



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

June 15, 2018

News from the Chief



Central Precinct Officer Clayton Lewis continues to be treated at Vanderbilt University Medical Center for a broken arm, broken ankle and other injuries caused by a 19-year-old colliding with him head-on Wednesday night. He underwent surgery Thursday. When I saw Clayton at the hospital Wednesday night, he was in good spirits and remarked to me that he hoped his injuries would not impact his foot speed. Deputy Chief Johnson and Commander Howey were at the hospital yesterday when Clayton came out of recovery from surgery and spoke with him briefly. He is now in a regular room. Thank you to all who are, and will be, keeping Clayton's spirits high as Vanderbilt doctors help keep him on the mend.

Officer Willie Reaves, presently assigned to our Juvenile Crimes Task Force, recently shared an emailed note from a citizen that I think should appear in this newsletter. Oftentimes we can only speculate on the good that comes from our work. Sometimes we find out about that good months later. This is a case in point. The citizen's name has been redacted to just initials.

Officer Reaves,

My name is A.G., and I feel very moved to write you today.

When I saw the blue lights in my rear view mirror, my heart sank on February 23, 2017. I was at Centennial Park, next to that notorious pavilion by the Tower, and had just hit a crack pipe. You were my charging officer. I was with F.R., and you asked me what in the world I was doing with him. There is no telling what off-the-wall response I gave you.

That ticket initiated a process that has resulted in sobriety (over a year now). If you hadn't stopped us, a million things could have happened to me- and none of them would have been positive.

I am enrolled at TSU in the Social Work program, working toward a degree that could help the community of Nashville, rather than my past track of adding to the problem. I plan to work in the juvenile sector in the justice department.

I cannot thank you enough. I did not get convicted of that crime, but it was a visible sign of God's grace that changed my heart enough to pursue permanent change. Your work for the community is without a measured monetary value, and all of your work is not in vain. It changed my life. I am so grateful that you serve the community of Nashville, and I will pay the debt I owe to you by serving our community in the capacities I am able. You truly are a servant that has impacted my life simply by doing your job.

I lived a life of prostitution and heroin/cocaine addiction. I am 31 now, and day by day I am gaining the life skills to be a positive role model and responsible citizen of society. You made a difference, and I humbly admire your valor in your role in keeping our streets safer!

"Thank you" does not adequately state the gratitude I have in my heart.

After reading this letter, I am immediately reminded of two notifications about other officers just this week. A representative of the Nashville Fire Department wrote to tell us about a 53-year-old man who crashed his car on May 4th after suffering a heart attack. Officer Hillary Sherman was on her way home from work, stopped, pulled the man from his car and began CPR. Paramedics took over and rushed the man to Vanderbilt, where he underwent an almost immediate medical procedure to relieve a 100% occlusion in one of his coronary arteries. The man fully recovered. Officer Sherman's CPR efforts, according to the Fire Department, were vital to saving his life.

And then there is Officer Chip Willmore, who recently came into contact with a 73-year-old man in a heavy motorized wheelchair who was stranded with a dead battery at Gallatin Pike and Due West Avenue. After initially calling dispatch for a taxi capable of transporting a heavy motorized wheel chair, Officer Willmore decided to take care of the situation himself and pushed this citizen to his senior living center. When asked about his decision, Officer Willmore was quoted as saying, "The gentleman was sitting there for a while, it just seemed like the right thing to do at the time."

These three scenarios happen to involve Officers Reaves, Sherman and Willmore. I know that there are many stories of positive citizen interactions that take place on every shift that go unreported. You make this police department a special place. The nation's major city police chiefs certainly noticed and complemented your work while in town for last week's Major Cities & Police Executive Research Forum meetings.

The heat of the summer is here and I know that temperatures in the 90s make police work a bit tougher (please remember to stay hydrated). Thank you for everything you do on behalf of Nashville's families and visitors.

Happenings

The MNPD's Drill and Ceremony Team on May 14th was judged the best in the nation in competition during National Police Week in Washington, D.C. The team is now a three time national champion!



Officer Eric Mumaw's mother, Esther Connell joined the Drill & Ceremony Team in Washington. Officer Mumaw's name was added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.





Law Enforcement United Bicycle Ride

Several officers from the MNPD took part in Law Enforcement United's 9th Annual "Road to Hope" bicycle ride to kick off police week this year. This year, the ride raised \$592,000 for Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), \$80,000 for Spirit of Blue, and \$78,000 for the Officer Down Memorial Page. Over the course of three days, officers from across the country ride approximately 250 miles from multiple starting points and converge on Washington DC.

Officer Josh Black, Officer Brandon Frith, Officer Josh Baney, and Sergeant Anthony Brooks rode from Chesapeake, Virginia to honor the memories of officers killed in the line of duty. Detective Kimberly Brown and PASS counselor Matthew Ford participated in the "Ruff Ride" from Cumberland, MD. The "Ruff Ride" is a trail ride honoring the memory of K9s lost in the line of duty.

Accompanying the riders this year as LEU support members were Officer Burl Johnson, Meredith Brooks, Rachel Black, and Vera Dedman, mother of MNPD Officer Christy Dedman, who died in the line of duty on July 19, 2004.

If you are interested in participating in the 2019 Road to Hope bicycle ride, registration opens on July 1st. Please contact anyone with Team Nashville for more details.



Pictured (l-r) are Matthew Ford, Meredith Brooks, Sergeant Anthony Brooks, Detective Kimberly Brown, Officer Brandon Frith, Detective Josh Baney, Vera Dedman, Officer Josh Black, Rachel Black, and Officer Burl Johnson.



Citizen Police Academy

Chief Anderson on May 11th welcomed the newest session of our Citizen Police Academy. It's the 40th session of the CPA since the program began in 1995.



Titans Visit Training Academy

The entire Tennessee Titans football team and coaching staff spent Thursday morning at the MNPD's Academy learning a bit about how officers are trained and gun safety. It may well have been the first field trip of its kind by a full NFL team to its local police department.

Chief Steve Anderson welcomed the four busloads of Titans at 9:30 a.m. The team split into groups of 30 and rotated among three stations that brought them into a shoot/don't shoot simulator that presented players with a variety of dangerous scenarios that a police officer could encounter. They were also exposed to real pistols and rifles on two gun ranges.

Titans General Manager Jon Robinson approached the police department earlier this month with an idea to surprise the players on the last day of minicamp with a visit to the MNPD Academy.

"The interaction between Titans players and our officers was exceptional," Chief Anderson said. "The conversations were relaxed and it was clear that both groups had a good time being with each other. This was an outstanding idea by Jon Robinson and I am grateful that he brought it to us."





Mobile Diversity Tour

An important part of MNPD training is learning about the people and cultures of Nashville's diverse neighborhoods. On Wednesday, 67 officer trainees took part in a mobile diversity tour sponsored by the MNPD and the Human Relations Commission. The tour included stops at Casa Azafran, Fisk University's Jubilee Hall, the Muslim American Cultural Center, and Play on Church Street.



Mayor David Briley joined trainees at Casa Azafran.

Police Mountain Bike Course

MNPD officers from across the department completed the International Police Mountain Bike Association Basic Cyclist Course May 7th – 11th at Belmont University.





Bike Response Team

The first Bike Response Team Course May 14th-18th was a big success. Thirty-three officers completed the challenging course.



Tennessee Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)

Community Services Deputy Chief Brian Johnson

During the first week of May, I was fortunate to participate in the Tennessee Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) BossLift. This opportunity allowed me to travel to the National Training Center in Ft. Irwin, California to better understand the critical role that the

National Guard and Reserve play in defending our nation and witness some of the Army's most intensive combat training.

While there, I was able to meet with a number of our MNPD officers who are currently serving in the Tennessee National Guard's 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment as they trained and prepared for deployment.



Precinct News

East

Community Sergeant Mike Fisher visited an East Nashville daycare center on May 16th. He passed along safety tips, read books to them, and answered their questions.



East Precinct Officer Randy Heinze received a certificate of appreciation from FBI Special Agent Brett Shields for his efforts in arresting the man who last August robbed SunTrust Bank's 3101 Dickerson Pike branch.



Pictured (l-r) are FBI Special Agent Brett Shields, Officer Heinze, East Precinct Commander David Imhof, and FBI Task Force Detective Keith Sutherland.

West

16-year-old Ahmad Ghalayini is charged with the May 22nd armed robbery of a man who had arranged online to sell a gun to a man he thought was in his 50s.

The victim met Ghalayini in the parking lot of First United Pentecostal Church, 7512 Charlotte Pike, at 1:30 p.m. As the two approached each other, Ghalayini produced a handgun and robbed the victim of his firearm. The teen then fled into a wooded area behind the church.

Investigation by West Precinct undercover and investigative detectives led to the identification of Ghalayini as the suspect. He was arrested at W.A. Bass Middle School. During an interview, Ghalayini admitted he robbed the man. The stolen gun was recovered from the teen's residence.

Ghalayini is charged in Juvenile Court with aggravated robbery.

Madison

A second person is now facing a murder charge in connection with the January 18, 2017 shooting death of John Beers, 49, inside his Chesapeake Drive home.

Amanda A. Henson, 28, is jailed on a grand jury indictment charging first-degree murder. Her co-defendant, Kevin Lamont Williams, 32, was charged with first-degree murder and aggravated robbery in June 2017.

The investigation by Madison Precinct detectives alleges that Henson conspired with Williams who shot Beers after going to the home to rob him.

North

Two men are in custody for the August 25, 2017 fatal shooting of pizza delivery driver Doniyor Abdumadjidov, 40, in the 2700 block of Batavia Street.

A grand jury indictment has been issued charging Michael Branch Jr., 27, and Marrino Seay, 29, with 1st degree murder and especially aggravated robbery. Investigation by North Precinct Detective Gary Shannon led to the identification of Branch and Seay as being involved in the fatal shooting. Abdumadjidov was found wounded by a passerby just after 1 a.m.

Branch, of Memphis, is being held in the Metro jail without bond. He is also facing a charge of attempted aggravated robbery for his alleged involvement in a robbery attempt on Herman Street just prior to Abdumadjidov's murder.

Central

The Central Precinct day-shift Bike Unit participated in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Ride-to-Work Day on May 22nd.



Midtown Hills

Convicted thief and burglar Michael Ray Jenkins' latest exploits caught the attention of several concerned citizens late into the night on May 31st who quickly dialed 911.

Calls started coming into the Emergency Communications Center around 10:30 p.m. concerning a man with long hair wearing a tan hat walking on Broadway with a military style rifle and magazines of ammunition. Midtown Hills Precinct officers canvassed the area and were flagged down by folks who relayed the gunman's direction of travel. Police ultimately found Jenkins, 63, with the AR-15 rifle in an alley behind 1641 Patterson Street.

The investigation showed that Jenkins, who has a history of burglarizing cars, broke into a vehicle parked at the DawgHouse Saloon on Demonbreun Street, found the AR-15 and ammunition magazines, stole them and started walking. Jenkins was also found to be carrying a bent screwdriver and other items from the vehicle.

Jenkins is charged with auto burglary, possession of a burglary tool, and unlawful gun possession by a convicted felon.

South

South Precinct officers and Youth Services detectives on June 5th arrested four juveniles from two stolen vehicles, including the 12-year-old driver from one of the automobiles.

Both stolen vehicles, a Nissan Altima and a Jeep Compass, were spotted at the Delta Express Market at Linbar Drive and Wallace Road. The 12-year-old driver of the Altima was taken into custody after she struck an unmarked police car as it pulled into the parking lot. The Jeep pulled away from the market and was spotted a short time later on Antioch Pike. The 16-year-old female driver was taken into custody. Two boys, ages 12 and 16, ran from the Jeep and were arrested. All were taken to juvenile detention.

Carlos Darnell Dixon, 33, is charged with criminal homicide for the May 11th fatal shooting of Cesar Reza in the parking lot of 1135 Bell Road.

Reza, 24, and two friends had pulled into the packed parking lot with the intention of going into the Arabian Palace Hookah Lounge. Witnesses report that they pulled behind a man, later identified as Dixon, who was trying to back out of the parking lot. An argument ensued, during which Dixon is alleged to have fired a shot into Reza's vehicle. Reza was fatally wounded.

Investigation by South Precinct Detectives Phil Klarer and Desmond Sumerel led to Dixon's arrest in LaVergne, Tennessee. Dixon is being held in the Metro Nashville jail.

Officer Matthew Turppa responded to a report of an overdose at an Ansley Court residence. Fire Department personnel revived a man by administering Narcan. Officer Turppa observed in plain view a scale and needle indicative of drug use. Seized during a subsequent

search of the house were five guns, 190.4 grams of methamphetamine, and 97 pills. The homeowner was charged with felony drug and unlawful weapon possession.



Seized guns and drugs

Special Operations Division

Fatal crash Investigator Russell Ward arrested the suspected driver from the May 9th hit and run collision on Myatt Drive near Spring Branch Road in Madison that killed pedestrian Jennifer Lee Hayward, 47, who was homeless.

Officer Ward located Gregorio Juarez Morente, 48, at his Bridgeway Avenue home on May 15th. Morente admitted that he was driving the 2002 Chevrolet Venture minivan that struck Hayward. After the collision, Morente abandoned the minivan in a Gallatin Pike parking lot where it was recovered the same night. The minivan, which sustained damage consistent with striking Hayward, had been cleaned out and the license plate removed. Morente reported that Hayward stepped out in front of the vehicle and, after she was struck, he became frightened and drove off.

Morente is charged with leaving the scene of a fatal crash, failure to render aid, driving on a suspended license, and driving without insurance.

The 2005 black Lexus ES 330 sedan seized on May 16th, and fully believed to be the hit and run vehicle that struck and critically injured two Bird Scooter riders three days earlier, is being processed for evidence at the MNPD Crime Laboratory pursuant to a search warrant.

The car was found covered by black plastic in the backyard of a home at 901 Freewood Drive in Madison. Central Precinct Officer David Snowden did extensive computer research using partial license tag information to identify the car likely involved. Officers during the night knocked on the door of 901 Freewood Drive. The person who answered the door told officers that the Lexus under the plastic belonged to his son, James Reagon Jr. Reagon Jr., 34, arrived while officers were on the property. After being advised of his rights, Reagon Jr. refused to answer any questions without an attorney.

Domestic Violence Division

Family Intervention Counselor Janisca Williams, Victim Witness Coordinator Grace Guerra, Detective Christopher Williams, and Sergeant Alfredo Arevalo attended the Ride to Thrive event at Cleveland Park in East Nashville.



Detective Jason Door and Handle with Care Program coordinator Christal Pennic participated in the Life Giving Community Outreach event at Hadley Park. Organizers partner with local businesses and churches to provide underserved individuals and families with short and long-term resources.



Domestic Violence Detective Miguel Garcia pictured with a young country music and police fan during CMA Fest.



Fraud Unit

Ongoing investigation by MNPD Fraud detectives resulted in the arrests of seven persons accused of using stolen information that had been retrieved from skimmer devices to withdraw large amounts of cash from area ATMs.

Detectives observed Evengii Zubkov, 33, making withdrawals at Regions Bank's ATM at 2111 Abbott Martin Road while his passenger, Ian Zubkov, 18, made withdrawals inside the bank. After a vehicle stop, the men, both from Russia, were taken into custody and charged with criminal simulation and identify theft. Seized from the car were 204 encoded debit cards and \$22,899 cash.

Gevorg Sukiasyan, 38, and Avetis Greyan, both from Russia, were also observed at Regions Bank's ATM at 2111 Abbott Martin Road making multiple withdrawals. When they drove out of the bank parking lot, Fraud detectives conducted a traffic stop. Seized from the vehicle were 199 encoded cards and \$3,602 cash. Sukiasyan and Greyan are both charged with criminal simulation and identify theft.

Detectives were conducting surveillance at First Bank's ATM at 2121 Abbott Martin Road when Albert Luca, 22, from Brazil, walked up to the ATM and attempted to use a card which was declined. He then walked to a nearby Kroger where he attempted to use two

different cards at an ATM inside the store. Both were declined. Luca was taken into custody and charged with criminal simulation. Five gift cards were recovered from his person.

Fraud detectives received a tip that Alisson Oliveira, 22, and Dario Miranda, 30, both from Brazil, were illegally withdrawing thousands of dollars from First Bank's ATM at 1817 West End Avenue. Both men were taken into custody and charged with criminal simulation and theft of property.

FBI and Secret Service agents assisted in this ongoing investigation.

Specialized Investigations Division

An alleged Nashville pill pusher has been arrested as the result of an investigation that resulted in the seizure of more than 35,600 Xanax and Alprazolam tablets that were shipped to Nashville from Canada.

Timothy D. Watkins, 25, is charged with possession of drugs for resale, unlawful gun possession and possession of two stolen firearms, a pistol that was reported stolen from a Georgia Bureau of Investigation agent and a rifle that was reported stolen from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

On May 22nd, detectives from the MNPD's Major Crimes Task Force were joined by agents from U.S. Homeland Security and U.S. Postal Inspectors in making a controlled delivery of an intercepted drug filled parcel to an address on Tampa Drive in South Nashville. Watkins arrived and took control of the package, which originated in Canada. After being taken into custody, Watkins admitted that he sold pills. A subsequent search of a residence on Albee Drive where Watkins was staying led to the discovery of 10 bags of pills and four guns.



Seized guns and pills

Juvenile Crime Task Force

A citizen's tip to officers assigned to the Youth Violence Task Force led to the seizure of an AR-15 rifle and three handguns and the recovery of a stolen Chevrolet pickup truck.

Task Force members learned that persons in the stolen truck had parked and entered the apartment of Charles Rucker at 1426 Ireland Street. During the execution of a search warrant, the guns and a small amount of marijuana were recovered inside the apartment.

Rucker, 20, and Tavonte Thompson, 20, of Burns Street, both admitted that they had been inside the stolen truck. They were each charged with vehicle theft and marijuana possession. Both men denied knowledge of the weapons, which had not been reported stolen.



Seized rifle and handguns

The MNPD's Juvenile Crime Task Force recovered one stolen vehicle and seized three guns in two separate incidents.

While patrolling on Ben Allen Road in East Nashville, task force officers came upon a parked blue Nissan Rogue without a license plate at an apartment complex. A records check showed that it had been stolen from Benay Road on April 13th (the keys had been left inside). Through talking with residents in the complex, officers determined that the SUV was being driven by a 17-year-old who lived nearby. Task force officers went to his apartment, received his mother's permission to search it, and found the teenager in his bedroom. Also discovered were two pistols concealed in a shoebox in his closet along with two digital scales. The teen reported that he bought the Rogue from another teen, who he would not identify, for \$40. He was taken to juvenile detention and charged with auto theft, unlawful gun possession and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

In the second case, task force officers attempted to stop a 2007 Nissan Sentra on Kings Lane for a running a stop sign. The driver sped away. The car was located a short time later near Revels Drive and Woodale Lane. The three persons inside it fled on foot. One of them, a 16-year-old, was quickly apprehended. He was carrying a nine-millimeter pistol loaded with

one round in the chamber and 13 bullets in the magazine. The 16-year-old is charged with unlawful gun possession, evading arrest and two counts of probation violation. He is also listed as a runaway from Kentucky. The two other persons in the car, Kenyon Vaughn, 18, the driver, and Jabin Catron, 19, are charged with evading arrest and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The Sentra belongs to Catron.

Behavioral Health Services

Peer Support Training

Dr. Carol Harp

The Fraternal Order of Police and Behavioral Health Services Division on May 24th welcomed Sherriff Timothy Whitcomb of Cattaraugus County, New York for a day of peer support training on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and law enforcement suicide. The training was attended by MNPD Peer Supporters as well as personnel from the Davidson County Sheriff's Office, MECC, and Nashville Fire Department.

Sheriff Whitcomb, who has been in law enforcement for almost three decades and holds a graduate degree in mental health counseling, has given dozens of presentations to police and other first responders. He recognized the symptoms in himself after the death of his mentor and friend, Sheriff Dennis John, who took his own life in August 2009. First responders are exposed to repeated trauma. "It's an unseen injury," Whitcomb said. "We have to protect and serve those who have chosen to protect and serve."

Sheriff Whitcomb, who has also served as president of the New York State Sheriff's Association, is part of a group called TRAUMA in Law Enforcement, where a seven-member team presents an intensive two-day training seminar on PTSD and law enforcement suicide.



Sheriff Whitcomb discusses the importance of recognizing and treating PTSD in first responders.

MNPD Chaplain Anita Herron graduated from the TBI Citizens' Police Academy on May 22nd. She has also recently completed the U.S. Secret Service Chaplain's Training Program.



Chaplain Anita Herron

Retirement Celebrations

Officer Jeffrey Tharpe celebrated 25 years of service



Pictured (l-r) are Officer Tharpe and Deputy Chief John Drake.

Jerry Holt celebrated 45 years of service



Pictured (l-r) are Deputy Chief John Drake and Jerry Holt.

Anita Lockridge celebrated 37 years of service



Pictured (l-r) are Deputy Chief Damian Huggins and Anita Lockridge.

Officer Troy Meadows celebrated 30 years of service



Congratulations:



Officer Shannon Forsyth and her wife, Stephanie Smith Forsyth, welcomed their daughter, Ireland Gail Forsyth, born on May 1st.

Detective Harrison Nearn, North Precinct, and his wife, Chelsey, welcomed their daughter, Ella Reese Nearn, born on May 23rd.

Officer Ashley “Kendall” Coon, Madison Precinct, and his wife welcomed their daughter, Evelyn Paige Coon, born on May 29th.

Sergeant Travis Martin, West Precinct, and his wife welcomed their son, Henry Thomas Martin, born on May 30th.

Pilot Katie Lamm, Aviation Unit, and her husband, Jeremy, welcomed their daughter, Annie Jean Lamm, born on May 31st.

Officer Lee Davis, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife, Ashley, welcomed their son, Levi, born on June 2nd.

Officer Josh Billotte, Midtown Hills Precinct, and Officer Kayla Castro, North Precinct, welcomed their daughter, Adeline Harper Billotte, on June 7th.

Brandon Bradford, Midtown Hills Precinct, and his wife, Amanda, Emergency Contingency Section, welcomed **TWINS**, Maddox Austin and Mackenzie Grace, on June 7th.



Condolences:

Helen Ferguson, the grandmother of Officer Darren Key, West Precinct, passed away.

James Bush, the grandfather of Rhonda Hagar, Central Precinct, passed away on May 26th.

Howard “Bill” Derrick, the grandfather of April Weatherly, Chief of Police Office, passed away on May 18th.

Retired Roseville, Michigan, Police Officer and Navy Veteran James K. Campbell, the grandfather of Detective James DeSantis, Domestic Violence Division, passed away on June 1st.

Yvonne Marie Cagley, the sister of Heidi Bennett, Domestic Violence Division, passed away on May 30th.

Otto Woike, the grandfather of Melissa Oswald, Forensic Services, passed away.