



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

June 12, 2015

News from the Chief



Tuesday evening was important in the life of the police department on two separate fronts. As 54 new police officers graduated from Session 77 during a ceremony that marked Mayor Dean's 23rd and last police graduation event, the Metro Council was debating and approving the city's operating and capital improvement budgets at the Historic Courthouse.

The sanctuary of First Baptist Church in Joelton was packed for the 6 p.m. graduation. The men and women of Session 77 have shown that they have the drive, desire and potential for long and rewarding careers serving the citizens of Nashville. Please congratulate and welcome them during your daily encounters.



Mayor Dean administered the oath of office.

The operating budget approved by the Metropolitan Council Tuesday night provides for a 2.5% across the board raise effective next month, increments for eligible employees on individuals' increment dates, and a 2% increase for open range employees. The budget also funded improvements to a few specific areas of the police department, including special events overtime staffing and the crime laboratory.

Among the items in the capital improvement budget approved by council members is funding for our city's first ever Family Justice Center that will be located on the former Carl Black/Capital Chevrolet property on Murfreesboro Pike near Fessler's Lane. The present plan is for the Family Justice Center to include our Domestic Violence and Youth Services Divisions as well as the Sex Crimes Unit from CID. Also in the facility will be the Nashville Children's Alliance, which provides support to child victims of sexual abuse, and members of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services. The expansive Murfreesboro Pike property will allow for much easier accessibility and parking for victims needing the services of the police department and its partners.

The council did not approve the proposed relocation of the Metro Jail and police headquarters from the aging and deteriorating Metropolitan Justice Center. The decision not to relocate the jail essentially negated the need to relocate headquarters. Funding, however, was approved for renovations to the jail, which, because people are confined there, is in the greatest need of rehab. If we had to move, it was with the purest of intentions that I proposed relocating headquarters to a tract of land on Jefferson Street to both enhance relationships with that community and provide an economic stimulus to the area. I appreciate the community leaders, business owners and members of the clergy who supported the proposal. I also respect those who were opposed.

As the heat of the summer moves in, please take care of yourselves and stay hydrated. I thank you for all that each of you do to enhance the safety of Nashville's families and visitors. You make this a great police department.

Session 77 Class Awards

Academic Excellence Award

Daniel Garrett

Officer Christy Dedman Spirit Award

Ronald Raynore

Physical Fitness Award

Melvin Taylor

Officer Michael Petrina Leadership Award

Richard Conger

Law Award
Steven Rowlett

Firearms Award
Coleman McKellar

Top Cop Award
Brandon Wood

Class President
Richard Conger

Happenings

Canine Demonstration

The four-legged members of the police department who work tirelessly to keep our city safe proudly demonstrated their skills to Nashville's families May 30th on the grounds of the MNPD Training Academy.

The police department's canine teams are specially trained to help track and apprehend dangerous criminals, detect the odor of narcotics, search for explosives, and help find lost persons.





Apollo Award

Chief Anderson on May 19th received the Apollo Award from the Public Relations Society of America's (PRSA) Nashville chapter. The Apollo Award recognizes a Middle Tennessee community leader who has shown sound communication practices and effective relationship-building within their organization and the community as a whole. Presenting the honor was PRSA President Laurie Parker.



Pictured (l-r) are PRSA President Laurie Parker and Chief Anderson

Bethel University Scholarship

Hermitage Precinct Officer Dan Motte received a \$5,000 scholarship from Bethel University toward his Master's degree.



Officer Motte pictured with Bethel University's Denny King and Brett Gipson.

FOP Police Youth Camp Donation

The Middle Tennessee Chapter of the American Society for Industrial Security International (ASIS) presented a check for \$1,000 to the Fraternal Order of Police Youth Camp for underprivileged boys and girls following their annual golf tournament in Mt. Juliet.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, FOP 2nd Vice-President Allen Herald and ASIS Treasurer David Mass.

Mounted Patrol

Mounted Patrol provided a demonstration to children at City Road United Methodist Church on Gallatin Pike. Officers also gave bicycle safety instruction.



Congratulations to the nearly 100 youngsters who graduated today from G.R.E.A.T camp during a celebration at IT Creswell Middle School.



Precinct News

Madison

Diligent police work led by Madison Precinct flex officers has led to the identification of 14 teenagers, all between the ages of 14 and 18, who are suspected of being involved in a series of auto thefts and other crimes since the end of May. Five of the teens are in custody. Arrest orders have been obtained for several others and they are being sought.

The investigation heightened on Monday of this week when a KIA Spectra was stolen from a convenience market on S. Gallatin Pike. A short time later, a Buick Lacrosse was stolen from a convenience market at Old Hickory Boulevard and Hickory Hills Drive. In both situations, the keys were left in the vehicles.

Video surveillance showed that the Lacrosse thief got out of a Jeep Wrangler upon arrival at the market.

Knowing that recent stolen automobiles had been abandoned in the Golden Valley/Haynes Park area of North Nashville, Madison Flex officers headed to that vicinity. Soon thereafter, a parade of four stolen vehicles, the Jeep Wrangler, the Buick Lacrosse, the KIA Spectra and a GMC Acadia, were seen by officers traveling in the area of Gwynwood Drive and Ewing Lane. Two teenage girls were dropped off by the driver of the Wrangler on Vista Drive. They were found to be carrying a bag containing a stolen .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol and stolen credit cards. Further police work led to the recoveries of the abandoned and stolen Buick Lacrosse & GMC Acadia on Farmview Drive, and the abandoned and stolen KIA Spectra on Judd Drive.

Three young men who fled from the KIA, including Kevonte Jernigan, 18, of Putnam Drive, were apprehended.

Various members of the teenage group are believed to have been involved in as many as a dozen vehicle thefts. Two guns that were inside vehicles when they were stolen have apparently been used to commit one carjacking and armed robberies.

A number of the juveniles involved have prior arrest histories. The District Attorney's Office is aware of the spree of new crimes and will be giving close attention to the teens in the Juvenile Court process.

The MNPD reminds citizens that the best way to prevent vehicle theft is to PARK SMART by locking doors and REMOVING THE KEYS regardless of how brief a visit to a market is intended to be.

Seventeen-year-old Davone Kentae Starks of Goodlettsville is charged with the murder of 15-year-old Kenneth Auton Jones on Forest Park Road in Madison.

Based on information developed thus far, Madison Precinct detectives believe Jones was shot during the attempted purchase of a firearm. The investigation is continuing.

Rotary Club members presented bicycles to students with outstanding grades and citizenship skills at Gateway Elementary School. Flex Officer Keith McNamara provided the children with safety tips.



Hermitage

Commander Donegan and officers visited J.C. Napier and University Court to meet and visit with residents.



North

An alert citizen's call about suspicious activity on Haynes Street in North Nashville led to the apprehension of three high school students for a home burglary.

The concerned citizen was in a vehicle on Haynes Street when she saw three young men pull up in a black Jeep, put on gloves and hoodies and walk toward a home in the 500 block. Canine Unit officers arrived quickly and saw the three teenagers flee from the rear of the house. Two of the three were apprehended by the canine teams. The third was stopped by a North Precinct motorcycle officer.

The burglars, two 17-year-olds and one 16-year-old, were booked into juvenile detention on multiple charges.

Commander Terrence Graves appeared on WFSK 88.1 to discuss youth gun violence during the Health Watch program.



Midtown Hills

Commander Kay Lokey pictured with Edgehill Family Resource Center Director Brenda Morrow and Edgehill residents including bike club member Terry Key.



Vanderbilt Police Captain Corwin Thomas provided Midtown Hills Precinct officers with a campus tour.



South

The MNPD's week-long El Protector Youth Camp graduated 97 participants on June 5th at Wright Middle School.



Specialized Investigations Division

A tip to Crime Stoppers led to the three month undercover investigation that resulted in last month's raid on Wicked Angels strip club at 1711 Hayes Street where the co-owner is alleged to have been peddling prescription painkillers to customers.

Specialized Investigations Division narcotics detectives charged Samuel Myers Jr., 48, with three counts of selling Oxycontin for dealing a total of 126 pills to a police operative in March, April and this month. During a search of the strip club, detectives discovered a plastic bag containing 461 Oxymorphone pills that would collectively sell on the street for \$18,440. Also seized from the business were 18 morphine pills, 28 Xanax tablets and 3 Oxycodone pills.

Myers' four vehicles (a 2009 Mercedes, a 2008 Dodge Challenger, a 2006 Chevy Camaro, and a 2003 BMW X5) were seized on the theory that they were acquired with drug proceeds.

Fraud Unit

Converting \$1 bills into \$50 bills.

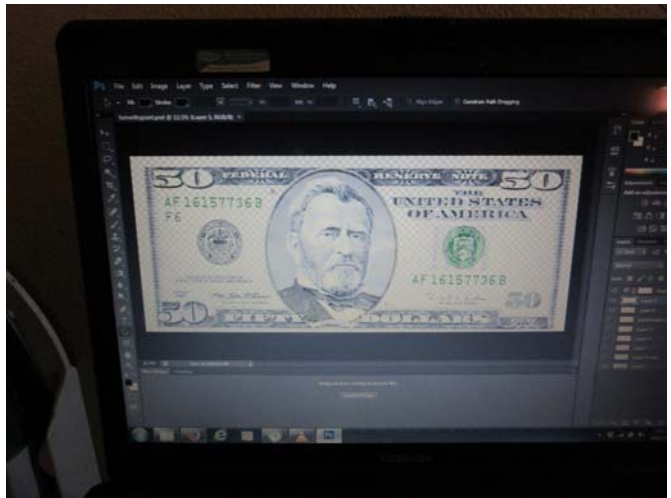
That's how a Florida couple admits to supporting themselves as they made purchases with bogus money at Hermitage area businesses and garage sales.

Michael David Fenton, 41, and Missy L. Grooms, 45, both of Bradenton, Florida, have been separated from their printing operation and are now in the Metro Jail charged with criminal simulation. They are being held in lieu of \$100,000 bond each.

Fenton and Grooms were present this morning as MNPd Fraud detectives, joined by Secret Service agents, executed a search warrant at the couple's Vista Inn motel room on Old Hickory Boulevard in Hermitage. Found inside the room were five \$1 bills soaking in a bleaching agent to dissolve the ink, 34 sheets of paper that contained a copy of a \$50 bill, a computer, printer and some of the items the couple purchased from garage sales (after the purchase, they received change in real currency).

The couple claimed their counterfeiting operation helped pay their rent and support a heroin habit.

The investigation is continuing and further charges are anticipated.



Retirement Celebration

Detective Marsha Brown celebrated 27 years of service



Pictured (l-r) are Deputy Chief Brian Johnson and Marsha Brown.

Officer Jim Fuqua celebrated 29 years of service



Pictured (l-r) are Madison Precinct Commander Sebastian Gourdin, Jim Fuqua, and Deputy Chief Brian Johnson.

Condolences:

Sam Stein, the father of Officer Paul Stein, East Precinct, passed away on May 19th.

Retired Sergeant James “Chink” Reilly, age 95, passed away. He retired in 1981 after 30 years of service.

Jimmie Warren, the grandfather of Officer Steven Williams, South Precinct, passed away on May 17th.

James Bowman, the grandfather of Lieutenant Mickey Yentes, Special Operations Division, passed away on May 16th.

Helen Jo Hamm, the mother of Officer Dennis Hamm, Midtown Hills Precinct, passed away on June 3rd.

FYI:



Many of you know that I founded a nonprofit several years ago called Hero Hunt, Inc. Hero Hunt, Inc. is a 501 (C) 3 charity. Our goal is to promote healing through hunting for our nation's heroes. The heroes we serve are line of duty injured police, fire and battlefield injured military members. We are in the process of organizing and hosting a hunter education course with the help of our FOP, TWRA, Remington Outdoors, and a few of our other sponsors, for children of our MNPD sworn personnel and NFD Fire and EMS. We expect to be able to host 100 kids for the program but a parent will have to attend with their child. Participants have to be a minimum of 9-years old by the date of the class. The class is anticipated to be held at the FOP Youth Camp, Friday, August 21st for about 3 hours in the late afternoon. The class will then pick back up Saturday morning at 0800 and should be concluded around 1330. There is no cost associated with this event and Hero Hunt, Inc., TWRA, FOP, and Remington are proud to be able to present the opportunity. If you have an interest or questions please send me an email to herohuntinc@gmail.com. It is our intent to fill the class with 50 children of our sworn MNPD

personnel and 50 children of our NFD Fire and EMS. Presently we have 31 kids from the MNPB and 36 from the NFD. I will need to know the personnel's name, child / children(s) names, and the number of children you would plan on signing up, phone number and email address of the parent.

The program teaches many things to include firearms and hunting safety as well as introduces the kids to the outdoors and hunting as a passion.

Additional information from the TWRA can be found at: <http://www.state.tn.us/twra/huntered.html>

Respectfully,

Joe Towers,

Founder / President

Hero Hunt, Inc.