

At the District Drive Off, drivers must again conquer the six categories. The two drivers with the highest scores advance to compete in the statewide competition.



TxDOT Corpus Christi District employees competed in the District Rodeo in April.

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Skills Tested Through Friendly Competition

For TxDOT Maintenance Section employees with a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) the annual Rodeo competition is serious business that allows them to demonstrate their skills and talent behind the wheel.

Susan Feudo, Safety Officer for the TxDOT-Corpus Christi District, said the Rodeo is a critical evaluation tool to ensure safety. "The Rodeo is mandatory for any employee with a Class A or B Commercial Driver's License and for some supervisors," Feudo said. "This is a fun way to reinforce lessons and hone skill sets that will protect workers and the driving public in a work zone."

To advance through the competition, drivers must excel in six categories – (1) vehicle inspection, (2) the spotter, (3) offset backing, (4) the serpentine, (5) diminishing clearance and (6) the traffic stop. A driver can earn a maximum of 50 points per category, except offset backing where a driver can earn a maximum of 100 points. To advance beyond the section competition, drivers must score higher than 300 on a scale of 350 and/or receive the top two scores among their competition. At the District Drive

Off, drivers must again conquer the six categories. The two drivers with the highest scores advance to compete in the statewide competition.

Winners of the 2011 Corpus Christi District Drive Off are Edward Bryan of the Beeville Maintenance Section and John Evers of the Rockport Maintenance Section – both of whom will be competing in their first statewide Rodeo. They will compete against 56 other talented drivers at the statewide competition – two each from TxDOT's 25 districts and two from the four regional offices – on October 20 in Austin. "I've always done



TxDOT Corpus Christi District 2011 Rodeo Winners Edward Bryan of the Beeville Maintenance Section and John Evers of the Rockport Maintenance Section.

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Friendly Competition (Continued)



Danny Cox of the Rockport Maintenance Section signals back-up instructions during the spotter category at the District Roadeo.

Susan Feudo; District Maintenance Special Projects Coordinator Kip Dove; and Field Safety Coordinator Richard Tuttle.

David McDermott from the Alice Maintenance Section has been in the District Drive Off for 13 years and been to the state competition twice. "You feel the pressure of the State Drive Off. The level of competition is what fuels the pressure."

really good. I was just on that day," Evers, who received the highest score in the District Drive Off, said. "I just want to go up there and win," Edward Bryan said. He was very surprised at his performance in the District Drive Off. "I was shocked," he said. "I didn't have any idea I was going to be one of the top drivers." Bryan added, "I'm looking forward to the competition."

Bryan and Evers will be cheered on at the statewide Roadeo by District Engineer John Casey;

Drivers expressed a great variety regarding which Roadeo component is their favorite.

Joe Perez of Regional Fleet Services likes the serpentine. "It takes some skill with going forward into the obstacles and then having to reverse back out of the obstacles

without hitting any cones," Perez, who has been to State Drive Off four times, said. Joe De Leon of the Refugio Maintenance Section favors vehicle inspection. "Sometimes you get stuff – there's a lot more things wrong with it than what they actual listed," De Leon said. "It makes it interesting."

McDermott said having a CDL is a lot of responsibility, not only on the job with TxDOT, but in your private life. Improving his driving skills on the job impacts how he drives when he's not on the clock, especially through work zones. "We know what it's like to be the person behind the cones," McDermott said.



Felix Lopez of the Beeville Maintenance Section inspects a truck during the District Roadeo in Corpus Christi.

The TxDOT Corpus Christi District's quest to achieve Mission Zero has gained momentum with the addition of two seasoned maintenance professionals. Richard Tuttle and Kip Dove will focus on safety and improving maintenance skills throughout the Corpus Christi District.

Richard Tuttle joined the Safety Office on August 1, 2011, and will remain in this position for two years as part of the district's new Safety Rotation Program. Richard has been with TxDOT for 14 years and worked his way through maintenance operations to become a Crew Chief in Refugio Maintenance. He has also served as a Lead Worker and Interim Supervisor. He will utilize his vast experience in maintenance operations while in the field performing Peer Reviews, participating in Local Safety Review Teams, participating in safety meetings and mentoring all TxDOT employees in safe methods of operations. Richard serves on the District Safety Committee and will also support the District Maintenance Staff in their On-The-Job Training Program. Richard recently retired from the Texas Army National Guard after serving our country for 24 years, with

Safety: Mission **ZERO** Team Grows

eight years active duty. He did one tour in Kosovo, two tours in Bosnia, one in Operation Desert Storm, two in Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom 1 & 3) and one tour in Afghanistan. Richard and his family reside in Refugio.

Kip Dove works as the District Maintenance Special Projects Coordinator. Kip has been with TxDOT for 25 years, serving as everything from an equipment operator to a Lead Worker. He worked out of the George West Office during his 25 years and is now assigned to the District Maintenance Office working with District Maintenance Administrator Wally Villarreal. His forte is on-the-job-training. Kip and Wally are developing an On-The-Job Training Program that teaches safe, efficient job procedures in real time, while working on projects. Kip serves on the District Safety Committee and will also support the Safety Office with their Mission Zero project. He has been essential in developing the Peer Review program. Kip and his family reside in northwestern Bee County.

Summary of the 82nd Texas Legislature

The following information provides a very brief summary on some of the key legislative measures that affect TxDOT.

HB 1 – General Appropriations Act

Total Agency Funding (FY 2012-2013 biennium): \$19.8 billion, an increase of approximately \$4 billion over the FY 2010-2011 biennium. The bulk of the increase comes from \$4 billion in Proposition 12 bond proceeds, distributed as follows:

- \$1 billion to continue making payments on the \$2 billion in projects awarded in 2010-2011.
- \$300 million - develop mobility projects in the four most congested regions.
- \$500 million - bridges specified in HB 1.
- \$600 million - urban and metro mobility, split among the Metropolitan Planning Organizations.
- \$200 million - connectivity, allocated by the Transportation Commission.
- \$1.4 billion - rehabilitation and safety, distributed by the Category 1 formula.

TxDOT must still submit a detailed plan for the use of Prop 12 and Fund 6 appropriations and include impacts to the state's economy, traffic safety, congestion reduction and pavement scores. The legislature removed the requirement for the LBB to approve the plan before appropriations may be expended.

SB 1420 – TxDOT Sunset bill

Retains the five-member Texas Transportation Commission (Commission).

TxDOT can enter into design-build contracts for highway projects, including tolled or non-tolled projects.

Provides for a more transparent and understandable project planning, reporting and programming system.

Requires an internal compliance office that is responsible for acting to prevent and detect serious breaches of departmental policy, fraud, waste and abuse of office.

Transfers motor carrier permitting functions from TxDOT to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). TxDOT will retain the authority to set weights and will retain authority over establishing the routing of super heavy permits. TxDOT will also retain authority over the heavy corridor districts (ex: Port of Corpus Christi Authority special freight district permit/roadway permit).

Streamlined the environmental process by requiring a Memorandum of Understanding between TxDOT and state agencies to limit the time for state agency reviews and comments on the environmental, historical or archeological effect of a highway project. Creates a TxDOT review process of environmental documents for certain highway projects by local governments. District environmental specialists shall be certified to work on all documents related to state and federal environmental review processes.

SB 18 – Eminent Domain

Contains a revised bona fide provision that provides an objective standard for determining a bona fide offer; provides a new standard to replace the damage standard for diminished access which is a material impairment of direct access on or off the remaining property that affects

the market value of the remaining property; and, provides the property owner the right to repurchase the property in certain limited situations.



HB 563 – Transportation Reinvestment Zones

Provides local governments the ability to establish transportation reinvestment zones for projects without the need for it to be tied to the pass-through financing program. TxDOT shall delegate project responsibilities upon request from the local government, but the agency maintains project oversight. SB 1420 authorizes counties to use this process as well.

HB 1353 – Speed limits

Allows the Commission to establish 75 mph speed limits on the state highway system if found reasonable and safe through a traffic engineering study. Eliminates the statewide nighttime and truck speed limit differential.

HB 1201 – Trans Texas Corridor

Repeals the Trans-Texas Corridor statutes, but retains the ability for the Commission to establish exclusive lanes for use by oversize/overweight vehicles and higher speed limits up to 85 mph on facilities designed to such standards.

Two New Ferries Join Port Aransas Fleet



Former TxDOT Executive Director Charles W. “Wes” Heald greets Toribio Garza, TxDOT Director of Maintenance Division, following the dedication of two new ferry boats.

More than 200 invited guests, dignitaries, friends, family, local citizens and current and former TxDOT colleagues joined in the celebration on June 24, 2011, for the dedication of the two newest ferry boats to join the fleet in Port Aransas.

Ferry Operations Manager Howard Gillespie clicked on the microphone from the cabin of the Charles W. Heald and invited everyone to board the two sparkling new vessels. Named in honor of former TxDOT Executive Directors Michael W. Behrens and Charles W. “Wes” Heald, they are the first new ferries to join the fleet in Port Aransas since 2000. The new vessels can carry as many as 28 passenger vehicles or up to 150 individual passengers. The six current ferry boats in the Port Aransas fleet carry only 20 vehicles. The ferry service averages about two million two-way vehicle crossing per year between Port Aransas and Harbor Island.

Among the dignitaries and guests joining in the dedication celebration were Transportation Commissioner William Meadows, former Transportation Commissioner John Johnson, former TxDOT Executive

Directors Arnold Oliver and Bill Burnett, Port Aransas Mayor Keith McMullen, representatives of the companies that designed and built the two boats, and members of the Behrens and Heald family.

Planning for newer, larger ferry boats in Port Aransas began almost 10 years ago, but funding didn’t become available from state and federal sources until 2009. The two boats combined cost more than \$17.4 million, including \$7.2 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). “I’m proud of the way TxDOT has leveraged these funds,” said TxDOT Executive Director Amadeo Saenz. “We can honestly say this project created long-term sustainable jobs and improved transportation infrastructure in Texas.”

The new boats, which began serving customers on July 1 just in time for the busy Independence Day weekend, are longer, wider, faster, quieter, safer, easier to navigate, more powerful, more efficient and more technologically advanced than its six fleet mates.

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The public gets their first tour of one of the 28-vehicle ferries that joined the fleet in Port Aransas.

Two New Ferries (continued)

The current fleet of six 20-vehicle ferries were built between 1987 and 2000, but used the same design specifications and technologies from the mid-1970s. The boats were designed by Elliott Bay Design Group of Seattle, Washington, and built by Southwest Ship Yard, LP, from Houston, Texas.

Since 1987, TxDOT tradition has named ferry boats in Port Aransas for former TxDOT Executive Directors and in Galveston for former Highway Department or Transportation Commission members. Heald, who worked for TxDOT for 40 years, served as Executive Director from March 1, 1998, until his retirement in August 2001. Behrens, who worked for TxDOT for 36 years, succeeded Heald and served as Executive Director from September 2001 until his retirement on August 31, 2007. Heald is a native of Spur, but considers Brownwood to be his hometown. He and his wife, Dorothy, currently live in Georgetown. Behrens and his wife, Karen, reside in Yoakum. Both Heald and Behrens are proud graduates of Texas A&M University.

“Mike and Wes epitomize dedicated public service and commitment to the TxDOT family,” Saenz said.

“The ferry boats that proudly bear their names will continue their unflinching service to the people of Texas.”

The public was treated to a catered reception following the dedication at the Port Aransas Community Center.

TxDOT wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to the generous sponsors who helped make the event so successful, including the Associated General Contractors of Texas, the Port of Corpus Christi Authority, the Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce and Tourist Bureau, the City of Port Aransas, the Texas Motor Transportation Association and Stripes Convenience Stores.



Captain Charles Hafter navigates the Charles W. Heald.

District To Use Technology To Track Signs



On highways around the TxDOT Corpus Christi District, signs tell drivers where they are, where they want to go and how to get there. What is not known is just how many signs there are. There are likely thousands of signs throughout the 10 counties in the Corpus Christi District – signs for everything from mile markers, streets, speed limit, city limits, rivers and streams, on- and off-ramps, bridges, directions, warnings and destinations. A new sign inventory project started this summer will use Global Positioning System (GPS) technology to locate each sign and gather other important information about that sign.

GPS is a navigation and mapping system that uses a device to receive signals from a network of satellites in space. The signal from the satellites to the receiver determines the latitude, longitude and elevation of the receiver.

According to Jacob Longoria, an engineer with District Traffic Operations, the district is investing in 14 Trimble NOMAD devices, which cost about \$3,000 each. With this device, users will be able to take color photographs of each sign, set the physical location of the sign and then use a pull-down menu to input a variety of data about each sign, such as the county, the road, the size and type of sign, the support or post type and much more. A bar code will be affixed to each sign installation to identify the location and components that make up the sign installation including the DHT number for each sign in the assembly for ease of re-ordering. As signs are serviced or replaced, they will also have bar codes attached that will allow tracking of the life history of each sign in the district from first receipt to final disposal.

The project, according to Longoria, will help the district in case signs are ever stolen, damaged or torn down by a hurricane,

as well as life cycle analysis. Purchases of new or replacement signs should be streamlined with the data collected from the inventory. Right now, Longoria said, the district is relying on institutional memory of staff for information on when a sign was installed or replaced.

The first Trimble NOMAD device was loaned to the district by TxDOT's GIS Section in Austin. Longoria received training and then worked with summer intern, Rene Zavala, a Texas A&M University-Kingsville engineering student, to customize the pull-down menu for the Corpus Christi District. After some initial testing, TxDOT will train staff from the maintenance sections to collect and download the data for the inventory. The data can be exported to a variety of formats – Excel spreadsheets, Access databases, KML for Google maps and Shape Files for ArcGIS maps. The City of Corpus Christi also began an

inventory of signs and included a number of TxDOT signs that it will share with the district. Longoria hopes to have the sign inventory completed within one year.



Jacob Longoria demonstrates to Texas A&M University-Kingsville summer intern Rene Zavala how to use the Trimble NOMAD device. Zavala used the device to geo-locate traffic signs around the district and built some pull-down menus for device users.

Work Zone Awareness Display Winner

Robstown Maintenance

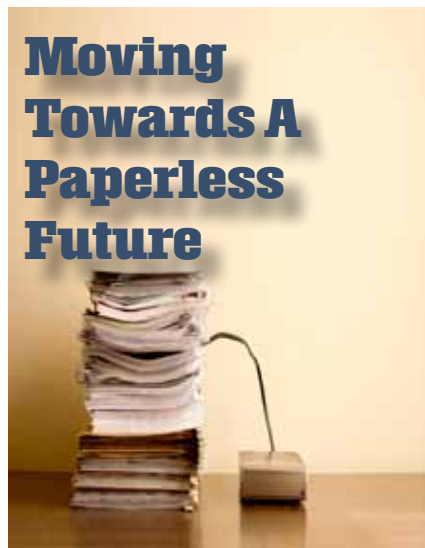
All district area and maintenance offices were invited to create displays outside the office that would be visible to passing motorists to promote National Work Zone Awareness Week (April 4-8, 2011). The theme "Whose Life Is On the Line?" attempted to put a human face and a personal story behind the barricades so drivers would slow down, eliminate distractions and create a safe working environment.

The winner of the display contest is the West Nueces County Maintenance Office, located at 1750 U.S. Highway 77 – two miles south of Robstown. The display was created by Sylvia Garza and Eugenio Alfaro. The display featured a model roadway with two passing cars, a series of crosses with hard hats and orange vests to symbolize workers killed in work zones and message signs with photos. The winning office will receive a pizza party.

Thank you to all the area and maintenance offices to spreading the message of work zone safety – for employees, contractors and the driving public. You put your life on the line every day on the road and we value you and appreciate your commitment to excellence.



Photo by Sylvia Garza. From left to right: Eugenio Alfaro, Alfredo Gaona, Robert Saucedo, Mariano Gonzalez, Joel Longoria, Mario Ybarra, Joe Guerra, Ismael Sanchez and Rene Gomez



Moving Towards A Paperless Future

The TxDOT Corpus Christi District will soon undertake a pilot project for an electronic document management system that will allow quick access to documents from any TxDOT computer and also save big on storage space, supplies and money.

TxDOT completed an Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) report in 2009, which proposed an enterprise implementation strategy. It is a system that incorporates both document storage and retrieval and records retention. The term "record" and "document" are used interchangeably. According to the agency's Administrative Rules, a record is a document, book, paper, photograph, computer-generated or stored data, sound recording or other material, regardless of physical qualities, created or received by or on behalf of a state agency or elected official that documents activities in the conduct of state business or use of public resources. Components of a record can consist of hard copy, scanned or imaged documents, related electronic files, e-mail, instant messaging text, video, audio, photographs or other vehicles that convey information and content.

The EDMS effort in this district will be led by Anna Gonzalez and Laura Benavides. "Moving to a paperless environment is a major change for TxDOT," Anna Gonzalez said. "The private sector and some TxDOT districts have already moved in a paperless direction and in order to do business efficiently TxDOT needs to make this transition." A select group of district personnel from a variety of offices representing several disciplines (construction, maintenance, design, administration, finance, record-keeping, etc.) will be trained on EDMS in mid-August.

The new approach will involve both EDMS and Adobe Pro software. EDMS allows for the electronic storage and on demand retrieval of documents eliminating the need for manual storage and paper files. Adobe Pro allows for documents to be manipulated, edited and digitally signed eliminating the need for additional printing and scanning. Instead of printing out a hard copy of a document, walking down the hallway to the copier and scanning the document into a pdf, Adobe Pro allows you to create the pdf at your desktop.

"We know there's going to be a period of adjustment, especially for an agency like TxDOT that has traditionally relied on hard copies," Anna said. "We're excited about starting this new project."

Despite an overall downward trend in fatalities between 2003 and 2009, traffic crashes remain the leading cause of death for those between one and 44 years of age in Texas. In 2009 in Texas, more than 3,000 people died in fatal collisions on Texas streets and highways, and just under half were not buckled up. Before the Click It or Ticket campaign began in Texas in 2002, only 76.1 percent of the state's population was buckling up, but after a decade of increased enforcement and an extensive public education campaign about the life-saving benefits of seat belts, Texans are using seat belts in record numbers.

According to the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI), 93.84 percent of drivers and passengers now buckle up. Wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of fatal injury by 45 percent, and in pickups, that number increases to 60 percent, due to the fact that pickup trucks are more likely to roll over in a crash than passenger cars. Of the 814,403 Texans involved in crashes where there were no injuries, 98 percent were wearing a seat belt. Seat belt use in TxDOT vehicles is an absolute must, according to Susan Feudo, District Safety Officer. "It's the law and both driver and passengers should demonstrate best safety practices to other drivers by buckling up," Susan said.

There are still populations common to the TxDOT Corpus Christi District who do not buckle up at the rate as the rest of Texas – (1) Corpus Christi drivers, (2) pickup truck drivers and passengers, (3) pickup truck drivers in rural areas and (4) teenagers, especially males.

According to the TTI, Corpus Christi has one of the lowest seat belt usage rates (91.5 percent) of the 10 major cities in Texas. Only Lubbock and El Paso are lower. Seat belt use by pickup truck drivers is lower than in any other type of passenger vehicle on the road. In 2010 in Texas, only 90.64 percent of pickup truck drivers wore



their seat belts. The seat belt use rate among pickup truck passengers was even worse – only 82.17 percent of pickup truck passengers buckled up compared to 92.21 percent of car passengers. In Texas in 2009, one of every two pickup truck drivers killed in traffic crashes was not buckled up. Seat belt use in pickup trucks is significantly lower in rural areas – even though

pickup trucks were involved in twice as many fatal crashes in rural areas compared with urban areas. In Texas, teen drivers are the population group with the highest incidence of unbuckled fatalities. In Texas, in 2009, more than half (53 percent) of the 314 teen drivers and vehicle occupants ages 15 – 20 killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes were not wearing their safety belts at the time of the crash, where restraint use was applicable and known.

The Click It or Ticket campaign relies on local police department and sheriff's offices, and their officers to crackdown on drivers and passengers who don't buckle up. Fines for failing to fasten your seat belt can add up to \$250, plus court costs.

TxDOT's Click It or Ticket public awareness campaign includes ads on local television and radio stations, billboards, pump toppers at gas stations (in English and Spanish), sponsorships at community events and interactive ads on the TxDOT Web site. In the TxDOT Corpus Christi District, Regional Transportation Safety Specialist Hazel Zepeda held press conferences at Whataburger Field with local law enforcement and she distributed thousands of Click It or Ticket brochures at community events throughout the District. "Click It or Ticket is reaching its intended audience and we need to push a little harder to reach those that are risking their lives by not buckling up," Hazel said. If you have a school or community event that you think would be a good market for the Click It or Ticket program, please contact Hazel by phone 361/808-2381 or by e-mail at hazel.zepeda@txdot.gov.

Fajita Cook Off Was Smoking!

During the quarterly Supervisor's Meeting and Training on April 27 in Alice, 11 teams of TxDOT employees from the maintenance sections and area offices fired up their barbecue pits and competed in a fajita cook off. These TxDOT "Iron Chefs" tested their cooking skills on sausage, pork and chicken before serving a panel of judges their juiciest, most tender, most delectable fajitas. Ralph Lopez of the George West Maintenance Section – also a professional disc jockey – provided music throughout the morning.

The first place trophy was awarded to the Sinton Maintenance Team and lead chef Juan Valenzuela. Second place trophy was awarded to the Corpus Christi Area Office Team and lead chef Joseph Briones. Third place trophy was awarded to the Refugio Maintenance Team and lead chef Robert Vega.

The cook off was so well received that another one is being planned for next year. What's next on the menu – steak, chicken, brisket?



John Casey presents the first place trophy to the Sinton Maintenance team – Juan Valenzuela, Guadalupe Garcia, Justin Ives, Eusebio Galvan, Omar Solis, Raul Guerra and Ricardo Benavides.



John Casey awards second place trophy to the Corpus Christi Area Office team — Charles Benavides, Joseph Briones and Bob Isassi.

John Casey awards third place trophy to the Refugio Maintenance team – Joe DeLeon, Robert Vega, Robert Allen, Felix Sanchez, Shawn Barrera and Clesheon Brown.



Robert Vega, lead chef of the Refugio Maintenance team, checks out his pit.



Joseph Briones, lead chef of the Corpus Christi Area Office team, slices fajitas, which won second place.

Congratulations

Please offer a congratulatory pat on the back to your colleagues who within the past year successfully completed the exam to become a licensed Professional Engineer in Texas!

Traffic Operations

Gabriel Garcia, P.E.

America Garza, P.E.

Geometric Design Group

David Ambriz, P.E.

Gabriel Longoria, P.E.

Corpus Christi Area Office

Charles Benavides, P.E.

It's the People (continued)

Since the beginning of 2011, the TxDOT Corpus Christi District has diligently worked to fill staffing needs to the levels described in the OneDOT plan. Below is a list of new hires for the district from January 1 through July 1, 2011. Please welcome these new folks to the TxDOT family, mentor them and give them the benefit of your experience and knowledge. We look forward to the talents, skill sets, knowledge and tools these professionals bring to the table to make the TxDOT Corpus Christi District top notch.

Name	Title	Location
Barrera III, Fernando	K507-General Transp Tech II	Beeville
Barrientes, Benedict E.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Robstown
Busselman, Robert L.	K508-General Transp Tech III	Karnes City
Carnes, Billie K.	E270-Engineering Assistant I	Corpus Christi
Charles, Robert L.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Karnes City
Chesser, William K.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Karnes City
Coleman Jr., Joe A.	K705-Ferryboat Deckhand I	Port Aransas
Coronado, Andreas G.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Karnes City
Diaz, David A.	E006-Summer Engineering Tech VI	Corpus Christi
Dorsett, Charles L.	K714-Ferry Maintenance Tech I	Port Aransas
Downey, Erin B.	K705-Ferryboat Deckhand I	Port Aransas
Duncan, Dustin K.	K508-General Transp Tech III	Rockport
Dziuk, Kevin P.	E005-Summer Engineering Tech V	Karnes City
Fox Jr., Bradley Irvin	K506-General Transp Tech I	Refugio
Franco, David A.	K506-General Transp Tech I	Robstown
Garcia, Ricardo	K508-General Transp Tech III	Corpus Christi
Garcia, Ruben	K507-General Transp Tech II	Robstown
Gonzales III, Gregorio	K508-General Transp Tech III	Karnes City
Guerrero, Joe Bob	K506-General Transp Tech I	George West
Hadden, Edwin R.	K722-Ferryboat Captain I	Port Aransas
Handy, Robert E.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Beeville
Heimann, Jeffrey K.	K722-Ferryboat Captain I	Port Aransas
Henrichson, Van L.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Corpus Christi
Hernandez, John C.	K705-Ferryboat Deckhand I	Port Aransas
Hunter, James D.	K722-Ferryboat Captain I	Port Aransas
Jaimes, Lance M.	K714-Ferry Maintenance Tech I	Port Aransas
Johnson, David M.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Karnes City
Jones, Justin M.	K506-General Transp Tech I	Robstown
Lewis, Timothy D.	K035-Electrician I	Port Aransas
Longoria, Ernesto J.	E006-Summer Engineering Tech VI	Corpus Christi
Lucio, Ernest	K506-General Transp Tech I	Corpus Christi
Mason, James B.	L250-Material/Process Inspect III	Corpus Christi
Morataya, Jesus P.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Sinton
Moreno, Francisco J.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Robstown
Morin, Ronnie C.	K508-General Transp Tech III	George West
Morris, Barron G.	K714-Ferry Maintenance Tech I	Port Aransas
Novosad, Nicholas Keith	E270-Engineering Assistant I	Corpus Christi
Ortiz, Ruben M.	K506-General Transp Tech I	Refugio
Perez, Roel V.	E196-General Engineering Tech II	Kingsville
Ramirez, Robin R.	A291-Special Projects Coord I	Corpus Christi
Ramos, David Andrew L.	E006-Summer Engineering Tech VI	Corpus Christi
Rust, Christopher Anthony	K507-General Transp Tech II	Corpus Christi
Shekell, Gregory R.	K705-Ferryboat Deckhand I	Port Aransas

Sistos, Jimmy J.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Karnes City
Smith Jr., Johnnie W.	K714-Ferry Maintenance Tech I	Port Aransas
Sparks, Christopher L.	K714-Ferry Maintenance Tech I	Port Aransas
Spivey, Justin P.	K506-General Transp Tech I	Refugio
Swisher, Ethen D.	K705-Ferryboat Deckhand I	Port Aransas
Tagliabue, Thomas W.	Q045-Public Information Officer II	Corpus Christi
Trevino Jr., Homero	K507-General Transp Tech II	Sinton
Womack, Victoria R.	K705-Ferryboat Deckhand I	Port Aransas
Zapata, Thomas E.	K507-General Transp Tech II	Beeville
Zavala Jr., Rene	E005-Summer Engineering Tech V	Corpus Christi

RETIREES HAVE SERVED THE STATE WELL

In the last several months, a number of long-time TxDOT Corpus Christi District employees have announced their retirement. We thank them for their years of service to the people of Texas and wish them happiness and good health in the future.

Reyes S. Reyes.....	01/31/11
Rosendo Moreno.....	02/28/11
Kristi Gilbertson.....	06/30/11
Maria Samudio.....	06/30/11
Laura Ashcraft.....	06/30/11
Frances Garza.....	07/31/11
Bruce Butler.....	08/31/11
Humberto Martinez.....	08/31/11
Raul E. Guerra.....	08/31/11

Service Awards



5 Year Award - Shawn Barrera, Celso Ramirez, Charles Benavides and Corpus Christi District Engineer John Casey



10 Year Award - Emilio Amador, District Engineer John Casey and Carlos Martinez



15 Year Award - District Engineer John Casey and Roberto Pulido Jr.



25 Year Award - Robert Contreras, District Engineer John Casey and James Mitchell

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Aug. 2011

- August 24 - Safety Banquet, Port Aransas
- August 24 - 25 - Commission Workshop and Meeting, Austin
- August 26 - Port Aransas Ferry Operations Building Ground-breaking
- August 29 - Rural Transportation Plan Meeting, Alice

Sept. 2011

- Sept. 5 - Labor Day Holiday
- Sept. 6 - U.S. 281 Overpass Ribbon-Cutting, Ben Bolt
- Sept. 8 - 9 - Statewide Letting
- Sept. 28 - 29 - Commission Workshop and Meeting, Austin

Oct. 2011

- Oct. 6 - 7 - Statewide Letting
- Oct. 10 - 12 - Transportation Short Course, College Station
- Oct. 20 - Statewide Rodeo, Austin
- Oct. 26 - Supervisors Meeting, Corpus Christi
- Oct. 26 - 27 - Commission Workshop and Meeting, Austin

Nov. 2011

- Nov. 1 - 2 - Statewide Letting
- Nov. 8 - Constitutional Amendment Election
- Nov. 11 - Veterans Day Holiday
- Nov. 16 - District Thanksgiving Luncheon, Corpus Christi
- Nov. 16 - 17 - Commission Workshop and Meeting, Austin
- Nov. 24 - 25 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday
- Nov. 30 - Hurricane Season Ends

Dec. 2011

- Dec. 1 - 2 - Statewide Letting
- Dec. 24 - 26 - Christmas Holidays
- Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve