

# DPS WEEKLY

January 10th, 2022



Help us welcome these new members to the DPS Family:

*Melissa Neighbors*



**Position: Arkansas State Police  
Driver License Examiner - Troop K**

Melissa is excited to start a new career path with DPS and work with the troopers and dispatchers of Troop K! with a background in EMS and telecom, she is happy to be part of the State Police family. When Melissa is not working, she loves to kayak, enjoy nature, and spend time with her kids and grandkids!

*Jennifer Giannosa*



**Position: Arkansas State Police  
CACD Investigator - Area 6**

Jennifer is looking forward to the opportunity to work under great leadership and is intrigued by the ASP's culture and values. As a native of Las Vegas, NV, she loves nature and is excited to explore Arkansas. Her motto is "By changing nothing, nothing changes."

*Travita Williams*



**Position: Arkansas State Police  
Driver License Examiner - Troop A**

Travita comes to DPS from an 11 year career with the Department of Human Services. She is excited to meet new people and learn to excel in her new position. She loves working with the public and different diversities. Whether in the office or off work, you can find Travita setting new challenges and accomplishing goals for herself!

*Harry Johnson*



**Position: Arkansas State Police  
Telecommunication - Troop C**

Harry comes to DPS with a 12 year background in Telecommunication. He has worked for county and city departments, but is excited to have the opportunity to dispatch on a state level.





Zechariah Cartledge was born with the gift of running. He was raised with an appreciation for First Responders and all they do for the community. As he grew older, Zechariah decided to help the families of our fallen First Responders in a meaningful way. Encouraged by the mission and vision of the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, Zechariah began his journey raising funds for those families by running and called it Running 4 Heroes.

In 2019, Running 4 Heroes officially became a non-profit 501(c)(3). Zechariah runs one mile for every First Responder who makes the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

On December 20, 2021 ALETA Northwest was honored to host Zechariah and his father, Chad Cartledge, of Running 4 Heroes. Zechariah ran 1 mile for Fire Chief Wesley Adams of the Sedgwick VFD. Chief Adams succumbed to injuries sustained after being struck by a vehicle while on scene of a motor vehicle collision on December 6.

Law Enforcement representatives from Bella Vista, Benton County, Bentonville, Fayetteville, Lowell, Pea Ridge, and Rogers came to support Zechariah and his mission of honoring the fallen First Responders throughout the United States.



# ASCL RAISES 1,400 DOLLARS FOR CHARITY!

## DPS Mission:

The Department of Public Safety’s mission is to enhance the safety and security of all Arkansans through ethical, character-driven behavior that promotes professionalism, clear communication, and accountability while serving as the state’s premier public safety agency.



## DPS Core Values:

- Respect for everyone
- Integrity in everything we do
- Providing excellence in customer service
- Performance through teamwork
- Commitment to servant leadership
- Pursuit of continuous improvement

Department of Public Safety  
1 State Police Plaza Drive  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

The Crime Lab’s mission is focused around their service to the state of Arkansas, but that isn’t limited to what they do for the criminal justice system. The Crime Lab raises money for charities in Arkansas year-round!

Recently, the Crime Lab held three events to raise money for Dorcas House, which provides assistance and counseling to women and children who are dealing with domestic violence or struggling with chemical addiction.

- Held an auction of eight front-row “Rock Star” parking spaces for a six month period. Each ticket was \$1, and employees could buy as many tickets as you wanted to increase your chances, but you could only win one spot!
- The staff participated in a chili cook-off, with tickets set at \$5 for all-you-can-eat chili (at least until they ran out!) cooked by their very own staffers. People voted for their favorite entry, and were awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards for bragging rights.
- A “Pie in the Face” contest was held in which the staff put out an opaque donation collection box for each supervisor, labeled with each name. The three bosses who received the most money in donations graciously volunteered to receive a whipped cream pie in their face, lovingly administered by someone from their section.

From these three events, the Crime Lab was happy to raise over \$1,400 for Dorcas House!



# CELEBRATING YOU!

Congratulations to the following DPS employees on their 10-year anniversaries with us during the month of December! We know you have worked hard, and we truly appreciate your dedication to the state of Arkansas!

- Amy Hancock (ASP) - 20 years
- Leland May (ADEM) - 10 years
- Kevin Minyard (ASP) - 10 years
- Carrie Landreth (ASP) - 10 years





## THIS WEEK'S WELLNESS TIP!

### Find a workout buddy:

It's that time of the new year when we all want to set resolutions to get in better shape! One way to keep yourself on track is to find someone to hold you accountable! Find a workout buddy and set goals together to make fitness fun.

When you work out with a partner, you're likely to:

1. Feel more motivated. When you and your buddy encourage each other, you'll work harder (and get better results!). And there's nothing wrong with a little friendly competition.
2. Be more adventurous. It's easier to try new things with a buddy. You may just find an activity you love, one that feels more like fun and less like a workout.
3. Be more consistent. When someone else is counting on you to show up, you won't want to let them down.

When finding the right workout partner, look for someone with the same goals, schedule, and commitment you have. Someone who makes you feel positive and inspires you to hit the trail or treadmill on a regular basis. How do you find the right fit? Talk to friends, co-workers, neighbors, people at the gym. Or find a buddy closer to home: What about a hike with your dog, who thinks every walk is the best walk ever? Now quality time is also fitness time!

You already have your phone with you. Why not make it work? Try a social media workout app to connect with friends and others that share your goals and can help keep you motivated. If your best friends live far away, make phone dates to walk and catch up on your daily lives together. You can also check out virtual fitness classes and do them together with friends or family across the country.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**The Arkansas State Crime Laboratory  
has its own Quarterly newsletter!**

Each quarter, the Crime Lab issues a newsletter containing current case statistics, new policies and guidelines, news about the laboratory, staffing updates (new employees and retirements), our mission and vision statements, and other important information which we hope is of interest to law enforcement and to the entire criminal justice community. It's the easiest way to keep up with what's going on at the lab!

The newsletter is distributed first by email, but is also available on the main page of our website at <https://www.dps.arkansas.gov/crime-info-support/arkansas-state-crime-lab/>.

