



# MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

May 22, 2014

## News from the Chief



“Nobody had a better attitude about this job; nobody had a better attitude about life. You couldn’t stop his smile.” Those words of tribute from a member of Session 71 are how I will always remember Officer Michael Petrina. As we have all come to know, Nashville lost a fine young man and an excellent public servant in the infancy of a promising career on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Notification of an on-duty officer’s death is always difficult to comprehend, particularly for those who whose job it is to immediately respond to the scene, and for those who in the

ensuing hours and days are called upon to support the family and one another.

If you are an employee of the MNPD, you provided assistance during this extremely difficult time. Whether you were at the scene, helped provide relief to grieving officers at the South Precinct, traveled to Memphis for the funeral, or just made sure that all matters of the MNPD were properly tended to, you were a part of the team, and I sincerely thank you.

While I am always hesitant to make mention of any individuals or individual components for fear of omitting credit, I am compelled to mention at least the following:

- South Precinct A-shift officers, Traffic Unit officers and Identification Division officers who responded to the scene on I-65 that Saturday morning and professionally aided in the investigation.
- David Kennington from PASS who led debriefings and offered counseling for South officers, Officer Petrina’s colleagues in Session 71 and the Training Academy staff.
- The graduates of Session 71 who lost not only a fellow officer, but a dear friend. Several volunteered to speak with the media to help Nashvillians better understand the great person that Michael was.
- Captain Keith Stephens, Lieutenant Grant Carroll and Sergeant Robert Weaver who traveled to Memphis on Sunday and continually stayed with the Petrina family to provide them support and assistance.

- Drill and Ceremony Team members who provided ceremonial services at both the FOP Memorial Service here in Nashville and the funeral in Memphis—all executed flawlessly.
- The Special Response Team, SRT, who served as pall bearers for Officer Petrina. Also flawless.
- Identification Division officers, who photographed every aspect of the funeral service.
- Mr. David Davenport, from the Training Academy, who videoed the service.
- Mounted Unit members, who were a part of the procession as the motorcade traveled through the cemetery.
- The men and women of the Germantown and Memphis Police Departments, and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, who were there for us and the Petrina family. These agencies assisted greatly in the funeral planning and procession.
- Mr. Carl Haley of Grand Avenue transportation. We had inquired about chartering a bus to transport Session 71 and the South Precinct's A detail to the funeral service. When Mr. Haley heard this, he immediately insisted on arranging for a bus for this purpose at no cost. Mr. Haley has consistently been unwavering in his support for the men and women of the MNPd. We are sincerely grateful to him.
- The staff of Brentwood Jewelry & Gifts who, without cost, fashioned a display case and an inscription plate for the MNPd's Medal of Valor. I presented the medal to Mr. & Mrs. Petrina in a ceremony at the cemetery.
- Reed Trickett and the membership of the 100 Club of Nashville. Reed sent a \$1,000 check to the Petrina family in Memphis for immediate expenses and will work with them to pay any outstanding debts Michael may have had.

For those I failed to mention, I assure you it was an oversight and I appreciate the support you provided.

The Petrina family asked me to pass along their gratitude and appreciation to all the men and women of this police department. A visitation signing book for Officer Petrina is available in Court Appearance for those not able to attend the funeral. It will be there for the next week or so and then presented to the Petrina family.

Officer Mike Petrina will always be remembered for his commitment and dedication to the people of Nashville. I urge us all, out of appreciation and respect for Officer Petrina, to accept the challenge of one of his Session 71 classmates: "We need to challenge each other now, and challenge everybody we meet, to always put that smile on your face and every day try to find the best in other people."

The Homily pronounced at Michael's funeral service by the Reverend Monsignor J. Edwin Creary was particularly poignant and moving. His words provide an important life teaching moment for today and the days to come. Reverend Monsignor Creary has been a great comfort to the Petrina family in Memphis. I asked Ms. Bonni Skipworth in my office to transcribe his Homily so that it could be shared with you.

**Reverend Monsignor J. Edwin Creary -**

*Good morning. To our many distinguished visitors, your presence here this morning is a great comfort to the family and I know I address many families here: Michael's dear family, his family from the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department, his family from the United States Army National Guard, the family of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish. To all of you, welcome here and my sympathy,*

*Those who have experienced a natural disaster such as an earthquake or flood realize that the most profound fear comes from when we are confronted by our complete lack of control. Nothing we do can alter the outcome. We are helpless in the face of a power over which we have no influence. In the aftermath, it is the coming together to comfort and support one another that is the most empowering consequence of such a disaster. And as we slowly learn to let go of the past and to begin again to embrace the present moment, our lives take on a new shape, new meaning; but we will never, ever, be the same again.*

*Ironically, the more we surrender ourselves to the reality which has suddenly taken over our lives, the more we will discover the inner-strength and the Divine assistance to carry on. We become fully aware of the strength that comes from surrender. And today, we come together to celebrate this funeral service for the repose of the soul of Michael Alexander Petrina, and as we do this, those of you who are closest to Michael are experiencing a kind of natural disaster over which you have no control. Perhaps you are feeling overwhelmed by your sorrow this morning, alone in your loss, weakened by your grief. But your strength will come in your surrender to this Divine intervention over which you no longer have control.*

*To let go and surrender ourselves to God is one of the most difficult things we are asked to do in this life. At first, some of us may think that to surrender is to give up; to succumb and become a victim of our sorrow and our loss. But surrender in the spiritual sense is to become partners with God in acknowledging the reality of death, not only in Michael's life, but in our own. Like Christ, we feel the agonizing suffering involved in death and we beg for relief. We hear in sacred Scripture as Jesus was preparing for crucifixion in the Garden of Gethsemane, He said, "If it be possible, let this chalice pass from Me." And in faith, we surrender, as Jesus said, "Not My Will, but Thine be done."*

*In that faithful surrender, we come to a new awareness; in death, there is new life, not only for Michael, but also for us. By surrendering to death, over which we have no power, we place ourselves in the gracious hands of God. And in this position of strength, all things can work together unto good. Now, surrender is not a passive virtue, devoid of involvement or choice. It is profoundly active and demanding.*

*First it demands that you forgive. You forgive God for taking Michael from you and for the pain you endure from the loss of someone so very precious to your life. Surrender also*

*demands that you forgive Michael for leaving. Perhaps Michael has left some unfinished business, from some painful circumstances from the past which have not been healed.*

*And so, there's a decision to be made. Surrender demands that you make a choice. You can choose to hold onto those painful memories and diminish your own lives, or choose to surrender them, let go of them and discover new strength; the power of forgiveness. And surrender also requires that you forgive yourselves. You forgive yourself for all the things you wish you had done or could do in the future to express your love for Michael. You know, love and hate are so closely related and intertwined, that we always hurt the ones we love. There may have been circumstances in your relationship with Michael in which you behaved in ways which you now regret. Acknowledge those circumstances, feel the pain, and surrender them to the gracious mercy of Michael and of God. Ask for forgiveness and then let them go.*

*And finally, surrender demands that we be grateful; grateful to God for having enriched your life with the presence of Michael Petrina; grateful to Michael for having been part of your life. Take time to recall the happy moments you shared with Michael. And if those happy moments are tinged with sadness and a longing to recapture the past, acknowledge that longing as part of that love. If those happy memories are touched with humor, do not hesitate to laugh heartily and laugh again. Humor is a powerful source of healing.*

*And let us surrender the past with gratitude, embrace the present moments, so that the future may be nourished by these happy moments. All of us here present this morning in this church have an opportunity to enrich our lives by supporting and comforting those who are dear to Michael. Michael's death is a wake-up call. Michael's death is an opportunity for each of us to integrate the reality of death into our own lives, because death is the inevitable culmination of our life.*

*Today we can be grateful to Michael for helping us realize the power of surrendering our lives to the gracious mercy of God while we are still alive. So I say; thank you Michael, and I pray that you may enter eternal life.*

*In the name of Father Lamb and Father Hirtz, our associate pastors here, and the entire Parish family of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, I wish to you, the family, our sincere sympathy and prayers. May God bless you.*







**Chief Anderson presents the Medal of Valor to Officer Petrina's family.**

**College Tuition Partial Reimbursement through The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee's Nashville Police Support Fund**

On June 2, 2014, applications will be accepted from sworn personnel for consideration in defraying the cost of college coursework upon its successful completion. This program has been expressly created in recognition of the clear benefits higher education affords law enforcement officers and thereby the citizens they serve throughout Nashville.

To be eligible, personnel must be actively contributing to the department's mission and have been enrolled in an accredited college or university during the fall semester or quarter of 2013 and/or the spring semester or quarter of 2014. The applicant must be working toward an Associate's, Bachelor's or Graduate Degree in a social service-related field (Note: the fund's governing document expressly includes the language, "College coursework should lead to Associates, Bachelors or Masters Degrees in social science-related fields"). He/she must have attained a minimum 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

An application form must be completed in full. In addition to a grade report, applicants must also submit receipts and an accounting of their out-of-pocket tuition, textbook and material expenses for the fall semester or quarter of 2013 and/or the spring semester or quarter of 2014 (excluding scholarships, grants and discounts). Distributions from the Fund will be capped in annual amounts of no more than \$2,500 per person per year. Grants of lesser

amounts are likely; few grants of the maximum amount are anticipated in the early years. This is the second year grant applications have been accepted.

The present application period is **during the month of June 2014 only**. To ensure timely consideration, applications and supporting documentation **MUST** be hand-delivered to Ms. Rachel O'Connor in Don Aaron's office on the third floor of police headquarters, 200 James Robertson Parkway (numbered receipts will be issued). A committee appointed by The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee consisting of Nashville civic leaders will consider each application and recommend distributions from the Metropolitan Nashville Police Support Fund as appropriate. Any decisions on distributions will be made solely by The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee consistent with governing documents. It should be noted that the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee considers this program to be an investment in the future of Nashville and those who share a long-term commitment to the safety of its neighborhoods.

Taking into consideration all of the above criteria, decisions of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee are final.

An application form accompanies this newsletter email.

### **Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run & Walk Benefiting the Nashville Police Support Fund**

**I want to personally encourage all police department employees, your neighbors and friends to join us for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run & Walk on Saturday morning, June 21, at LP Field's Lot T.** This will be a festival type event, with displays of police equipment, live music and activities for children. The Fun Run & Walk begins at 8 a.m. A full Shoney's breakfast will be served on site at the conclusion of the race.

This event is a major fundraiser for the Nashville Police Support Fund. Through the generosity of Shoney's CEO David Davoudpour, who personally matches entry fees dollar for dollar, more than \$108,000 has been raised for the fund since the 5K Family Fun Run & Walk began in 2009. Mr. Davoudpour is absolutely committed to Nashville and this police department. A good, supportive turnout on June 21 will help signify the collective appreciation from police department employees and the community for all that Mr. Davoudpour does for our city.

It is worthy of noting that the 16 officers who received higher education grants from the Nashville Police Support Fund last fall were beneficiaries of this event, as will be the officers chosen to receive grants this year.

A 5K registration form is also available by logging onto: [www.shoneys5krun.com](http://www.shoneys5krun.com). Thank you to the police department components that are forming teams to participate. **IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN.**





**Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run benefiting the MNPD is June 21**

## **Happenings**

An expanded Community Shred Day on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at LP Field raised \$2,900 in donations to benefit Crime Stoppers as citizens dropped off unneeded sensitive documents and 96.5 pounds of unwanted medication for safe disposal.

In addition, Auto Theft detectives etched VIN numbers on eleven vehicles.



## G.R.E.A.T Graduation

Chief Anderson on May 14<sup>th</sup> addressed the graduates of the most recent G.R.E.A.T. Officer Training program that took place May 5-14 at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel.

Thirty-four officers participated from around the region including six from the MNP, three from the Murfreesboro Police Department, one from Davidson County Juvenile Court and six from the Sumner County Sheriff's Department. The remainder of the participants were from Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina, and South Carolina.



## Citizen Police Academy Graduation

Fifty-six persons on April 29<sup>th</sup> graduated from the 12-week Citizen Police Academy at Hermitage Precinct.



## **The Precinct News**

### **Hermitage**

Hermitage Precinct detectives arrested Jeffery Duncan III, 18, for two separate gun sale-related robberies in the 1300 block of Quail Valley Road.

Both victims reported that they had posted handguns for sale online and were contacted by a potential buyer to meet at specific addresses on Quail Valley Road.

The first robbery occurred on Sunday afternoon, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The victim arrived at the predetermined location where the suspect robbed him of two firearms at gunpoint.

During the second robbery the next afternoon, the victim fired one shot in self-defense. The suspect returned fire. The victim was not struck. Duncan, who admitted his involvement in both robberies, drove to a nearby hospital with a gunshot wound. He was treated and released.

Duncan is charged with aggravated robbery, attempted aggravated robbery, and theft. One of the guns taken during Sunday's robbery was recovered inside Duncan's Quail Valley Road residence. Duncan is being held in lieu of \$180,000 bond.

### **South**

A couple caught in the act on Friday burglarizing Woodland Hills Church of Christ on Old Hickory Boulevard near the Nippers Corner area of South Nashville is suspected of being involved in other recent area business and church break-ins.

John Quinton, 44, and Chelsea Bomar, 25, are each jailed on two counts of burglary and one count of vandalism for twice breaking into Woodland Hills Church in the early morning hours of last Friday. The investigation showed that Quinton entered the facility while Bomar remained outside as the lookout. A flat screen television and a computer monitor were taken in their first visit. When the couple came back a second time, a homeless man staying in the area called police at 1:50 a.m. after hearing glass break. Officers set up a perimeter around the church. They found Bomar inside a car in the rear parking lot. Quinton was apprehended as he came running out of the building.

During an interview with detectives on Friday, Quinton admitted to breaking into at least one business and several churches, but claimed he couldn't remember the exact locations. Quinton declined to speak with detectives during a second interview attempt.

The couple remains under investigation. Detectives suspect the two were exchanging stolen property for drugs.

Quinton is being held in lieu of \$25,000 bond. Bomar's bond is set at \$22,500.

South Precinct detectives have charged 23-year-old Xavier Eugene Ellison with aggravated robbery for the holdup of a Papa John's Pizza delivery driver.

The 18-year-old victim attempted to make a 6:30 p.m. delivery at the M building of Harding Glen condos, 270 Tampa Drive, but no one answered the door. As he started to walk

away, a gunman, alleged to have been Ellison, came from around a corner and demanded the driver's belongings. The victim surrendered \$20 cash and a pepperoni pizza before running to his vehicle.

Investigation by South Precinct detectives and officers led to the development of Ellison as the suspect. The victim subsequently picked him out of a photo lineup.

Ellison would not speak with detectives at the time of his arrest. He remains under investigation in connection with two similar cases involving pizza delivery drivers on Tampa Drive this month.

## **East**

A citizen's tip regarding illegal drug activity led to the arrest of two persons and the seizure of 12 ounces of hallucinogenic mushrooms from their residence at 1425 Meridian Street.

East Precinct undercover detectives purchased 12 grams of mushrooms from Drew Mena, 37. Mena was charged with sale of a controlled substance, possession with intent to sell and possession of drug paraphernalia. He is being held in lieu of \$76,000 bond.

A second resident, Toni Faye Gobbell, 54, admitted that she allowed Mena to store the illegal mushrooms in her bedroom. She was charged with possession of narcotics for resale and is being held in lieu of \$25,000 bond. Gobbell has previous convictions for forgery, theft, and drug possession.

The students of Stratford High School's Criminal Justice Program invited Commander David Imhof and Community Coordinator Sergeant Mike Fisher to view their May 13<sup>th</sup> presentation. The students did excellent work!



## North

Convicted cocaine dealer Stacy Lopez Lopp, 41, is back behind bars after North Precinct undercover detectives executed a search warrant at his 810 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue North residence and seized cocaine, marijuana, pain medication, two handguns and \$2,221 cash.

Lopp is jailed on multiple felony charges including possession of cocaine, Schedule IV narcotics and marijuana for resale in a drug-free school zone and gun possession in the commission of a serious drug offense. His residence is within 1,000 feet of Pearl Cohn High School.

At the time of his latest arrest, Lopp was free on \$28,000 bond from his May 3<sup>rd</sup> arrest for cocaine possession and a probation violation warrant issued against him after his February arrest for marijuana possession.

Lopp, who has multiple cocaine convictions in his past, is being held in lieu of \$85,000 bond.

In another case, undercover detectives executed a search warrant at 2208 A Sadler Avenue and seized more than three pounds of marijuana, five pills, one shotgun, one handgun, one vehicle and \$1,068 cash. Two persons were arrested and charged with felony drug and weapon possession.



## **Madison**

Convicted felon Quontez Caldwell, 20, is charged with the May 3<sup>rd</sup> shooting of a 19-year-old man in Madison Park.

Caldwell was arrested at Dellway Villa Apartments after security there found Caldwell, who is not a resident, armed with a handgun on the property.

The victim reported that he gave Caldwell his gun to look at when Caldwell pointed the weapon at him and demanded his belongings. Caldwell allegedly shot the victim when he tried to run away.

Caldwell has previous convictions for aggravated burglary, drug possession and felon in possession of a weapon.

A citizen's tip led to the apprehension of four juveniles ages 13-17 who are accused of breaking into a home in the 1300 block of Bellshire Terrace Drive.

Madison Precinct officers took the teens into custody at a Westchester Drive residence. Several items taken during the burglary were recovered.

## **West**

Three persons are charged with burglarizing the West End Synagogue.

Convicted felon Justin Exum, 26; Woodie Arendall, 20; and Chelsie Roake, 19, allegedly broke into the Synagogue around 1 a.m. and took several silver items. When they attempted to sell the items at Cashville Gold and Silver Buyers on Franklin Pike, the clerk notified police.

During interviews with West Precinct Detective Tim Weaver, all three admitted their involvement in the break-in. All the items taken during the burglary have been recovered.

Exum, of Sharpe Avenue, Arendall, of Dickerson Pike, and Roake, of Jasperson Drive, are charged with theft and burglary.

Exum has a previous cocaine possession conviction.

Citizen tips coupled with coordinated police work led to the arrest of three convicted felons accused of breaking into a Wade Avenue residence.

Witnesses reported seeing Tyrone Walker, 20, Calvin Morris, 20, and Gregory Clark, 18, leave the residence in a tan Toyota Camry. The getaway car was located in the 1300 block of Hillside Avenue where West Precinct officers developed information that the three men could be inside a nearby apartment building. A short time later, all three suspects jumped out of a second story window of the residence to elude capture. They were quickly taken into custody.

During a consent search of the apartment, officers recovered an Xbox 360 and Vizio flat screen TV taken from the Wade Avenue residence. Items believed to have been taken during additional burglaries were also recovered.

Walker, of Cheatham Place; Morris, of 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue North; and Clark, of N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, were each charged with one count of aggravated burglary.

## Specialized Investigations Division

A two-month investigation into the trafficking of cocaine, marijuana and meth from Mexico and Texas into Nashville has resulted in the arrest of five persons and the seizure of 230 pounds of marijuana, 11 pounds of cocaine, more than 2 pounds of meth and \$110,742 cash.

Facing felony drug charges are **Josue Santo Diaz**, 34, of Hickory Hollow Parkway in Antioch, **Stephanie Andrea Diaz**, 24, of Apache Trail in Antioch, **Miguel Cortez**, 36, of Paragon Mills Road in Nashville, and **Juan Laturneri**, 47, of Apache Trail in Antioch. A fifth defendant, **Maria D. Combs**, 40, is jailed in Humphreys County on a charge of money laundering. She is also wanted in Nashville for engaging in a drug conspiracy.

The work of Specialized Investigations Division narcotics detectives and DEA agents led to the discovery of an apparent stash house at 5135 Hickory Hollow Parkway, from which controlled substances were being distributed to the streets of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. A search warrant was executed at the residence last Friday after detectives and agents saw Cortez, who arrived from Texas that morning, transfer what appeared to be cocaine to Josue Diaz.

As officers arrived to execute the search warrant, Stephanie Diaz was leaving with a quantity of crystal meth and a large amount of cash. Josue Diaz ran out the back door and was found hiding in the woods. Cortez was stopped a short distance away after meeting with Josue Diaz.

Combs, who is alleged to have been couriering cash to Texas/Mexico on behalf of Josue Diaz, was stopped as she traveled through Humphreys County. Inside her luggage was a large amount of cash hidden in shampoo bottles and coffee cans.

Laturneri, who is alleged to have been a cocaine distributor linked to this group, was stopped and arrested on May 7<sup>th</sup> with three ounces of cocaine.





Interdiction Unit officers conducted a dog presentation at A Z Kelley Elementary School.



### Retirement Celebration

**Detective Mike Moss celebrated 29 years of service**



**Commander Marlene Pardue presents Detective Moss with a plaque commemorating his work for the citizens of Nashville.**

**Captain Ben Dicke celebrated 29 years of service**



**Pictured (l-r) are Captain Mike Hagar and Captain Ben Dicke.**

**Bernadine Peaks celebrated 22 years of service**



**Chief Anderson congratulates Ms. Peaks on her retirement.**

**The following civilians were chosen Employees of the Month for January,  
February and March 2014**

**January**

**Office Support Specialist John Hirsch**

**February**

**Police Operations Assistant Condra Stephens**

**March**

**Police Operations Assistant Kerri Watkins**

**Congratulations:**

Officer John Jayne, Madison Precinct, and his wife, Rachel, welcomed their son Theo Dylan Jayne born on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Officer Stephen Weir, North Precinct, and his wife, Chiann, welcomed their son Novack born on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Officer Brian Gant, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife welcomed their son Brian Russell Gant Jr., born on April 30<sup>th</sup>. This also makes retired K-9 Officer David Gant a proud grandpa again.



Barbara Wilfred, Field Operations Support Section, graduated from Middle Tennessee State University on May 10 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Liberal Studies.



**Pictured (l-r) are Sgt. Jeff Keeter, Lt. David Corman and Barbara Wilfred.**

## **Condolences:**

Lillian Binkley, the mother of retired Lieutenant Jim Binkley, passed away on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the age of 105.

William Thomas Robertson Sr., the grandfather of Officer Jerry Bell, Traffic Unit, passed away on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Patsy Decker-Gibbs, the grandmother of Stacey Duncan, West Precinct, passed away on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Ginger Marlow-McKay, the wife of Officer William McKay, Central Precinct, passed away.

Jerry Kohen, the grandfather of Detective Joshua Hargrave, South Precinct, passed away.

Treva Perkins, the mother of Anita Stewart, Latent Print unit, passed away on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Richard Wisner, the father of Detective Jeff Wisner, Sex Crimes, and the grandfather of Officer Steven Wisner, East Precinct, passed away on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

William Larkin, the father of Sergeant John Larkin, North Precinct, passed away.