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It begins with a march, by the Burleson Police Department Honor Guard. The colors are presented, the flag is raised, and the bugler sounds the "Taps." Then it ends with that same guard conducting a firing party in honor of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

You don't want to miss this opening ceremony at the Burleson Police Department's Open House. The event kicks off at 3 p.m. and wraps at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, at the police station at 225 W. Renfro St. (corner of Renfro and Johnson Avenue). In between the presentation of colors and the firing party, Burleson Police Chief Billy Cordell will talk about the significance of National Police Week, May 10-16. That week recognizes the service given by the men and women who protect the public through the enforcement of the laws.

The open house will feature displays by the SWAT team, hostage negotiators, Citizens Police Academy, Citizens On Patrol, traffic unit, school resource officers, community resource officers (crime prevention) public safety communication specialists, Police Explorers, and more.

The Tri-County Auto Burglary and Theft Task Force will be at the event with information about vehicle burglaries and auto thefts. They can also do free VIN etching. Johnson County Crime Stoppers will also be available to answer questions.

Come hungry! The Burleson Lions Club will offer free hot dogs and drinks to those who attend.

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week, to honor and remember those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as the family members, friends and fellow officers they left behind.

Burleson has lost one officer, Janice Vanderveer, in the line of duty. She died in December 1987 while directing traffic around a crash site.