



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

October 26, 2012

News from the Chief



On Tuesday of this week, the police department hosted a three hour in-service session for members of the Nashville clergy. Included were not only our volunteer chaplains, but those ministers who are active partners with us in the community presently, as well as those who desire to work closely with us going forward. During the three hours, members of the police department presented very informative sessions on gang and narcotics issues/investigations in Nashville, the GREAT curriculum taught by our officers in middle schools, intervention and counseling programs offered through the Youth Services Division, services offered through our Victim Intervention Program and the pastor-initiated Youth Violence Intervention Team, and MNPD recruiting.

The partnership our police department has with the overall community is one of its most important assets. Among those at the top of the list are the ministers throughout the city who are giving of their time and energy to assist all of us in enhancing the safety of our neighborhoods. The ministers know that too many Nashville teenagers and young adults resort to violence. For example, nine of this year's homicide victims are between the ages of 16 and 20, and half of 2012's murder victims are age 30 and below. The pastors realize that they have an important role in the overall well-being of our city and that the police department cannot do it all by itself.

The next time you are at a scene of an incident that requires the presence of a volunteer chaplain or minister, please take the time to thank him or her for being part of the team. The vital relationship between police and clergy is one that can and will grow stronger in the months and years ahead.

I am grateful to Captains Paul Trickey and Mike Hagar for organizing the clergy in-service and for the representation at the meeting from each of the seven precincts and other components.

Thank you all for everything you do day after day to keep Nashville safe and improve the quality of life for our city's families and visitors.



October 23 clergy meeting at West Precinct.

Happenings

Stores Padlocked after Allegedly Selling Synthetic Controlled Substances

Despite coordinated and well publicized raids on eleven Nashville convenience markets on July 10th for the sale of synthetic marijuana and similar substances, some local stores didn't heed the message.

Metro police officers this month shut down and padlocked three more convenience markets after their employees allegedly sold synthetic controlled substances to undercover police operatives over the past few weeks. Tennessee's legislature this year unanimously passed a law that took effect May 15th making the sale of synthetic marijuana a felony. The law also provides that businesses engaged in the distribution can be padlocked as public nuisances.

The markets closed were:

- Wings and Gas, 5205 Centennial Boulevard
- Lulu's Discount Tobacco, 3717 Clarksville Pike

- Lucky Corner, 5304 Charlotte Pike

“During September and October, undercover operatives were able to buy colorful packets of synthetic marijuana labeled as 7H, 7H Diablo, Kush and Purple Haze, all products that can cause very serious side effects on the human body,” Chief Steve Anderson said. “Our message continues to be that these products have no place whatsoever in Nashville’s neighborhoods. The police department, in partnership with the District Attorney’s Office, will continue these investigations and seek padlocking orders from the courts where appropriate.”

During the investigation involving Wings and Gas, a clerk is alleged to have retrieved a packet of 7H from underneath the counter and sold it to an undercover operative on September 20th.

During the investigation of Lulu’s Discount Tobacco, a clerk is alleged to have sold a packet of 7H Diablo, which he retrieved from the rear of the store, to an undercover operative on September 20th. On October 4th, a clerk is alleged to have sold the operative a packet of Kush, which was near the cash register.

During the investigation of Lucky Corner, a clerk led the police operative to the beer cooler on September 16th, where he is alleged to have sold three packets of Purple Haze. On September 30th, the clerk led a police operative to a storage room where he is alleged to have sold three more packets of Purple Haze.



“Our message continues to be that synthetic marijuana and similar substances have no place whatsoever in Nashville’s neighborhoods,” said Chief Steve Anderson, who was on hand for the raid at Lulu’s Discount Tobacco.

Lake Providence Baptist Church Appreciation Ceremony

On October 15th, Chief Anderson presented Reverend H. Bruce Maxwell, Pastor of Lake Providence Baptist Church, with a plaque symbolizing the department's deep appreciation for hosting the promotional process assessment centers.

Reverend Maxwell and his congregation have welcomed the MNPD to their facility for more than five years.



GREAT Regional Training

The GREAT Southeast Region Training Center provided training for 30 participants that graduated on October 18th.

The participants were from the eleven-state Southeast Region, including Texas and Toronto, Canada. They were each certified to teach the G.R.E.A.T. program in middle, elementary and summer schools. The participants now join G.R.E.A.T. officers throughout the country and abroad in teaching youngsters valuable life lessons so they are empowered to make positive choices and decisions regarding their futures.



The Precinct News

South

An alert citizen's call to police about suspicious persons in the parking lot of Overlook Apartments on Bell Road led to the arrest of two teenage car burglars along with the man they claimed bought a stolen gun from them.

South Precinct officers arrived at the apartment complex just before 10 p.m. and came across 13-year-old and 14-year-old boys. The 14-year-old was wearing a backpack that contained a laptop computer, a GPS unit and a radar detector. The 13-year-old acknowledged to officers that the two were out burglarizing vehicles at Overbrook and other South Nashville apartment complexes. Witnesses subsequently positively identified the teens as the persons they saw breaking into cars.

The 13-year-old told detectives there were stolen items hidden at the home of the 14-year-old. The 14-year-old's mother allowed officers to search her son's room. Found inside a shoe box were driver licenses, credit cards, insurance cards, etc. belonging to apparent victims of auto burglary. Under his bed were stolen GPS units.

During the investigation, detectives learned that the teens stole a gun during a vehicle burglary at Overlook Apartments on October 2nd. The pistol last night was found to be in the

possession of Garland Brooks, 23, who lives in Hickory Manor Apartments on Hamilton Church Road. Brooks voluntarily surrendered the gun. A records check showed that Brooks was wanted for probation violation. He was arrested for that, possessing marijuana for resale and unlawful gun possession.

Nashville murder suspect Ronald McCallum was taken into custody in Lumberton, North Carolina.

McCallum, 18, is accused in the September 20th fatal shooting of Abanzer Tsegaye in the parking lot of the Knights Inn at 1111 Bell Road. Tsegaye, 21, was shot when he and a friend went to the motel to take part in a marijuana transaction. Investigation by Detective Corey Wall led to the identification of McCallum as a suspect. He was subsequently identified by a witness as being one of the two men Tsegaye was dealing with when gunfire erupted.

At the time of the murder, McCallum was free on \$15,000 bond in relation to a felony marijuana arrest from January 16th. He failed to show on that case September 26th and a Criminal Court bench warrant was issued.

Commander Mike Alexander hosted a crime prevention seminar Tuesday at the South Precinct. Members of the South Nashville community attended the event and had the opportunity to hear presentations from Crime Stoppers, the Gang Unit, the South Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit and the South Precinct's Burglary Unit. Several Council Members were also in attendance along with State Representatives.



Commander Alexander hosts a crime safety seminar at South Precinct.

Sergeant Pat Bianconi stopped by to see some of his ol' friends at this year's Casey's Cause Event in the Cane Ridge Community. The fundraiser benefits Casey Morton who has multiple sclerosis.

A great event for a great cause!



North

North Precinct flex officers responded to a shots fired call involving the drivers of separate vehicles that ultimately both crashed into a plumbing business at the intersection of Whites Creek Pike and Old Hickory Boulevard.

Witnesses reported hearing shots at 1:30 p.m. as the driver of a Dodge Charger, Charles Cartmell V, 30, and the driver of a Pontiac G6, Davon Hicks, 24, sped down Old Hickory Boulevard side by side, bumping each other, until both vehicles struck Precision Plumbing Company at 7101 Old Hickory Boulevard. Both drivers fled on foot but were quickly apprehended.

A citizen reported that Cartmell had hidden something in a nearby culvert where officers found more than one pound of marijuana. Cartmell had a handgun in his pocket and a second handgun was recovered nearby. Cartmell, of Fieldcrest Drive, is charged with felony drug and weapons charges. Cartmell has a previous drug possession conviction.

Hicks, of Richmond Hill Drive, was interviewed and released.

No one was struck by the gunfire.

Two women inside the plumbing company, Julia Tuttle, 38, and Danielle Krantz, 26, suffered non-life threatening injuries when the Dodge Charger struck the building.

The motive for the shooting remains under investigation.

West

Community Coordinator Sergeant Twana Chick visited with children at St. Lukes Community House, a United Way Family Resource Center.

Sergeant Chick discussed safety issues including learning to call 9-1-1 in emergencies. The children also explored her Patrol car.



Community Coordinator Sgt. Twana Chick visits with youngsters at St. Lukes Community House.

Central

Unemployed Nashville resident Christopher Jerald Crowley was booked into the Metro Jail on a charge of criminal homicide for the early morning assassination of a man who sat on a public bench at the intersection of 3rd Avenue North and James Robertson Parkway, across the street from police headquarters.

Robert E. Mitchell, 41, who is thought to have been homeless, died on the scene from a gunshot wound to the head. Evidence indicates Mitchell was killed just after 3 a.m.

Excellent coordinated teamwork between police department security staff and Central Precinct officers and detectives led to the apprehension of Crowley, 29, of 1718 Edmonson Circle (Brandywine Apartments). Security staff monitoring exterior surveillance cameras saw a car turn onto 3rd Avenue North from James Robertson Parkway, quickly move into the southbound travel lane (facing the wrong way) and stop just a few feet from the public bench. The individual, who appeared to be wearing dark clothing and a ball cap, got out and then seconds later ran back to the car and sped away. A witness in the area reported hearing a shot at about the same time. Security staff recorded the license plate number on the car, a 2005 Nissan Altima. The car was registered to a Chris Crowley of Bolivar, Tennessee. Investigation by Central Precinct Flex officers and detectives led to the discovery of an Edmonson Circle address. Detective Lieutenant Steve Lewis and Officers Matt Evans, Shawn Rosson, Brian Theriac and Sergeant Danny Walz went to Brandywine Apartments at 5 a.m. in unmarked cars and were checking the parking lot when Crowley drove up and parked. He was wearing dark clothing and a ball cap. Officers took him into custody without incident.

Given the circumstances of Mitchell's murder and its potential connection to other cases, the investigation was assumed by the police department's Homicide Unit. Sergeant Pat Postiglione and Detective Danny Satterfield met with Crowley in an interview room at police headquarters. Crowley refused to answer questions. He was taken to General Hospital for evaluation of potential suicidal tendencies before being brought to the Metro Jail.

Detectives will be looking closely at Crowley in an effort to determine whether he is connected to the November 3, 2009, murder of Edward Matthews on a public bench at Church Street and 5th Avenue North. Matthews, 46, was found shot in the head at 6:45 a.m. that day by a Central Precinct officer on routine patrol. Another case is also of interest. Albanus Kitaka was sleeping outside 242 5th Avenue North on March 10, 2009, when he said he was kicked and awakened by a man at approximately 4 a.m. Kitaka, who was age 60 and homeless at the time, suffered a gunshot wound to the mouth that he said occurred without provocation. He was taken to Vanderbilt University Medical Center and has recovered.

Persons with information about Christopher Crowley that they believe would be helpful in the continuing investigation are urged to contact the police department's Homicide/Cold Case Unit at 862-7329. Crowley is being held in lieu of \$250,000 bond.

East

Officer Chris Alsup provided pumpkins for officers to decorate for delivery to patients at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.



Commander David Imhof paints one of several pumpkins to be delivered to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

The following officers in the Investigative Services Bureau were chosen Investigators of the Month for July, August and September 2012

July

Gang Unit Detective Mark Anderson

August

Specialized Investigations Detective Chris West

September

Sex Crimes Detective Jeff Wiser

The following civilians were chosen Employees of the Month for July, August and September 2012

July

Central Records Administrative Assistant Mandy Jinnette

August

Warrant Section Clerk Sharon Trent

September

Central Records Police Operations Assistant Blenda Flatt

Congratulations:

Officer Josh Mayo, Case Preparation, passed the Tennessee Bar Exam with flying colors.

Lt. Tommy Widener graduated from the inaugural Tennessee Bureau of Investigation State Academy.



Pictured (l-r) are TBI Deputy Director Jeff Puckett, Lt. Tommy Widener and TBI Director Mark Gwyn

Sgt. Matthew Howlett, North Precinct, and his wife are the proud parents of Carson Luke Howlett, born on October 19.



Condolences:

Jewell Casey, the wife of retired Chief Joe Casey, passed away on October 22nd.

Norman Spicer, the father-in-law of Sgt. Edward Coleman, West Precinct, passed away.

Mary Fitzgerald, the sister-in-law of Officer Bobby Fitzgerald, North Precinct, passed away on October 9th.

F.J. Pentecost, the grandfather of Officer William Cleek, North Precinct, passed away.

Judy Key, the wife of retired Officer Ralph Key, passed away on October 14th.

Joe Barr Jr., the father of Officer Russell Barr, Hermitage Precinct, passed away on October 17th.

Paul Edward Pettibone Sr., the grandfather of Lisa Pettibone, Case Preparation, passed away on October 10th.

Gerald Gmerek, the father of Barbara Gmerek, passed away.

FYI:

NBPA 3RD ANNUAL DANCE FOR DIABETES!!!

The Nashville chapter of the National Black Police Association will be hosting the 3rd annual Dance for Diabetes on Saturday, November 10, from 6:30 p.m. until 1 a.m. at 1358 Brick Church Pike, the Al- Menah Shriners Hall.

Our guest of honor is the American Diabetes Association (ADA), who provides us with crucial information concerning diabetes and the effects of type 1 and type 2 diabetes. I think we all know someone who has suffered from or been affected by diabetes.

We are asking that you support the event by attending, giving a donation, or sponsoring someone who has diabetes to attend the function. This event is for everyone.

Individual tickets are \$35

Tables of eight are \$280

Food & Parking.....FREE

If you love to step dance, line dance, wobble or slide this will be the place to be!!!

For tickets or more information, contact:

Officer Reggie Miller

573-6695 or

Sgt. Bonita Blue-Washington

915-9114

Thanks in advance!!

Reggie Miller