishments and successes over the past year.

As you’ve heard me say many times before, our troopers and sergeants are the backbone of this department. I am thankful to have added 155 new troopers to our ranks in 2013, and I appreciate the support we receive from Governor Rick Snyder and the Michigan Legislature. The 126th Trooper Recruit School kicks off January 5, followed later in the year by the 127th Trooper Recruit School.

As stated in our Strategic Plan, we are working toward achieving a minimum strength of 1,380 troopers. These new troopers will help us continue to provide statewide public safety services. In fact, we’re starting to see very positive indicators of our efforts when it comes to our Secure Cities Partnership in Flint, Saginaw, Detroit, and Pontiac. Preliminary crime data indicates a significant reduction in violent crime in these cities in 2013.

Another impressive achievement for 2013 was the work the MSP did to combat tobacco tax fraud, which costs the State of Michigan millions of dollars in the loss of potential tax revenue. Following visits to more than 13,400 retailers statewide, troopers seized more than $700,000 worth of tobacco property and nearly $1 million in non-tobacco property. Violations discovered ranged from missing invoices and untaxed/ unstamped products to drug violations, Bridge Card violations, and the selling of counterfeit merchandise.

Continuing to move the MSP forward, we are now one year into the department’s five-year Strategic Plan. I am proud of the progress that continues to be made in achieving our bold and forward-thinking goals and objectives. One objective called for each post to implement a new traffic safety initiative, supported by crash data, to address an issue plaguing their local community. I’m pleased to report we have far exceeded this goal with a total of 74 new traffic safety initiatives. I’m confident we are saving lives every day with this proactive approach addressing drinking-related, distracted or drowsy driving, teen driving, or aggressive driving, just to mention a few.

Another noteworthy accomplishment is our 62.8 percent crime clearance rate for the first six months of 2013. This rate is significantly higher than the statewide clearance rate for all law enforcement agencies at 34.5 percent during the same period, and above our goal of 60 percent. The MSP should be proud of this accomplishment.

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Across the department, we are also working on building and strengthening community service and relations. Our community service troopers (CSTs) are an integral part of this effort, and in 2013, as an example, they brought the Teaching, see HIGHLIGHTS, page 23
A week or two later, the workers’ compensation carrier for the MSP notified Sgt. Majur that it had arranged for him to be seen by a doctor that it regularly uses to conduct what it calls “independent medical exams.” Sgt. Majur complied and went to the exam. He too was astounded when he received the doctor’s report, which he immediately shared with his supervisors.

Eventually, these cases will be heard by a workers’ compensation magistrate, who will hopefully “do the right thing.”

However, there are some more minor cases that never get to come before the justice system, but can have devastating effects on injured enlisted officers as well. Trooper Tripper was on patrol and stopped a motorist. As she got out of her patrol car, she stepped on some ice and severely twisted her ankle. She was immediately seen at the emergency room where she received the good news, “Nothing is broken, but you have a severe sprain.” Trooper Tripper was off work for a while as her sprain healed, but soon she was notified by the MSP workers’ compensation carrier that her x-ray revealed that her ankle had some degenerative arthritis (commensurate with her age) and that it was this, not the twisted ankle that occurred in the course of her duties, that was disabling her. She was promptly cut off from workers’ compensation benefits and required to use her precious sick leave.

This is the motto of the Michigan State Police: “A proud tradition of service through excellence, integrity, and courtesy.” The Department of State Police expects each of its employees, without fail, to demonstrate “excellence, integrity, and courtesy.” Integrity has often been described as doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. It has also been described as doing the right thing, even when the alternative is not illegal.

When it comes to integrity, should the department not lead through example and “do the right thing?” Should the department not insist that its vendors, contractors and representatives do the same? Here are three situations where the department’s integrity has an opportunity to lead and demonstrate that, as an agency, it firmly stands by its commitment to integrity, from its employees and to its employees. After all, it would not tolerate workers’ compensation fraud on the part of one of its employees. ■

I first got the idea to write about grief after I talked with a good friend at the Jackson Post, Trooper Steve Rando. I was sitting at a computer typing when he walked in, saying, “I’ve got some bad news, Mike.” In that brief instant, I thought to myself, “Great, my tire’s flat. Someone hit my car; I need to cover an extra shift!”

Steve continued, “Art McNew’s 6-year-old daughter, Molly, died early this morning at the hospital. She had the flu.”

This morning was Christmas Eve morning.

“Why God? Why so young? Why her? Why now?” Although I didn’t know Molly personally, my heart was suddenly heavy. While it may not have known Molly either, maybe you find yourself in a similar situation asking the same questions.

While driving home later that same day, I reflected on all the traumatic events that have shaped many lives at the Jackson Post. This is not intended to minimize the suffering others around the state have experienced, but please allow me to shed some light on a few situations. (I was given permission by each of these men to share a snippet of their stories.)

Trooper Mike Cisco’s 16-year-old son, Taylor, suffers from a life-long battle with mitochondrial disorder and scoliosis. He has had just shy of 30 surgeries, and he is susceptible to seizures, common colds and influenza, optic nerve dysplasia, et al. He cannot walk, crawl, talk or do anything for himself, but is completely dependent upon his family. Sergeant Mike Church’s young daughter, Maria, suffers from Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type 1 (SMA Type 1), which is a motor neuron disease. The motor neurons affect the voluntary muscles that are used for activities such as crawling, walking, head and neck control, and swallowing. Maria is now five years old and cannot walk, crawl, roll over, or even raise her hand to her head. Trooper Dan Bowman’s infant son, Trey, died at the hands of the motor vehicle while Dan was in recruit school. Trooper Derrick White’s wife, Tracy, died mid-2012 after a long battle with cancer. My own 7-year-old son, Josh, was born with compromised vision issues. Seven surgeries later, he is blind in one eye.

Good grief, that’s a lot of pain and suffering in just one small post.

We may be a day old or fifty thousand days old; wealthy or poor, alone or surrounded by loved ones. The fact remains, though, that no matter what place or palace in which we find ourselves, we will all face a sure commonality: pain and suffering.

Life-altering catastrophes may be ever so brief, or they may last months or even years. The pain and suffering left in the wake of such events can span a lifetime.

Pain and suffering puts us police officers in a rather precarious position. Do we address it? Do we ignore it? We are trained to do both, to serve one and to save the other. We reach out to citizens who fall to their lowest. Yet, we’re trained to win. Always. We are indoctrinated to win, to put the bad guy in jail, to save the day; to help. We shoot thousands of rounds through various guns throughout our careers, we experience scenario-based training, we ground fight, we drive at high levels of performance, and so on. However, we train to win and to “have it all together.”

We find ourselves in precarious positions when we don’t actually have it all together in our own lives, yet are expected to help others in their deepest times of need. So how do we prepare to face the pain and suffering in our own lives? For those of you who find yourselves in that most unusual of places, please know that I am not truly sorry for your pain, suffering, and loss. I wish I could take away your pain. I cannot do that, but I do know you can find hope.

I want you to pause a moment and reflect upon grief – good grief. It is one of life’s beautiful paradoxes, for in the midst of grieving we find indescribable beauty. It is there that we find ourselves to be most vulnerable, most open to receiving from others the encouragement and love that we crave. Even we find ourselves to be most empathetic when we are grieving, most caring for others when we suffer. It is amidst the hurt that we
find ourselves clinging to a spouse's tight hug, to a mother's caring words, to the closeness of friends, and to the nearness of distant family.

More importantly, however, is when we are in the midst of pain and suffering, and we seem to most easily hear the gentle voice of our Creator. We may cry out less when we are in the midst of pain and suffering because it feels too difficult to feel the closeness of our Maker, in the throes of agony that we long to be near Him. We need God, through the Psalmist, to proclaim, "Be still, and know that I am God."3 We may never find any of the answers to our questions, but we can find comfort in our Creator's words, that He is God. He remains in control. He knows. He cares.

If you find yourself in this difficult season of life, "be still, and know..." May God bless you with Himself, may He bless you with good grief.

References:
2. Ibid, page 103.
Making the News ...  

West Michigan State Police Sergeant Receives Award for Long-Term Contributions to Traffic Safety  

LANSING, MI (3-25-2013) – Michigan State Police (MSP) Spl/Sgt. James Campbell of the Fifth District Headquarters will be honored at the Governor’s Traffic Safety Advisory Commission (GTSAC) annual awards luncheon Wednesday at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing for his personal and professional dedication to traffic safety.

Each year the commission honors organizations, programs and individuals for outstanding contributions to traffic safety. The awards luncheon is part of the 18th Annual Michigan Traffic Safety Summit. Eight Outstanding Traffic Safety Achievement awards and three long-term awards are being presented.

Campbell will receive the Richard H. Austin Long-Term Traffic Safety Award, which is presented to individuals or organizations who have made significant long-term contributions to the field of traffic safety.

Recognized as a leader in the South west Michigan traffic safety community, Campbell is known for initiating projects both on and off duty including creating awareness among teens about the dangers of drinking and driving, training child passenger safety technicians in the proper installation of car seats and using traffic crash data to better target enforcement patrols.

Campbell serves as the MSP Fifth District crash reconstructionist and investigates approximately 40 fatal crashes each year. Two fatal crashes involving motorists hitting a police officer during a traffic stop inspired him to help create the Kazoo Area Foot Chase to support Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors. During the last 11 years the effort has raised $100,000 to support awareness of officer safety on roads.

Recently, Campbell partnered with the Michigan Department of Transportation on a project to install cable median barriers on portions of US-131 and I-94 to reduce cross-over crashes.

The GTSAC was formed in 2002 to serve as the state’s forum for identifying key traffic safety challenges and developing and implementing plans to address those issues. The GTSAC is comprised of representatives from the departments of Community Health, Education, State, State Police and Transportation, as well as Office of the Governor, Office of Services to the Aging and Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning. There are also three representatives from local government appointed by the Governor.

Follow the Michigan State Police Troopers Association on Facebook!
Creating the Police Athlete

One problem that may be the root cause of increased weight gain in police culture is the 24 hour shift coverage. There are many of us who are relegated to an unconventional schedule that is strictly anchored to maintaining an ideology of visibility. A study by Violanti et al. (2009), analyzed police officers with atypical work hours that are associated with metabolic syndrome. Those that worked the midnight shift slept less and had increased rates of metabolic syndrome components (e.g. increased waist circumference, hypertension, low HDL, etc.) This study is a stark reality that not only do the external dangers of law enforcement need to be considered, but that atypical work hours create an additional load (i.e. physiological stress) the police officer must bear. The components of metabolic syndrome increase the likelihood of cardiovascular disease (CVD). These results are just indicators that have slowly interrupted the homeostatic processes that allow the deadly infiltration of a potentially irreversible disease that attacks the heart and the brain.

It is well documented that daily activities of the general police officer on patrol is quite sedentary. For most police officers, their peak fitness was on patrol. The energy provided to those that participate in CrossFit, P90x, and Insanity) involve high-volume, high-intensity workouts that are paired with a maximal effort timed periods with short rests. This is due to the imposed demands on the cardiovascular system and energy metabolism of the muscle fibers involved during the activity. The added appeal is the perceived potential for “getting ripped” and “above average” functional capabilities. A bonus for group fitness instructors is the ability to train multiple individuals with treacherous work environments settings within the atmosphere is quite competitive, therefore creating a sense of esprit de corp. A recent study on CrossFit (Smith, et al., 2013) indicated significant decreases in body fat and increased aerobic fitness. However, several participants withdrew due to significant rates of injury. Increased levels of fitness results were similar to other High Intensity Interval Training (H.I.I.T) (Tremblay, et al., 1994; Trilk, et al., 2011).

The energy provided to those that participate in CrossFit can be similar to an “event.” Participants have a tendency to be highly motivated and extremely competitive. The combination of personality and CrossFit’s program design create a foundation for over-training and increased injury. If a consideration for the purpose of a training program is to either maintain a desired level of fitness (general training) or achieve peak fitness (event training), then it is paramount to analyze the joint’s structural integrity that involve movement.

There are many ECP’s that inappropriate market themselves as a military/law enforcement training regimen. The U.S. Services (see attached) have recommended scientifically based fitness training guidelines. It is suggested that ECP’s are only utilized as a complement to a well-rounded exercise program.

In conclusion, the hazards of choosing the life of being a law enforcement officer is tough. The dangers that constantly threaten our lives are unique and preparation is key to survivability. While the demands of law enforcement are truly unique, the law enforcement officer should be treated as an athlete. In most athletic endeavors, the event is known. Therefore, the athlete can prepare for peak performance for that event. Conversely, the law enforcement officer on patrol is expected to act appropriately with courage and resilience during chaotic and unpredictable, circumstances with exact precision. A “one-size fits all” exercise program is implemented in hopes that it will meet the needs of all police officers, but does not consider that decision. Because the “general” fitness programs that are available for the “general” public do not meet the “unique” needs of the police athlete. As an occupation, law enforcement is unique and individual police athlete should be categorized as a professional athlete.

see ATHLETE, page 16

Tpr. Steven Unruh
Metro Post #21
177th Recruit School

A police officer is a unique athlete. At any moment, the physical demands that may be required to resolve any situation range from educator to combat-medic. The athlete hosts a vast array of opinion publics’ perception of the police educator to combat-medic. The demands that may be required to police officer may influence the resolve any situation range from promotions and desirable lateral positions. The stereotypic as lazy, social reject, slobs, and clowns (Butler, et al., 1993). It is consistent, and appropriate, exercise in cognitive abilities and decreased dysfunctional movement. If an exercise program does not address the deficiencies of a desired movement, that exercise program is compensatory, or undesired, movement that will lead to pain. In most cases, an indication of pain will likely result in decreasing movement in forms of exercise intensity and frequency; thereby, a desired goal will not be achieved. It is important to assess the individual police athlete by testing their movement through a procedure that numerically scores functional movement. If the police athlete does not have joint stability, the functionality of the desired goal will lead to pain and injury. The compromised range of motion mobility will only be realized during times of unpredictable stress that may be the result of a life being saved.

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A police officer is a unique athlete. At any moment, the physical demands that may be required to resolve any situation range from educator to combat-medic. The athlete hosts a vast array of publics’ perception of the police educator to combat-medic. The demands that may be required to police officer may influence the resolve any situation range from promotions and desirable lateral positions. The stereotypes that are associated with those that are fit have negative connotations on any perceived task despite their expertise (Hash, et al., 2003; Societal prejudices against fat, or obese, people are increased and influenced by social media. These labels are characterized as lazy, social rejects, slobs, and clowns (Butler, et al., 1993). It is also recognized that improvements in cognitive abilities and decreased levels of stress (Lytle, et al., 2004; McEwen, 2007) are realized with a consistent, and appropriate, exercise program.

One problem that may be the root cause of increased weight gain in police culture is the 24 hour shift coverage. There are many of us who are relegated to an unconventional schedule that is strictly anchored to maintaining an ideology of visibility. A study by Violanti et al. (2009), analyzed police officers with atypical work hours that are associated with metabolic syndrome. Those that worked the midnight shift slept less and had increased rates of metabolic syndrome components (e.g. increased waist circumference, hypertension, low HDL, etc.) This study is a stark reality that not only do the external dangers of law enforcement need to be considered, but that atypical work hours create an additional load (i.e. physiological stress) the police officer must bear. The components of metabolic syndrome increase the likelihood of cardiovascular disease (CVD). These results are just indicators that have slowly interrupted the homeostatic processes that allow the deadly infiltration of a potentially irreversible disease that attacks the heart and the brain.

It is well documented that daily activities of the general police officer on patrol is quite sedentary. For most police officers, their peak fitness was on patrol at the academy and quickly extinguishes over time. If fitness levels are not maintained, then the other life-saving skills (firearms, defensive tactics, and first aid) will dramatically decrease. Also, when physical demands are placed on an out-of-shape body the likelihood of injury will increase. A properly designed fitness program should meet the demands of the unique lifestyle of a police officer who is on patrol. Therefore, an objective look at popular fitness programs or extreme conditioning programs (ECP’s) is the purpose of this article.

While many of these ECP’s (e.g. CrossFit, P90x, and Insanity) involve high-volume, high-intensity workouts that are paired with a maximal effort timed periods with short rests. This is due to the imposed demands on the cardiovascular system and energy metabolism of the muscle fibers involved during the activity. The added appeal is the perceived potential for “getting ripped” and “above average” functional capabilities. A bonus for group fitness instructors is the ability to train multiple individuals who train treacherous work environments settings within the atmosphere is quite competitive, therefore creating a sense of esprit de corp. A recent study on CrossFit (Smith, et al., 2013) indicated significant decreases in body fat and increased aerobic fitness. However, several participants withdrew due to significant rates of injury. Increased levels of fitness results were similar to other High Intensity Interval Training (H.I.I.T) (Tremblay, et al., 1994; Trilk, et al., 2011).

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see ATHLETE, page 16
Steve Unruh received a post-graduate degree from Oakland University in Exercise Science where he is currently conducting research in motor control/eye-hand coordination. He has published/presented original research on the interactive affects of cognitive/physiological stress on police officers.  

Table 1.

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<tr>
<th>Service Branch</th>
<th>Guidelines</th>
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<td>Army</td>
<td>Army Training Circular TC 3-22.20/Army Physical Readiness Training (August 2010)</td>
<td>Policy and procedure for physical fitness exercise and testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>Marine Corps Order-MCIP 6100.1H: Marine Corps Physical Fitness Program (August 2008)</td>
<td>Policy and procedure for implementing physical readiness for combat and general fitness</td>
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References


Michigan State Police and Friends

Bid Farewell to Long-Time Officer

By: Karen Bota
Photos / Karin Armbruster
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Law enforcement colleagues, friends and family gathered Saturday at the Hunting and Fishing Lodge at Bertha Brook Park to honor Michigan State Police Detective/Sgt. Michael Morey, who retired in August after nearly 34 years with the MSP.

"Mike's work ethic, character and dedication is not matched by many," said First Lt. Kevin Sweeney, post commander of the MSP Lakeview Post 864, at the Saturday tribute. "We at the Lakeview Post, and Ionia Department, have been very fortunate to have a person like Detective/Sgt. Morey as a detective, mentor and friend. He will be sorely missed."

Morey began his career with the MSP in Pontiac in 1979. After assignments to Detroit and Lansing, he was promoted to sergeant at the Ionia Post in 1988. Morey was reassigned to the Detective Bureau at Ionia in 1992.

"Mike served the citizens of Ionia for 25 years, taking on numerous complex investigations, including the brutal 2006 murder of Bernita Cunningham," noted Lt. Brody Boucher, assistant post commander of the Lakeview Post, at Morey's gathering.

He also had been investigating the case of Dawn Silvernail, who went missing in 1991, since 2007, and hoped to close the case before he retired.

Morey was awarded the Citation for Life Saving in 2002 for rescuing a drowning 4-year-old girl when he was off-duty. He also was awarded the Citation for Meritorious Service, and received five professional excellence commendations.

"Mike was doing what he did best, catching crooks and mentoring young troopers, right up to the date of his retirement," said Boucher. In fact, Morey was conducting surveillance with three days left in his career, Boucher added.

"The value statement of the Michigan State Police is a proud tradition of service through excellence, integrity and courtesy," Boucher said. "I cannot think of a better way to describe the man we are here tonight to honor."

MSP Detective/Sgt. Michael Morey retires after nearly 34 years

Michigan State Police Detective/Sgt. Michael Morey is presented with a framed sleeve – a MSP tradition for officers retiring from law enforcement – by Captain David Roesler, commander of the MSP 6th District at Morey's retirement celebration.
**What Are You Looking At?**

As humans interact with the environment there are six senses (vision, auditory, taste, smell and proprioception) that retrieve information from the physical landscape to be interpreted by their respective processing system. Our senses are constantly bombarded by external stimuli that are assorted, and influenced based on advance information that allows for adaptability during a dynamic and constantly evolving high-risk encounter (Sakurai, et al., 2000). Importantly, it should be the purpose of the Training Academy to develop attributes from a deadly force encounter that can be implemented into training. This seems rather unlikely when, as of recently, the author was forbidden, through the chain-of-command, to make any direct inquiry to the Training Academy about the current training modalities that may be essential to saving my life, or someone else’s.

“When you tear out a man’s tongue, you are not proving him a list, you’re only telling the world that you fear what he might say.” — George R. R. Martin

**Training and Research**

If the Ordinance Unit and MCOLES were to properly implement an effective training paradigm that was based on results, it could increase the likelihood of saving lives. At this point, the Ordinance Unit remains disconnected with the effectiveness of the current training with the historical philosophy of “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” This is supported by their unwillingness, or inability, to compile the results from a critical incident that are available from those that were involved (e.g., troopers, detectives, forensic and medical personnel). Members of the Ordinance Unit have stated it is by their choice to not contact those individuals involved in near-death experiences. Consequently, valuable insight as to how current training transfers to real-life is missed and lost to our members. Therefore, the desired answers that are needed for proper training in life-threatening situations cannot be realized. A Rand (2008) study has suggested that police departments are increasing the likelihood of civil liability for the lack of critical incident training. The premise that the influence of police officer presence reduces crime also facilitates the creation of the bare minimum standard for force-on-force training. It is quite obvious that placing stoic police officers that are crisply dressed will not reduce crime. In fact, it is the exact opposite in that critical incidents will proportionally increase with police officer presence. The data that drives training is completely encapsulated within the sterile confines of a range. Where a rangemaster associates a shooting badge with the ability to carry a firearm. Instead, the results of a deadly force encounter should be recorded and thoroughly analyzed for training purposes. Importantly, by previous encounters, into various categories that form an experience. The most influential of the senses is the dichotomous visual processing system. Eye-tracking technology (SMI Vision pictured; www.smivision.com) enables researchers the ability to analyze eye movement. Previous research, and current preliminary examinations, on dynamic firearms scenarios reveal that the eye fixates on the intended target three times more than the weapon’s sights — if at all. Whereas, the current training paradigm places emphasis on the weapon’s sights. This training modality contraindicates the natural process that has allowed humans to survive against superior predators during dynamic situations.

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**Firearms Instructor, Tpr. Todd Lambert (Metro Post), is wearing the binocular eye-tracking system that can be utilized to improve training.**

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**Trooper Derrick Libstaff, Lapeer Post Firearms Instructor, fixates on a target. Eye-tracking technology has its limitations, but technology is quickly changing from just analyzing to enhancing human movement.**

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**Trooper Darby Odell, Metro Post: Bruce Detachment, models the not-so-distant future look of police officers. The ability to perceive within .5 degrees creates possibilities that were once only imagined in science fiction.**
the momentum of training should be focused on the trooper who is still on patrol, not on the considerations of those that “instruct” their ideology of proper training. When a so-called trainer/leader is looking in a manual for answers, then they are secretly desiring to become an instructor/manager. The creativity of a well intentioned training program that is implemented towards the specificity of a desired goal is an attribute of a successful organization. For those still on patrol, like myself, we should require of our INSTRUCTORS to teach actual life-saving techniques that prevent becoming a deadly statistic. When it comes to learning, or inquiring, about the tactics that may preserve your life, you should never need permission to challenge the status quo.

References


Educating, and Mentoring (T.E.A.M.) safety and prevention curriculum to nearly 77,000 students covering important public safety topics such as gun safety, personal safety, cyber safety, and bullying. Knowing and listening to the citizens we serve is an important role that every member should embrace. I will continue to make community policing a priority for the MSP.

This is just a snapshot of a few accomplishments the MSP achieved across the state last year. I wish I could report on them all, but the list was too long. However, at the end of the day it all comes down to providing a quality service in every contact we have with our citizens.

I thank you for your hard work. I know that at all levels within our department, “excellence,” “integrity,” and “courtesy” are not just words in our Value Statement; they are our guiding principles. As we start a new year, I ask that you remain steadfast in our efforts to provide statewide public safety services. Continue to work with passion. Stay safe.
MSPTA's 2013 October Quarterly brought lots of smiles to Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island.

Photos courtesy of Tpr. Lisa Lucio (2nd District Special Enforcement Unit)
Michigan State Police Trooper Matt Lequia visited Our Redeemer Child Care Center in Bessemer for Vehicle and Safety Week in November. Children were able to tour the patrol car and sound the siren and all were given stickers. Pictured are, from left, first row: Ryan Partanen, Tegan Linn, Jonathan Talaska, Elah Roberts and Adam Everson; second row: Naomi Gagnon holding Elise Nurmela, Lila Miljevich, Veronica Pavlovich, Emma Grayson (hidden), Tristan Roberts, Kara Prisbe, Tristan Pylkas, Killian Spencer, Alexea Moody, Oliver Denman, Oliver Simi, Lequia and Patti Olson holding GVanni D’Antonio.

Troopers Teach Safety Tips to Children

Michigan State Police Sergeant Joseph Brodeur (Brighton Post) was able to present safety tips and provided a tour of his patrol car to a handful of the kindergartners at North Creek Elementary in Chelsea, Michigan. His son, Joseph, is in the class and wanted to “share” his dad on Show-&-Tell day.

MSP In Our Communities

Michigan State Police and Michigan Big Brothers Big Sisters Alliance Team Up to Serve At-Risk Youth

(2/28/2013) LANSING – The Michigan State Police (MSP) and the Michigan Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBB) Alliance have announced a new partnership designed to better serve at-risk youth, specifically in Flint, Saginaw, Detroit, Pontiac and Lansing. MSP Director Col. Kristie Kibbey Erue, Executive Director of BBBs Capital Region Dr. Phillip Knight and President and CEO of BBBs of Greater Flint Reta Stanley spoke at a press conference yesterday held in Lansing.

The MSP and BBBs have entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to support each other’s activities and promote collaboration in an effort to reduce delinquency, alcohol/drug/toacco use, violence and truancy, among other things, of at-risk youth. Some of the collaboration includes cross training of staff, expediting the screening process for mentors, increasing at-risk youth referrals, improving the delivery of mentoring services to at-risk youth and tracking the outcome measurements, raising awareness for the opportunity of youth to attend the MSP Youth Leadership Academy (MSPYLA) and increasing the number of MSP mentors.

“The Michigan State Police has a longstanding history of working with families, schools, faith-based organizations, and youth agencies in an effort to help youth become responsible adults,” said MSP Director Col. Kristie Kibbey Erue. “I am a firm believer in the value of prevention services and community policing, which is why we have community service troopers assigned to communities across the state whose sole focus is outreach to help strengthen communities. Prevention, education and partnerships are necessary and needed components to improving the quality of life for our youth.”

The BBBs’ one-on-one youth mentoring program has been recognized nationally as an evidence-based process that leads to better outcomes for young people. Research shows youth participating in the mentoring program are 52 percent less likely to skip school, 46 percent less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 33 percent less likely to hit someone and 27 percent less likely to begin using alcohol.

“The Michigan Big Brothers Sisters Alliance is very excited to enter into this proactive and positive partnership as the primary mentoring partner of the Michigan State Police,” said Executive Director of BBBs Capital Region Dr. Phillip Knight. “This partnership aims to increase the number of MSP mentors to serve as ‘Bigs’ in one-to-one mentoring relationships, increase the opportunity for ‘Littles’ to attend the Michigan State Police Youth Leadership Academy as well as allow a Michigan State Police representative to serve on the Big Brothers Big Sisters Board of Directors in each targeted cities.”

“This partnership is a result of the strategic conversation that began last year and was announced in January during the Youth Violence Prevention Summit hosted by the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Michigan Alliance,” shared President and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit Dana Munson.

“By partnering with the Michigan State Police, we will directly impact our shared plan of action to reduce juvenile delinquency and violence amongst our young people.”

The MSPYLA is a week-long residential academy that provides youth the opportunity to develop leadership skills and build positive relationships with law enforcement officers. The goal is to form a foundation of responsibility, respect and trust, benefiting the youth, law enforcement officers and their community. For additional information about the MSPYLA, visit www.michigan.gov/mspyla.

MSP community service troopers’ (CSTs) efforts include mentoring youth, educating citizens on emerging crime trends, focusing on community service and training, serving as a direct resource to citizens as well as spearheading several other initiatives. CSTs are also integrated in local schools providing Teaching, Educating, And Mentoring (T.E.A.M.) curriculum, which is a proactive effort to make schools and communities safer by promoting an understanding of social rules, the consequences of unlawful behavior and students’ responsibilities as good citizens. To contact a CST, visit www.michigan.gov/mspcst.

To volunteer or for additional information about BBBs, visit www.bbbs.org. ■
Michigan State Police and Elementary Students are All On the Same Team

COLUMBUSVILLE – Michigan State Police have begun an educational series about the dangers elementary students might face. The program, called Teaching Educating And Mentoring (TEAM) talks to students about guns and drugs.

Today at Columbia Elementary in Lapeer County third grade students were taught by Trooper Sarah Whitman. She engaged the students on topics ranging from guns to drugs, even asking them if they knew the dangers of illegal drugs and about abusing prescription drugs. Trooper Whitman will speak to all of the students in the school, grade-by-grade, so that they will all understand what to watch out for.

It was explained during the program that in rural areas like Columbia meth can be a very real danger. Some of the students were particularly interested in the items Trooper Whitman uses during her job, like handcuffs. One student in particular, Jacob McMullen, was enamored with the pepper spray, which Whitman explained was an important tool in her fight against crime. Trooper Whitman even spoke about how, as part of her training, she was hit with pepper spray. Trooper Whitman will continue traveling to area schools, giving this presentation four times per month. The following citations were approved by the department’s District and Division Review Panels and the Board of Awards Committee. The names of the officers are those held at the time of the request for citation.

April 24, 2013 – Bravery Award

Tpr. DuWayne Robinson and Tpt. Stephen Vrablic are receiving the Bravery Award for diligence and perseverance under uncommon circumstances and for going beyond what is typically expected of most law enforcement officers. On November 24, 2012, Troopers Robinson and Vrablic were dispatched to investigate a domestic disturbance in which it was reported the suspect had assaulted his estranged wife and threatened to kill her. Armed with a rifle, the suspect was holding his estranged wife, their two children, and a female friend hostage in the residence.

When the troopers arrived, they observed the front door of the residence open and a female, later identified as the wife, being thrown out of the home, landing on her face in the yard. Troopers Robinson and Vrablic moved the wife to safety and took position outside the residence. The troopers then observed the suspect holding a rifle, moving back and forth within the residence, very near the two small children. Suddenly, the suspect turned the lights off and moved the children to the back of the home. Fearing the subject was preparing to assemble the Emergency Support Team. However, the suspect was preparing for a gunfight, Troopers Robinson and Vrablic prepared to assemble the Emergency Support Team. Before the arrival of emergency medical personnel. When they arrived, the child was transported to the hospital in critical condition, but recovered. Thanks to Trooper Swanson’s quick actions and knowledge of first aid techniques, the young victim survived.

April 24, 2013 – Lifesaving Award

Tpt. Seth Swanson is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On January 31, 2013, Trooper Swanson was dispatched to a 42-vehicle crash on I-75 in the city of Detroit. In checking on the occupants of one of the most seriously damaged vehicles, Trooper Swanson observed that two of three children in the backseat were already deceased. Witnesses reported the third child was also deceased; however, Trooper Swanson checked for signs of life and detected a pulse and very slight breathing. Trooper Swanson cleared the child’s airway and started rescue breathing while awaiting the arrival of emergency medical personnel. When they arrived, the child was transported to the hospital in critical condition.

The brave and decisive actions of these troopers brought this situation to a peaceful end. If it had not been for the troopers’ quick actions, it is likely the children may have been harmed.

A Step in the Helpful Direction

Bridgman fifth graders prep for disaster relief

BRIDGMAN – If disaster strikes, there are 55 Bridgman fifth-graders and their families who will be a step ahead of the emergency thanks to STEP - Student Tools for Emergency Planning.

F. C. Reed Middle School students were certified as STEP Students on Friday by Michigan State Police Trooper Robert Herbstreith, who has further conducted the STEP program for Cassopolis and Dowagiac fifth-graders. Statewide, 3,500 students in more than 100 schools will be exposed to the preparedness program developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

If we have a plan, we are prepared, and if we are prepared, we won’t be scared,” Herbstreith said, a message repeated often during STEP sessions.

Via video, the Disaster Dudes characters helped address natural disasters and how to prepare for them in a fun and nonthreatening way. “STEP students are prepared students” and become resources for their families, friends and communities during emergencies.

The program stresses surveying one’s surroundings, talking with family members about plans for before, during and after an emergency or evacuation and watching for the warning signs of a potential disaster.

Students learn to prepare an emergency Go Kit, a family emergency bag with items that can be expected locally, such as a flashlight, emergency blanket, whistle and batteries. The kit is suggested, such as a stuffed animal, family photo or book.

“The most common question is ‘what if I don’t have something,’ like a basement. I tell them that is why it is important to have a plan. Know how to get there, how to get out,” he said.

An accelerated emergency preparedness program, known as Teen CERT (Certified Emergency Response Team), has been introduced this year at Brandywine and Lake Michigan Catholic high schools. The teens are taught to take a more visible role in the community, such as directing traffic, and are equipped with hard hats, safety vests and goggles.

Tpr. Stephen Vrablic

By Janet Hayes
HP Correspondent
in the subject’s neck and shoulders to control the bleeding until emergency medical personnel arrived. If not for the quick actions of Troopers Merryweather and Shoemaker, the subject may not have survived.

**Tpr. Gerald Yott** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On January 1, 2013, Tpr. Yott was dispatched to a subject who had fallen through the ice, approximately 100 feet from shore. The subject was unable to pull himself from the water and had already lost some grip and dexterity due to the frigid water. Bravely, Tpr. Yott ventured onto the ice to throw the subject a rescue device and with the help of several citizens, Tpr. Yott was able to quickly and safely pull the man from the water.

**Tpr. Robert Motievert** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On December 25, 2012, Tpr. Motievert was on US-127 when he observed debris flying down the roadway. Realizing there had just been a crash, Tpr. Motievert arrived at the scene and observed that a young woman in the backseat of the vehicle was unresponsive. Because the car was on its top and crushed, Tpr. Motievert could hear a female passenger in the subject’s neck and shoulders to control the bleeding until emergency medical personnel arrived. If not for the quick actions of Trooper Motievert, the victim may not have survived.

**Tpr. Michael Jermeay** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On October 27, 2012, Tpr. Jermeay responded to assist a young mentally challenged, blind, and mute woman who was choking to death. With the assistance of two other officers and a registered nurse, Tpr. Jermeay performed back blows and abdominal thrusts. While doing so, a large chunk of chicken sandwich was expelled and the victim began to breathe again. If not for the quick actions of Tpr. Jermeay, the victim may not have survived.

**Tpr. Randy Parros** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On March 24, 2013, while on patrol, Tpr. Parros observed a vehicle with several occupants acting suspicious. Noticing a violation, Tpr. Parros conducted a traffic stop and upon contact, observed that a young woman in the backseat was unconscious and unresponsive. The young passenger began to vomit and rolled onto her back. Tpr. Parros called for medical personnel and then pulled the female from the vehicle, rolling her on her side and clearing her airway. Emergency medical personnel arrived and transported the woman to the hospital where she was listed in serious condition with a blood alcohol content of 0.38%. Thanks to Tpr. Parros’ decisive decision to stop the suspicious vehicle and his knowledge of first aid, the young woman survived.

**Tpr. Matthew Unterbrink** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On December 6, 2012, Tpr. Unterbrink responded to a head-on collision involving two vehicles. Both drivers were trapped inside and one of the vehicles was on fire. A Detroit Police Department officer utilized a patrol vehicle to push the vehicles apart, allowing Tpr. Unterbrink enough room to gain entry to one of the vehicles. With the assistance of a Detroit Fire Department firefighter, Tpr. Unterbrink and the officer were able to remove one of the drivers before the flames reached his vehicle. Thanks to Tpr. Unterbrink’s quick actions, the man survived.

**Tpr. Denis McGuckin** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On June 9, 2013, Tpr. McGuckin was off duty attending the Owosso Curwood Festival with his family when a gentleman in front of Tpr. McGuckin started shaking his three-year-old son and screaming for help. Tpr. McGuckin saw that the child’s face was turning blue and the father was in a panic. Tpr. McGuckin grabbed the child and observed he was not breathing or responding. Tpr. McGuckin administered five back blows, which partially dislodged a piece of candy he was choking on. The child started gagging so Tpr. McGuckin did a finger sweep and cleared the rest of the candy blocking his airway. Due to Tpr. McGuckin’s quick and effective use of first aid, the child started breathing again.

**Tpr. Michael Ealy and Tpr. Ronald Rabineau** are receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On December 5, 2012, Tpr. Ealy and Tpr. Rabineau responded to a medical emergency. They arrived on scene to find a male performing CPR as instructed by a 911 dispatcher on an unconscious female. Tpr. Ealy and Tpr. Rabineau took over performing CPR and utilized their Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to administer a shock. The troopers continued performing CPR until emergency medical personnel arrived to transport the victim to the hospital.

The next Board of Awards Committee meeting is December 12, 2013. The next recognition ceremony will be held January 16, 2014.
News from the War Front

(UNCLASSIFIED)

By Tpr. Jim Landrom (Ret.)
105th Recruit School

MSP Family,

I send holiday greetings from the Khyber Pass and the Capital City of Kabul, Afghanistan. I wish you all well and I know it has been years since I have written – please forgive me. You all have been in my thoughts and prayers. My family and I are well, and thank you for your continued dedication to the people of our great state of Michigan! I have photo’s with our beloved Detroit Red Wings Flag while at the Khyber pass, I plan to forward along in the next submitted article.

A Brief History on Torkham

Torkham Gate is located within Nangarhar Province Afghanistan and lies within the historic Khyber Pass (Afghanistan-Pakistan) region. Torkham is the largest port of entry into Afghanistan from Pakistan. The main highway that begins at the Khyber Pass is the main route to the Capitol City of Kabul is also the main route to the Khyber Pass. The main highway that begins at the Khyber Pass is the main route to the Capitol City of Kabul is also the main route to the Khyber Pass. The main highway that begins at the Khyber Pass is the main route to the Capitol City of Kabul is also the main route to the Khyber Pass.

Tea Time

Drinking “Chai” tea is most sacred to the Afghan people. It is considered offensive if you refuse. LCDR Landrom was provided an opportunity to share chai and build relations with an Afghan Border Patrol Soldier “Kharhabe.” Hindu Kush Mountains are visible in the background. Fob Torkham-2011.

EIGHTH DISTRICT TOBACCO TAX TEAM SEIZURES: The 8th District Tobacco Tax team conducted an administrative tobacco inspection at an Iron River business. Over $14,000.00 in product was seized after the team discovered that the store obtained their OTP other tobacco products from a Pennsylvania company who was not licensed to sell tobacco in the State of Michigan. The team seized seven years of invoices revealing that the business has not been paying the tobacco tax on their OTP for at least the past seven years. The investigation at the Iron River business revealed evidence of the likelihood of untaxed OTP being transferred and sold at the sister store in Menomonee. The team responded to the Menomonee store and seized approximately $7,000.00 in untaxed OTP from that store. The investigation will be forwarded to the Attorney General’s Office for criminal charges. •

Michigan Trooper

- January/February 2014 - 33

SAGINAW SECURED CITIES PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY/BANK ROBBER ARRESTED: Troopers Ken Campbell, Ashley Christie, and Travis Pohl, and Sgt. John Julin were in the parking lot of Saginaw Police Department after clearing briefing, when they were approached by a subject riding a bicycle. The subject stated he believes that he may have been the “get away” driver in a bank robbery that occurred in Buena Vista Township earlier in the day. Saginaw County Central Dispatch confirmed the bank robbery and advised that it was being investigated by Buena Vista Township Police Department. Troopers were able to obtain information where the suspect vehicle was located. The bicyclist also stated that a cloud of dust was released from the stack of cash (“dye pack”). The suspect vehicle was located in the city of Saginaw. Buena Vista Township detectives were summoned along with officers from the Saginaw Police Department. A suspect was developed through information obtained by the subject on the bicycle.

CHIEF ACTIVITY: The Chief Team responded to the 8th District to assist with methamphetamine investigation in Barry County. The troopers learned the suspect had just bought pseudoephedrine pills earlier that day. Upon arriving, the suspect had left his vehicle parked off the road. Tpr. Kamp searched the vehicle and a search warrant was obtained for the residence. It was believed that the suspect might be currently at the Motel 6 in Buena Vista Township. A cell phone “ping” on the suspect’s phone confirmed this information. Surveillance was set up on the motel. The suspect was observed exiting his room to smoke a cigarette. A taxi pulled up to the suspect’s room and he was taken into custody by troopers and detectives. The suspect had been bopped off that his vehicle was towed and he was in a hurry to get out of the motel. Located inside the suspect’s motel room was $1,576.00 in cash and 5 grams of crack cocaine. With the effort of the troopers, Buena Vista Township and Saginaw Police Departments, the bank robbery was solved within a short period of time. AUTH: Sgt. John Julin, Tri-City Post.

FIFTH DISTRICT HST MONEY SEIZURES: Tpr. Dennis Diggs, of the 5th District HST, initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for speeding. Prior to making the stop, he ran the vehicle’s plate and was advised that the vehicle was reported stolen. The vehicle was then stopped on westbound I-94, near MM 34, in Berrien County, with the assistance of other team members. During the search of the vehicle, troopers located $89,000,000 inside a backpack on the floor in the back seat, along with a small amount of marijuana. The money has been seized and a report was forwarded to the Berrien County Prosecutor’s office. Approximately two hours later, Tpr. Joel Niedzwieki made a traffic stop on eastbound I-94, in Calhoun County, for a speeding violation. Tpr. Niedzwieki was able to gain consent to search the vehicle. He located a small amount of marijuana as well as approximately $18,000.00 in a small box located on the floor in the back seat during the search. The money was seized and the report was sent to the Calhoun County Prosecutor’s office. AUTH: Sgt. Richard Driscoll, Fifth District Hometown Security Team.

METH ACTIVITY: Troopers Gregory Kamp and Ian Fields were investigating a tip possibly involving a weapon in Orangeville Township when they discovered meth components and an old “One Pot.” Meth respondents from the Wayland Post arrived on scene and a search warrant was obtained for the residence. A search of the residence revealed additional components and meth oil. Suspects were developed and are the same suspects involved in a meth lab that had also been investigated by Troopers Fields and Kamp. Troopers Todd Workman, Fields and Kamp attempted to arrest a suspect on a methamphetamine warrant on another meth investigation in Barry County. The troopers learned the suspect had just bought pseudoephedrine pills earlier that day. Upon arriving, the suspect had left his vehicle parked off the road. Tpr. Kamp searched the vehicle and a search warrant was obtained for the residence. It was believed that the suspect might be currently at the Motel 6 in Buena Vista Township. A cell phone “ping” on the suspect’s phone confirmed this information. Surveillance was set up on the motel. The suspect was observed exiting his room to smoke a cigarette. A taxi pulled up to the suspect’s room and he was taken into custody by troopers and detectives. The suspect had been bopped off that his vehicle was towed and he was in a hurry to get out of the motel. Located inside the suspect’s motel room was $1,576.00 in cash and 5 grams of crack cocaine. With the effort of the troopers, Buena Vista Township and Saginaw Police Departments, the bank robbery was solved within a short period of time. AUTH: Sgt. John Julin, Tri-City Post.

Good Job Troops!

see GOOD JOB TROOPS, page 34
MANUFACTURE OF MARIJUANA: Tpr. Ray Matthews was dispatched to a B&E in progress. The 911 caller observed a white male who had conducted a search warrant at the rural residence and run out with two speakers. Tpr. Matthews arrived and contacted the B&E victim, who never called 911 to report the B&E. Tpr. Matthews and a second trooper coordinated the suspect was gone in an unknown vehicle and arrested the driver and run out with two speakers. Tpr. Nemecek was advised to “good job troops.”

Troopers Jason Walters and Tpr. Nemecek arrived at a residence in the city of Flint. After detecting an odor of burnt marijuana, the occupants were asked to exit the vehicle. During the search, troopers located a loaded 40 caliber pistol fell out of the suspect’s pant’s leg. The suspect later confessed to owning and possessing the firearm. Tpr. Nemecek was advised by the ATF that the vehicle was equipped with a cell phone and an iPad that contained child Sexually Abusive Material (CSAM). The troopers asked that the rear seats be removed and the victims contacted. The offender confessed to send made photographs of themselves to himself. The offender was lodged on seven felony violations of the Michigan Sex Registry Act. Further investigations are to be conducted to the CSAM images found on the suspect’s devices.

Troopers Jonathan Miller and Craig Winnie conducted a traffic stop in the city of Flint. A search of the vehicle revealed a loaded AK-47 rifle under the rear seat of the vehicle. The driver later confessed to owning and possessing the gun. Coincidently on the same day, Troopers Jason Walters and Craig Winnie conducted a traffic stop in the city of Flint. A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of a 9mm pistol. The driver later confessed to owning and possessing the firearm.

COCOINE AND INNOCOM VIOLATION: Tpr. Jordan Lohman conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for a traffic violation. At the time of the search, two occupants, a search was conducted after open intoxicators were observed in place view. During the search, a search was conducted of one of the occupants, who was able to interrogate both subjects. Information from the interviews resulted in the procurement of search warrants for two residences. The search warrants were executed with the assistance of SCSCT and an additional two ounces of cocaine was recovered along with a cocaine press, firearms, cash, and additional paraphernalia. The investigation resulted in three previously deported subjects being charged on original charges, four Hert post warrants satisfied and multiple forgeries. The three arrested suspects will be charged federally. AUTH: Sgt. Chris Paciore, Brighton Post.

SEVENTH DISTRICT HST GROW OPERATION SEIZURE: The 7th District HST was working in the Williston, Michigan area in support of the DNR. Tpr. Jason Nemecek stopped a vehicle and arrested the driver and passenger for transporting/possessing open intoxicators. While conducting the traffic stop, Tpr. Nemecek noticed a strong odor of fresh marijuana. While conducting interviews, he noticed several more indicators of controlled substances. Tpr. Nemecek was advised by one of the arrested vehicle occupants that he had marijuana back at his house, which the troopers were able to locate and retrieve. Once at the house with other members of the HST, Tpr. Nemecek discovered a large quantity of processed marijuana on the kitchen table of the residence, which showed indications of being a grow operation. The SSCCT was contacted and it was determined that the main suspect was a long time target of their office. SSCCT joined with the HST as Tpr. Nemecek obtained a search warrant at the rural residence. Located was approximately 30 pounds of processed marijuana, as well as approximately 300 plants in various stages of growth. SSCCT and D/F determined that the suspect had a residence in the Kalamazoo area and the information was passed along. A search of that residence turned up a significant quantity of processed marijuana. Four suspects were identified in the investigation. All items of evidence were turned over to the SCENT team for prosecution and follow up. AUTH: Sgt. Don Bailey, Seventh District Hometown Security Team.

SCENT: Muskegon received information from an informant regarding a suspect and house in Muskegon Heights. The suspect was in possession of large amounts of cocaine and several weapons. Based on the information, a search warrant was obtained and the ES Team was allowed to approve the execution of the warrant entry. During the search, three hidden wall compartments were found in the home. In addition, 54 grams of cocaine, marijuana, pills and loose bandannas were located. A grocery bag containing over $15,000 was located in one of the hidden compartments with one of the stolen guns. K9-61, Tpr. Dave Cardenas and Diesel, responded and found another hidden wall compartment, where a third bandannas was located. The suspect admitted in a later interview that all the money seized was procured from selling drugs. The suspect was lodged on several felony counts. WEMET was assisted by troopers from the Rockford Post, MSP EST, Muskegon Co Sheriff’s detectives, and the ATF. AUTH: D/F/Lt. Mike Harvin, WEMET.

FLINT SECURE CITIES PART- NERSHIP: Troopers Dustin Hurt and Michael O’Donnell conducted a traffic stop in the city of Flint. A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of a loaded 45 caliber handgun under the driver’s seat. The driver subsequently confessed to possessing the gun. On the same day, Troopers Jason Walters and an unidentified residences in the city of Westland and appeared to be compliant in the Sex Offender Registry database. An investigation determined that the offender had failed to provide law enforcement with required information about his employment, vehicle usage and multiple alias internet names he was also using. Tpr. Davis then located the suspect’s cell phone and an iPad that contained Child Sexually Abusive Material (CSAM). The troopers were able to enter the suspect’s home where there were 30 rooms and computer equipment, and the products were confiscated. The troopers then turned over to the SCENT team for further investigation.

BRIDGE CARD ENFORCEMENT: The Bridge Card Enforcement Team (BCET) working in conjunction with and assisting the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of Human Services (DHS) and Michigan State Police (MSP) into an estimated 25 million dollar illegal Bridge card (food stamp) trafficking in the Metro Detroit area. The original case stemmed from a 2011 investigation at the Pallet Company in the Eastern Market District. Over the next two years, BCET and USDA identified another store and runner in the district that was facilitating illegal bridge card activity. Investigators seized approximately $90,000 in cash from search warrants at three residents and froze several bank accounts. BCET and USDA assisted by uniform troopers from the 2nd District HST and Metro Financial Crimes Team, Tobacco Tax Enforcement and the Fugitive Team as well as the following Federal Partners: DHS, IRS, and ICE. AUTH: D/Lt. Timothy Blankervald, SCENT.

TOP 10 SOR ABSCONDER AR- RESTED: Tpr. John Kelly located and arrested a subject listed on the MSP website as being a top ten most wanted sex offender absconder. The subject had recently been arrested by a local police department on a traffic offense and used a false name. Tpr. Kelly was able to identify the subject was not released until he had already been released on bond. Tpr. Kelly, who is the post SOR coordinator, took up the investigation and tracked the subject to the Laddington State Park where he was located smoking and subsequently arrested. Additionally the local agency who had previously lodged the suspect under the false name. AUTH: Sgt. Clement, Hart Post.

PROBATIONARY TROOPER OB- TIENS CONFESSION ON ARMED ROBBERY: Tpr. Chris Phillips was dispatched to an armed robbery. The victim said that he was walking through a wooded area in Jackson County, when he was approached by two young men. They told him that they had a gun and demanded money. They took $22 from the victim. The victim said that he was able to provide a very detailed description of one suspect and an adequate description of the other.

The victim was able to provide a very detailed description of one suspect and an adequate description of the other.
**From GOOD JOB TROOPS, page 35**

suspect. With assistance from Troopers James Wojton and Jacob Escott, Sergeant John Trujillo, Sergeant Steve Temelko, Sergeant David Stamler, Detective Bench, and Detective Ashley Christy then pursued the suspect. The suspect was caught and taken into custody after a brief struggle. Troopers Treadwell and Ashley Christy then barricaded the pursuit route. They were able to locate a small baggie of crack cocaine, which was believed to have been the object thrown out the window during the pursuit. The suspect was lodged on the following charges: Flee and Elude, Possession of Crack Cocaine, and Resisting and Obstructing – Causing Injury to a Police Officer. AUTH: Sgt. John Julin, Tin-City Post.

**WEST BRANCH ACTIVITY:** Tro. Devin Wilson attempted to stop a BOLO vehicle for reckless driving on I-75 and a chase ensued. An attempt to disable the vehicle with stop sticks was made; however, the driver avoided the stop sticks and continued driving, eventually crashing in the median. Following two more deployments, the driver was lodged for Flee and Elude, Resisting and Obstructing, OWI and DWLS. Assisting were Troopers Richard Dettinger and Reece Rickel, along with MCO Marler. AUTH: Sgt. Mark Pinta, West Branch Post.

**SAGINAW SECURE CITIES PARTNERSHIP:** Troopers Michael Curtis and Ken Campbell were sitting surveillance on a known drug house in the city of Saginaw. A vehicle was observed leaving the residence and troopers attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle. The vehicle fled and a pursuit ensued. An object was observed being thrown out the window of the vehicle during the pursuit. The suspect eventually failed to negotiate a turn. The suspect vehicle came to a stop and the driver fled on foot. A taser was deployed at the driver to no avail. Tro. Curtis pursued the suspect on foot. The suspect was caught and taken into custody after a brief struggle. The female suspect was in possession of meth components, and over eight grams of finished meth. The female suspect was also trying to make cook meth in her residence for the past several months. The male suspect was lodged at the Jackson County Jail. AUTH: D/Lt. David Cook, JNET.

**FIRST DISTRICT HST/MONEY SEIZURE:** While working an interdiction detail with multiple HST teams, 1st District HST members stopped a vehicle traveling northbound on US-23, near Carpenter Road, for a traffic violation. Upon a road side investigation, several indicators of drug trafficking were noted. With the assistance of members from the 5th District HST, $14,000 was located in the front passenger door. Located in the rear driver’s side door was a small amount of powdered cocaine. This was a great joint effort by both teams. AUTH: Sgt. Steve Temelko, First District Homeland Security Team.

**MOJADUJA ARRESTS:** Detectives from HUNT have arrested four individuals in connection with manufacturing marijuana. In two separate cases, detectives received information that marijuana was being grown in remote areas of Presque Isle and Montmorency Counties. HUNT deployed surveillance cameras at each site and quickly obtained still photos and video of three people tending the plants at one site and four people tending at the other site. Also captured by the cameras were the multiple vehicles being used by the suspects while taking care of the plants. After identifying four out of the seven suspects, search warrants were executed at two locations with plants, money, and evidence being seized from those sites. Locating one of the search warrant locations led to a third search warrant being executed at a local storage facility where additional marijuana (packaged for sale) was seized. Four people were arrested and lodged on charges of Manufacturing Marijuana and Jihad. A total of 1,064 plants were seized. Forfeit for were two trucks, a Harley Davidson, a Polaris 4 wheeler, over $3,000.00 in cash, and a large three beam scale capable of weighing 45 pounds. AUTH: D/Sgt. Wood, HUNT.

**CHIEF ACTIVITY:** The CHIEF Unit, working in conjunction with the FBI Financial Crimes Unit, seized approximately $400,000 from a subject’s business out of the Del Ray Area. The seizure is the result of a long-term and on-going investigation involving the business and business owner’s connection to Mexican drug cartels. Investigation continues with the expectation of additional seizures. AUTH: D/Lt. David Wiegand, Second District, DRANO/CHIEF Unit.

**SSCSENT:** Officers conducted an outdoor marijuana grow investigation in the summer and fall of 2012, in Mason County, with the use of surveillance cameras on two locations that were 15 miles apart. This investigation led to one to one occasion which was when the plants were harvested. Pictures of the suspects were obtained on both locations with no identification being made, although the suspects were the same on both of the plots. Surveillance began again in late 2013 with a vehicle being located again in the same general areas, again 15 miles apart. After viewing the same suspects on camera again (with one suspect wearing the same shirt as the year before), officers conducted physical surveillance of the plots. Recently, the three main suspects entered one of the plots and were arrested without incident. Partial confessions were obtained and information for a search warrant at the main suspect’s residence was passed on to CMET. A search at the residence in Newaygo County revealed processed marijuana, guns, and evidence that tied into the plots in Mason County. SSCSENT seized a total of 382 marijuana plants from three different locations in Mason County. SSCSENT was assisted by the US Forest Service and Mason County Sheriff’s Office. AUTH: D/Lt. Matt Karina, SSCSENT.

**MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR TOBACCO TAX SCHEME:** D/Sgt. Angela Fleming began investigating a large tobacco wholesaler in Michigan that was suspected of falsifying their tobacco tax returns to the Michigan Department of Treasury. Over the course of the investigation, D/Sgt. Fleming uncovered a multi-million dollar tax reporting scheme that defrauded the state millions of dollars. It was determined that the father and son over-inflated their out-of-state sales therefore lowering their tax liability. This allowed them to pocket millions in unpaid tobacco taxes to the State of Michigan. This case entailed the execution of numerous search warrants, forensic examination of multiple computers, detailed audits and several out-of-state interviews. During her interview with the suspects, D/Sgt. Fleming obtained full verbal and written confessions. The total amount of fraud attributed to the suspects exceeds $4 million dollars. As a result, the Michigan Attorney General’s Office issued a $1 count Felony arrest warrant for the father and son. The charges include numerous counts of Making a False Return, Making a False Statement on a Return, Perjury, and Tobacco Products Tax Act Violations. The son was arrested and has been arraigned. The warrant for the father was entered in LEIN as he fled to Lebanon. AUTH: D/Lt. Deb House, Second District, SETT.
Making the News ...

Trooper Short presented Lifesavers Award by MADD

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Michigan presented Lifesavers Awards to 20 officers on August 1, including Trooper Jeff Short from the Michigan State Police Houghton Lake Post.

The awards recognize law enforcement officers who excel at removing drunk drivers from Michigan roadways.

Sgt. Bill Tyrrell of the Houghton Lake Post said Short is well versed in recognizing drug and alcohol effects in drunk driving suspects and serves as the standardized field sobriety test instructor at the post. “He’s our resident expert here,” said Tyrrell, who added that Short “takes this type of enforcement very seriously, and he’s good at it.”

The Lifesavers Awards are presented annually by MADD as a way to show support for the heroes in law enforcement who help keep drunk drivers off the roads. This year's statewide sponsor was Buckfire and Buckfire, P.C., Lifesavers benefactor sponsors were the San Marino Club and the Office of Highway Safety Planning.

“More than an awards ceremony, the Annual Lifesavers Award event is an opportunity to publicly acknowledge the courage and strength of our law enforcement officers and law enforcement agencies who work every day to keep our roads safe,” said keynote speaker, Carl McDonald, National Law Enforcement Initiative Manager for MADD.

This year, the first annual Olivia Cleveland Gratitude Award was presented. Created by the Cleveland family to honor their three-year-old daughter Olivia, who was killed by an impaired driver, this award salutes those who demonstrate outstanding commitment to eliminating impaired driving.

The 20 Lifesavers Award recipients were selected based on over 100 nominations received from across the state. Each of the 20 officers and agencies were presented with a Lifesavers Award and will receive a scholarship to the 2013 Traffic Safety Summit, provided by the Office of Highway Safety Planning of Michigan.

Founded by a mother whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is the nation’s largest nonprofit working to protect families from drunk driving and underage drinking. As one of the largest victim services organizations in the U.S., MADD also supports drunk driving victims and survivors at no charge, serving one person every eight minutes. Visit www.madd.org/mi or call (248) 528-1745.

Trooper Nathan Hopp (Caro Post) and his wife, Lisa, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Ethan Christopher Hopp. Born 1/17/2013, 6 lbs., 1 oz., 18” long

Follow President
Chris Luty on Twitter:
@MSPTApresident

Follow Vice President
Duane Hickok on Twitter:
@MSPTA_VP

Follow the MSPTA
Legal Counsel on Twitter:
@msptalaw

Follow the MSPTA Office
on Twitter:
@MSPTAoffice

Follow the MSPTA
Register of Deeds

Trooper Alexander Joseph Painter
Born 10/23/2013
9:11 a.m.
4 lbs., 8 oz., 17-1/2” long
Proud parents Sgt. Scott Painter (Tri-City Post) and Caryn (Michalak) Painter

Editor’s Note: MSPTA President-Elect Nate Johnson will take over the president’s Twitter feed following his swearing-in at the January Quarterly.
Good afternoon,

Subject: Thanks to Recruits

To: Recruits Smith and Wilson

Date: Saturday 3-16-13

Thanks to Recruits West Branch Post and two of their new recruits, Recruits of retired F/Lt. Ray Valley. The recruits had made arrangements to visit the West Branch Post on Saturday morning. During that time, the post was assisting with the funeral of retired departmental member F/Lt. Ray Valley in the cemetery behind the post.

Post personnel assigned to assist with the funeral were pulled away due to a fatal traffic crash resulting in a need for immediate attention just by looking at you. I cannot estimate how many times he was hired as a killer, nor can I recount any stories about Chris's various experiences in his menacing role. He was very hesitant in talking about them. The only one I heard him speak of was a failure of his stories but I can assure you they would have been great. It's a source forever lost.

I also appreciated Sgt. Hall of the West Branch Post Training Academy Staff for forwarding the e-mail to training to ensure they were aware of the recruits actions this weekend.

This past week Roger Warner announced the death of Retired Captain Chris Swartzendruber. I worked with Chris when he was one of the command officers of the Intelligence Section of the Detroit Office. One of his specialties was the portrayal of a hired killer. Chris was a very attractive man, tall, slim, dark complexioned, with piercing, almost black eyes. He never raised his voice but received immediate attention just by looking at you. I cannot estimate how many times he was hired as a killer, nor can I recount any stories about Chris's various experiences in his menacing role. He was very hesitant in talking about them. The only one I heard him speak of was a failure because he had frightened the woman who initiated the request for the killing. She did not want to meet with him again.

I don't know if he would have been willing to tell some of his stories but I can assure you they would have been great. It's a source forever lost.

MSPTA Office
Sports New Sign

Compliments of the MSPTA's attorney, Larry Schneider, with thanks to Pat Strzalkowski's husband, Dennis, for hanging it, visitors to the MSPTA office are now welcomed with a new full-color sign featuring both the current MSPTA and MSP logos.

In Memory of Our Retirees

Capt. Christopher Swartzendruber (Ret.)
31st Recruit School

D/Sgt. James M. Richardson (Ret.)
80th Recruit School

Cpl. Eddie R. Raisanen (Ret.)
80th Recruit School

Tpr. Robert L. Hutchins (Ret.)
34th Recruit School
2/7/1924 – 4/13/2013

Sgt. William J. Ogden (Ret.)
31st Recruit School
3/26/1927 – 4/19/2013

D/Sgt. Dwayne Wheat (Ret.)
45th Recruit School

Sgt. Charles J. “CJ” Anderson (Ret.)
64th Recruit School

Tpr. Arnold D. Jones (Ret.)
42nd Recruit School
6/17/1932 – 5/7/2013

F/Lt. Paul H. Uerling (Ret.)
31st Recruit School
6/7/1927 – 5/12/2013

Sgt. Leo R. Hagedorn (Ret.)
50th Recruit School
9/26/1936 – 5/14/2013

D/Sgt. James M. Thomas (Ret.)
36th Recruit School
6/21/1929 – 5/14/2013

Lt. David R. Keeler (Ret.)
45th Recruit School
5/12/1935 – 5/18/2013

F/Lt. Richard C. Jarman (Ret.)
60th Recruit School

Lt. George Lobdell (Ret.)
28th Recruit School
9/4/1925 – 10/12/2013

Capt. Peter R. Basolo (Ret.)
39th Recruit School

Tpr. Leon J. Baker (Ret.)
68th Recruit School
11/10/1944 – 10/27/2013

Sgt. William W. Scott, Jr. (Ret.)
40th Recruit School
4/22/1927 – 10/26/2013

Lt. Bernard F. Schrader (Ret.)
32nd Recruit School
10/22/1927 – 10/26/2013

Tpr. Edward J. Johnson (Ret.)
36th Recruit School
4/4/1929 – 10/30/2013

Sgt. Robert A. Bergbuis (Ret.)
36th Recruit School
4/13/1927 – 11/2/2013

Tpr. Mark Peters (Ret.)
98th Recruit School

D/Sgt. John P. King (Ret.)
64th Recruit School
7/28/1940 – 11/25/2013

Tpr. Ronald F. Brief (Ret.)
58th Recruit School
12/5/1938 – 8/18/2013

Capt. Larry Olmstead (Ret.)
46th Recruit School
10/19/1929 – 8/22/2013

F/Lt. James Maskey (Ret.)
81st Recruit School
7/19/1941 – 12/2/2013

F/Lt. James Maskey (Ret.)
81st Recruit School

D/Sgt. Robert E. Semple (Ret.)
42nd Recruit School
8/25/1927 – 12/9/2013

Tpr. Richard Temelko (Ret.)
74th Recruit School
5/11/1939 – 12/15/2013

In Memory of Our Retirees
By Tpr. Herman Brown
Monroe Post #14 • 108th Recruit School

For those of you who did not have the pleasure of meeting or working with Retired Trooper Leon Baker, you truly missed a treat.

I met Leon in 1993 when I arrived to my first post out of recruit school, Erie Post #28. I had the pleasure of working with Leon on midnights. Leon had a deep baritone voice that boomed over the radio when he spoke. He was known for calling the jail the “hoose gaw”! Leon was a dedicated trooper who never bragged on himself, or acted as if he should be treated differently due to his time in service.

Leon retired from the Monroe Post and went on to work for Luna Pier PD where he retired after working 10 years for their department.

Leon was diagnosed with Cancer, which later claimed his life. Right up until God took him away, Leon worked every day around his home, doing the things he could to make sure his lovely wife, Bonnie, would not be burdened by him being gone.

Retired Trooper Leon Baker, although you are gone you will never be forgotten. ■

Photos courtesy of Tpr. Lisa Lucio
(2nd District Special Enforcement Unit).
Trooper Sean O’Connell was killed when his motorcycle was struck by another vehicle as he controlled traffic in Conway, Washington. He was struck near the intersection of Fir Island Road and Main Street and knocked to the ground at approximately 5:45 pm. He was transported to a local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. Trooper O’Connell was a U.S. Navy veteran and had served with the Washington State Patrol for 16 years. He is survived by his wife and two children.

By: Tpr. Bradley Conner
Second District Headquarters
121st Recruit School

I had the privilege of representing our department at the memorial of a fallen trooper in Everett, Washington. Trooper Sean M. O’Connell was born on September 10, 1974, originally a native of New York. He died in the line of duty on May 31, 2013 from injuries resulting from a traffic crash.

On May 31, 2013 at approximately 1706hrs, Tpr. O’Connell was patrolling a beach area in Everett when he was struck by a passing motorist at approximately 30 feet from the interstate. A passing motorist called 911 to report a trooper in distress. The first two state troopers responded within two minutes of the radio call and one observed the subject standing outside Master Trooper Walker’s patrol car with a weapon. The responding trooper and the subject exchanged gunfire before the subject fled on foot into the woods. At approximately 1:58 pm, deputies with the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office took the subject into custody without further incident. The subject was discovered hiding at a local business approximately a half mile away from the shooting scene. Meanwhile, the heat from the engine of Master Trooper Walker’s vehicle sparked the brush under his vehicle to catch fire. The two responding troopers were able to pull Master Trooper Walker from his burning vehicle. However, he had been shot multiple times and succumbed to his injuries at the scene. The subject was charged with capital murder of a police officer, attempted capital murder of a police officer, and two counts of using a firearm in the commission of a felony. Trooper Walker had served with the Virginia State Police for 40 years, and had been assigned to Dinwiddie County for 27 years. He was scheduled to retire one month after his murder. He is survived by his wife and two adult children.

Tpr. Sean O’Connell
Washington State Patrol

Trooper O’Connell was a member of the Washington State Police for 16 years. Prior to that he was a member of the US Navy and served as a sailor in the USS Lincoln. Tpr. O’Connell was a member of the Washington State Police Motor Unit where he had been stationed for over a decade. The funeral procession was over five miles long and included multiple agencies. The procession route travelled on I-5 to the Comcast Arena where the memorial was held. There were hundreds of people along the route, both civilian and public service, paying tribute to a trooper who clearly was loved by the community.

Tpr. O’Connell was married with a seven-year-old son and a five-year-old daughter. Despite the tragedy, the strength and resolve the family demonstrated in honoring his life was inspiring. Every person I spoke with remembered Tpr. O’Connell as a man who lived life to its fullest and “never knew a stranger”. There were many stories of how a room would brighten just by his presence, and that no matter who you were or what rank you held you were less likely to get a handshake and more likely to get a hug from Tpr. O’Connell. Tpr. O’Connell was loved by his fellow Motor Unit members and it became clear what a member of their own family.

I would like to thank the MSPTA, Capt. Yesh, Insp. Hill, Lt. Gonzales, Sgt. Dlg, and my MSP family for allowing me the opportunity to represent the department at Tpr. O’Connell’s services. It was a great honor and I could not have been any more impressed by the efforts of our department to make this happen on such short notice.
Officer Tim Huffman was killed when his patrol car was struck by a tractor-trailer on I-8 near Dateland, Arizona, at approximately 5:00 pm. He and other officers were attempting to shutdown a lane of traffic while investigating an earlier accident. Officer Huffman was sitting in his patrol car writing a report as another officer attempted to shut down a lane of traffic to clear a lane for fire department vehicles. The tractor trailer failed to yield the officer who was waving traffic over and struck the back of Officer Huffman’s patrol car at full speed, pushing it into two other patrol cars, a fire department vehicle and a civilian vehicle. Officer Huffman succumbed to his injuries at the scene. The driver was charged with second degree murder. Officer Huffman was a member of the Arizona Army National Guard and had served with the Arizona Department of Public Safety for 14 years.

Officer Tim Huffman Arizona Department of Public Safety

Trooper Paul K. Butterfield II Michigan State Police

Trooper Paul Butterfield was shot and killed while making a traffic stop on Custer Road, near Townline Road, in Mason County, at approximately 6:20 pm. A few minutes after radioing in the stop, a citizen called 911 to report a trooper had been shot. Responding units located Trooper Butterfield on the ground suffering from a gunshot wound to the head. He was flown to Munson Medical Center where he succumbed to his wounds while in surgery. Using a vehicle description provided by Trooper Butterfield as he stopped the vehicle, investigators were able to identify a suspect and located him, along with a female accomplice, at a convenience store in a neighboring county approximately two hours later. Officers exchanged gunfire with him as they made contact, wounding the male subject before taking them both into custody. Trooper Butterfield was a U.S. Army veteran and had served with the Michigan State Police for 14 years. He is survived by his fiancée and his father.

Police Officer Rodney Wayne Jones Detroit Police Department, Michigan

Police Officer Rodney Jones died while representing the Detroit Police Department during a police motorcycle training and skills competition event at the annual Bikes on the Bricks in Flint, Michigan. He was performing maneuvers on his department motorcycle on the 400 block of South Saginaw Street when he suddenly stopped and fell to the ground. He was immediately treated by nearby paramedics and transferred to Hurley Medical Center, where he passed away. Officer Jones had served with the Detroit Police Department for 28 years. He is survived by his wife and son.

Police Officer Patrick Hill Detroit Police Department, Michigan

Police Officer Patrick Hill succumbed to an accidental gunshot wound sustained six months earlier following a high speed pursuit of a murder suspect. The vehicle they were pursuing was boxed in another police car at the intersection of Linwood and Hoosier Street. The murder suspect immediately opened fire on officers from inside the vehicle wounding one officer. Other officers on the scene returned fire, killing the subject. It is believed that shrapnel from a shotgun pellet fired by another officer struck Officer Hill in the head. Another person in the vehicle attempted to flee on foot but was arrested. Officer Hill was transported to a local hospital in critical condition. He succumbed to his wounds on October 19, 2013. Officer Hill had served with the Detroit Police Department for 13 years. He is survived by his wife and four children.

Trooper Ross M. Riley New York State Police

Trooper Ross M. Riley died after falling approximately 30-feet while participating in a high-angle rescue training exercise in Letchworth State Park. As part of the exercise a life-size dummy had been placed on a ledge of a cliff over Wolf Creek. Trooper Riley, a paramedic for the agency, and two other troopers rappelled to the ledge and secured the dummy to a stretcher. As other personnel began to lift the stretcher, Trooper Riley fell backwards and dropped approximately 30 feet into Wolf Creek, suffering severe head injuries. The other two troopers immediately descended to his location and administered aid. He was transported to Wyoming County Community Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. Trooper Riley was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran of the Persian Gulf War and had served with the New York State Police for 17 years. He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

Trooper William P. Keane New York State Police

Trooper William Keane suffered a fatal heart attack while officially representing the New York State Police in the North American Inspectors Championship in Salt Lake City, Utah. Trooper Keane had been participating in the timed commercial vehicle inspection events when he began to feel ill. He was transported to a local hospital when his conditioned worsened but passed away a short time later. Trooper Keane was a U.S. Navy veteran. He had served with the New York State Police for 26 years and was assigned to the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit in Troop A. He is survived by his wife, seven children, and six grandchildren.

Sergeant John C. LaRose Pennsylvania State Police

Sergeant John LaRose was killed in a vehicle crash when his patrol car collided with another vehicle on Route 129 in Lumber Township, Pennsylvania, while traveling between Emporium and Muncy. He was travelling on a curved portion of roadway when his vehicle lost traction due to wet conditions. The vehicle crossed the center line and struck another oncoming car. Sergeant LaRose was killed in the crash while the two occupants of the other vehicle were injured. Sergeant LaRose was a U.S. Air Force veteran and had served with the Pennsylvania State Police for 22 years where he served as station commander of the Emporium barracks. He is survived by his wife and four children.

Trooper Winston I. Martindale New York State Police

Trooper Winston Martindale succumbed to injuries sustained on May 9, 2011, after responding to the scene of a plane crash in Wawayanda, New York. Trooper Martindale was one of the first responding units to a crash involving two small commercial vehicles. Sergeant LaRose was killed in the crash while the two occupants of the other vehicle were injured. Trooper Martindale was a U.S. Army veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom. He had served with the New York State Police for seven years and was assigned to Troop E. He is survived by his wife, son, daughter, parents, sister, and brother.

Trooper Ross M. Riley New York State Police

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Tpr. Butterfield Memorial Window Stickers

Cost is $5 each, with $4 going to MSTAF and $1 covering manufacturing costs.
Proceeds will be used to purchase the Tpr. Butterfield Memorial Highway Signs, with the remaining funds to be turned over to Tpr. Butterfield’s father.

Group orders are appreciated to save on postage costs.

Questions can be directed to:
Sgt. James Campbell at MSP 5th District HQ or Tpr. Carey Casperson at MSP #51 – Paw Paw.

Honor Garden
Brick Orders

Brick orders are now being taken at the training academy.

The new contact is:
Kim Szczepaniak
MSP Training Division
7426 N. Canal Road
Lansing, MI 48913
(517) 322-6319
szczepaniakk@michigan.gov

State Police

120 volt Household “plug-in” version

VINTAGE STYLE HOOD SIGN REPRODUCTIONS
Available in original 12 volt DC (automotive) and now a 120 volt AC (household current) version
FOR THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:
Michigan State Police, Department of Natural Resources, Sheriff (and standard) Police
These are the very same signs currently used by the RECRUITING UNIT of the Michigan State Police!

“Thank you so much Preston! I have all 30 signs and they look great! I have passed on your information to several others in the department since first distributing the original 20 to recruiters statewide. I look forward to doing business with you in the future.” – Sgt. Michele Hernandez, Recruiting and Selection Unit MSP

Normally sells for $200 each $170.00
MSPTA members cost: + $8 s/h within MI
visit my photo gallery at: http://public.fotki.com/Preston/hoodsigns/ for detailed pictures!

PRESTON KONING - OWNER
PRESTON’S HOOD SIGN REPRODUCTIONS -REGISTERED STATE VENDOR
(269) 903-5536
e-mail: Preston@fotki.com

END OF WATCH

Tpr. Harold E. Anderson
April 15, 1921
Tpr. John P. Clinton
January 8, 1926
Sgt. Harvey Bolen
May 1, 1927
Tpr. William F. Martz
July 8, 1929
Tpr. Howard H. Funk
March 12, 1925
Cpl. Sam Mapes
January 26, 1941
Tpr. Delos A. Williams
October 13, 1930
Tpr. John S. Burke
January 20, 1937
Tpr. Richard F. Hammond
July 16, 1943
Tpr. Irvine F. Wurm
March 3, 1950
Tpr. John D. Ryan
November 19, 1956
Sgt. Perry L. Critchell
September 30, 1957
Tpr. George E. Lappi
September 3, 1959
Tpr. Bert A. Pozza
August 8, 1958
Tpr. Dugald A. Pellet
May 1, 1969
Tpr. Albert W. Souden
December 31, 1971
Det. Robert R. Conner
December 31, 1971
Tpr. Carl P. Lindberg
October 12, 1972
Tpr. Roger M. Adams
May 7, 1974
Tpr. Gary T. Ramps
December 5, 1974
Tpr. Charles B. Stark
October 7, 1978
Tpr. Steven B. Devries
December 5, 1978
Tpr. Darryl M. Rantanan
September 16, 1980
Tpr. Terry L. Forreider
August 29, 1981
Tpr. Larry L. Forreider
January 9, 1982
Tpr. Norman R. Killough
January 22, 1982
D/Sgt. Perry L. Critchell
June 12, 1983
Sgt. Harry Sorenson
September 9, 1984
Tpr. Craig A. Scott
September 9, 1984
Tpr. Rick L. Johnson
August 29, 1985
Tpr. Vicki Moreau-Dubois
July 26, 1987
Tpr. Tony Thang
July 9, 1991
Tpr. Robert Pelz
February 1, 1992
Tpr. Paul L. Hutchins
February 2, 1992
Tpr. James E. Boland
July 11, 1994
Tpr. James R. DeLoach
August 27, 1994
Tpr. Kermit Fitzpatrick
November 6, 1999
Tpr. James R. DeLoach
May 6, 2000
Tpr. Steven B. Pozza
July 7, 2003
Tpr. Byron S. Egelski
April 6, 2011
Tpr. Bryan H. Fields
September 9, 2013
The badge number on the cover of the Michigan Trooper is in honor of Tpr. Paul Butterfield II, badge number 1190. On September 9, 2013, Tpr. Butterfield was shot and killed while making a traffic stop on Custer Road, near Townline Road, in Mason County, at approximately 6:20 pm. A few minutes after radioing in the stop, a citizen called 911 to report a trooper had been shot. Responding units located Tpr. Butterfield on the ground suffering from a gunshot wound to the head. He was flown to Munson Medical Center where he succumbed to his wounds while in surgery. Trooper Paul Kenyon Butterfield II, age 43, joined the Michigan State Police in 1999 as part of the 118th Trooper Recruit School. His assignments included the Manistee and Hart Posts. Trooper Butterfield was a U.S. Army veteran and had served with the Michigan State Police for 14 years. He is the 51st Michigan State Police officer killed in the line of duty.

Next Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2014
(Lodging Monday, 1/27 & Tuesday, 1/28)

Greektown Casino-Hotel – Detroit

Call for lodging availability (877) 424-5554
(Identify yourself as a member of the MSPTA Group.)