



# MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

April 12, 2013

## News from the Chief



Shoney's Corporation CEO David Davoudpour has announced that the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run and Festival benefiting the Nashville Police Support Fund will be held on Saturday morning, June 1, at LP Field. Mr. Davoudpour personally and strongly believes in Nashville and the men and women of this police department. Thanks to his generosity, these events over the past four years have generated nearly \$85,000 for the Nashville Police Support Fund, which was established within The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee to help fund higher education opportunities and other advanced training programs for Metro officers. I am pleased to say that the first grants from the fund to help defray the cost of officers' 2013 college tuition are expected to be made this year. You will be receiving information about the application process in the coming weeks. I hope that all police department employees will consider making plans now to join me and many of your colleagues in LP Field's Lot T on June 1. The 5K Run/Walk through downtown will begin at 8 a.m. (cash prizes will be awarded to the first place male and female runners). The festival, with live music and a display of equipment from a variety of police department components, will be open immediately after the race. In prior years, employee groups from various workplaces and precincts have enthusiastically supported this event. The goal is to have the largest crowd ever at this year's 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Registration is available now by logging onto [www.shoneys5krun.com](http://www.shoneys5krun.com).

It is your hard work and dedication that give CEOs like David Davoudpour reason to proudly support the men and women of this police department. Thank you all for everything you do to enhance the safety of Nashville's families, businesses and visitors.

## **Happenings**

### **Officers Travis Baxter and Jerre Fly Honored with Awards from Odd Fellows Association**

Dedicated police work by Officer Travis Baxter that led to the arrest of two men involved in a shooting and attempted robbery on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South has now earned Baxter the Judge John L. Draper Joint Nashville Police Odd Fellow Award for the first half of 2011.

Baxter received a \$500 cash award during an April 5<sup>th</sup> ceremony.

In the early morning hours of April 10, 2011, Officer Baxter was near 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Division Street when he heard the sounds of gunshots nearby. As he drove to investigate, a car fled away from the area at more than twice the speed limit. Officer Baxter activated his emergency equipment in an effort to stop the car for the traffic violation. The driver ultimately pulled over on Wedgewood Avenue. Subsequent investigation revealed the two occupants were involved in the shooting and attempted robbery of a victim at 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Gleaves Avenue. The gun used was recovered in the path of the vehicle's flight from the scene. The passenger was later convicted of attempted murder, robbery and assault charges. The driver was convicted of robbery counts and speeding. Both received multi-year prison sentences.

Other Odd Fellow Award nominees for the first half of 2011 were Officers Steven Bowers, Pedro Robles, Daniel Bowling, Jeff Moseley, Clifton Huffmaster, Sam Johnson and Burl Johnson.

### **Odd Fellow Award for Second Half of 2011**

A traffic stop of a man for not wearing his seatbelt in South Nashville snowballed into a federal Hobbs Act robbery case and has now earned Officer Jerre Fly the Judge John L. Draper Joint Nashville Police Odd Fellow Award for the second half of 2011.

Fly also received a \$500 cash award.

On the night of August 10, 2011, Officer Fly stopped a car on Apache Trail at Haywood Lane after observing the seatbelt violation. During a consent search, a semi-automatic pistol and a small bag of marijuana were recovered from the vehicle. Officer Fly believed the driver to be a member of the Asian Pride Gang and called the police department's Gang Unit to the scene. The ensuing investigation led to the federal indictment of the driver and several other persons for violent home invasion robberies in Rutherford and Smith Counties. The driver was also convicted of failing to wear a seatbelt as the result of Officer Fly's stop.

Other Odd Fellow Award nominees for the second half of 2011 were Officers Rick Martin, John Gilpin, Jonathan Frith, Robert Simmons and Brett Kenney.

For 52 years, Nashville's Odd Fellows Association has sponsored this award, which is given twice a year to an officer below the rank of lieutenant who makes an arrest of a person already wanted, or who makes a criminal case based on the original citing of a traffic law violator.



**Pictured (l-r) are Odd Fellows Association members Bob Pritchett, Hilary Lingner and Joe Anderson along with Officer Travis Baxter, Officer Jerre Fly and Chief Steve Anderson.**

### **Community Shred Day**

Saturday's Community Shred Day at LP Field netted \$3,615 in donations to Crime Stoppers' reward fund.

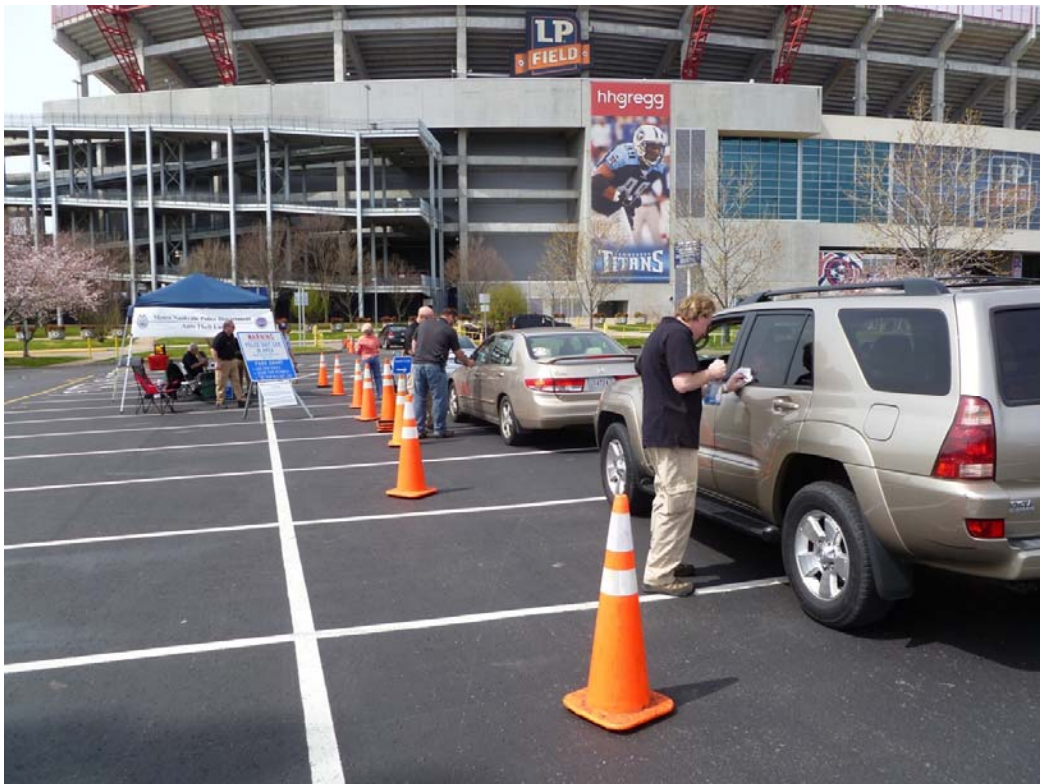
A steady flow of citizens took advantage of Shred Day at LP Field between the hours of 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. A total of 21,000 pounds of paper was dropped off as well as 90 pounds of unwanted/outdated medication. Fifteen motorists visited an on-site booth staffed by the police department's Auto Theft Unit and had their windows etched with small vehicle identification numbers as a deterrent to thieves.

The second of this year's Community Shred Days will be held in October. All donations from these two events go to Crime Stoppers' reward fund, which, over the past 30 years, has paid out more than \$545,000 to persons who provide information, often anonymously, about those responsible for criminal activity. Contributions to the fund also come from area businesses and individuals.

Sponsors of Saturday's Community Shred Day were Shred-it, a Securit Company, the world's leading on-site document destruction firm, and the Tennessee Division of Consumer Affairs.



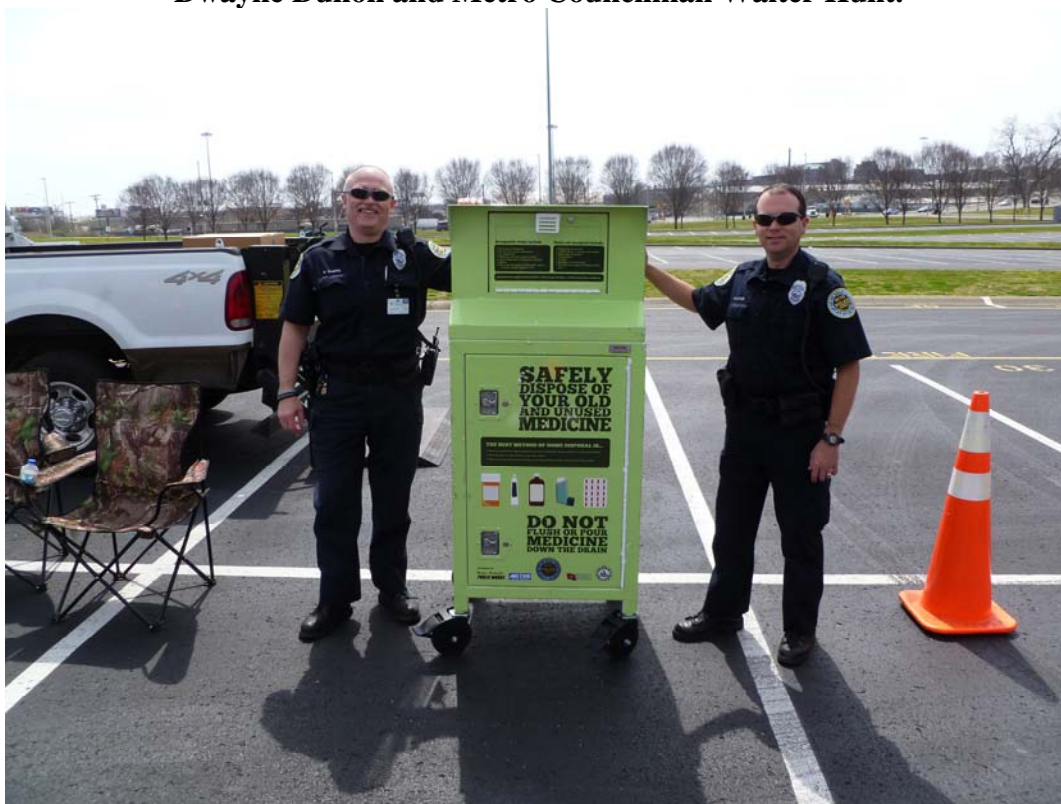
**A steady flow of citizens came to Saturday's Shred Day event at LP Field.**



**Auto Theft detectives were on hand to etch vehicle identification numbers on windows as a deterrent to thieves.**



**Chief Anderson at Shred Day with Nashville Crime Stoppers Chairman Dwayne Duhon and Metro Councilman Walter Hunt.**



**Pictured (l-r) are Officers Geoffrey Thiede and James Laster with a drop box for unused or expired pharmaceuticals and over-the-counter medications.**

## **Breaking the Glass Shield**

Major Betty Blair of the Tennessee Highway Patrol hosted the Women in Law Enforcement Breaking the Glass Shield conference on April 9<sup>th</sup> at the downtown Nashville Renaissance Hotel. Representatives from 30 states and Canada participated.

Hermitage Precinct Commander Michele Donegan participated in a panel discussion entitled “Developing Future Leaders”.



**Hermitage Precinct Commander Michele Donegan is joined by Vanderbilt University Police Chief August Washington in a panel discussion.**

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



**Chief Anderson addresses graduates.**



**Officer Carlos Lara received his GREAT instructor certificate.**



**Officer Steve Turner is congratulated by Deputy Chief Brian Johnson.**



**G.R.E.A.T. training graduates and instructors.**

## **Annual Metro Employee Basketball Tournament**

MNPD's basketball team played two games in the annual Jim Ed Clary Memorial Basketball Tournament April 2-3. Great fun was had by all and the team is looking forward to next year!



**Pictured front row (l-r) are Jeff Howe, A.J. Lampley, Jessica Burton, Shenika Lawrence and Leland Greer. Back row (l-r) are Kenneth Braden, David Brewington, Brandon Rardin, Ronald Howell, and Jason Lawrence. (Chris Hedge not pictured)**

### **The Precinct News**

#### **Hermitage**

Officers William Walls and Mike Baker responded to a complaint of multiple vehicle break-ins on Bonnafair Drive. They quickly developed information that led to the arrest of a neighbor and the recovery of items taken during the burglaries.

#### **South**

Convicted car burglar and thief Gregory Lynn Estes, whose arrest history contains 103 offenses since 1995, is once again in jail, this time for burglarizing Middle Tennessee Trailers at 2701 Nolensville Pike.

South Precinct officers responding to a burglary alarm at the business spotted Estes darting from one building to another on the fenced property. Part of the fence at the rear of the facility had been cut, as had a cable alarm designed to prevent the theft of trailers. An audible and strobe light alarm system attached to the corner of the office building had been ripped



away. Estes, 36, confessed to pulling down the alarm system, but said he just happened along and found the fence cut.

Estes is charged with burglary and felony vandalism in this case as well as theft of a trailer from McCrory Lane last month. He received a two-year sentence last July for auto burglary and was on probation at the time of his arrest.

Coordinated response by South Precinct Officers John Patton, Derry Baltimore and William Thorowgood resulted in Estes' apprehension.

A citizen's suspect description coupled with quick police response led to the arrest of three teens who admitted to two attempted residential break-ins on Arbor Ridge Drive and Brentridge Circle.

South Precinct Field Training Officer Mike Sneed and his partner Joshua Carter responded to a burglary in progress on Brentridge Circle. The victim provided a suspect description and direction of flight toward Bell Road. Officers Sneed and Carter spotted two teens who matched the suspect description, Anthony Lamont St. John, 18, and Romante Jimenez, 19, and took them into custody without incident. They were positively identified as the persons who attempted to break into a Brentridge Circle apartment. They fled that burglary after they realized the resident was home. St. John and Jimenez also admitted to an earlier attempted break-in at 10:30 p.m. at an Arbor Ridge Drive apartment where an audible alarm prevented them from entering the residence.

The third suspect, a 16-year-old, was later taken into custody. He also admitted his involvement in the attempted burglaries and is charged in Juvenile Court.

Jimenez and St. John are both charged with two counts of attempted aggravated burglary and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Officers from South Precinct, Background and Recruitment, El Protector, Special Operations Division and Mounted patrol attended the Southeast Easter celebration. Nearly 5,000 people attended the festival that featured several children's activities including an Easter egg hunt.



South Precinct Commander Paul Trickey and Community Coordinator Sergeant Taylor Schmitz attended the monthly Civitan meeting and informed members of the importance of reporting suspicious activity to the police.



## East

East Precinct Patrol Officer Sunny Park's knowledge of his area led to the arrest of convicted felon Russell Frohmuth, 48, who is now charged in three Easter Sunday robberies.

Frohmuth's robbery spree began Easter Sunday at 10:15 a.m. when he demanded money at knifepoint from a man at the Bank of America ATM at 3800 Gallatin Pike. That night, Frohmuth approached a man in the Home Depot parking lot at 1015 Joyce Lane, this time armed with a box cutter. In the third robbery, less than an hour later at 8:30 p.m., Frohmuth attempted to rob a woman outside the Community Market at 1859 Trinity Lane. He initially asked her for money and when she refused, threatened her with a box cutter.

In all three robberies he fled in a tan minivan. After hearing the suspect description, Officer Park provided Frohmuth's name to detectives and he was taken into custody. Items taken during the robberies were recovered from the minivan. During an interview, he admitted his involvement in all three hold-ups. Additionally, Frohmuth's girlfriend, Ashley Wells, 23, was charged with aggravated robbery for her alleged participation as the getaway driver in the Home Depot parking lot robbery. They live together on Zophi Street.

Frohmuth, who has multiple theft and burglary convictions, is charged with two counts of aggravated robbery and one count of attempted aggravated robbery.

## **North**

Proactive police work led to the capture of four robbery suspects during a hold-up on Dr. D.B. Todd Boulevard near Albion Street.

North Precinct Flex Officer Joel Rogers was in the area due to recent reports of criminal activity when at 9:30 p.m. he alertly spotted the victim, who appeared distressed, with the suspects. The victim reported that he was walking when the suspects approached him from behind and demanded his belongings at gunpoint. When they saw Officer Jones, the four fled on foot with the victim's cell phone and cigarettes.

Officers in the area quickly apprehended all four suspects. Deonte Lewis, 18, and Kalondo Fletcher, 15, were found hiding in a nearby building where the victim's cigarettes were recovered. Lamonte Thompson, 18, and Demonte Fletcher, 16, were apprehended on Dr. D.B. Todd Boulevard. Thompson was in possession of the victim's cell phone. All four are charged with aggravated robbery.

## **West**

Sixty-year-old parolee Bernard Miller is back behind bars after he was arrested by Vanderbilt Police for attempting to break into an SUV parked in a lot on Childrens Way.

Miller was near a Ford Explorer that had a broken window. The VUPD officer recognized Miller as the man wanted for vehicle break-ins that have occurred since at least November of last year. Vanderbilt Police on March 12<sup>th</sup> had obtained a warrant charging Miller with a February 23<sup>rd</sup> auto burglary in a garage at 1504 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Prior to his arrest, Metro police had obtained warrants charging him with two auto burglaries, January 29<sup>th</sup> at the YMCA, 8101 Highway 100 and November 26<sup>th</sup> in a garage at Baptist Hospital, 2000 Church Street.

Miller is also charged with five counts of fraudulent use of a credit card, forgery, theft, and possession of burglary tools. At the time of his arrest, he was driving a 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe that had been reported stolen on March 16<sup>th</sup> from a Murphy Road residence.

A parole violation warrant was issued against Miller on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Miller's local arrest history dates back to 1978 with 31 arrests on multiple charges with convictions for burglary of a motor vehicle, vehicle theft, theft and fraudulent use of a credit card. He has additional convictions in Shelby and Williamson Counties for forgery, auto burglary and theft.

## Retirement Celebration



**Pictured (l-r) are West Precinct Commander Marlene Pardue, Sergeant Freddie Stromatt and Deputy Chief Brian Johnson.**

## Specialized Investigations Division

Investigation by the Narcotics Unit of the Specialized Investigations Division led to a raid on an elaborate mushroom grow house at 5719 Cloverland Drive in Brentwood.

A search warrant for the house was issued after detectives developed evidence that mushrooms were being processed there. The owner of the house, Christopher Coxey, had a portable cement mixer inside the house used to mix the chemicals needed to grow hallucinogenic mushrooms. A small amount of marijuana was also recovered.

Coxey, 41, is charged with several offenses, including felony drug and gun possession.

Detectives were aware of a second house that Coxey owned at 201 Burgandy Hill Road. Coxey admitted that he also used that residence as part of his operation. Seized during a subsequent search of the Burgandy Hill Road house were digital scales, a food dehydrator, drying racks, a large pressure cooker, two computers, one vehicle and two LED televisions. The man renting the property from Coxey, Jeremy Davis, 36, is also accused of flushing processed mushrooms down the commode before officers made entry.

Totals seized at both houses include 394 individual bags of mushroom spores, 899 jars of mushroom spores, 12 jars of processed mushrooms, several syringes with mushroom spores and six guns.

Officer David Hacker's stop of a rented Ford Taurus Tuesday afternoon for following too closely on I-40 in West Nashville led to the seizure of approximately \$10,000 worth of heroin.

The driver of the Taurus, Anthony Gurley, 51, of the Boston, Massachusetts neighborhood of Roxbury, claimed to have visited Jackson, Tennessee, and was heading back home. Officer Hacker, who is assigned to the Specialized Investigations Division, requested and received permission to conduct a closer inspection of the Taurus. Concealed in the upper trunk area were 125 packets of Heroin, each of which would sell on the street for an estimated \$60 to \$80 each. Gurley disavowed any knowledge of the heroin. He was booked on a felony drug charge and has been released on a \$7,500 bond.

### **School Crossing Section Badge Ceremony**



**Seated (l-r) are School Crossing Guards Jessica Tompkins, Henrietta Stevens, Kathia Brown, Tangela Branch, Tabitha Keen, Anthony Sandi and Connie Ely. They recently received their badges. Standing (l-r) are Guard Supervisor Gloria Southall, Guard Supervisor Terry Martin, Captain Dhana Jones, Officer Kevin Cooley, Sgt. Brenda Steinbrecher, Captain Keith Stevens, Lt. Mike Gilliland, Sgt. Mark Denton, Guard Supervisor Ralph Malone, and Guard Supervisor Shirley Smith.**



**Retired School Crossing Guard Supervisor Shirley Smith pins her badge on newly promoted supervisor Terry Martin.**



**Ralph "Eddie" Malone, pictured with Captain Keith Stephens was promoted to Crossing Guard Supervisor.**

### **From the District Attorney's Office**

Director of Communications Susan Niland

Triple murderer Craig Garber entered a guilty plea Thursday on three counts of first degree premeditated murder in the September stabbing deaths of Michelle Pinkowski, her

teenage son and her mother. Garber was sentenced to three consecutive life sentences and must serve 153 years before he is eligible for parole.

A jury found Angel Manuel Rivera guilty of the 2009 murder and attempted robbery of his childhood friend, 23-year-old James Wade who was fatally shot inside his house on Hermitage Ridge. On the night of the shooting, Wade was home with three of his friends when Rivera showed up. He asked for Wade, then he and two other unidentified men rushed into the home. The two other men rummaged through the house while Rivera held Wade and his friends at gunpoint. When Wade confronted Rivera, Rivera shot him.

The murder conviction carries a life sentence of at least 51 years in prison. He will be sentenced at a later date on additional charges including aggravated assault and attempted aggravated robbery. The two men with Rivera on the night of the murder have not been identified. Thanks to Detective Greg Jennings for his work on the Rivera case.

Charles Davis was convicted for a December 2011 break-in of a home on Southcrest Drive in South Nashville. An alert neighbor called police after witnessing suspicious activity. Davis and another man were found hiding in the closet in the home they were burglarizing. Prior to the trial, Davis pled guilty to one count of aggravated burglary and misdemeanor theft. The jury convicted him of felony theft and a crooks with guns law violation.

### **Congratulations:**

Sergeant Michael Kent, Central Precinct, and his wife, Allison, welcomed their daughter Samantha Ann Kent on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Officer Tim Brewer, Madison Precinct, and his wife, Angela, welcomed their son Colton Brewer on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Officer Phillip Murphy, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife, Renee, welcomed their son Micah on April 9<sup>th</sup>.



Captain Chris Taylor recently completed his Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Finance from Columbia Southern University.

## **Condolences:**

Bishop Rupert Johnson, the father-in-law of Sergeant Kelvin Jenkins, recently passed away.

Norma Mayor, the mother-in-law of Canine Officer Terry Burnett, passed away on March 31<sup>st</sup>

Denise Bowden, the sister of Officer Tom Bowden, North Precinct, recently passed away.

Sergeant Robert Haynes, who retired in 1988 after 32 years of service, passed away on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dexter Brown, the stepbrother of Annette Martin, Warrants Division, passed away on April 6<sup>th</sup>.