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TEXAS STATE DOCUMENTS  
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**MAINTAINING EMPHASIS  
ON HIGH QUALITY**

ENGINEER-DIRECTOR'S COLUMN, PAGE TWO



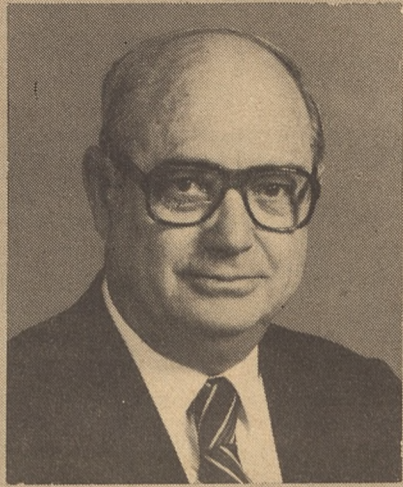
# TRANSPORTATION **news**



**Ybanez to head Bridge Division p. 2**      **June 1986**  
**Employee family survives twister p. 4**

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**T**here were active construction projects on more than 11,000 miles of our 73,000-mile highway system in May. That's almost one mile under construction or reconstruction for every seven miles of the network. And that does not include many other miles undergoing regular maintenance.

Without doubt, our department is in the midst of the largest program in its history, and doing the job without major increases in staff.

Our accelerated construction program has made its effect felt in every other part of the organization. Everyone is busy nowadays.

Despite the fast pace, I am very pleased to observe that the department's high standards are still intact. Emphasizing high quality work is an old and honored tradition in this organization.

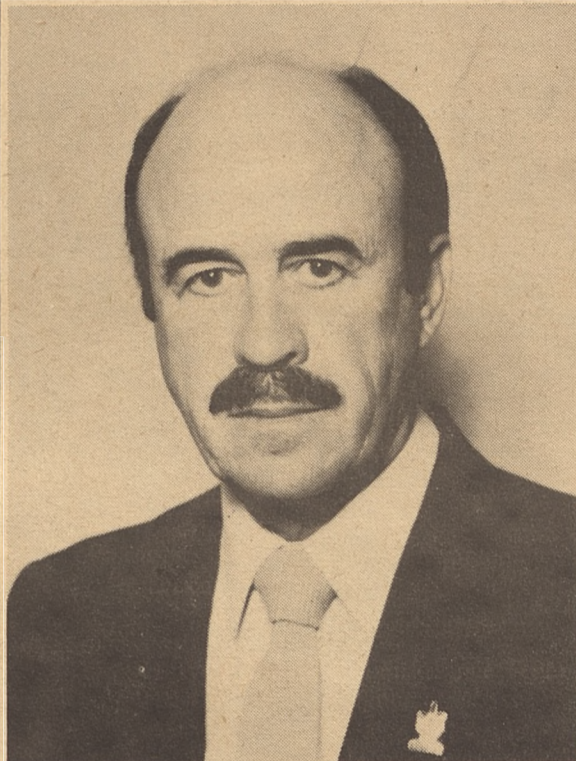
At times, we even have been accused of being hard-nosed when it comes to insisting on top quality work. That's not a bad reputation to have when supervising the investment of large numbers of the public's dollars.

I am proud of the job you are doing to put those dollars to work as quickly as possible on the very best highway facilities possible everywhere in Texas.

Keep up the good work. Keep up the very best possible work.

*Mark Goode*

## Ybanez selected to head department's bridge unit



### Luis Ybanez... to head Bridge Division

Luis Ybanez has been named head of the Bridge Division by Engineer-Director Mark Goode.

Ybanez succeeds Wayne Henneberger, who will retire on June 30, after more than 40 years with the department.

A highlight in Ybanez' work with the department as a bridge engineer is the Presidio International Bridge. He was responsible for design and specifications of the structure, formulating them both in English and Spanish. He also coordinated negotiations with officials of Mexico for construction beyond the Texas border.

Ybanez, 52, was born and grew up in El

### Abilene says farewell to risky traffic circle

Abilene motorists no longer will be singing the traffic circle blues. A new intersection took its place and was dedicated in the middle of May with appropriate ceremonies.

When the Treadaway Circle was completed in the 1950s, highway engineers thought circles (the English call them "roundabouts") were the last word in distributing traffic to various intersecting traffic arteries.

Well, it wasn't the last word. The circle inspired many other words, some of them not fit for a family newspaper, as the Treadaway Circle earned a reputation for being risky. One engineer said the location, where US 80, Treadaway Boulevard and North Second Street meet, probably was the worst place in Abilene for minor accidents.

The new facility provides turn lanes, a less-confusing traffic pattern and an even flow of vehicles through the signals.

Engineers figure the new intersection can safely handle 41,000 cars a day. A 1983 traffic count showed 29,500 cars were using the old circle. ★

Paso. He is a graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso with a master of science degree in structures. He began his career with the department in 1958. In his years with the highway department, Ybanez worked in the El Paso district bridge section for 24 years and served as district bridge engineer for the last 10 of those years. In 1984, Ybanez was



### Wayne Henneberger... closes 40-year DHT career.

promoted to district design engineer.

He has served on the board of directors of the West Texas State Employees Credit Union.

Henneberger entered employment with the department in 1945 with the bridge division and served in many engineering capacities prior to appointment in 1970 as bridge engineer.

During his 16 years as bridge engineer, Henneberger was instrumental in the development and implementation of several innovations. Among his accomplishments were the Queen Isabella Causeway across the Laguna Madre, which is the first prestressed concrete segmental bridge in the United States; the cable-stayed bridge constructed on the Neches River; the proposed Houston Ship Channel bridge; and extensive use of prestressed concrete in all highway structures.

Henneberger has represented the department on many assignments and professional committees including the Transportation Research Board, American Concrete Institute, Prestress Concrete Institute, Post-tensioning Institute, American Iron and Steel Institute, National Cooperative Highway Research Program, and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, bridge committee.

He is a member of state and national professional engineering societies, including a fellow and life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

After retirement, Henneberger plans to continue his professional engineering work. ★ Al Zucha



## Beaver dam buster banishes bellyaching

It often has been said that necessity is the mother of invention, but it also helps to have your men "bellyaching" about the problem, according to roadway Maintenance Supervisor Herbert E. Snider in New Boston.

This was just the situation that prompted Snider to invent a device that would more efficiently clear beaver dams out of box culverts.

His section had been plagued for years with beavers building dams in culverts along Farm-to-Market Road 2735, which runs through a low-lying area of northwest Bowie County.

The most recent case found water spilling over the roadway following rains in late April.

Normally, Snider would send out a six-man crew with rods, shovels, buckets, cables, trucks and winches, and it would still take a full day to open the culvert enough to allow proper drainage.

It was a wet and undesirable job, to say the least, leading to the usual amount of "bellyaching" from the crew members.

With only a rough sketch of an idea, Snider worked with his shop foreman, Walter Cowley, to build a fairly simple device that would attach to the department's Gradall and use the machine's hydraulics to quickly and easily knock out a dam.

Two 10-foot pieces of 10-inch I-beams were welded together with a small piece of I-beam welded across the end for drag. Necessary modifications were also made for attaching the device to the boom of the Gradall.

Because the device is attached in a reverse position to other equipment on the Gradall, the operators need only to reverse the motions of their controls to use the new device.

It only took one trial for the invention to prove itself. "I had little doubt it would work, but I didn't know how well," Snider said. "We did in 30 minutes what it used to take a full crew to attempt in a day's time."

After positioning the Gradall over the culvert, the boom is extended and lowered over the ditch with the device pointing back



Pictures by Orville Ball, District 19

### *Dam-busting device emerges from culvert.*

toward the culvert, Snider explained. The boom is then drawn in to insert the device into the upper portion of the culvert. Upon full entry, it is then lowered and the boom is extended to pull the device out — along with a good portion of the beaver dam.

This action is repeated until the culvert is completely cleared.

With an added six-foot extension the device can reach up to 15 feet under the roadway, although positioning of the Gradall and height of the headwall cover has a lot to do with the total amount of reach, Snider noted.

His crew members have already used the device four times over the past six months since its design, and a neighboring maintenance supervisor has asked to use it.

Even though Snider said he is very pleased with the results of his invention and his Gradall operators enjoy working with the

device, he has already worked out an agreement to let the county trapper trap on the road's right-of-way. This, he hopes, will keep the beaver population down and their dams out of the culverts. ★ Marcus Sandifer, Assistant Public Affairs Officer, Atlanta



### *Culvert flow is unrestricted once again.*

## John P. Kelly heads Central project office

John P. Kelly has been named project manager for the US 75 (North Central) Project office by Dallas District Engineer Robert Yielding.

The office will be established to manage and coordinate the development of construction plans for the proposed rebuilding of the old freeway, one of Texas' first, from Spur 366 (Woodall Rogers Freeway) to I-635 (LBJ Freeway).

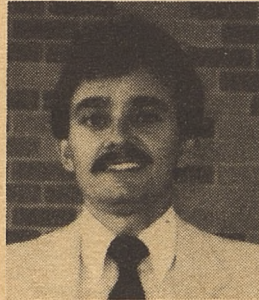
The office will serve as a focal point for the majority of the department activities associated with the development of the project. The office will be located near the work as soon as the final environmental impact statement is approved.

Kelly, a native of Arkansas, started with the Arkansas Highway Department in the summer of 1967, but later worked as a summer employee of the Texas department in Texarkana and Houston in 1968 and 1970.

He graduated from the University of

Arkansas in 1971 and went to work as an engineering assistant in the Hutchins residency. He received his professional engineer's license in 1975.

He also worked in the district headquarters bridge and roadway design sections. He has



*John P. Kelly  
... to direct US 75  
development*

been assistant district advance planning engineer, working on all phases of preliminary engineering, working with local governments and others in advancing projects to the construction stages. ★

## Tyler district office roses judged best entries in show

Roses grown at District 10's headquarters bested a field of over 400 entries to take first place in an area flower show held in Tyler recently.

Judges from around the state awarded the arrangement of red Trumpeter roses a blue ribbon in the Best Floribunda Spray category during the Tyler Area Council of Garden Clubs 30th Annual Flower Show. The spray won out over entries not only from Tyler but from other cities and states as well.

Alyce Finlayson, District 10's "Flower Lady," said the decision to enter the roses wasn't made until the day of the competition. "I was on my way to the show and thought I might as well take some cuttings from here (district headquarters) to see what they would do," she said.

Needless to say, she was pleasantly surprised when given the first-place prize of a blue ribbon and silver platter, which District Engineer Bobby Evans proudly displays in his office.

Alyce also took third place in the Hybrid Tea category with one of her own personal Peace roses. It seems only fitting that the SDHPT's District 10 should garner this type of award and recognition in Tyler, Rose Capital of the World. ★



*Luck or cool head?*

## *Employee's family survives but twister wrecks home*

Was it luck or was it a cool head?

Whichever, the family of Marlin Newberry, engineering technician II, of the Snyder Residency, is thankful — thankful to be alive, and thankful that Marlin knew what to do in a tornado and had the presence of mind to do it.

The Newberrys' home was destroyed in the tornado that struck Sweetwater, April 19. The twister hit the city at 7:30 a.m. without warning. City sirens and other warning systems were not functioning.

Around 6:45 a.m. it began to hail at the Newberry home. Noise of the hail beating the house awakened Marlin and his wife, Rachel. The Newberrys discussed leaving but decided not to because of the hail. His 4-year-old twins, Zachary and Natalie, were still in bed. In addition, they had a guest in the house — seven-year-old Jeremy Kidd of Roscoe — sound asleep in another bedroom.

The noise was fierce. Then silence! Marlin had always heard that it becomes very quiet before a tornado. He looked outside and describes a "strange, snowy appearance."

Then he saw it.

The dark, eerie funnel was on the ground and headed directly for his house. Yelling to his wife, Marlin rushed to his children's room and grabbed them from their beds. All four took shelter, lying on the floor in the hallway. Because of the closeness of the walls, Marlin figured that was the strongest area of the house.

Then Marlin remembered the child in the guest bedroom. He jumped up, ran to the sleeping child, grabbed him, returned to the hallway, and placed him beside his own family. Marlin lay on top of everyone, and as best he could, reinforced their position with pillows.

Then it hit!

The roof left as well as everything else that was loose. The wall to the bedroom where the guest had slept collapsed onto the bed. What Marlin was betting on happened. The interior



Photos by Earl Vaughn, Abilene district

walls held their own, providing protection for his family.

It ended! Marlin jumped up and ran outside to survey the damage. "It seemed like a very thick fog," he said. "Because of the heavy rain, I put my family in our car. I then ran next door to what had been our neighbor's house to try and find her." The neighbor was an elderly woman who lived alone. Another neighbor came running to the house. The two probed the debris and found the woman under a pile of wreckage. They

dug her out and carried her to a location a couple of hundred yards up the street where they called for help. They then joined other searchers to look for survivors.

Marlin stated, "I'm from Houston and although I had never been in a tornado, I knew which was the safest part of the house. I knew the direction that tornados normally travel, so I was able to see it in time to react. We are just lucky to be alive," he said.

One person died in the storm and close to a hundred were injured. Property damage was estimated at \$20 million.

For many survivors it was just luck. Marlin's luck — if that's what it was — was combined with quick thinking and action. ★ Ray Green, district PAO, Abilene.

## **Celebrations mark summer months in all parts of Texas**

It's celebration time in Texas... And there's lots to celebrate!

Pleasure-loving Texans and visitors to the state will have no trouble locating celebrations this summer. All year long, Texans are having fairs, festivals, fiestas and fun events to mark the state's 150th birthday.

The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation has just issued the Calendar of Texas Events for the months of June, July, and August listing more than 800 opportunities to join in the myriad ways that Texans celebrate everything from classical music to cow-calling.

Many Texans obviously prefer their competitions of the gastronomic persuasion. Cookoffs will feature such Texas products as peaches, pinto beans, ice cream, barbecue, pasta, hamburgers, black-eyed peas, fajitas, oatmeal and, of course, chili. One chili competition (in Buffalo Gap) will feature "the world's largest" bowl of red.

There'll be Sesquicentennial pageants, art shows and rodeos; vintage cars and vegetables, and dozens of other events proving it's celebration time in Texas!

Free individual copies of the slate of Texas summertime happenings are available at any Texas Tourist Bureau, or by writing Calendar of Texas Events, P.O. Box 5064, Austin 78763. ★

## **TRANSPORTATION news**

**Volume 11**

**Number 9**

A newsletter published monthly by the Travel and Information Division of the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation at 11th and Brazos Sts., Austin, Texas 78701-2483.

Manuscripts, photos, news tips invited. Telephone the editor, Hilton Hagan, at (512) 463-8610, or Tex-An 255-8610





## Extra performance awards highlight Tyler ceremony

Awards for extra performance were the highlight of the Tyler district's Annual Safety Awards presented in Mineola recently.

Mark Goode, engineer-director, was keynote speaker. He praised the accomplishments of the district's safety program. Also present was Quinner Williams, insurance director, who congratulated district personnel for their safety records.

Safe driving awards were presented to 251 district employees. The longest safe driving record cited was 38 years. Once again it belongs to Cliff "Slue" Brooks, maintenance construction supervisor at Henderson. Thirty-eight employees received safe driving awards representing 25 years or more, and the total of all those eligible for safe driving awards represented 4,378 years of safe driving.

After the safe driving awards were presented, certificates of appreciation were given to the following: Harold W. Bateman, for the vegetative management program, Alyce L. Finlayson, for her beautification projects, Gordon B. Graham, Sr., for innovative design, and Lynn E. Simmons, for talent and ability in carpentry.

District Engineer Bobby Evans presented several special recognition plaques for outstanding performance. These were received by the Quitman Maintenance Section for its asphalt work and excellent maintenance program, the Gregg County Residency for its outstanding construction work, and the District Advance Planning Section for its superb work in route location, public involvement and design.

After the awards were handed out, a buffet was served and entertainment was provided by the district band. All members of the band are District 10 employees. The event was organized under the supervision of Ann McClanahan, the district safety coordinator. ★



*Quitman Maintenance Section with DE Evans.*



*District Advance Planning Section*



*Gordan Graham Sr., accepting certificate from DE Evans.*



*Gregg County Residency with Evans.*

## Texarkana employee receives 4-H award

James (Jimmy) F. Guffey, roadway maintenance supervisor at Texarkana, was one of 28 people to receive the Texas 4-H Salute to Excellence Award this year.

Guffey was nominated for the award by County Extension Agent Becky C. Pace for his 18 years of dedicated leadership in the Eylau E-H Club.

Having first joined the Eylau 4-H Club in 1948, Guffey later became an active leader in the club when his daughter, Becky, became a

member in 1968.

He remains an active leader in the club, along with his wife, Maxine, his daughter, and four-year-old grandson, Kristen, who is currently a member of the Eylau 4-H.

Guffey and the other award recipients received their awards during a special luncheon at Texas A&M University on June 11. ★ Marcus Sandifer, Assistant Public Affairs Officer, Atlanta

Don't  
mess with  
Texas.





Castello, Capt. Flores, Capt. Avitia and Marine Technician Covington.

## Three Port Aransas men get Extra Mile Awards

Three employees of the Port Aransas Ferry operations have received the Extra Mile Award.

The three, Marine Captains Jose Avitia and Jose Flores and Marine Technician John Covington Jr., were cited for quick action and courage on February 13 when they moved vehicles off the ferry "Janie Briscoe" and rescued a passenger overcome by smoke from an automobile fire.

The award is presented to employees of the department who perform heroic acts in the line of duty for the safety of others, often at the risk of their own safety.

Deputy Director Al Castello presented the citations on behalf of the administration and commission. Only a handful of awards have

been made since the Extra Mile was instituted about four years ago, Castello said.

The incident in which Avitia, Flores and Covington distinguished themselves occurred while the ferry was fully loaded. A fire erupted in an automobile on board. Smoke from the fire poured into the cab of a pickup parked directly in front of the burning car, trapping the pickup's driver inside.

The three pulled the driver from the pickup and relentlessly fought the fire, which was located near a 1,000-gallon kerosene tank.

The citations were awarded to the trio in recognition of their quick response and disregard for their personal safety in preventing a potential tragedy. ★ **Becky Kureska**, district PAO, Corpus Christi

## Atlanta district grounds site of egg hunt

The grounds of District 19 headquarters in Atlanta served as the site of the annual KALT-KPYN Easter Egg Hunt.

More than 300 local youngsters participated in this year's hunt on March 29, making it one of the largest ever.

Radio station employees scattered 4,700 candy eggs on a large portion of the

grounds along with 40 prize eggs. Prizes donated by local merchants included toys, stuffed animals, chocolate bunnies, and a \$25 savings account as grand prize.

Sponsors of the event refused to let District 19 public affairs personnel hunt. ★ **Marcus Sandifer**, Assistant district PAO, Atlanta



4,700 eggs, 300 youngsters and (apparently) one busy Easter bunny invade Atlanta district headquarters grounds.



## Goode retirement dinner set Aug. 29

A retirement dinner for Engineer-Director Mark Goode has been scheduled for August 29 at La Mansion Hotel in Austin. All department people throughout the state are invited.

Don Clark, director of the information services section, is in charge of arrangements.

Tickets for the dinner are \$27 each. Checks should be made payable to "Special Dinners '86" and sent to Clark, in care of the SDHPT, Travel & Information Division, 11th and Brazos Sts., Austin, TX 78701-2483. ★



Raul Martinez, inspector in the Plainview residency, looks over what's left of the field office.

## Twister delays start of FM road project

Construction to build a five-mile extension of Farm-to-Market Road 2883 south of Plainview in Hale County got off to a rough start when a tornado swept through the construction area May 4.

No one was injured, but the tornado, which dipped out of a late night thunderstorm, overturned and destroyed a trailer that was going to be used as a field office for the project.

The 16-foot trailer, which had been moved to the construction site a few days before the tornado hit, was thrown 70 feet by the strong winds.

Merlin Bennett, Plainview resident engineer, said the department had not moved anything into the trailer before it was destroyed.

The trailer was owned by High Plains Pavers Inc. of Plainview ★ **Randall Dillard**, district PAO, Lubbock





## 33-year-old section of I-10 due rebuilding



*I-10 reconstruction project ground-breaking in Beaumont: From left, Chairman Bob Lanier, Sen. Carl Parker, DE Franklin Young, and contractor Fred Rosiek.*

## Lubbock second-grader wins seat belt contest

Kyle Wright, a second-grader from Posey Elementary School in Lubbock, was the grand prize winner in a bumper sticker design contest, sponsored by a Lubbock, Bank.

Kyle's winning design has been printed and Kyle will receive a flying trip to Austin and an appointment to present one of his stickers in person to Gov. White. The trip is courtesy of Texas Bank and Trust Company of which former Gov. Preston Smith is chairman. Gov. Smith also presented \$50 savings bonds on behalf of the bank to runner-up winners in each of the seven elementary grades.

Kyle's design featured a map of Texas with a heart in the center, kept snug by seat belts

## Dallas holds second softball tourney; state playoff eyed

The Dallas district held its second annual softball tournament May 3, in conjunction with the district's annual picnic.

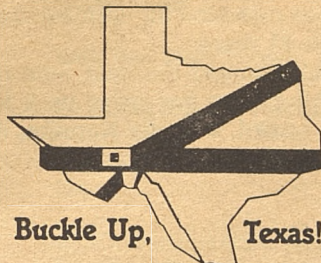
During the all-day tournament, four district teams displayed their prowess. Two of the teams were drawn from the district headquarters, another came from Waxahachie maintenance and the fourth from the northside residency.

One of the district office entries, "the Roadhogs," received the first place trophy from DE Bob Yielding. The second place team, "The Knuckleheads," blamed their 10-9 loss on the fact that they had practiced only once. "Next year we'll practice twice," said one Knucklehead.

Terry May of the district office — (214) 320-6264 — has issued a challenge to any other softball aggregations in the department to contact him with an eye toward organizing a statewide tournament in some central location. ★

with the slogan, "Keep in the Heart of Texas—Wear Seat Belts."

The contest was a project of the Community Occupant Protection Program at Texas Tech University, co-directed by Dr. Jim Fitch and Dr. Timmy Fields. Ruby M. Jackson, Lubbock district traffic safety specialist, monitors the program for the department. ★ **Ruby M. Jackson, Lubbock district traffic safety specialist**



**Front Seat Fatalities Down 14% in First 4 Months**



*Brownwood safe driving champs, from left, John Hutt, 23 years; Melvin Crabtree, 27 years; Olen Crenshaw, 23 years; Lloyd Smith, 25 years; Winston Baker, 25 years, and Robert Corbin, 23 years.*

Commission Chairman Bob Lanier highlighted a delegation on hand for ceremonies marking the beginning of a \$28 million project to rebuild a 33-year-old section of I-10 in Beaumont.

Approximately 100 persons turned out to mark the event, which was sponsored by the Good Road Committee.

Work on the two-mile section includes widening the facility from four to six lanes, rebuilding five overpasses and ramp connections and providing eight lanes across a bridge over the Santa Fe Railroad tracks.

The section actually pre-dates the Interstate system. When it was built in 1953, it was a part of US Highway 90. Total cost was \$3,686,000. Its life expectancy was 23 years.

When it opened, an average of 10,800 cars and trucks a day used it. Today's traffic count is more than 68,000 vehicles a day. Every eight months, as many vehicles use the section from 11th Street to the Neches River as are registered in Texas.

Part of the wear and tear endured by the old highway includes the pounding delivered daily by 20,000 trucks. The level of service is "E"—meaning 100 percent of the capacity is utilized, there are 2,000 vehicles per lane per hour and speeds average as low as 30 miles per hour during the day.

Rosiek Construction Co. of Arlington was the low bidder on the job, which is expected to take about three years to complete. ★ - Nancy Stout, Assistant district PAO, Beaumont

## Brownwood district honors 99 drivers

District Engineer Lawrence Schulz presented special certificates in recognition of 1,493 years of accident-free driving to 99 employees of the Brownwood district at the district's third annual awards banquet April 30.

Stressing the increasing importance of working to achieve safety on our Texas highways was Bobby L. Myers, director of planning and policy, who was keynote speaker for the occasion.

Quinner Williams, director of the Insurance Division for the department, presented a special award for outstanding service in accident prevention to the Brownwood district for having the fewest accidents in the state. ★





Photo by Cliff Bost, Corpus Christi district

*The Harbor Bridge maintenance crew with their 2,000-day safety award, from left, Pedro B. Garcia Jr., Rafael Rodriguez III, Jack Mircovich, Supervisor Gilbert Almaraz, Director of Insurance Quinner Williams, David Gonzalez, William C. Adkins and William D. Mick.*

## Harbor Bridge crew receives safety award

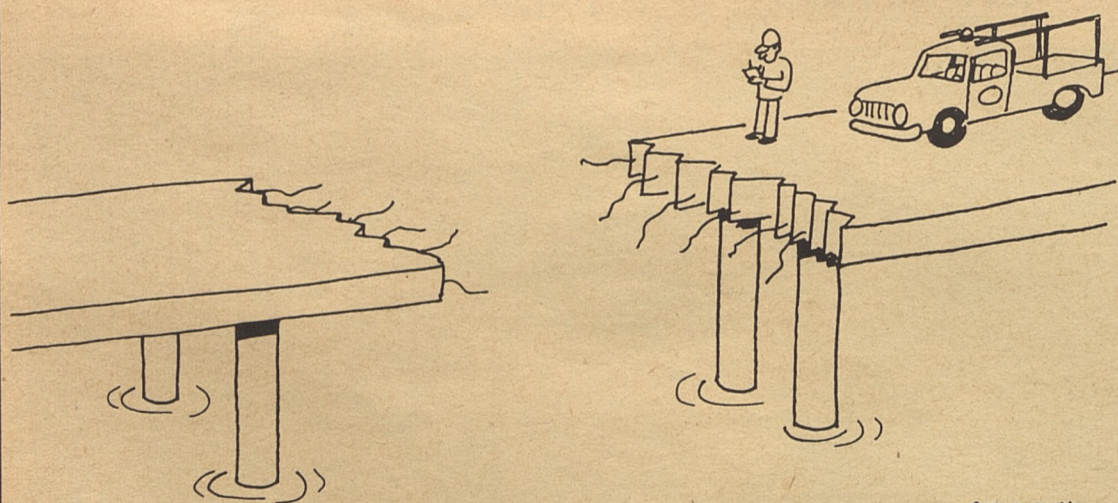
The Harbor Bridge maintenance crew in Corpus Christi has received a certificate for completing 2,000 days without a lost-time accident.

The crew, headed by Gilbert Almaraz, is charged with year-round maintenance on the 26-year-old bridge, continually sand-blasting and painting the structure spans the Corpus Christi Ship Channel.

Assistant District Engineer James Opiela made the presentation, complimenting the crew for its excellent record despite the unique hazards posed by their work. ★



*Cartoonist Scott J. Mendenhall is an engineering technician in the Fort Worth district's BRINSAP group.*



"...LET'S SEE... MINOR SPALLING ON THE DECK... TWO TRANSVERSE CRACKS... REBAR EXPOSED... 7"



*Santos Nerios received a 35-year award from DE Gutierrez.*

## 160 in Corpus Christi district have 1,640 accident-free years

More than 160 employees of the Corpus Christi district received safe driving awards totalling 1,640 years recently.

District Engineer Nino Gutierrez presented a special citation to Santos Nerios of George West who has extended his accident-free driving record to 35 years.

Second place honors this year went to Eloy Gomez of Alice, who has rolled up a 31-year safe driving record. ★ Becky Kureska, district PAO, Corpus Christi

## Skipper winds up with beautiful deck crew



*from left, Becky, Cindy, Capt. Pete, and Renita.*

Capt. James "Pete" Bellar and his beautiful deck crew are shown in the accompanying photo.

When one of his regular crew called in sick recently and a replacement was detailed to Captain Pete's watch, he suddenly found himself surrounded by an all-female deck crew.

He didn't complain, as you can tell from this photograph taken in the Galveston Landing while waiting to take on a load of vehicles and passengers.

Pictured with Captain Pete is Cindy Rohacek, Becky Johnson and Renita Hunt. All three possess the necessary document required by the United States Coast Guard on the ferries.

Captain Pete has been working on the ferries since 1967. Cindy has been so employed since January, 1980. She has been certified by the Coast Guard as a Radar Observer and Lifeboatman and is presently pursuing an intensive course of study in preparation for obtaining a license as First Class Pilot.

Becky Johnson and Renita Hunt have been with the Highway Department working on the ferries since August, 1982 and April, 1984 respectively. Pete, Cindy and Becky are from Bolivar and Renita Hunt resides in LaMarque. ★ Robert Ewels



*Mary Bolado, assistant traffic safety specialist in the Pharr district, receives a special citation from DPS Trooper Sherwood Hamilton. Bolado was honored for helping the DPS translate a seat-belt safety brochure into Spanish.*



# Valley district makes awards to 207 drivers

The annual Safety and Service Awards Meeting in District 21 was held amid full Sesquicentennial decorations. Approximately 432 people, including awardees, employees, retirees and special guests, participated in the meeting.

Jose G. Gonzales, San Benito maintenance, was the man of the hour. Gonzalez was given special recognition for having driven a state vehicle 37 years without being involved in a chargeable accident. There were a total of 207 Safe Driving Awards given totalling 1,759 years of safe driving by District 21 employees.

The meeting was opened with the Presentation of the Colors by the ROTC of Pan American University. Juan Rodriguez gave the invocation. The pledge of allegiance was led by Estella Johnson. A moment of silent prayer was observed for employees and retirees who had died since the last meeting.

Mary Bolado, master of ceremonies, called on G. G. Garcia, district engineer, who welcomed everyone to the 32nd safety awards meeting.

Guest speakers included M. G. Goode, engineer-director, Ed Davis of D-18, Quinner Williams of D-20, Ruben Cardenas, a member of the Department of Public Safety Commission, and Bob Flaherty of D-4.

Goode and Garcia recognized the importance of our maintenance people and all other employees who work in the field in forming the good opinion people have of the department.

Dick Buchen, San Benito resident engineer, presented a Meritorious Award to Rogelio Gonzales for "humanitarian and brave actions" at the site of an accident while off duty.

On behalf of District 21, Garcia accepted an Award of Honor from the Texas Safety Association. The presentation was made by Quinner Williams.

Special District Awards were presented by Sam Cox, district maintenance engineer. These awards are earned by the sections for outstanding performance in particular areas. Crack Pouring was earned by the Raymondville Maintenance Section, super-

visor Alan Knox; Records Accountability by San Benito Maintenance Section, supervisor Mike Garcia; Equipment Preventive Maintenance by Falfurrias Section, supervisor Beto Flores; and Best in the Art of Pavement Patching by the Laredo Section, supervisor Jaime Rivera.

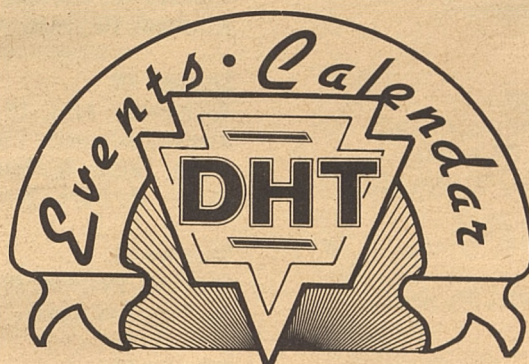
Certificates of Appreciation for promoting traffic safety measures in their areas of expertise were presented to the City of McAllen, represented by Joe Escamilla, City Manager; Linda Pierce of the Starr County Sheriff's Department; Malcolm Welch of Valley Shamrock, Inc.; KRGV-TV5, represented by Ray Alexander and Mary Grace Langford; and Ben Reyna of the Brownsville Police Department. Recognition was given by Cap Decker, traf-

fic safety specialist for the district, and the certificates were presented by Garcia.

Goode commented that even a district engineer gets an award occasionally as he presented Garcia with a 35-year Service Award.

A barbecue, prepared by Bob Whalen and The Best Cooks in Texas, was served following the meeting. Volunteers from Rio Grande City, San Benito, Freer and Brownsville made up the serving team.

Hostesses for the event included Estella Johnson, Luana Gonzalez, Dorothy Gates, Janice Kolberg and Veronica Salinas of the District Office, Rose Reyna and Maria Meza of Laredo, and Linda Dominguez of Raymondville. ★ **Pat Reynolds, assistant district public affairs officer**



*DE Garcia congratulates Jose G. Gonzalez on 37 years of safe driving.*



JUNE		AUGUST	
		9-11	Highway Construction Lettings, Austin, D-6
2-4	Advanced Course in Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M	14	Summer District Engineer/Division Head Meeting, Austin
3	Tape Library Management System Seminar, Austin, D-19	14-16	Interactive Graphics Training, Austin, D-19
3-5	FHWA-NHI Course on Hydrology, Austin D-5	14-17	WASHTO Annual Meeting, Austin
3-5	Administration of FHWA Planning Funds, Austin, D-10P	22-24	Microcomputers in Construction Management Workshop, Houston, D-10R
3-6	Mays Ride Meter Training, Austin, D-18P	23	Commission Public Hearings, Austin
9-11	Interactive Graphics Training, Austin, D-19	24	Commission Meeting, Austin,
10-11	Highway Construction Lettings, Austin, D-6	28-30	Interactive Graphics Training, Austin, D-19
11	UMTA Section 9 Grant Application Procedures Workshop, Fort Worth, D-10P	28-30	Advanced Course in Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M
12-13	Research Area IV (Structural Design), San Antonio, D-5	29-30	TEXAS Model for Intersection Traffic Simulation Workshop, Austin, D-18T
16-18	AASHTO Green Book Training Course, San Antonio, D-8G	4-7	AASHTO Region IV Subcommittee on Design, San Antonio, File BCB
17	Research Area A (Planning, Policy and Management), Austin, D-10R	5-7	International Right of Way Association Regional Educational Refresher Seminar, College Station, D-15
19	Holiday, Emancipation Day in Texas	11-13	Advanced Course in Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M
23-25	Advanced Course in Bridge Inspection, Austin, D-18M	12-13	FREQ8 Freeway Evaluation Workshop, Austin, D-18T
24-27	Arterial Analysis Package Course, Austin, D-18T	12-14	Highway Construction Lettings, Austin, D-6
25-26	Commission Meetings, Austin	14-15	TEXAS Model for Intersection Traffic Simulation Workshop, Austin, D-18T
25-27	Interactive Graphics Training, Austin, D-19	19-21	Workshop on Critical Path Method Analysis, Austin, D-8
25-27	Transportation Planning Conference, El Paso, D-10P	27	Holiday, LBJ's Birthday
JULY		28-29	Commission Meetings, Austin
4	Holiday, Independence Day		



# AWARDS

## Service Awards

(June 1986)

### Administration

Clifford D. Park, 35 years; James D. Frasier, 25 years; Teri H. Sullivan, 10 years.

### Automation

William C. Schwartz, 25 years; Murray D. Edwards, 20 years; Olivia H. Bartsch, 15 years; Scott D. Burford, Charles L. Oldroyd, five years.

### Equipment and Procurement

Roland T. Johnson, 35 years; Carolyn S. Beran, John G. Rodriguez, 25 years; Nicolosa R. Garcia, 15 years; Sandra H. Akers, five years.

### Highway Design

Thomas P. Beckendorf, James M. Sassin, five years.

### Materials and Tests

Dale G. Foster, 30 years.

### Transportation Planning

Margueriet H. Maloney, 10 years.

### Travel and Information

Leonel Garza, William G. Grote Jr., five years.

### District 1

James R. Meredith, Alton Raulston, 35 years; Paul M. Bearden, Kirby W. Pickett, Johnny G. Watkins, 25 years; R.L. Bennett, 20 years; Royce G. Brooks, 15 years; Terri S. Campbell, five years.

### District 2

Jimmy L. McClure, 35 years; Rolland W. Ellis, Billie W. Stout, 20 years; Horace P. Davis, Charles E. Denton, 15 years; James M. Alspaugh, Allen G. Flennoy, Melvin Garrett, Marshall L. Smith, five years.

### District 3

James E. Tune, five years.

### District 4

Robert S. Morgan, 35 years; Bobby D. Head, 30 years; Robert E. Morris, 25 years; Bessie O. Purser, James H. Stone, 20 years; Sam J. Boehs Jr., Craig W. Milford, five years.

### District 5

James R. Abney, 15 years; Alpha H. Cox, Raoul A. Martinez, 10 years; Alan K. Beyer, Genaro C. Chavez, Winiford B. Glenn, five years.

### District 6

Alfredo Matta, 35 years; Federico Trevino, 30 years; James H. Diamond, 25 years; Jose C. Portillo, 20 years; Arturo F. Sarabia, 15 years; Samuel Espinoza, Arturo R. Gonzales Jr., five years.

### District 7

Antonio Cruz, 20 years; Juan G. Jimenez, 10 years; Tommy F. McSherry, five years.

### District 8

Barbara A. Black, 20 years; James A. Payne, Debra T. Roysdon, Michael A. Webb, five years.

### District 9

Thomas H. Gilleland, Allen M. Wilson, 35 years; Woodrow W. Riley, 25 years; Charles W. Hixson, 15 years; Jerry L. Kindred, 10 years.

### District 10

Richard C. Hitt, 35 years; Floyd L. Taylor, 30 years; Calvin E. Burton, 15 years; James W. Barrett, Brenda P. Hollis, Danny R. Park, five years.

### District 11

Billy M. Ponder, 40 years; Omen M. Martin, five years.

### District 12

John Kreuzer, 40 years; Anton L. Kostak, 35 years; Lee G. Bennett, Albert C. Pavlock, 30 years; Edward M. Hamilton, L.B. McGowen, Paul B. Simon, 25 years; Margie B. Johnson, Robert N. Kridner, Lewis L. Lawrence, Richard E. Silva, King S. Wong, 20 years; Daniel P. Houston, 10 years; Warren Ardoin, Joseph A. Pehnke Jr., Debra T. Primrose, Harry L. Wicks, five years.

### District 13

Julius C. Holubec, 30 years; Frank C. Josey Jr., Eugene C. Putska, 20 years; Fred E. Kollman, Albert J. Sestak, 15 years.

### District 14

Nancy M. Tiemann, 15 years; Steve A. Mueth, Timmy J. Stacy, five years.

### District 15

Edward R. Dewitt, 35 years; Elmer V. Burow, Thomas E. Peschke, 30 years; Billy R. Faust, 25 years; Ernest R. Barrientes,

Thomas M. Kyle, Gilbert L. Meier Jr., Hilmar L. Mondin, 20 years; Joe M. Castillo, Karl L. Kennedy, 15 years; Gary L. Fitts, Eutimio Garcia, Adolfo R. Lopez, Margie N. Wall, five years.

### District 16

James O. Lindholm Jr., 35 years; Wilbert Geffert, John D. Prosen, 30 years; Donald R. Mosier, Margaret J. Swartz, 25 years; Wilbert O. Vaughn, 20 years.

### District 17

W.J. Byford, Curtis W. Todd, 30 years; Glen A. Price, five years.

### District 18

Cecil H. Everitt Jr., James D. McDaniel, Hessie E. Whitehurst, 20 years; Danny J. Jennings, William C. Lovil Jr., Eddie Struggs Jr., 15 years.

### District 19

Troy O. Fitzgerald, 35 years; Kenneth R. Duke, 30 years; Robert E. Davidson, 20 years; Linda A. McGaughy, five years.

### District 20

T.G. Morgan, 40 years; Wilbert H. Linscomb, Warren B. Steed, 35 years; Charles E. Hildabrant, 30 years; John V. Ritter, five years.

### District 21

Luis M. Escobar, 25 years; Jesus Caltzontzint Jr., Adalberto Flores, Octavio Flores, Raymundo Huerta, Jose H. Vasquez, 20 years; Roberto Lopez, 15 years; Rene R. Garcia, Leocadio Guerrero, five years.

### District 23

Travis J. Bundick, Wilbert L. Tynes, five years.

### District 24

Roberto I. Cardoza, 15 years.

### District 25

Johnny Phillips, 30 years.

## North computer unit occupies new home

The department's Northeast Regional Computer Center moved into a new home designed specifically for the computer center.

Jim Jacoy, automation administrator and regional manager, said, "It couldn't have gone much better. In a move like this you expect a lot of problems, but we had very few."

The center had previously been housed in 640 square feet of the District 18 Office Building. The new location has approximately 3,000 square feet and is located on the District 18 grounds.

To accommodate the move, all systems were shutdown on Friday evening, March 22, around 7 p.m. Cable disconnection was initiated. By 9:30 p.m. that same evening, all of the computer equipment had been moved to the new location.

On Saturday, the equipment was aligned and recabled. Less than 24 hours after the process was begun, the IBM system was fully operational. The Intergraph System took a little longer but was functional by 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

Department personnel involved in the move included Debbie Burgess (regional operator), David Hall and Ricky White (district building maintenance), Harold Walker, Tommy Haydon, Jeff Hazard, Mike Kieke, and Mike Lusby (Automation Division).

Robert Yielding, Dallas District Engineer, said that he recognizes the hard work that went into this relocation and expressed a thanks to all individuals involved. ★



# RETIREMENTS

(March 31, 1986)

## Administration

Joan R. Smelser, Staff Services Assistant.

## Motor Vehicle

Doris S. Sudduth, Administrative Technician IV.

## Safety and Maintenance Operations

James E. Walding, Staff Services Assistant.

## Transportation Planning

Marcellus A. Dragoo, Planning Assistant; Walter Hejl, Administrator of Technical Programs II.

## District 1

Herschell Barbee, Maintenance Technician III; Herbert G. Clark, Maintenance Technician III; Sam H. Wade, Maintenance Technician III.

## In Memoriam

### Employees:

**Charles L. Callahan**, District 20, died May 5, 1986.

**Benjamin H. Carrington**, District 17, died May 19, 1986.

**Gerald D. Williams**, District 7, died April 28, 1986.

### Retirees:

**Hubert Burkhead**, Dallas, retired from Materials and Tests Division, died April 26, 1986.

**Cletus F. Dawson**, Zapata, retired from District 21, died May 2, 1986.

**Floyd H. Epperson**, Three Rivers, retired from District 12, died February 25, 1986.

**Charley H. Goss**, Midland, retired from District 9, died April 11, 1986.

**Clement C. Huser**, Beeville, retired from District 16, died February 14, 1986.

**Louie F. Lane**, Palestine, retired from District 10, died April 7, 1986.

**Joe Kahanek**, Schulenburg, retired from District 13, died April 29, 1986.

**Alfredo Sanchez**, Falfurrias, retired from District 21, died March 13, 1986.

**Jeff W. Seay**, Austin, retired from Construction Division, died May 16, 1986.

**William R. Smothers**, Granite Shoals, retired from District 21, died April 6, 1986.

**Robert E. Stanford**, San Angelo, retired from District 7, died March 30, 1986.

**Sumpter E. West**, Lubbock, retired from District 5, died March 10, 1986.

**Valeary West**, China, retired from District 20, died February 24, 1986. ★ **Compiled by Bernice Kissmann, Human Resources Division.**

## District 2

Lonnie L. Burns, Maintenance Technician III; Leroy M. Palmer, Engineering Technician V.

## District 4

Albert W. Baker, Maintenance Technician III.

## District 6

Mildred P. McKeel, Accountant III.

## District 8

Winifred N. Bollinger, Engineering Technician V; Julian J. Gilbert, Engineer III; Bedford A. Putnam, Maintenance Technician III; Edwin D. Renfro, Maintenance Technician II.

## District 9

Lloyd E. Brown, Engineering Technician III; Otto C. Turner, Maintenance Technician II.

## District 10

James L. Waller, Engineering Technician V.

## District 11

Dan C. Woolley, Maintenance Technician III.

## District 12

James T. Hurt, Maintenance Technician III; Lawrence J. Leinweber, Maintenance Technician III; Ignacio O. Villareal, Engineering Technician V.

## District 13

Benjamin W. Buscha, Maintenance Technician III; Ferdinand J. Janek, Engineering Technician V; Kermit E. Kolwes, Maintenance Technician III.

## District 14

Carlos R. Smith, Maintenance Technician III.

## District 15

Lupe S. Chapa, Maintenance Technician II; Kenneth C. Childs, Maintenance Technician III; Adelheid F. Heyland, Maintenance Technician III; Bruce B. Mahavier, Engineering Technician III; Gerhardt H. Weynand, Maintenance Technician II.

## District 16

Homer P. Dove, Engineering Technician III.

## District 17

Peirrie L. Decker, Engineering Technician V; Joyce Wooley, Maintenance Technician II.

## District 18

Vernon L. Shoemaker, Maintenance Technician III.

## District 19

Harvey W. Kale, Maintenance Technician III; Charles C. Wagner, Assistant Foreman.

## District 20

Tom D. Barnes, Administrative Assistant.

## District 21

Robert W. Beattie, Engineer IV.

## District 24

Iuan J. Lujan, Maintenance Technician III; Raul R. Ortiz, Assistant Foreman.

## District 25

Lester W. Graham, Assistant Foreman.

## MVD retiree began as a laborer

Warren Wolff retired on January 31, 1986 after 37 years of dedicated service with the department. He began his career as a common laborer in 1947.

He transferred from the Accounting Section in 1968 when he was promoted to Assistant Supervisor of the E.D.P. Section of the Division of Motor Vehicles. In 1975 he became Chief Supervisor of the E.D.P. Section and has held that position since then.

Reminiscing, Warren admits that the last 18 years have been enjoyable! After all, supervising at times more than 60 women, he kept up with the latest in fashions for women—mini-skirts, street lengths, the dropped hem line,

and now, punk!

Warren will keep himself busy with his hobbies which include traveling, working with his home computer, gardening, and doing volunteer work for his church.

His future plans include going to electronics school and spending more time with his wife, Doris; three sons, Gregg, Charles, and Chris; and his four grandchildren.

Well, Warren, if you call that retirement, our best wishes to you in all your endeavors! ★ **Sandy Hanson and Becky Beck, Division of Motor Vehicles**

## Davis retires, Elliott heads maintenance in Fort Worth district

J. R. Stone, Fort Worth district engineer, has appointed Glenn Elliott district maintenance engineer, replacing Billy Davis, who has retired.

Elliott has been assistant district maintenance engineer. A native of Glen Rose, Elliott graduated from Texas A&M University in 1972 and joined the department in 1974.

Davis had 37 years of service with the department. He had been district maintenance engineer since 1968. ★



Wolff and secretary, Carol Erdmann.



# roadrunners



I want to applaud you and your department for your dedication to highway safety and maintenance. Recently, I contacted your employee, Mr. Jarvis Haverland, to request some work at our entrance to Highway 183. Mr. Haverland was so polite and prompt it overwhelmed us.

We have had a problem with people using the easement (not part of the paved highway) to get to their place of business, or take their cars for repair at the shop which created a safety hazard. Mr. Haverland installed the requested posts promptly.

**Mr. and Mrs. Bleeker L. Morse, Jr.**  
Austin

*Austin District PAO Mark Ball said Jarvis Haverland is maintenance construction foreman for Travis County West.*

Dear Mr. Bates

Forgive our tardiness in letting you know just how very much we appreciated your kind help on Highway No. 82, east of Paris about 10 a.m. on April 25, 1986. With your great start and superb guidance and directions, coupled with our earnest prayers that the batteries not give out, we made it to the garage you had recommended! They took us right in, and you were right — the alternator was completely gone. They got right to work, installed a new alternator, charged up all of our batteries (it had drained even those in the trailer to get in to Paris)...and we were once again on our way. Thank you just more than these words can convey for all of your help, kindnesses, and not to mention your gracious offer of hospitality if needed! We were able to see the rest of your beautiful country and hope to return in the near future! Should you ever get to our part of California...please let us hear from you...hopefully we will be able to show you a bit of our "home country!"

Sincerely,  
**Bud and Barb Nelson**  
Whittier, CA

*Alvis W. Bates is the assistant foreman of the Lamar County Maintenance Section in Paris.*

We have just returned to our home on Whidbey Island, Washington after an extensive, 7,500-mile trip across the United States.

We traveled entirely across the State of Texas, stopping in many rest areas and having picnics along the way. There is one rest area in your state that you should be more than proud of and that is the purpose of this letter — to let you know that in all our travels we never found a more superb area that we appreciated more than while traveling on I-40 just east of Amarillo.

The lawn was so well kept, the rest rooms were as clean as any home and the picnic area couldn't have been cleaner and more inviting. We have no idea who is responsible for this area, but they are certainly to be highly commended for having the cleanest, neatest, and truly the most comfortable for the travelers.

It was our pleasure to see a place where people care enough to make their fellow traveler feel so welcome.....that rest area east of Amarillo is that place. Please give our thanks to those responsible.

**Mrs. William L. Jackson**  
Langley, WA

*Amarillo District Assistant Public Affairs Officer Dan Slak reports the I-40 rest area near Groom is under the care of Venita Hickey and Buddy Weller, working under Randall Patterson.*

You and the Highway Department have done it again! The City of Sweetwater is extremely grateful for the results of the extensive clean-up effort by your department following the April 19 tornado here.

Our community is months — if not years — ahead in clean-up and rebuilding after the devastating storm because of the role played by TDHPT. The long hours and dedicated work performed by your crews motivated residents of the damaged area to get down to the business of regrouping their lives.

The thorough job done by TDHPT personnel has saved the city and property owners

## Second Notice

The State Appropriations Act requires all state newsletters and other periodicals to present a notice in three consecutive issues indicating "that anyone desiring to continue to receive the publication must so indicate in writing. The agency shall furnish future publications only to those persons requesting."

This applies to readers who receive single copies addressed to them in the U.S. mail. It does not apply to active employees who receive their copies through departmental distribution channels.

To remain on the mailing list, all others must respond once by September 1, 1986, by returning this notice, signed and dated, together with the mailing box below and the label, showing any needed corrections, to:

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Signature

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countless dollars and hours of massive involvement in debris removal and demolition. I appreciated the effective manner in which you and your crews cooperated with city and volunteer workers from time to time during the clean-up campaign.

Please pass along my heartfelt appreciation to each member of your department who toiled such long hours in our service. Please call on the City of Sweetwater in the future if any of our resources may be of use to your department.

**Rick Rhodes, Mayor,**  
Sweetwater

My husband is a cross-country driver and I accompany him. For many years we have used Texas interstates, and while the Southeast is beautiful, and the Northeast is lovely, there does remain the rest of Texas (miles of miles, of miles and miles and not much more). Every time we cross Texas, I vow to write, so here it is:

Our compliments to all Texans who create and maintain the rest areas. They are invariably clean and cared for, and we do appreciate. This is fundamentally true of most of our states. What makes Texas rest areas unique is the imagination that has inspired the designs and variety of designs in rest areas throughout the state. There are Wigwam themes, Oil Well themes, Old West themes, etc., all very well done. In a landscape bereft of variety, Texans have risen to the occasion and done it well. Those rest areas are a welcome sight — Our thanks!

**Chuck & Joyce Sander**  
La Mesa CA

