

May 2023

Newsletter of the Brenham, TX Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association



On Saturday, April 29th, CASA for Kids of South Central Texas celebrated its Sweet 16 and BPD, along with BFD, EMS, WCSO, and Air 1 were there to help celebrate. Banner-Press hosted the successful event. Pics on pgs. 11,12

Dates to remember

- Maifest Parade 10:30 am 5-6
- Flower Delivery Fundraiser 5/11-13
- General Meeting 6:00pm 5-08
- General Meeting. 6:00 pm 6-12**
- *Nat'l Police Week * 5/14 to 5/20
See page 3



Our Guest Speaker at this Monday night's CPAAA Meeting will Be Mandy Wright of CASA for Kids. Mandy Wright is the Executive Director at CASA for Kids of South Central Texas. She holds a bachelor's degree in education from Baylor University. Mandy has worked in education for over ten years with a wide range of students from preschool children with disabilities to integrated reading and writing at a junior college. (More about our Speaker on Page 5)



Meet the newest addition to the BPD Family, she is Officer Ashley Rodriguez. Ashley was born in Crockett, Texas, but grew up in Caldwell. She graduated from Caldwell High School in 2009. Her high school offered an EMT-B course which she completed and was able to graduate with an EMT-B Certification. She knew from a young age that she wanted to help people and had many role models that influenced her. Ashley's brother was a police officer for Caldwell Police Department and was one of her biggest role models, See pages 3 & 4 for more information and photos.

Remember Mom May 14th

Happy Birthday Cpl. Tommy Kurie May 2nd

Misty McCowan 6-3



Our friend, retired firefighter Darrell "Potsy" Meyer lost his battle with leukemia last night (Tuesday, May 2nd @ 11:30 pm). He volunteered with the Brenham Fire Department for 30 years and worked for the City of Brenham for 20 years. He was a staple at the Aquatic Center, taking care of the pools and other needs there with pride. More on page 6

Honoring Our Heros



National Police Week

National Police Week
May 14th thru May 20th
More on Page 3.

Thanks to the following COPs for their help on:

4-13-23 Boys and Girls Club Gala Parking Assignment:

Kathy Hagerlin, Dorothy Antkowiak, Juanita Gockel, Sherry Parker-Steinfeld, Donna McCaskill and Bruce McCaskill.

4-21-23 Guns and Hoses Blood Drive:

Wanda Aguilar, Annette Tiemann, Donna McCaskill, Bruce McCaskill, Billy Sutherland, and Rob Aguilar.

4-22-23 Guns and Hoses Blood Drive:

Donna McCaskill, Bruce McCaskill, Annette Tiemann, Billy Sutherland, Wanda Aguilar, and Rob Aguilar.

4-22-23 Barnhill Center Event:

Richard Jares, Kathy Hagerlin, and Jeff Hagerlin.

4-29-23 Casa for Kids Birthday Party PR/Safety Assignment:

Don Langley, and Rob Aguilar.



Boys and Girls Club Parking Crew:
Kathy Hagerlin, Dorothy Antkowiak, Juanita Gockel, Sherry Parker-Steinfeld, Donna McCaskill, Bruce McCaskill. Great Job Guys!



Above: *Richard Jares, Kathy Hagerlin and Jeff Hagerlin* prepare for traffic duty at the Barnhill Center.



Guns and Hoses Crew:
Left: *Billy Sutherland*
Right: *Annette Tiemann, Wanda Aguilar, Donna McCaskill, and Bruce McCaskill. They did a wonderful job on Friday and Saturday!*



Another day at the office for *Kathy Hagerlin*

April COP Hours

Rob Aguilar	45.5
Wanda Aguilar	16.5
Dorothy Antkowiak	2
Patricia Badough	4
Kevin Braun	2
Sue Braun	16
Alison Bryce	2
Bob Cothern	6
Doug Feist	2
Stan Ford	2
Juanita Gockel	7.25
Dale Green	2
Jeff Hagerlin	8
Kathy Hagerlin	22.5
David Holloway	2
Jerry Jares	6
Richard Jares	61.25
Don Langley	39.25
Bruce McCaskill	18.5
Donna McCaskill	18.5
Frank Nowak	256
Merlene Schmacher	2
Mark Smith	2
Laura Sparks	3
Clarence Steinfeld	4
Sherry Parker-Steinfeld	9
Billy Sutherland	9.5
Annette Tiemann	22.5
Ron Upchurch	2
Gary Wheeler	2
Catharine Wood	6

TOTAL 601.25



Honoring Our Heros



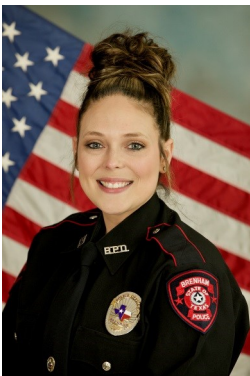
National Police Week

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as National Police Week. Thus, this year National Police Week is celebrated May 14th thru the 20th. Every year on May 13th the Annual Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D C is held, whether or not, it falls during National Police Week.

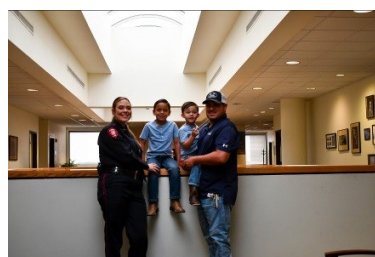
The Memorial Service began in 1982 as a gathering in Senate Park of approximately 120 survivors and supporters of law enforcement. Decades later, the event, more commonly known as National Police Week, has grown to a series of events which attracts thousands of survivors and law enforcement officers to our Nation's Capital each year. National Police Week usually draws in between 25,000 to 40,000 attendees. The attendees come from departments throughout the United States as well as from agencies throughout the world. For more info log onto www.NationalPoliceWeek.com

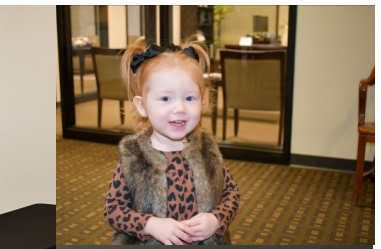
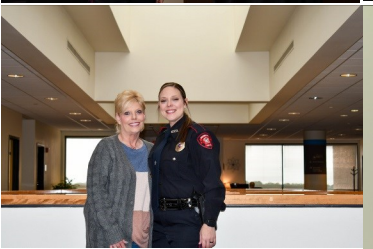
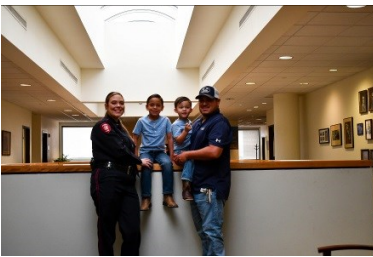


Officer Ashley Rodriguez



Officer Ashley Rodriguez continued: and she admired his courage and drive to want to serve and protect our community. Her admiration and desire to also help people sparked her Law Enforcement career in 2010 at Burleson County Sheriff's Office as a jailer. She went on to live in Bryan and became a jailer for the Brazos County Sheriff's Office where she served for several years. In 2013 she met her husband and decided to take some time away from law enforcement to start a family. They have been blessed with two handsome boys that they just adore. After deciding their family was complete, it was time for Ashley to get back to the career path that she loved most. She graduated from TEEEX police academy Class 171 in December of 2022, and is excited to be part of the Brenham Police Department and looks forward to growing and building strong relationships with our community and the citizens of Brenham. When you see Ashley, please make her feel welcome!





Mandy Wright continued: She is a graduate of 2020 Washington County Chamber Leadership Class. In 2021, she completed a Certificate in Non-Profit Leadership with the Bush School Center for Nonprofits and Philanthropy, and is a 2022 graduate of the Loyola University Children’s Law and Policy Executive Program. Mandy is currently pursuing her Master of Jurisprudence Program in Children’s Law and Policy at the Loyola University Chicago School of Law. She has been married to her personal hero for 16 years, Shane who serves as a Lieutenant in the Pearland Fire Department. They moved to Brenham 2018 where they are raising 4 amazing children, Grace, Alex, Cooper, and Sawyer. Come by Monday night and hear her speak to our organization.

Miscellaneous



It’s Jr. High Soccer Season and Cpl. Sierra Randle was keeping our children safe at Cub Stadium at the April 26th soccer games.



Below: Fire Chief Roger Williams swears-in the BFD Chaplain Dr.



Left and Above: Our hard working Parking/Traffic Crews: Kathy, Dorothy, Juanita, Sherry, Donna, Bruce and Richard, Kathy and Jeff. Great job keeping everyone safe!



Above: Chief Ron Parker out in the country, soaking up the sunshine. He says he is feeling great and ready to get back to work. He may return this week. Let’s hope so!



Craig Dohse and he receives a badge and traffic vest!

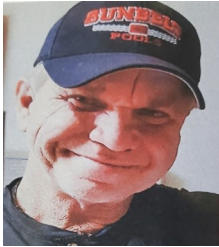


You may see these signs out in the community. Please report crimes to BPD.

BUSINESS WATCH



WE WILL IMMEDIATELY REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Guns and Hoses Blood Drives to honor retired firefighter Darrell "Potsy" Meyer were a big success, due in part to the hard work of so many volunteers. The venue remained the Calvary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, thanks to COP and Pastor Billy Sutherland. Billy was there to help where he could and brought his "Blue Shirt" volunteer group to add to our COP volunteers to help the drives run smoothly. The Blue Shirts didn't only volunteer, but a few donated blood as did our COPs and BPD and BFD members. We also have to thank the dedicated crews from the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center led by Keosha on Friday and Veronica on Saturday for always making the process a pleasure. Thank you to the following

Blue Shirts: Sharon Gaddy, Faye Martin, Sue Burnette, Peggy Moore, Bonnie Baker, Tona Wilkinson and James Wilkinson for their help and donations. A Big thank you to COPs: Billy Sutherland, Wanda Aguilar, Annette Tiemann, Donna McCaskill, and Bruce McCaskill for working both days to make this drive a huge success. Thank you to all of the BPD and BFD members that came out to donate: Brian Scheffer, Steven Loving, Jayda Lillie Payne, Misty McCowan, Christi Korth, Kaitlin Flisowski, Jason Blum, Jennifer Taylor, Kathy Hagerlin, Jeff Hagerlin, Catharine Wood, Carol Holloway, David Holloway and Rob Aguilar. And thank you to Potsy's family for coming out: Lisa Hays (girlfriend), Cheryl Davis (sister), Cody Davis (nephew), Matthew Perky (son-in-law), Laura Perky (daughter), Melissa Meyer (daughter), Eva Meyer (ex-wife). That's quite a support system; which is truly needed when fighting a disease like leukemia. I spoke with Potsy the Wednesday before the drives and he was anxious to come out to meet and greet everyone at this drive, but as luck would have it, he was admitted into the hospital the night before the blood drives with a high fever. I just learned (Sunday, April 30th) from Chief Scheffer, that Potsy is not doing very well, and the family is requesting thoughts and prayers. The Thanks expressed in this article are not only from myself, but from a very grateful Darrell Potsy Meyer and his family. We are praying for a swift recovery for our friend Potsy.

I just learned (Wednesday, 5-3-23) that Potsy lost his battle with leukemia and has passed away. His family would like to again, thank everyone that helped with these blood drives in his honor.



Billy Sutherland



Brian Scheffer



Kathy Hagerlin
Receives her 5
Gallon Mug!!



Annette, Wanda, Donna, Bruce



Jeff Hagerlin



Misty McCowan



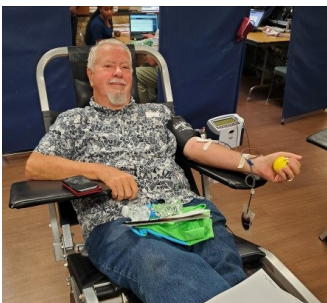
Kathy Hagerlin



Christi Korth

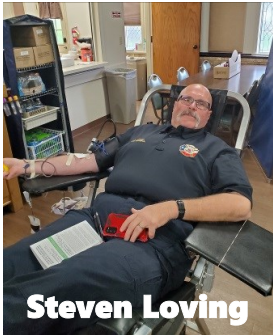


Donna
McCaskill





Wanda, Melissa, Annette



Steven Loving



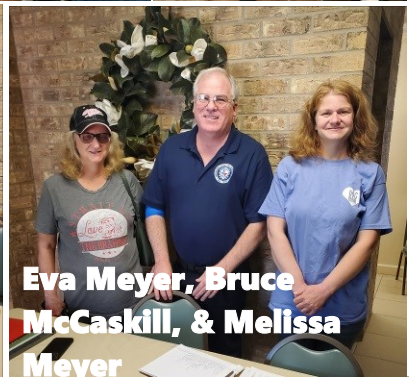
Jeff Hagerlin



Phlebotomists



Wanda, Luke, Annette



Eva Meyer, Bruce McCaskill, & Melissa Meyer



Kaitlin Flisowski



Donna McCaskill



Cody Davis



Jennifer Taylor





Rob Aguilar



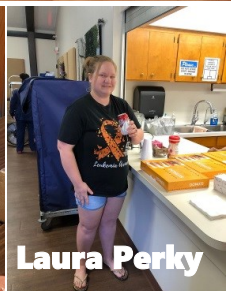
Jana Aguilar



Carol Holloway



Jayda Lillie Payne



Laura Perky



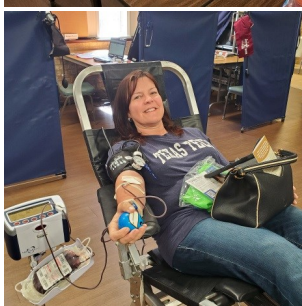
**Laura Perky,
Rob Aguilar &
Lisa Hays**



Jason Blum



David Holloway



Bruce McCaskill



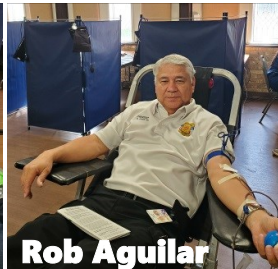
Laura, Lisa, Matt



Laura & Matt Perky



We're ready to go!



Rob Aguilar



You did it!
Congratulations



**Congrats
to all area
Graduates**

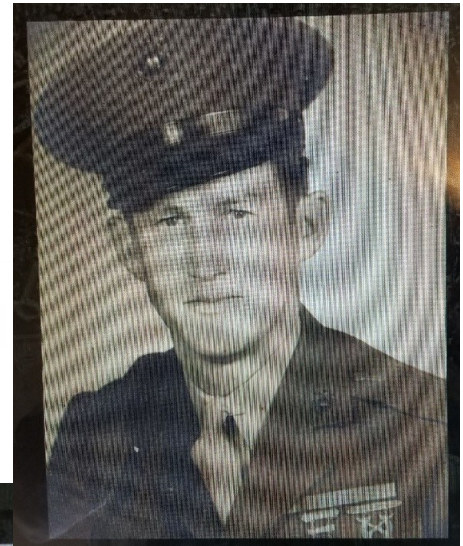


WWII

ALBERT SEEKER

Twenty-five year old Albert Seeker was discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1933 after a four year cruise. He settled back in his native Washington County with a young wife, taking a job with the Brenham Police Department. By the end of the decade, he had reached the position of assistant chief. Seeker had grown up near Sandy Hill, baptized at St. Matthew Lutheran Church which recorded the event in German. He was prepared to live out a quiet life, but WWII intervened.

Three months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, after buttoning up his personal affairs, Albert Seeker volunteered to rejoin the Marines, the old outfit that he considered "his rightful place" in time of war. He had been out so long, that the Corps made him repeat boot camp a second time before shipping him off to the Pacific. Among the places that duty took him were Tarawa, Saipan and Tinian, three islands that saw some of the roughest fighting in U.S.M.C. history.



REESE B. LOCKETT
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W.M. SEIGEL,
THE HAWK, POLICE TROOP DEPT.
EDWIN HOHL,
4TH BATT. 5TH INFANTRY BATTN.
ALBERT SEEKER

The
City of Brenham
★
BRENHAM, TEXAS

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CITY CLERK
W. J. EMBREY
CITY ENGINEER
ARTHUR STERNBERG
CHIEF OF POLICE
DR. ROBERT A. HASKINS
CITY HEALTH OFFICER
LOUIS BEAZLEY
CITY ENGINEER

March 17, 1945

Mr. Albert E. Seeker
Platoon 2222 2 D
Marine Corps Barracks
San Jose, California

Dear Mr. Seeker:

Your letter of resignation was addressed to Arthur Sternberg, Chief of Police regarding your resignation and noting that it be granted on the basis of a leave of absence, was received by the City Commission at their regular meeting today.

The City Commission were unanimous in refusing to accept your resignation, but have granted you a leave of absence for the duration of the war. They regret that it was necessary for you to leave Brenham, but desire to commend you for your service in the Marines, and assure you that on your return to Brenham your position on the Police Force will be open to you.

With the best of wishes from the City Commission and myself I am

Yours very truly,

G. H. Zeiss
G. H. Zeiss, City Sec'y.

GZZ:ras

WWII

ALBERT SEEKER *continued*

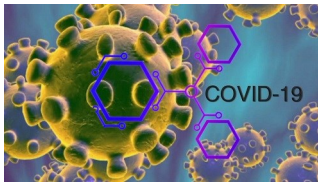
Late in the war, after receiving his second Purple Heart for a shrapnel wound received on the island of Tarawa, Sergeant Seeker was interviewed by Armed Forces Radio from the Naval Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina. He was headed for a medical discharge. His family, who had been living with Sue's mother in North Carolina, would soon join him to return home to Brenham.

Hundreds of war veterans came home to Washington County in 1945 and 46, and most of them needed jobs. Albert Seeker found one as a lineman for rural electrification, a forerunner to Bluebonnet Electric. The company employed dozens of ex-servicemen who were engaged in the business of bringing the first electricity to the homes and farms of their rural neighbors. Seeker was also a charter member of VFW Post 7104 in Brenham and remained active there until his death in 1979.

The story and photo above is one of many that you can find at the Brenham Heritage Museum. Jeff Hagerlin volunteers there and found this one particularly interesting and wanted to share it with us. The letter from the City of Brenham is from the city's commissioners, offering Albert Seeker his job back when he returns from serving in World War II. Albert was Assistant Police Chief and a ten year veteran here at BPD; before leaving to fight for our country in World War II. Some of the story (especially the letter) is difficult to read as these were photos of the actual pieces. This makes me want to visit the museum, but who has time. I will try to make some time in the near future. A big thank you to Jeff Hagerlin for submitting it to the Informant for publication (hope you had permission; I am sure it's okay as it is public record).
Anyway, thanks again, Jeff!!

A Bad Situation

By Rob Aguilar



We are trying to make the best of a bad situation;
 sequestered at home, can't even go to the station.
 Can't work the front office, or patrol the city in a car;
 can't gather with friends and have a brew at the bar.
 We are stuck in our homes for the duration;
 we're making the best of a bad situation.
 Cheer up, for there is a lot to do at home;
 there is no need to feel that you have to roam.

There are so many projects that you've left undone;
 the plan is to take care of a few, and try and have fun.
 It will all be over soon, that is the hope of our nation;
 still making the best of a bad situation.

We still have our health, that's job number one;
 everyone's not as lucky, some have succumbed.

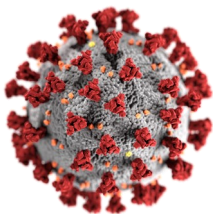
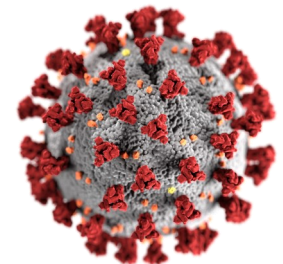
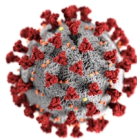
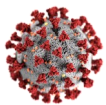
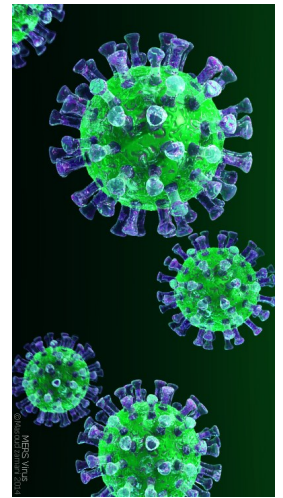
We were just inconvenienced by this deadly contagion;
 learned about social distancing, testing, and immunization.

These were all lessons rather not learned by our nation;
 We all made the best of a bad situation.

Some say that we will be better citizens for it;
 we all came together to try and destroy it.

We all came together by staying apart;
 as hard as it was, we all did our part.

Always remember the pandemic that crippled our nation;
 but we triumphed by making the best of a bad situation!



Pandemic Blues

By Rob Aguilar

Sequestered at home with nothing to do;
 At home with our thoughts, no one to talk to.

We could read a great American novel;
 better yet, write it, from here in our hovel.

We have the time, that's abundantly clear;
 But we waste it away drinking our beer.

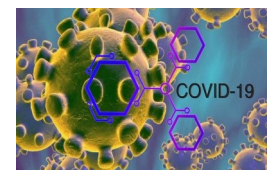
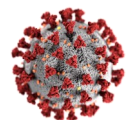
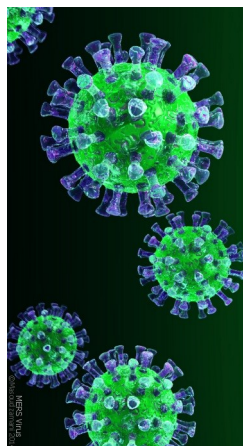
Well what's wrong with that some might say;
 you will never get that time back, it's wasted away.

Don't waste any more time on frivolous subjects;
 focus your energy and time on worthwhile projects.

I will start today on that long honey-do list;
 It's as long as my arm from shoulder to wrist.

You can start by fixing that broken old gate;
 then move to gardening, those flowers won't wait.

Who am I kidding with all this talk of hard work, I'm not sincere;
 all I can think of is laying around and drinking another beer!



CASA for Kids Sweet 16 Event





Thank you to the Brenham Banner-Press for hosting this event.

Informant Editor: Rob Aguilar

Content:
Rob Aguilar
Jeff Hagerlin



Photographs: Jean Luera, Don Langley, Annette Tiemann, Jeff Hagerlin and Rob Aguilar



You did it!
Congratulations



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Vice Pres.: Rob Aguilar
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Treasurer: Sue Braun
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ernestdever49@yahoo.com

Clarence Steinfeld
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Wanda Aguilar
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Past Pres.: Richard Jares
2021cop@usa.com



HAPPY
Mother's
DAY

