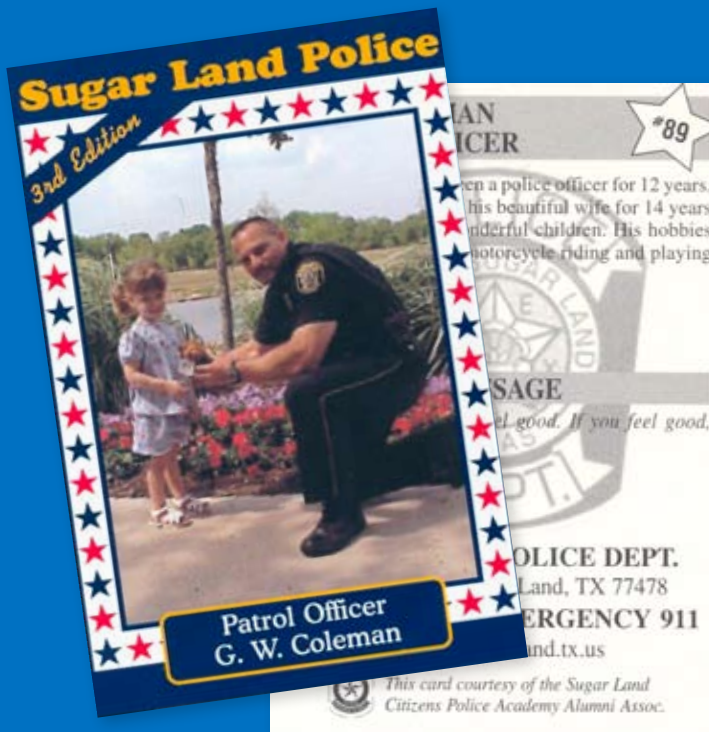




KID-FRIENDLY COPS

Written by Tonya Ellis

Trading Card Program Makes Sugar Land Police More Approachable to Kids



When Sergeant Marty Maus of the Sugar Land Police Department (SLPD) sees kids in public, he sometimes doesn't feel very popular. "Parents will point us out to the kids and say, 'If you don't behave, those officers are going to arrest you,'" he said. "A lot of times kids are a little leery of us," agreed Lieutenant David Marcaurele of the SLPD. "You're in uniform and your presence is intimidating."

The SLPD is aiming to become more "kid-friendly" with the fourth edition of its Children's Trading Card Program. The program's goal is to make kids feel more comfortable with police officers as their protectors and friends. The trading cards will include photos and information about roughly 150 different Sugar Land police officers and department staff. Past card collectors have won cool prizes, such as video games and even a trip to Disney World. To get the cards, kids must approach the police.

HARRIS JOHNSTON
YOUTH SERVICES OFFICER #47

Officer Johnston loves teaching children of all ages, even the teenagers. By teaching he's able to have an impact on the students at a critical time in their life. Officer Johnston is also involved with the department's Tactical and Bike Patrol teams. He's married to Sgt. Jane Johnston and has two children, Callie and Kyle, both college students.

PERSONAL MESSAGE
 Safety tip: Your life will be in your hands. Learn from your past choices. Make the right call.

SUGAR LAND POLICE
 1200 Hwy. 6 • Sugar Land, TX
 (281) 275-2500 • EMT
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This card courtesy of
 Citizens Police Assn.



**Youth Services Officer
 Harris Johnston**

DARYL STROUD
PATROL SERGEANT #18

Sergeant Stroud is a 13-year patrol veteran and an original member of the department's tactical unit since 1993. In 1995 he was the recipient of the 100 Club's "Outstanding Officer of the Year" award, as well as the Fort Bend EEO's Lodge "Officer of the Year" award. His interests include motorcycles, muscle cars and drag racing. Officer Stroud has served as an elder and has been a KJV since 1994. He spends his free time with his wife of seventeen years and their three teenagers.

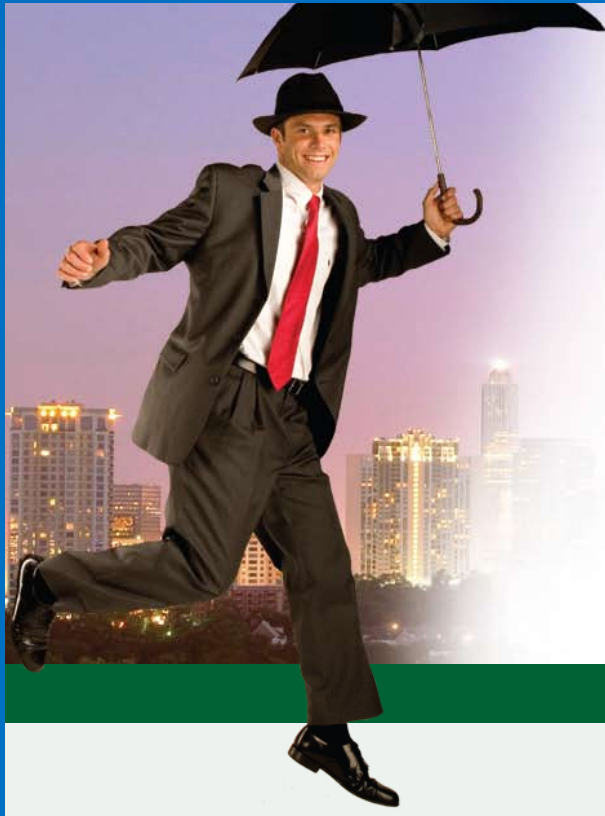


**Patrol Sergeant
 Daryl Stroud**

MESSAGE
 I hope that a man lay
 John 15:13 KJV God
 eters who laid down their
 name, but not forgotten.

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Collect Them All

The Sugar Land Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association (SLCPAAA) is helping to develop the cards with funding from sponsor donations, said Andrea Brinkley, of the group's fundraiser publicity committee. Kick-off is planned for the start of the 2008-2009 school year at Fort Bend County elementary and middle schools. Officers will each be given 1,000 cards to pass out to kids who request them, said Brinkley. Collecting the cards is fun, but it can be a challenge.

Working Day and Night

Some officers are harder to find than others. That's because their shifts can run from dusk to dawn. But that hasn't stopped determined trading card seekers in the past, said James Hawk of the SLCPAAA, "It was quite eye-opening. The parents would bring their children down to the police station at 6 a.m."

"It teaches them responsibility," added Glen Gill, also of the SLCPAAA. "To get over 100 cards is a lot of work." His son Richie, a Junior at Clements High School, was second prize winner in the first SLPD trading card edition, which was issued in 1998. "They also trade between each other," he added. "One may have two of somebody and another may have two of somebody. It teaches them to respect that the police officers are their friends. That's what it's all about." **SLM**

TONYA ELLIS enjoys feature writing and spending time with her husband Keith and three children, Sophia, 6, Byron, 5, and Justin, 2.

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