

## Chance Collins, new Asst. Ranger Chief



**Chance Collins**

Chance Collins, a veteran of 23 years with the Texas Department of Public Safety and most recently Co. F Major in Waco, has been named Deputy Assistant Director of the DPS and Assistant Chief of the

Texas Rangers, Chief Randy Prince and DPS Director Steven McCraw announced.

Collins' appointment was effective Sept. 1.

As Co. F Major, Collins commanded a widespread company covering 43 counties, including the cities of Waco, Austin and San Antonio.

Additionally, he had management responsibilities of the Unsolved Crime Investigation Program, Officer Involved Shooting Investigation and operations of the regional Special Response Team and Crisis Negotiations Unit.

Of his time with DPS, Collins was assigned to the Texas Highway Patrol and Texas Rangers in Regions 2 and 7.

His career has included 14 years as a Ranger with assignments on the Ranger Reconnaissance Team, Crime Scene Investigation, Headquarters Administration, Major Crimes Task force and Commander of Special Weapons and Tactics Team.

Chief Collins is a native of Tyler and has been married to his wife Lourdes for 21

years and has two children, Chance Allen and Anita.

He received a bachelor of science degree from Wayland Baptist University, is a graduate of the FBI National academy (class 256) and class president of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the National Forensic Academy at the University of Tennessee.

On Chance Collins' promotion, Ranger Chief Prince said, "He has earned such great respect built on unquestioned competence and integrity and is most established by his selfless service.

"His approach to leadership is fair, constructive and humble. Leadership should always be about the people and Chance does that with purpose, not to necessarily acquire more accolades, but a purpose to make valuable changes and have a positive impact.

"He carries my highest recommendation and I unequivocally support his selection in assisting me build on the excellence of the Texas Rangers."



### **TRAF Raffle Drawing extended until November 1, 2017**

***Buy your winning ticket today!***

**Prize:** 2017 RAM 1500 Laramie Crew Cab 4x4.

**Only 750 tickets sold:** \$100 each! 100% proceeds to support TRAF charitable purposes, including the Scholarship Fund!

Winner need not be present to win.

Winner must be 18 years old. The winner must claim vehicle within 30 days of drawing, or after 30 days, a new winner will be announced!

**For more information and to purchase your raffle ticket(s), contact the TRAF office at 254-752-1001.**

**Good luck!**

# Rangers apace with border, Harvey

By **Randy Prince**  
Chief, Texas Rangers



**Randy Prince**

As you already know, the department has made a sustained effort to secure our southern border. This initiated with Ranger RECON operations in 2010 and later transitioned into Operation Strong Safety (2014) and Operation Secure Texas (2015).

The around-the-clock presence of air, marine and ground units provided direct support to the U.S. Border Patrol to detect and interdict smuggling events between the ports of

entry at the Texas/Mexico border. This initiative included leveraging integrated technologies and capabilities such as Operation Drawbridge.

The success of the department's border security efforts are beyond impressive and the support our governor and legislative members have provided has been immeasurable.

I am proud of the tenacity, work ethic and perseverance our men and women have displayed, and as President Theodore Roosevelt stated, "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing."

This quote could not be exemplified any greater than the work our Rangers have done along our southern border.

## Changing Guard

The Texas Ranger Division has seen unprecedented growth in the past two years. With additional positions allocated and recent retirements, fulfilling the new division strength of 172 rangers has been a formidable and ongoing task.

However, the men and women that make up our roster have done an exceptional job with recruitment to fill these positions of trust and character allowing us to build upon the legacy. I am humbled by the caliber of people we have in the division and hold no reservations about the road forward.

## Hurricane Harvey

Hurricane Harvey is finally gone, but as you all know, Texas continues dealing with the widespread devastation and aftermath of this historic storm. For weeks, the De-

partment of Public Safety worked tirelessly in response to the destruction in the wake of this Category 4 hurricane. Many of our employees took action to help others even though their own homes and property suffered significant loss.

A cadre of Texas Rangers and SOG operators were part of the first wave of responders, utilizing Mine Resistant Ambush Protective Vehicles, an armored tactical vehicle, two Zodiac inflatable boats and one SAFE Boat to rescue over 900 people in the affected areas.

Our Rangers and tactical operators performed valiantly, with a unity of effort to save so many lives, working long hours and engaging in countless character driven acts of courage and good will.

The world watched as this disaster struck, and they were able to see the DPS at its finest. The dedication to duty was outside remarkable considering the collateral and unfavorable conditions.

Director Steve McCraw said, "Clearly, many lives were saved and many rescues conducted by our commissioned officers, whether troopers, special agents or Texas Rangers. Numerous examples of selfless sacrifice and courage occurred while rescuing our fellow Texans and for that, the entire department extends its pride and gratitude."

Sometimes we are callused by our enforcement duties, but our ardent response to those in need was a reminder why we are held in such high regard.

Finally, a profound thank you to the directors of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation for their continued support and concerns for others in time of need. TRAF helped set the tone for recovery with benefits that cannot be measured.

Each of you routinely acts in a manner that embodies the spirit of good and we are forever indebted to your contributions. Greatness is pouring your heart out and that was displayed over and over again.

### **Texas Ranger Association Foundation Star Journal**

Constance White, Chairman

Dave Wilson, Vice Chairman

Rick Hernandez, Treasurer

Thomas Schleier, Secretary

Liz Myrick, Executive Director

Bill Hartman, Editor

104 Texas Ranger Trail • Waco, Texas 76706  
(254) 752-1001

## Chairman's report -

## Rangers, DPS were simply heroic

By **Constance White**  
TRAF Chairman



**Constance White**

Dear Friends ... welcome to the 19th issue of The Star Journal, and "our hats off" to Editor and TRAF Director Bill Hartman who spends countless hours publishing each issue for our enjoyment.

Each publication tells the story of how the Texas Rangers continue to display their courageous devotion to the citizens of Texas and how TRAF's support of their efforts and for their families is unwavering.

As a Houstonian, I am grateful for the first responders, volunteers and the many acts of kindness during Hurricane Harvey. To quote one first responder in the days following the storm, "There is more love in this city than water!"

As you will read in Chief Prince's column, Rangers and members of the DPS traveled from across the state to assist in search and rescue. Their many hours spent with physical exhaustion to save hundreds of lives in unimaginable conditions was heroic.

I would also like to express thanks to Co. D Director Rick Her-

andez, who while working at the HEB distribution center in Houston during the storm's aftermath, found personal time to tend to the needs of the Co. A Ranger families affected by the flooding as well as delivering meals to the DPS first-responder command post.

Others have provided generous resources and donations to help our affected Texas Rangers with hurricane relief.

There are many heroes among us and we thank you!

I had the opportunity to travel to Lubbock (Co. C) and Dallas (Co. B), where both held their first annual Texas Ranger Classic Sporting Clay Tournaments.

These fun events have become a popular way of raising funds for the TRAF scholarship fund, and congratulations to both for executing successful events.

I look forward to attending the Texas Ranger Classic with Co. E in San Angelo on Oct. 7 and with Co. D in Edinburg Oct. 21.

Company A's Classic has been rescheduled (because of the direct hit by Hurricane Harvey) for March 2, 2018, in Houston.

The TRAF executive committee and Executive Director Liz Myrick have met on several occasions to expand our agenda to enhance what is already a strong organization.

Liz is at the core of our ongoing activities, and we appreciate her hard work and obvious respect for the Texas Rangers. I am so proud of each TRAF director who is working behind the scenes on behalf of our purpose of supporting the active and retired Texas Rangers and securing their legacy.

Again, thank you for your dedication to TRAF and thank you for continuing your prayers for the safety of our Texas Rangers.



## Asst. Chief Frank Malinak retires



**Frank Malinak**

By **BILL HARTMAN**  
Star Journal Editor

It's been a long ride since Frank Malinak was hired as a deputy sheriff in Giddings with the Lee County Sheriff's office in 1979, his first job in law enforcement that saw him move up the ladder until he retired in August as Deputy Assistant Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety and Assistant Chief of the Texas Rangers.

More than 200 neighbors, friends and colleagues turned out in Giddings in early September to help Frank celebrate his retirement.

His replacement as assistant chief, Chance Collins, and former Chief Kirby Dendy were among the guests who

spoke at the retirement party honoring Frank and his wife, Lesley, who is a police lieutenant with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission in Austin.

Frank is a native of Dime Box in Lee County, the oldest of five children and the son of Frank Jr. and Caroline Malinak. Frank and Lesley have three sons — Marty Malinak, Cody McCoy and Wesley Malinak.

Marty is an IT specialist with Brazos County. Stepson Cody is a student at Blinn College in Bryan. Wesley is a sophomore at Round Rock High School and looks forward to attending Texas A&M.

Cody and Wesley joined Lesley and Frank in celebrating their 19th wed-

**Frank Malinak continued page 5**



*IT WAS QUITE A RELAY, Arizona Rangers handing off to Texas Rangers Co. A large truckload of supplies they drove from Arizona to Co. A headquarters in Houston to aid victims of Hurricane Harvey. The Arizona visitors also included a check for \$4,077 to the Texas Ranger Association Foundation to aid hurricane victims. The relay members included (l-r) Ranger Jeff Owles, Lt. Wende Wakeman, Arizona Ranger Major Ron Dohrendorf, Co. A. Major Jason Taylor, Arizona Major Mike Droll, Ranger Lt. Kip Westmoreland, Arizona MSgt. Lonnie Hurst and Ranger Ryan Christian.*

Aid to hurricane victims -

## Arizona Rangers donate \$\$\$ and supplies

Just days after Hurricane Harvey made landfall and wreaked havoc up and down the Texas and Louisiana coasts, Liz Myrick, executive director of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation in Waco, received a call from MSgt. Lonnie Hurst of the Arizona Rangers regarding donations of supplies his group wanted to make to first responders who rescued thousands of people from their flood ravaged subdivisions and homes.

On Sept. 29, a three-man team of Arizona Rangers pulled into the Texas Ranger Co. A headquarters in Houston with a huge delivery of clothing, household goods, toys and cleaning supplies which will be distributed by Co. A Rangers to people in need.

They also brought a check made out to TRAF for \$4,077 to assist with relief efforts, and subsequently sent word another \$500 check was on the way.

A cadre of Texas Rangers worked night and day in rescue efforts around the Greater Houston region and evacuated more than 900 people to safety. This in spite of the fact many of the Co. A Rangers were among those who lost possessions and some their entire homes and automobiles.

Texas Rangers have had such a colorful history since the organization's beginning in 1823 and is an example for other states.

In 2001, the Arizona Rangers celebrated their 100th anniversary and Gov. Jane Hull made a statement that similarly applies to the Texas Rangers:

"The Arizona Rangers were the first, and sometimes the only, line of defense for Arizona residents, putting their lives on the line every day...and the Arizona Rangers were legendary protectors of life and property, sometimes braving the elements in the saddle for months at a time... tough yet compassionate, relentless yet fair and feared by criminals yet respected by all."

Texas Rangers have toiled tirelessly since Hurricane Harvey struck. They have worked both to enforce the laws and rescue as many as possible while their own families suffered enormous losses.

The Arizona Rangers were established in 1860 to protect settlers from Apache raids. With the advent of the Civil War, they disbanded the following year.

In 1901 the territorial legislature authorized and funded a company of Arizona Rangers in Bisbee, with one captain, Burton Mossman, one sergeant and 12 Rangers, who did not wear badges and initially worked as undercover teams to infiltrate criminal gangs and make arrests, control violence and battle cattle rustling.

In 1903 the Rangers force grew to 26 men. In 1909 the legislature disbanded the Rangers.

**Arizona Rangers continued page 5**

**Frank Malinak continued from page 3**

ding anniversary in Florence, Italy.

Frank was promoted to captain with the Lee County sheriff's office in 1981 and in 1984 began an 18-week training at the DPS Academy. He graduated from the academy's B-84 class and was assigned as a Highway Patrol Trooper in Smithville.

In 1987 he was promoted to sergeant investigator in the DPS' Motor Vehicle Theft Service and assigned to Laredo.

He was part of the original set up in 1989 of the MVTS expansion in Bryan with concentration on "chop shops," heavy equipment and farm machinery thefts.

In August 1993 he was promoted to the Texas Rangers and assigned to Midland, investigating violent crimes, public corruption and organized criminal activity.

From 1995 until 2009 he was assigned to the Bryan duty station until being named lieutenant and assigned to Co. F in Waco with responsibility of 11 company personnel.

In February 2012, he was promoted to captain and as-

signed to the Ranger headquarters in Austin with supervision of civilian personnel, including the administrative support staff, financial analysts, forensic artists and grant auditors.

He was named Co. F Major in Waco in 2013 with command over all Ranger activities and oversight of three lieutenants and approximately 25 Rangers.

In October 2014 he was tabbed as Deputy Assistant Director of the DPS and Assistant Ranger Chief. He held that position until his retirement in August, 2017.

Ranger Chief Randy Prince said, "Frank Malinak was a highly perceptive Ranger, who had a reputation of being one of the best at working criminal investigation. He exemplifies the word character with so many commendable accomplishments during his career.

"The Texas Ranger Division looked to him for direction and guidance on multiple subjects and I am personally grateful for his unwavering commitment to our success.

"The department is in better standing for all the personal sacrifices he and his family made to serve our great state."

**LEFT PHOTO:**

**LESLEY AND** Assistant Chief of the Texas Rangers, Frank Malinak, were honored at Frank's retirement party in Giddings. Frank was a Ranger 24 years and a member of the DPS 33 years. Lesley is a police lieutenant with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission in Austin.

**RIGHT PHOTO:**

**DONNA AND** Kirby Dendy were among the guests honoring Frank Malinak at his retirement party in early September. Kirby is a former chief of the Texas Rangers and was one of the speakers at the retirement celebration.

**Arizona Rangers continued from page 4**

In 1957 the Rangers were reestablished as a statewide law enforcement support and assist civilian auxiliary.

Modern day Rangers assist city, county, state and federal authorities when called upon. They volunteer their time across the state to support communities and law enforcement.

They are a 501(c)3 organization and money they earn or donations they receive are used for support of youth activities. The Texas assistance project was a special program of support and had immediate results from across Arizona.

In a letter to Major Jason Taylor at Co. A, Arizona Ranger Msgt. Hurst said, "I have traveled a lot and met a lot of law enforcement officers, and you folks in Texas are a class act and I am proud to have met you and proud of what you do for Texas."

Arizona Ranger Major Ron Dohrendorf, in a letter to Taylor, added, "Thank you for letting us visit your Rangers at your office. Your hospitality was great! The citizens of Texas should justly be proud of the Rangers. You represent the best in American Law Enforcement."



**ACCEPTING A** check for \$4,077 for Texas Ranger Co. A and the Texas Ranger Association Foundation was Ranger Ryan Christian. Representing the donors from the Arizona Rangers was Major Ron Dohrendorf. In a subsequent letter to Co. A Major Jason Taylor, the Arizona delegation said an additional check for \$500 would follow shortly.

## Museum report -

# Texans saved Colt firearms business

By Byron A. Johnson  
Museum Director



Byron Johnson

In 1989 the City of Waco presented an 1847 Colt Walker revolver to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame, a gift to the people of Texas. The Walker is hands down the most famous firearm associated with the Texas Rangers.

Only 1,100 were made in the heat of the Mexican War, a remarkable piece of technology with a history to match.

In 1846 the Mexican War erupted over the annexation of Texas and disputed territory. The U.S. Army was unprepared with only about 5,500 men in total.

Militiamen could be called up—but only for 90 days before being sent home. Barely enough time to train. Used to Indian warfare, the Army had not faced an organized and trained European-style army since the War of 1812.

By comparison, the Mexican army had an effective strength of almost 30,000 men. Eighteen thousand were regulars and 10,000 were experienced militia. The bulk were veterans with months of experience fighting rebellions. Mexican officers generally worked well with their troops.

The U.S. Army also suffered from a class structure. Many of the senior officers were elderly and unable to take to the field. It did not get any better after Congress authorized mass inductions.

Twenty-four states sent volunteers and disdain and fights were common between regulars and volunteers and northerners and southerners.

The saving grace was the presence of talented and resourceful young officers like Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, P.G.T. Beauregard, John Coffee Hays, Samuel Walker and others.

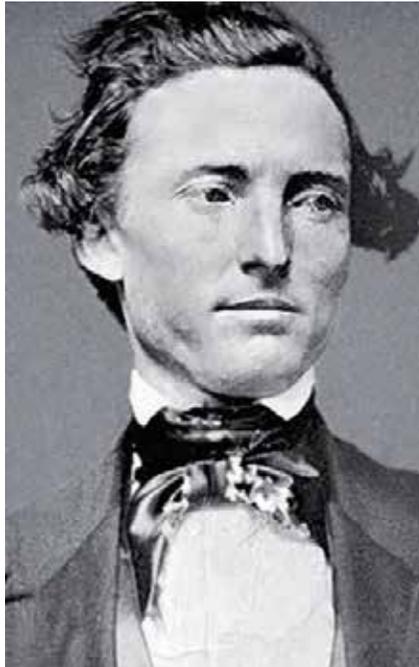
Most U.S. and Mexican troops fought on foot with .69-caliber smooth-bore flintlock muskets and bayonets. Trained soldiers could reload three to four times a minute letting loose volleys of lead projectiles at 680 mph at the distance of a football field.

Snipers and skirmishers used a variety of rifles good for about 200 to 500 yards. U.S. volunteers, frontiersmen, often used their deadly Pennsylvania or Kentucky long rifles. Results depended on the individual and his training.

Both sides had mounted troops. American Dragoons and mounted riflemen riding mules were viewed as “mobile infantry,” who would ride into battle, deal with Mexican Dragoons and Lancers, and then dismount.

They had a slight edge, armed with one-shot pistols and carbines. After a maximum of two shots their primary weapons were sabers. Mexican Dragoons were mounted swordsmen usually lacking pistols. Lancers were like medieval knights, no good against firearms, but they wreaked havoc on infantrymen reloading muskets with their lances and swords.

In the opening skirmishes of the war the U.S. Army fared poorly and called for volunteers. The most valued, and sometimes resented, were 20 units of mounted Texas volunteers.



Captain Samuel Walker

Many had been Texas Rangers with invaluable experience in unconventional mounted warfare using the five-shot Colt Paterson revolving pistol. The Colt Paterson had been rejected by the US military as too expensive, complicated and wasteful of ammunition.

Now an improved version was to be a secret weapon in the hands of the Texans.

Early on it was obvious that the .36 caliber Colt Paterson revolver would not cut it against the Mexican Army. True, it had five shots while a Mexican with a Brown Bess Musket or a Baker Rifle had only one.

However, the Paterson had a useful range of about 65 yards, much less on horseback, and limited “knock down” power. Mexican rifles and muskets fired a slug twice as big that could travel three to seven times the distance of a Texan’s bullet.

And the Patterson had to be disassembled into three pieces to reload—impossible in battle.

Capt. Samuel H. Walker of the Texas mounted volunteers was dispatched to find Colt and arrange for an improved Paterson. After failing to get the Army to buy his pistol, or generate much civilian business, Sam Colt was bankrupt.

He welcomed Walker and agreed to “super-size” the Paterson based on the experience of the Texans.

The improved Paterson went from five shots to six, from .36 to .44 cal. and from 22 grains of black powder to 60

**Museum Report continued on page 7**

## Executive Director's report -

## 55 students get TRAF college grants

By Liz Myrick  
TRAF Executive Director



The fall scholarship awards season wraps up and it's been a milestone year. We received a record-breaking 55 applications and will award over \$100,000 this semester. We are honored and pleased to

be able to assist the children of active Texas Rangers with their educational pursuits.

With this obligation we know that raising funds is critical to achieving our mission and we are seeking out new avenues of support as well as continuing the success of the Texas Ranger Classic Clay Shoots taking place across the state.

The Clay shoot fundraising season got off with a bang in Lubbock as the Co. C committee and Rangers held their first Texas Ranger Classic on Sept. 9. It was an excellent turnout with 81 shooters.

The first Co. B shoot was held at the Dallas Gun Club. With 111 shooters and 150 attendees, it was a great event. We made some new friends in the Metroplex and look forward to next year's event!

The Co. A shoot, previously scheduled Sept. 1, was postponed due to hurricane and flooding in Houston and the region. It has been rescheduled for March 2, 2018. We hope to have a big turnout to support the Co. A Texas directors, Rangers and their families.

Planning for the 2018 Retired Ranger Reunion is already underway as we look to continue making this a fabulous and memorable weekend for the retired Rangers and their families.

The Winter Board meeting is scheduled for February. More information will be sent as details are confirmed.

Finally, we have been overwhelmed with gratitude for the donations coming in for the hurricane relief efforts for the Rangers and their families. Whether you donated \$10 or \$10,000 or more, every gift has been received with wide-eyed reverence.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation, we thank you for entrusting us to be the stewards of these incredible gifts.

We know the full measure of the responsibility that comes with it. We continue to work to disburse funds swiftly and with the utmost prudence under the advisement and in partnership with the leadership of the Texas Rangers.

Although wet and perhaps weary from the endless shifts of rain-soaked searches, the Texas Rangers have been able to press on knowing they have needed support in the weeks and months to come.

They'll continue heeding the call knowing that there are heroes like you giving selflessly.

**Photos on page 14**



### Museum Report continued from page 6

grains. It could fire round or conical bullets at rifle velocity and the cylinders could be swapped without disassembling the gun.

The resulting behemoth weighed over five pounds, so heavy it was impractical to carry on a belt or tucked into trousers although some tried. It was intended to be used from horseback in a pommel holster.

After bureaucratic wrangling by the army and Congress, 1,100 were approved for purchase at \$25. Walker, Hays and likely Sam Houston conspired to divert many of the pistols into the hands of Texas Volunteers. Colt sent two as a gift to Sam Walker, naming it after the captain, crediting him with saving his business.

In Mexico the results were remarkable. A horseman with a six-shot Colt Walker could fire as far as a soldier with a one-shot musket. It could reportedly go through a plank at a hundred yards.

Lancers and Dragoons armed only with swords and lances were no match. But there were teething issues.

Despite the Texans' familiarity with Colt Patersons, this was a whole different animal. Issued with conical bullets, instead of round balls, some Texans assumed the "pointy end" of the bullet went in first.

The results were burst cylinders. Some were careless and left powder trails between chambers when reloading. Two, three and sometimes four chambers fired at the same time.

But the Colt Walker, and the "Texas Rangers," service became the stuff of legend. The U.S. Army ordered a new run of the pistol with improvements and it was called the Colt Dagoon.

Unfortunately Sam Walker did not live to see the end of the war. Shortly after receiving his pistols he led a contingent against the town of Huamantla.

In street fighting he was killed by a shotgun blast from a balcony. Walker's two pistols survive, reportedly last changing hands for about \$4 million.



**CO. C SHOOT** in Lubbock had a good turnout of TRAF directors as well as Texas Rangers. On the back row (l-r) are TRAF directors Jerry Wellborn, Joe Kay and Scott Egert, Retired Capt. Carl Weathers, Ranger Philip Vandygriff, TRAF executive Liz Myrick, TRAF chairman Constance White, Major Todd Snyder and Rangers Toby Catlin and Robert Hitt. In front (l-r) are Co. C director Ken Olson and Ranger Scotty Shiver.



**CO. C MAJOR** Todd Snyder (left) presents a pistol to Todd McKee of People's Bank, which was a major sponsor of the shoot. McKee was the raffle winner.



TRAF Chairman Constance White attended the first annual Co. B Sporting Clays Shoot and got in a visit with Ranger Laura Simmons (Co. B. Greenville).



DAVID GAITHER of Houston was the high bidder on one of the 1911, 45-calibre pistols auctioned at the Co. B Sporting Clays Shoot in Dallas. Presenting his pistol is Sharlotte Crawford, wife of former TRAF Chairman Gary Crawford.

## Ranger impact is staggering – For newcomers to state, Texas is gigantic

By **BILL HARTMAN**  
*Star Journal Editor*

Did you know Texas has more counties (254) than there are countries in the world (247).

Of that county total, 235 have courthouses that have stood the test of time – 50 years or longer.

Have any idea what the smallest countries (land mass) in the world are: (1) Vatican City (2) Monaco (3) Nauru (4) Tuvalu and (5) San Marino. All are under 100 square miles, and Vatican City is so small it's immeasurable.

I didn't know either, so I'll share that Nauru is in Micronesia in the Central Pacific and Tuvalu is a Polynesian Island midway between Hawaii and Australia.

Both countries are among the 52 nations that make up the Commonwealth.

The five largest countries: (1) Russia (2) Europe (3) Canada (4) United States and (China).

Back to Texas. If you drive from Beaumont in the east to El Paso in the west, you're over halfway to Los Angeles. Texas has nearly 269,000 square miles, upwards of 1,200 incorporated cities and a population of more than 27 million.

For the last 9 years I've been on our TRAF board that supports active and retired Texas Rangers, their college-age children and the Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum in Waco.

In addition to being the state's official archives center for all things Rangers, there's also a crack research department at the museum, which proved that 10 percent of the 254 counties are named honoring Texas Rangers.

Leading the list is Austin County (named after Stephen F. Austin, the "Father of Texas.") Austin picked up the mantle of his late father, Moses, and led 300 settlers in 1824 to the mouth of the Brazos River in what became Fort Bend County.

Austin created the Texas Rangers in 1823 to fight Indians and renegades from the Mexican Army and to protect settlers' homes and their livestock.

Other counties and their Ranger namesakes include Bell

County, Peter Hansborough Bell, Ranger (1840s-50s); Bowie County, Jim Bowie; Brooks County, J. Abijah Brooks, Ranger, 1883-1903; Burleson County, Edward Burleson, Ranger, 1836; Caldwell County, Matthew (Old Paint) Caldwell, Ranger, 1839.

Also, Callahan County, James Hughes Callahan, Ranger, 1855; Coleman County, Robert M. Coleman, Ranger, 1836; Coryell County, James Coryell, Ranger, 1837 (KIA); Deaf Smith County, Erastus (Deaf) Smith, Ranger, 1836; Denton County, John Bunyan Denton, Ranger, 1841 (KIA).

Also, Eastland County, William Mosby Eastland, Ranger, 1830s; Erath County, George Bernard Erath, Ranger, 1830s and 1860s; Gillespie County, Robert Addison Gillespie, Ranger, 1840s; Hays County, John Coffee Hays, Ranger 1830s-40s; Johnson County, Middleton Tate Johnson, Ranger, 1850s-60s.

Also, Karnes County, Henry Wax Karnes, Ranger, 1830s; Kleburg County, Robert Justice Kleburg, Special Ranger, 1880s-90s; McCulloch County, Benjamin McCulloch, Ranger, 1840s; Parker County, Isaac Parker, Ranger, 1830s; Robertson County, Sterling Clack Robertson, Ranger, 1836.

Also, Sutton County, John Schuyler Sutton, Ranger, 1850s; Swisher County, James G. Swisher, Ranger, 1830s and 1850s; Walker County, Samuel Hamilton Walker, Ranger, 1840s; and Williamson County, Robert McAlpin Williamson, Ranger 1830s.

Three other counties, Armstrong, Kendall and Kerr, are named after the pioneer Armstrong family, George Wilkins Kendall and James Kerr. All were believed to have Ranger connections, but the research staff could not guarantee it.

Raymond (Rusty) Bloxom was the research librarian on this extensive project delving deeper into the Texas Ranger lore. He did a great service to the state and its thousands of historians.

It all proves Texas is a huge part of the U.S. Geography, with history blooming throughout. It's said Texas topographically could be divided into four separate states.

But to do that, there'd be a battle royal over which would get the name Texas.

Best to leave well enough alone.

Reach BH at [bhartman@hartmannews.com](mailto:bhartman@hartmannews.com).

### Contributors to *Star Journal*

Capt. Barry Caver  
Ken Olson  
Constance White

Byron Johnson  
Steve Sikes  
Cheryl Iselt

Liz Myrick, TRAF Executive Director  
[liz.myrick@thetexasrangers.org](mailto:liz.myrick@thetexasrangers.org)  
254-752-3745

Bill Hartman, *Star Journal* Editor  
[bhartman@hartmannews.com](mailto:bhartman@hartmannews.com)  
281-342-8691

# TRAF supports Rangers during Harvey recovery

By Constance White

Hurricane Harvey stormed the Texas Gulf Coast and surrounding counties, and as the following days unfolded and waters began to recede, it became clear how its wrath was so far reaching and devastating.

Several Texas Rangers in its path were affected, and thanks to the generous support from TRAF, all Rangers who reported damage are receiving financial assistance.

Of the 11 Rangers affected from Companies A, D and F, three experienced major destruction to their homes as well as loss of personal belongings and vehicles. The waters rose quickly, and fortunately the Ranger families and pets were evacuated safely.

The TRAF Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund was established and the outpouring of support from across Texas and our nation for our Rangers has been heartwarming. More than \$270,000 in cash donations have been received, which includes a significant donation from the Ed Rachal Foundation.

In addition, retired Loving County Sheriff Billy Hopper donated \$30,000; HEB, \$25,000; Texas Ranger James and Christine Holland, \$10,000 and TRAF director Dave Conlon, \$5,000.

Additional TRAF Directors, friends of Rangers, various

other law enforcement personnel, and several Rangers not affected by this catastrophic hurricane, have contributed to this fund as well as provided help during the cleanup process.

A special committee was formed to research the needs of each Ranger affected, and the TRAF executive committee continues to approve the committee's proposed assistance for each Ranger as recovery continues.

With respect for the privacy of the Rangers and their families the amount of funds designated to each is not listed.

The recovery process will continue for months, especially for the three Rangers who are currently unable to live in their homes.

**"The affected Rangers and their families, including my own, are in awe of the support and dedication of TRAF and its benefactors.**

**"I have no words which will adequately express our true appreciation to everyone involved in supporting us during this difficult time.**

**"We are all on the road to recovery, our spirits lifted greatly by the generosity of so many genuinely good people who have inspired us with their positivity.**

**"With deep appreciation." - Major Jason Taylor, Co A.**



**TEXAS RANGER Bobby Smith, his wife Brandy and daughter Karen are staying positive after losing all their possessions in their home in Vidor.**



**LT. SMITH'S house, as well as his entire neighborhood were under water caused by Harvey and the release of excessive water from a nearby reservoir. It was more than five days before the water receded.**



*DPS DIRECTOR STEVEN McCraw (second row center) and a cadre of Texas Rangers and DPS personnel assisted in the rescuing of more than 900 people who had to be evacuated because of Harvey. In the background is one of the many state vehicles used in the evacuations.*



*RANGER CHIEF Randy Prince and Asst. Chief Chance Collins visited Co. A Ranger Brandon Bess and his wife Mary Beth during the cleanup. Others in the photo are Anahuac FFA members Bella Abshire and Phoebe Hampton who helped with the cleaning process.*



**NEITHER RAIN, SNOW nor Hurricane Harvey could keep Texas Rangers, state troopers and special agents from their appointed rounds of helping rescue hundreds of stranded Texans during Hurricane Harvey, which first made landfall Aug. 25 and kept pounding with flood waters for upwards of three weeks. Handling one of the huge evacuation trucks were Justyn Knowlton and Kal Khatib (special response team-1), Ranger David Armstrong (Co. B), Joshua Engleman (SRT-1) and Ranger Brent Davis (Co. B).**



**ILLUSTRATING HOW deep the flood waters were and the various equipment used by the Rangers in Operation Harvey Rescue, here four Rangers, Shane Staley, Conde Benoist and Keith Pauska (all from Co. F) and Ranger Pete Luna (Co. A) were on a search mission for stranded citizens. In total, the Rangers, troopers and agents moved more than 900 people to safety from flooding.**



**ABOVE PHOTO:**  
*IT HAD TO BE AN exciting and harrowing time for residents of a Kingwood nursing home when they were evacuated from the flooding of Hurricane Harvey by Ranger Richard Henderson (Co. F) and Ranger David Chauvin (Co. A).*



**LEFT PHOTO:**  
*PUTTING THEIR years of training to work, these members of the Texas DPS readied their gear for the rescue work they performed. In this photo are Ranger Derek Leitner (Co. A), Kal Khatib and Clint Stephens (both SRT-1), Ranger Joe Haralson (Co. A) and Ranger Philip Vandygriff (Co. C with their back to camera).*

# TRAF scholarships total 55, over \$100,000

This year marks the largest class of TRAF scholarship recipients with 55 awards given, totaling over \$100,000. Meet three of the recipients:



**Zane Fate Vandygriff**

## Zane Fate Vandygriff

Zane graduated from Snyder High School in the Spring of 2017 and begins his first year of college with nine hours of college credit. He is a freshman at Western State College in Snyder, majoring in electrical lineman technology.

Zane enjoys basketball and working on his marksmanship. He has been the recipient of several scholarships, including the Snyder Athletic Hall of Honor award, the Canyon Gun Club award and the Snyder varsity baseball booster club award.

He is the son of Ranger Phillip Vandygriff of Co. C stationed in Snyder.

## Marco Ricardo Rivera

Marco is a 2017 graduate of Sharyland High School and has already completed 12 college course hours. He is a freshman at South Texas College and is pursuing a degree in animal science.

His planned date of college graduation is 2021. Marco enjoys taking part in livestock shows and other agricultur-



**Elizabeth Ann Wallace**

## Elizabeth Ann Wallace

al events. He has been the recipient of other scholarships as well, such as the South Texas Agricultural Round-up Scholarship, and the RGVLS Livestock Judging Scholarship.

He is the son of Ranger Ricardo Rivera of Co.D stationed in Weslaco.

Elizabeth is a senior at the University of Oklahoma. She is majoring in biology, and plans to graduate in the spring of 2018. Elizabeth is involved in many extracurricular activities around campus, such as the Alpha Phi-Phi chapter, the Biology Club, and the Pre-Med club.

She also enjoys volunteering and giving back to her community and has participated in the Sooner Marathon, Relay for Life, and volunteers at the Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Elizabeth has been the recipient of the Texas Department of Public Safety Officers Association Scholarship for four consecutive semesters.

She is the daughter of Ranger Jeremy Wallace of Co.B stationed in Decatur.

## Overcoming adversity - Truly a Royal Texas Ranger wedding



**TAKING PART IN the Royal McMullin and Cristina Cordero wedding in El Paso were (l-r) Co. E administrative assistant Stacy Stathis and husband Chris, Ranger Brent Mata and wife Catherine, Ranger James Thomas and wife Keron, Ranger Jason Dudley, Ranger McMullin and his bride Cristina with their pups Zeus, Chili and Zelda, Ranger Juan Torres and Maria Licon, DPS Chaplain Wes Phillips, Ranger Chris Clark, TRAF Chairman Constance White and Royal's children, Seth, Rachel and Ashley.**

Truly a Royal wedding was held on July 8 in El Paso between Texas Ranger Royal McMullin and Cristina Cordero. Officiating was DPS Chaplain Wes Phillips.

It was indeed a special union which was originally scheduled for last February, but due to Royal's chemotherapy treatments at M.D. Anderson in Houston, the wedding had to be rescheduled.

The Texas Ranger Association Foundation was early to respond and support McMullen, Co. E, when he was diagnosed with cancer in December 2016. Several TRAF board members were generous with their resources and time to assist during his treatment.

Cristina and his three children, Ashley, Rachel and Seth, have been at his side during his unexpected journey.

Royal asked that this statement be directed to his friends, family, colleagues and members of TRAF:

"The year 2017 has been a challenging one in my life. I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. After nine months, I am back to work light duty for now, and I soon hope to be back to full duty.

"I am feeling much better and owe a huge part of this to family, friends, Texas Rangers and TRAF. A huge amount of support came from TRAF.

"They organized donation funds for medical expenses, came to visit me in the hospital and brought me home-cooked meals. I have been blessed to be a part of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation.

"I encourage every Texas Ranger to show their support and participate with every upcoming TRAF event. This will show our dedication to those behind the scenes in TRAF who are taking care of us in so many ways. Thank you."



**TEXAS RANGER Brent Barina, (center) Co. F in Bastrop, has been recognized by the Fayette County Sheriff's Office for his professionalism, dedication and commitment to the citizens of the county and area law enforcement. Barina is responsible for a three-county region — Fayette, Bastrop and Lee. Making the presentation are Fayette County Sheriff Keith Korenek (left) and Chief Deputy Randy Novskie.**



# Co. C's initial clays shoot successful

Co. C, with headquarters in Lubbock, had its first annual Sporting Clays Shoot at the Lubbock Shooting Complex with 74 gunners participating. In addition to the shooting event, there were two raffles, one for a STI Sentinel 1911, 45-calibre pistol.

Tickets for the pistols sold for \$50 each. The second raffle was a M&P donated by Smith & Wesson.

The first place team, with a score of 414 was Rex Newsom, John Newsom, Jay Andrews, Gary Miller and Lixi Pinhort.

Second place went to Gus Roland, Sierra Stokes, Reggie Lawrence, Jacob Martin and Brett Bottenfield with a score

of 405.

Third went to Mike Brenner, Patsy Brenner, John Brenner, George Ward and Chad Reed with a tally of 373.

Tommy Perrish was the top male shooter with a mark of 92 and the top female shooter was Sierra Stokes with a score of 88.

Sponsors for the shoot included, Director sponsor, \$5,000, United Super Markets, Peoples Bank and Sharpshooters Gun and Knife; Chief sponsor, \$2,500, O'Reilly Auto Parts and Covenant Health System; and Captain sponsor, \$1,500, KILL Mud and Chemicals, LLC.



**TOMMY PERRISH** (center) was the top male shooter with a score of 92. He's shown with Charlie Blackwell, owner of the Lubbock Shooting Complex (left) and Major Todd Snyder.



**SIERRA STOKES** was the top female shooter with a round of 88. Charlie Blackwell and Major Snyder are shown with her.



**MEMBERS OF THE first place team** were (l-r) Rex Newsom, John Newsom, Major Snyder, Jay Andrews and Gary Miller. Not pictured is Lixi Pinhort.



**SECOND PLACE team members** were Gus Roland, Sierra Stokes, Major Snyder, Reggie Lawrence, Jacob Martin and Brett Bottenfield.

## Sporting Clays shoot schedule

Co. E, San Angelo, Oct. 7.

Co. D, McAllen, Oct. 21.

Co. A, Houston (re-scheduled), March 2, 2018.

Co. F, San Antonio, Spring, 2018.

# Co. B shoot



**HIGH OVERALL** female shooter at the Co. B Sporting Clays Shoot in Dallas was Shea Self of Dallas. The top overall male shooter was Tom Maddox of Chandler.

**THE TEAM WITH** the highest score consisted of (l-r) Tom Maddox, Gary Greenway, Shea Self, Ron Williams and John Colandro. Sponsor was the Nancy Weldon Foundation, team 1.



**TEXAS RANGERS** at the Co. B Sporting Shoot helped the TRAF scholarship program by grossing nearly \$90,000. A net financial report on all the companies will be forthcoming. Rangers are (l-r) Adam Sweaney, Lt. Ken Bond, Chris Bagget, Major Grover Huff, Clair Barnes, Brent Davis, Nicholas Castle, Don Stoner, Laura Simmons, Jeremy Wallace, Victor Patton and Josh Mason.



**RUNNERUPS** IN the Co. B shoot were members of the Nancy Weldon Foundation, team 2. They are (l-r) Travis Mears, Ranger Brent Davis, Larry Perkins, Shon Brown and Lonnie Mears (not pictured).



**THE LEWIS** Class winner was Team San Angelo, made up of Stefan Wilson, TRAF Vice Chairman Dave Wilson, Ed Probant, JL Hibdon, Mike Smith and Leland Key.

# Retirements, promotions, selection are announced



**Victor Escalon**



**Martin Hood**



**Eric Kasper**



**Corey Lain**



**Wayne Matthews**

Texas Ranger Chief Randy Prince has announced the newest promotions, transfers, selection and retirements within the division.

Chance Collins, who had been the major of Co. B in Waco, on Sept. 1 was promoted to assistant chief of the division as well as deputy assistant director of the Department of Public Safety. He replaces Frank Malinak, who retired Aug. 31.

Other headquarters promotions included Capt. Victor Escalon, from recon, headquarters, to major, special operations group.

Also, Capt. Corey Lain, from administration, Austin, to major, Co. F in Waco.

Also, Lt. Scotty Shiver, Co. C in Lubbock, to captain, recon, headquarters.

Also, Lt. Eric Kasper, Co. B in Garland, to captain, administration, headquarters.

Also, Ranger Wayne Matthews, Co. D, to lieutenant at Co. D, Laredo.



**Jeffrey Robertson**



**Scotty Shiver**



**Michael Villaneuva**

In addition to Malinak, Major Jeffrey Robertson of special operations group, Austin, has retired, effective Aug. 31. He started with the DPS in 1989 and was promoted to the Rangers in 1999.

Ranger Martin Hood, Co. C in Hereford, also retired Aug. 31. He joined the DPS in 1986 and was promoted to the Rangers in 1997.

Ranger Eustacio Galvan, Co. D in

Falfurrias was transferred to Co. C in Hereford. Ranger Ryan Kindell, Co. D Kingsville, was transferred to Co. D in Uvalde.

Lt. Scott Stevenson, Co. D in Corpus Christi, was transferred to Co. B in Garland. Lt. Jason Dudley, Co. E in El Paso, was transferred to Co. C in Lubbock.

Michael Villanueva, agent, CID in Amarillo, was promoted to the Ranger Division in Co. C in Brownfield.



## Letter to TRAF -

TRAF Members:

I'd like to thank the board of director for the generous scholarship that will allow me to further my goals of becoming a second generation Texas Ranger.

Regards,  
Jake Morrow

*(Editor's note: Jake is the son of Ranger Lancer Shane Morrow of Co. C in Eastland. Jake will be attending Cisco college, majoring in criminal justice).*

## OBITS

### Elder Freeman Dies at age 69

Funeral services were held on Aug. 12 for Johnnie Maurice Freeman Sr. in Natchitoches, La., at Winfield Memorial Funeral

Home with interment at Campti Community Cemetery.

Freeman was the father of Texas Ranger Bradley Freeman, Co. F, San Antonio, and Special Agent Johnnie Freeman, CID, Houston.