



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

May 1, 2013

News from the Chief



I want to begin this newsletter by offering my sincere appreciation to the hundreds of officers and professional support staff members who worked in extremely adverse weather conditions to ensure the safety of the runners and spectators at last Saturday's Country Music Marathon. I know first-hand the unpleasantness of the heavy rain and wind. I am extremely proud of all members of our marathon team. Because of each of you, the security plan developed by a group led by Lieutenants David Corman and Floyd Hyde was very successful. Please know that your work was noticed by all of Nashville and our visitors.

Mayor Dean's proposed budget for fiscal year 2013-14 includes a \$2.8 million increase for the police department. The additional money will provide for: the opening of our new DNA Crime Laboratory at the first of the year; bridging the gap in funding for 50 officers that were covered by a three-year federal grant and are now being paid through local dollars; the coverage of additional special events with extra-duty officers being paid overtime so that our service to the community with regular duty officers is not disrupted; and a required overhaul for one of our helicopters. The proposed budget provides for a 1.5% across the board pay increase effective in January and funds longevity payments in December. I have closely monitored reductions in staffing, layoffs, furloughs and pay reductions that have occurred in other cities our size across the nation in recent years. I am thankful that has not been the case here in Nashville because of Mayor Dean's decision to protect funding for the police department. The mayor has expressed his disappointment to me that resources did not allow for additional pay improvements in the proposed budget. Metro's Finance Director believes Nashville as a whole is continuing to pull away from tough economic times. A \$200,000 compensation study is proposed for the upcoming fiscal year. I believe that the ultimate outcome of this study will provide the opportunity to ensure that police officers are fairly compensated in the years ahead.

The Metro Council will be considering the mayor's proposed budget over the next several weeks. The police department's budget hearing before the council is scheduled for 6 p.m. on May 22nd.

Thank you all for everything you are doing on behalf of Nashville's families and visitors.

Happenings

More than 70 citizens and police officers were honored on April 19th during the Metropolitan Police Department's annual awards ceremony at Loews Vanderbilt Hotel.

The award recipients were recognized for heroism, bravery and outstanding acts performed during 2012. Mayor Dean and Chief Anderson gave out plaques, certificates and uniform ribbons. Below is just a sample of their outstanding achievements.

Distinguished Service Award: Officer C.J. Fondaw

Meritorious Service & Police Officer Awards: Officer Faye Denson

Officers Denson and Fondaw were on foot assisting another officer in chasing a gunman through an alley off Stockell Street when the suspect turned and opened fire. Officer Denson was hit in the leg and went down. Officer Fondaw took immediate and brave action by returning the gunman's fire in defense of himself and his wounded colleague. After many weeks of rehabilitation, Officer Denson has returned to full duty. The man who shot her is in jail and awaiting trial on two counts of attempted homicide.



Pictured (l-r) is Chief Anderson, Officer Fondaw, Officer Denson and Mayor Dean.

Distinguished Service Award: Officer Nicholas Kulp
Department Commendation Award: Officer William Mathis

Heroic police work by Officer Nicholas Kulp led to the apprehension of a 19-year-old murder suspect minutes after the fatal shots were fired.

Officers Kulp and Mathis were taking care of a vehicle stop on S. 6th Street and Summer Place when they heard several shots coming from the James Cayce public housing development. Officer Mathis discovered an 18-year-old on the ground critically wounded. He cared for the victim and was able to get certain information from him before he went into medical distress.

Officer Kulp chased the gunman for several blocks and over a barbed wire fence. When the suspect reached for his waistband, Officer Kulp fired in self-defense, wounding the gunman in the upper arm. He was then taken into custody.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, Officer Kulp, Officer Mathis and Mayor Dean.

Exemplary Service Award: School Crossing Guard Stacey Savage

Ms. Savage had just finished her shift at Dodson Elementary School and was on her way home when she came upon a woman lying in the middle of Old Hickory Boulevard. Ms. Savage quickly positioned her personal vehicle in the path of oncoming traffic, coned off the

area with school traffic cones and called for help. To add to the stress of the situation, the woman suddenly began screaming, “Let me die.”

Ms. Savage’s quick action prevented serious injury to the distraught and intoxicated victim. Ms. Savage showed us all the importance of “getting involved.”



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, School Crossing Guard Stacey Savage and Mayor Dean.

Community Service Award: Nathan & Debbie Massey

Nathan Massey, owner of Massey Electric, was instrumental in leading the campaign for a new Madison Precinct, which opened its doors on January 1st, 2012. Not only were Nathan and Debbie present for Madison’s first-ever roll call on New Year’s Day, they have continued to be constant and outspoken advocates of the police department and its officers both in the media and at community events. Through her leadership of the Madison Chamber of Commerce, Debbie coordinates a monthly recognition basket for the men and women of the precinct. The Massey’s have made it clear to Madison supervisors that if there’s ever anything they can do to assist, they are merely a phone call away.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, Debbie and Nathan Massey, and Mayor Dean.

Citizen Commendation Award Caleb Parman & Robert Bayliss

Just ten-years-old last May, Caleb bravely jumped into a swimming pool when he realized that 4-year-old Keisha Jordan had slipped out of her arm floats and was under water. Caleb pulled the girl up while adults assisted in getting her out of the water. Mr. Bayliss, a retired Sheriff's deputy, heard cries of distress and ran to the residence. He immediately began CPR until medics arrived. Keisha succumbed to her injuries the following day but not until she had been reunited with her parents.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, Caleb Parman, Robert Bayliss and Mayor Dean.

Citizen Commendation Award George and Ophie Osment

For more than five years, the Osments have generously given of their time and resources by providing home cooked meals to officers at the East Precinct. At least once a month, they prepare and deliver a complete dinner to the men and women at the East Precinct. Their generosity, compassion and kindness is deeply appreciated.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, George and Ophie Osment and Mayor Dean.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week



Recently retired Homicide Sergeant Pat Postiglione was honored at this year's annual Victims' Rights Ceremony on April 14th in Centennial Park. Joining Pat in front of a tree planted in his honor in the Children's Garden of the park were Gail Chilton, Enola Netherton, Jim Marable and Virginia Trimble, all family members of homicide victims.



Pictured (l-r) are Deputy Chief Damian Huggins, recently retired Homicide Sergeant Pat Postiglione, and District Attorney General Torry Johnson.



Officer Theresa Gross and her partner, Boo, make new friends at a Victims' Rights Event in Centennial Park. Boo, a six-year-old gelding Tennessee Walking Horse, is one of the newest donated additions to the MNPD's Mounted Unit.



Law Enforcement Exchange Program

Russian Law Enforcement Exchange Program participants hosted by Middle Tennessee State University attended CompStat on April 19th.

They met with leadership personnel to discuss policing practices and the exchange program.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Steve Anderson, Director and Professor of the Russian Academy of National Economy and former Federal Prosecutor Dr. Naumov Andrey Michaelovich, Deputy Director and Professor Dr. Chekushov Andrey Alexandrovich, Professor and Retired Deputy Chief of Police Dr. Vlaery Michaelovich Zhabrovsky, Deputy Chief Todd Henry, M.T.S.U. Criminal Justice Administration Professor Dr. Thomas Jurkanin, Deputy Chief Brian Johnson, and Deputy Chief Damian Huggins.

The teen who shot himself and a 19-year-old woman, April Lopez, fled on foot. The other two suspects, both 17, drove off in the Cadillac. Traffic Officer Ron Bright spotted the suspect Cadillac in a church parking lot near the pawn shop. The two teens were taken into custody. Additional items taken during the Ainlay Drive burglary were recovered from the car. They are charged in Juvenile Court with aggravated burglary, felony theft, and burglary of a motor vehicle that had been broken into on Oak Grove Drive.

The teen who shot himself was also apprehended. He was charged upon his dismissal from Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Lopez surrendered herself on April 19th.

Acting on a citizen's complaint, Hermitage Precinct undercover officers dismantled a marijuana grow operation at 728 Glenn Court.

Seized during the raid were 26 marijuana plants, electronic scales, 40 grams of marijuana buds, lamps, other grow equipment, a loaded revolver and \$296 cash.

The homeowner, John Calvin Roland, 50, is charged with manufacturing marijuana in a drug free school zone, possession of marijuana for resale in a drug free school zone, possession of drug paraphernalia and gun possession in the commission of a dangerous felony. Roland lives a short distance from Glengarry Elementary School.



Seized marijuana, cash and loaded revolver.

South

South Precinct detectives arrested Carlee Michelle Nease on a Davidson County Grand Jury indictment charging her with first-degree murder for last September's shooting death of Dennis Prutianov at his 4004 Moss Road home in Antioch.

Nease, 20, was taken into custody at her Blairfield Drive home and is being held in the Metro Jail in lieu of \$500,000 bond.

Prutianov, 26, was fatally wounded when shots were fired into his residence just after 1:30 a.m. on September 8, 2012. Investigation by Detective Chad High and his colleagues at the South Precinct led to the identification of Nease as a suspect. Other arrests are anticipated.

A drug motive for the murder has not been ruled out. Prutianov had felony cocaine and marijuana convictions in his history.

Alert citizens called police after hearing a loud noise outside their neighbor's Brookridge Trace apartment. They saw two men picking up a large TV that had been dropped on the sidewalk.

The witnesses relayed the license plate number of the black Honda car that the pair and two other suspects fled in. Officers located the suspect vehicle at a Benzing Road residence where two of the suspects, David Tran, 18, and a 16-year-old, were taken into custody. The others fled on foot. Both Tran and the 16-year-old admitted their involvement in burglarizing the Brookridge Trace apartment. Items taken during the break-in, including two TVs, a laptop computer, a rifle and a shotgun, were recovered.

Tran, of Drummond Drive, is charged with aggravated burglary, theft of property and evading arrest. He is free in lieu of \$7,000 bond. The 16-year-old is charged in Juvenile Court with aggravated burglary, theft, vandalism and unlawful weapon possession.

Community Coordinator Sergeant Taylor Schmitz met with students in the Cane Ridge High School Academy of Law program to discuss the dangers of driving under the influence.

Students wore "DUI" goggles and experienced first-hand how impairment dramatically affected their ability to operate a motor vehicle.



Sergeant Schmitz also attended a gathering of future Habitat for Humanity homeowners. He provided them with important residential safety tips.



The El Protector program hosted a fourth annual soccer tournament March 16th and 17th at the Antioch Sports Complex. On April 20th the youth soccer tournament took place at the Metro soccer field.



El Protector Officer Gilbert Ramirez pictured with youth soccer tournament participants.

East

A vehicle stop on Hart Lane led to the arrest of two men for possession of marijuana in a school zone.

East Precinct Officer William Clemons at 8:45 p.m. stopped the driver of a 1995 Chevrolet Camaro for a non-working headlight. Andnevin Huff, 21, was slow to stop his car. Officers requested and received permission to search the Camaro. More than a half pound of marijuana was recovered under a rear passenger seat packaged in five separate plastic baggies.

Huff, of Stanwyck Drive, and his front seat passenger, Michael Wiggins Jr., 21, are both charged with felony marijuana possession in a drug-free school zone (within 1,000 feet of Jere Baxter Middle School). Huff is free on \$10,000 bond. Wiggins, of Moss Spring Drive, is free in lieu of \$11,000 bond.

Madison

Madison Precinct personnel on April 19th attended a Madison/Goodlettsville Rotary Club event where bicycles donated by Wal-Mart were given to outstanding students.



Pictured (l-r) are Madison Community Coordinator Sergeant James Vivrette, outstanding citizenship and bicycle winner Neely's Bend Elementary School second grader Emily Wilson, and Rotary Club President Jim Closser with the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia.



Picture (l-r) are Sergeant Vivrette, perfect attendance and bicycle winner Stratton Elementary School fourth grader Steven Stafford, and Rotary Club member Sherry Clem with SunTrust Bank.

The Madison-Rivergate Area Chamber of Commerce hosted the first annual Education Appreciation Day on April 18th to recognize the Teacher and Student of the Year for each of the 13 schools in the Hunters Lane cluster.

Madison Precinct sponsored Smithson Craighead Academy Middle School where Gwen Murphy-Garner was named teacher of the year and Sydney Terrell was named student of the year.



Education Appreciation Day sponsors.

West

Following several weeks of investigation by West Precinct officers and detectives, convicted burglar Matthew Vitalis, 26, has admitted to eleven West Nashville residential break-ins beginning in early March on Pennywell Drive, Russleo Drive, Davidson Drive, Cross Creek Road, Park Lane, Castleman Drive, Lindawood Drive, Wallace Lane and three on Trimble Road.

Vitalis, who had been staying at the Comfort Inn on White Bridge Place, became a person of interest after officers recovered a backpack that Vitalis left behind at the March 29th Davidson Drive home. Vitalis was arrested April 16th on two outstanding probation violations. While he was in jail, officers received confirmation that a fingerprint lifted from the April 5th Pennywell Drive break-in belonged to Vitalis. During subsequent interviews, Vitalis admitted to the eleven burglaries saying he broke into the homes, primarily through windows, to support a drug habit.

Vitalis, who remains jailed, is charged with all eleven burglaries.

Central

Investigation by Central Precinct detectives led to the execution of a search warrant at the Clay Street residence of convicted felon Alonzo Gross. Seized were one revolver, 181.5 grams of marijuana, one counterfeit \$100 bill, three counterfeit \$20 bills and \$2,441 cash.

Gross, 32, is now charged with a crooks with guns law violation, marijuana possession in a drug-free school zone and criminal simulation. He has previous convictions for accessory after the fact, evading arrest, drug possession and theft.



Seized gun, cash and marijuana.

Specialized Investigations Division

Officer David Hacker's stop of a Buick Rainier Tuesday for a covered license plate on I-40 in West Nashville led to the seizure of 2.5 pounds of high grade marijuana and 34 grams of hashish.

The driver of the Buick SUV, Robert Davis, 34, of Minden, Nevada, admitted that he bought the drugs in California and was taking them to Tampa, Florida. Officer Hacker, who is assigned to the Specialized Investigations Division, requested and received permission to conduct a closer inspection of the SUV. The marijuana and hashish were recovered from the rear of the vehicle in a cardboard box and jars. Davis was booked on a felony drug charge and remains jailed on \$20,000 bond.



Seized marijuana & hashish

Investigation into South Nashville heroin sales and trafficking led to today's raid on the hub of a lucrative distribution network at 153 Ocala Drive. Seized were approximately four pounds of heroin, some of it packaged into small balloons for resale, \$7,000 cash, 6 cars, 1 gun and \$15,000 worth of assorted merchandise.

Undercover detectives from the Specialized Investigations Division Narcotics Unit and the South Precinct have been working jointly since the first of the year to identify the persons responsible for supplying heroin to scores of buyers who would place phone orders to the Ocala Drive based "dispatcher." Deliveries were made to customers in public places, such as commercial parking lots in the Edmondson Pike/Old Hickory Boulevard area, as well as other locations in Nashville.

Four men were taken into custody at 153 Ocala Drive and will be facing federal heroin conspiracy charges. They are identified as:

- Armando Morales, 57
- Raul Cedillo-Pena, 27
- Josue Castro, 20
- Ines Lopez-Pena, 34

Persons suspecting heroin or other drug activity in the neighborhoods are urged to contact the police department's 244-DOPE hotline. Callers can remain anonymous.



Seized heroin and handgun.

Investigative Services

Nearly two years after John Henry Johnson was fatally wounded in the Cumberland View public housing development, three persons are now under indictment in the case. Investigation by Cold Case Unit Detective Steven Jolley led to first-degree murder and especially aggravated robbery charges against Johnnie Frank Newsom, 23, Diondra Holland, 27, and Yarmaine Greenlee, 20. Greenlee, the victim's one time girlfriend and the last of three defendants to be arrested, was picked up in Knoxville last night and returned to Nashville today.

Johnson, 19, was shot at 2:20 a.m. on June 9, 2011, in the 2400 block of 24th Avenue North. The suspects are alleged to have lured Johnson to the area for the purpose of robbery. Officers actually heard the gunfire and responded quickly, finding Johnson in a breezeway being assisted by residents. He died shortly after arriving at the hospital.

Newsom's bond is set at \$500,000. Bond for Holland and Greenlee is set at \$250,000 each.

Training Division

Oak Creek Wisconsin Police Department Lieutenant Brian Murphy, who was shot 12 times by a gunman outside a Sikh Temple in Wisconsin, was a guest speaker at the 2013 International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors annual conference held in Nashville.

Lieutenant Murphy shared his incredible story of survival with more than 270 instructors from around the world, including the Nashville Police Department's Training Academy.

Below is a link to Lieutenant Murphy's story on PoliceOne.com:

<http://www.policeone.com/active-shooter/articles/6025577-Officer-talks-about-getting-shot-12-times-at-Sikh-Temple/>



Pictured (l-r) are Sergeant Bob Allen, Oak Creek Wisconsin Police Department Lieutenant Brian Murphy, Officer Greg Lee, and Officer Brandon Frith.

Identification Division

Crime Scene Investigator Felicia Evans volunteered last fall to mentor and coach the McGavock High School Crime Scene Team. Throughout the school year, Ms. Evans has been teaching the students how to properly identify and process crime scene evidence.

The McGavock team participated in the SkillsUSA- Tennessee Crime Scene Competition with six others from Tennessee. Although it was close, McGavock won the state competition qualifying them for nationals.



Pictured (l-r) are Crime Scene Investigator Felicia Evans, Erin Chafatelli, Astrid Canales, Criminal Justice teacher Brad Tracy, and Ashleigh Loughrey.

The following officers in the Field Operation Bureau were chosen Investigator, Patrol, Police and Special Operations Officer of the Month for March 2013

Patrol Officer of the Month

South Precinct Officers Todd Watson and David Willover

Police Officer of the Month

North Precinct Officers Joel Rogers and Stephen Weir

Investigator of the Month

West Precinct Detective Steven Parks

Special Operations Officer of the Month

Hazardous Device Unit Officers Michael Pollard and Gerry Gann

From the District Attorney's Office

Director of Communications Susan Niland

A jury took just 30 minutes to deliberate before finding Alfred Whitehead guilty of possession of a controlled substance in a drug-free school zone. The defendant is range III and will serve a 40- year minimum sentence at 100%.

A man convicted in a November 2011 home invasion and rape of a child was sentenced to 75 years in prison at 100-percent. Olbin Euceda was convicted in March of rape of a child, four counts of especially aggravated kidnapping and aggravated robbery for a home invasion and sexual attack that took place at an apartment complex on Bell Road. Euceda's co-defendant, Rony Sorto, is set to go on trial in August. Both Euceda and Sorto have several pending felony charges related to a series of attacks and robberies that took place in the South Nashville area during the fall of 2011.

Congratulations:

Officer Luke Paiva, East Precinct, and his wife welcomed Benjamin Edward Paiva on April 21st.

Domestic Violence Detective John Timm and his wife, Kara, welcomed Chase Edward Timm on April 23rd.



Condolences:

Clint Hugh Harris, the father of Canine Officer Spencer Harris, passed away on April 15th.

Shirley Ann Higdon, the mother of Officer Chris Higdon, North Precinct, passed away on April 18th.

Joyce Mays, the mother of Lisa Mays, Records Division, passed away on April 26th.

Arch Young, the grandfather of Chad Turnbow, West Precinct, passed away.

Erma Eddins, the grandmother, of Anya Bender, Identification Division, passed away on April 29th.