



VOL 5: ISSUE 6



MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HERNANDEZ

If you know me, you know I have a heart for kids. I was the very definition of an "at-risk kid." At the age of 15, the victim of assault, I ran away from home. I didn't have a plan for my future. What I knew for sure was I wanted out. I was on a dangerous path that could have resulted in any number of negative outcomes. A precious woman intervened in my life and mentored me. She set me on a new path that included faith, family and education. Those tenants continue to serve me today.

It is the desire of my heart that we do the very most we can to invest in the future of our community by mentoring the next generation. I want you to know that the men and women of your Travis County Sheriff's Office do this very well.

In this issue, you'll find an announcement I'm so excited about - Junior Deputy Summer Camp is back this year! We had to scale it down a bit as we make our way out of Covid-19 restrictions, but it certainly is good to see this special event return. I can't wait to welcome the campers' smiling faces. You'll also read about our Public Safety Cadets. These dedicated teens spend months learning the

ins and outs of law enforcement from our deputies and corrections officers. They emerge from the program with knowledge and maturity beyond their years.

Whether it be deputies interacting with kids in the community, corrections officers who give their time to mentor kids whose parent is incarcerated, Junior Summer Deputy Camp, Public Safety Cadets, deputies serving as School Resource Officers or any number of opportunities in between, TCSO loves kids and we want to do our part to equip them to succeed.



TEACHING EXTERNSHIP



TCSO Human Resources (HR) recently held a three-day, hybrid in-person/virtual externship for teachers from Austin ISD, Manor ISD, and the Alternative Learning Center. Participants were able to learn about the variety of wonderful public service careers available in our agency as well as the skills required so they can spread the word to their students and help us build the future of TCSO. Roles within the Corrections and Law Enforcement Bureaus were highlighted, along with presentations from some of our most vital teams to include nurses, psychologists, HR liaisons, maintenance specialists, and counselors.

You can learn more about TCSO career opportunities at www.TCSOCareers.com.



PUBLIC SAFETY CADETS



TCSO's Explorers Post 1099 program has transitioned to a new membership under [Public Safety Cadets](#). Our Unit 1099's mission and values remain the same - to provide young adults (14 -20) with knowledge, skills, and experiences to prepare them for a career in public service. The program also focuses on character, community service, leadership, and physical fitness.

Earlier this month, Unit 1099 began the Austin Police Dept.'s Explorer Academy which is a five-week, multi-agency training program. This is one of many learning opportunities our cadets experience. If you know a young adult that would be interested in joining our team, please contact our [Community Outreach Unit](#).



In Memoriam

On March 18, 2020, Senior Deputy Christopher "Chris" Korzilius was killed while on duty in a head-on vehicle collision that caused his vehicle to roll off the roadway. His death happened the very week COVID-19 restrictions began in earnest. Mass gatherings were halted, and travel bans went into place. Although it was painful to wait over a year to formally pay respects to him, both TCSO and Chris's family decided an in-person ceremony with full honors was worth the wait. On June 24th, a memorial service with full honors was held, bringing with it the opportunity to grieve together and honor his memory.



On June 18th, [Beyond the Call of Duty End of Watch Ride to Remember 2020](#) stopped at TCSO in remembrance of Deputy Chris Korzilius. The organization tours the U.S. in honor of peace officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. We enjoyed meeting them and sharing memories of Chris.



LAKE PATROL RESCUE



Over Memorial Day weekend, TCSO Lake Patrol deputies responded to an Assist Boater call. A party barge experiencing engine failure was stranded as a severe storm approached. Unable to accommodate the large number of passengers on their boat, TCSO deputies attached their boat to the side of the party barge in what's called a "hip tow." They steered the barge across the lake as the storm raged with high winds, lightning and hail. Within less than 30 minutes, all passengers and deputies were safely sheltered at a marina.

JUNETEENTH PARADE



On June 19th, TCSO proudly participated in the annual [Historical Central Texas Juneteenth Parade](#). Juneteenth, also known as "Freedom Day" or "Emancipation Day," is the oldest known African American celebration commemorating the end of slavery. It was great to safely be back out visiting with the community - we had a lot of fun and look forward to next year!



GUN LOCK DISTRIBUTION

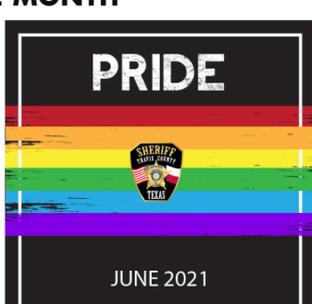


June is National Safety Month. TCSO encourages individuals to store firearms responsibly; it's the number one way to help prevent accidents, thefts and misuse to include suicides.

On June 1st, the TCSO Community Outreach Unit hosted a drive-thru Gun Lock Distribution Event where we provided free [Project ChildSafe®](#) gun locks and resource materials on gun violence prevention/secure storage practices. We offer free gun locks year-round. Please contact our [Community Outreach Unit](#) to request a lock(s).



PRIDE MONTH



June is national PRIDE Month, and in support, TCSO's [Building Bridges](#) program hosted Equality Travis County for the Friday Dialogue on June 18th. TCSO Senior Certified Peace Officer Melissa Durant and Senior Corrections Officer Michael Jimenez presented "Understanding LGBTQIA as a Community." It was a very engaging and insightful discussion. We appreciate the community for joining us for these important conversations. You can visit our [Event Calendar](#) for more information on future presentations.

BASIC PEACE OFFICER COURSE - CLASS #23 GRADUATION



Class #23 graduated from the Basic Peace Officer Course on June 11th. We would like to congratulate the following TCSO employees on this well-earned recognition: Mark Anthony Arce, Matthew Berck, Cristina Birdwell, Shishir Budhathoki, Joe Camarillo, Antonio Casanova, Nicholas Coleman, Adria Garcia, Kristopher Brininger, Brian Jensen, Royphen Long, Rodolfo Loredo-Diaz, Erin Monroe, Andre Rios, Vanessa Rios, Robert Sabin, Christopher Snoeberger, Roy Vargas, and Margrit Zuniga.

NOTICE



Independence Day is just a few days away. We hope you have a fun and safe time celebrating. With fireworks banned in most cities, we get a lot of questions about what is allowed in the unincorporated areas of the Travis County. Here are some helpful resources:
[County Code](#)
[Fire Marshal](#)



TCSO is excited to host our annual Junior Deputy Summer Camp August 2 - 5, 2021 for 9 - 12 year olds. We will only be offering it once this summer. Registration opens at 8:00 am on July 6th when the Camper Registration Packet will be made available. Please visit our [camp page](#) for more information.