



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

June 28, 2013

News from the Chief



In a May 21 email we announced that the Director of Finance, Rich Riebeling, appeared before the Civil Service Commission and recommended that incremental pay raises commence, as scheduled, on July 1, 2013, and that a one and one half percent raise for all employees take effect on January 1, 2014. The Commission approved this proposal. The Metropolitan Council approved both the incremental pay raises and the one and one half per cent raise as a part of the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Metropolitan Government budget.

Incremental pay raises will commence, as scheduled, on July 1, 2013, for all employees eligible to receive increments.

Immediately following the approval of the increment raises, FOP President Robert Weaver initiated a discussion concerning pay increases for employees in Open Range classifications. A review of our HR records indicated that there had been no Open Range pay increases for MNPD employees since 2006. An analysis conducted by the MNPD Fiscal staff indicates that, with careful budget management, a 3 percent Open Range increase could be awarded those eligible employees.

After discussions with Mayor Dean and his staff, this plan has been approved. Therefore, pursuant to Civil Service Policy 5.10-II, eligible employees in the applicable classifications will receive a 3 percent Open Range pay increase. And, as has been stated previously, on January 1, 2014, all employees will receive a one and one half percent pay increase in addition to any increment or Open Range pay increase.

To restate what we said in the May 21 email:

We will have to institute cost saving measures to ensure that funds are available to implement these raises. That said, I assure you that these measures will NOT include employee layoffs or furloughs of any type. The funding to support these pay increases will come from various areas within the MNPD budget, but most notably from attrition and delaying the filling of vacancies.

Although this will be difficult as we go forward, I fully support this plan. Our employees are dedicated and work hard. They deserve to be compensated for that dedication and work.

Each year, for the past several years, we have enhanced our level of service to this community. Our goal for the coming fiscal year will be to build on our successes and deliver yet another year of increased/improved service to citizens, albeit with less resources. Working together, we can and will do this.

Regardless of where you work in this department, you are a valued and important part of our mission to reduce crime and improve quality of life for Nashvillians and our visitors. Your individual contribution is critical to our success. I sincerely thank you all for your continuing dedication and commitment to excellence.

Happenings

DNA Crime Laboratory

Mayor Karl Dean, Chief Steve Anderson, other city leaders and MNPD personnel today toured the police department's first-ever full-service DNA Crime Laboratory still under construction on Myatt Drive. The laboratory occupies the second floor of the building that will also house Madison Precinct operations on the first level. Work on the building is expected to be completed at the end of this year.





The group also visited what will be the Madison Precinct's Community Room as well as police office space.



New Madison Precinct Community Room



New Madison Precinct office

Father Fred Dettwiller and representatives of the United Methodist Church today presented the Metropolitan Police Department with copies of the daily devotional book Strength for Service, which was created expressly for emergency services employees and members of the armed forces. This police department's copies of the book were made possible by a generous donation from Father Fred. Commanders of various components received copies of the book at this morning's Compstat meeting, while others were made available to North Precinct staff. Additional book copies will be coming to other Precincts in the near future.



Pictured (l-r) are Gilbert Hanke and Larry Coppock from the United Methodist Church and longtime Nashvillian & police department supporter Father Fred Dettwiller.

Mayor's Office Intern Program

Chief Steve Anderson presented the 2013 Mayor's Office high school summer interns with certificates of appreciation for their efforts on behalf of the police department. Their assignments included activities at East, South and Central Precincts, and with Special Events.

The Mayor's Office offers internship programs for high school students interested in gaining experience in the administration of local government.



El Protector Program

The El Protector Teen Academy Session 5 graduation was held May 31st at the South Precinct.

Last year 37 youngsters attended the five day program which nearly doubled to 72 participants this year.

Several police department components took part in providing special demonstrations/programs for the children including the Hazardous Devices Unit, S.W.A.T., Explorer Program, Domestic Violence Unit, Background & Recruitment, Aviation and Canine.



El Protector Teen Academy

Officer Gilbert Ramirez attended the YMCA Latino Achievers Scholarship Awards ceremony at Lipscomb University to present Itzel Gonzalez-Patino with a laptop, donated by program sponsor Premier Rental, in recognition of her academic achievements.

Gonzalez-Patino attended the very first session of the El Protector Teen Academy and also participated in the MNPD Explorer Program. She received a scholarship to attend Nashville State Community College where she will major in Criminal Justice.



The Precinct News

A tip to Crime Stoppers led to the arrest of suspected serial burglar Jovany Garces who is believed responsible for at least 10 business break-ins in the Nashville area since the first of the year.

The Crime Stoppers tip came after the police department released surveillance images of the man who broke into Sally Beauty Supply at 55 E. Thompson Lane on June 6th and stole the safe. Through further investigation, including an analysis of evidence found at the scene of a burglary at Twin Kegs Bar at 413 Thompson Lane that directly linked Garces to that case, an arrest warrant was issued. South Precinct detectives and officers arrested Garces at his Linbar Drive apartment after finding him hiding inside a child's closet. A safe from one of the burglaries was found in the apartment's master bedroom. Garces was taken to General Hospital for treatment of an arm laceration apparently received in the Twin Kegs break-in and then to jail.

Additional warrants were issued charging Garces with the June 4th burglary of the same Twin Kegs location and the June 6th burglary of Sally Beauty Supply at 55 E. Thompson Lane. Detectives believe Garces is also connected to the following burglaries:

- Daniela's Bar at 12 E. Thompson Lane on January 4th and June 3rd;
- Bikini Beach Bar at 1297 Antioch Pike on June 5th;
- Sally Beauty Supply at 3143 Lebanon Pike on June 6th;
- Sally Beauty Supply at 78 White Bridge Road on June 8th;
- Sally Beauty Supply at 5320 Mt. View Road on June 9th; and
- Sally Beauty Supply at 4414 Lebanon Pike on June 10th.

During an interview with Garces' wife, Janitzia Amor, 37, detectives learned that she drove him to at least some of the burglary locations. She was also arrested on three counts of burglary facilitation.

Investigation by South Precinct undercover detectives regarding the possible manufacture of methamphetamine at 1505 Celebration Way led to the arrest of four persons and the seizure of items commonly used to make meth.

Recovered during the execution of a search warrant were three one-pot cooking vessels with associated residue, a bottle of drain cleaner (lye), a plastic cup containing an acid and a glass tube containing an organic solvent.

The four residents, Nicole Sherman, 20; Rachel Goldzweig, 29; Tebetha Greathouse, 44; and James A. Hall, 54, are each charged with three counts of initiating the process to manufacture methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

South Precinct detectives were assisted in the execution of the search warrant by Narcotics Unit officers and members of the Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force.

A Crime Stoppers tip led to the arrest of suspected serial vehicle burglar Tremale Wilson, 28, at a residence in the 4100 block of Ames Drive. He is now charged with the following three break-ins (all occurred at parks):

- June 4th the victim parked her car at Centennial Park, 2500 West End Avenue. When she returned an hour later, her purse was taken from under the driver's seat.
- May 25th the victim parked her car at the Beaman Park trail head, 5911 Old Hickory Boulevard, to go walking at 10 a.m. When she returned her purse was missing from the rear passenger floor board.
- May 28th the victim parked his car at Beaman Park, 4111 Little Marrowbone Road, to go jogging at 1:45 p.m. When he returned his wallet, which had been placed in a pants pocket in the back seat, was taken.

In all three cases, a window was broken to gain access. Wilson was also identified as the man who later used the victims' credit cards to purchase electronics and clothing.

Wilson had been free on \$5,500 bond stemming from his June 7th arrest for allegedly breaking into a woman's car at Percy Warner Park last month. The victim discovered her purse was missing from her vehicle when she returned.

Wilson is now charged with three counts of burglary of a motor vehicle, six counts of forgery and six counts of fraudulent use of a credit card. Wilson, who has previous convictions for attempted aggravated kidnapping, domestic assault and drug possession, is being held in lieu of \$57,000 bond.

Convicted felon Jimmy Ray Ferrell, 34, was charged with aggravated robbery for the June 12th hold-up of a cab driver.

The victim reported that he picked up the suspect in the 1300 block of Jones Avenue (where Ferrell resides) and transported him to 2400 Buena Vista Pike. Before the suspect got out of the cab he held a knife to the driver's neck and demanded his belongings. The robber fled on foot with the cabbie's cash and wallet.

Ferrell was identified as a suspect after video footage from a camera inside the cab was aired by the media.

Ferrell is being held in lieu of \$80,000 bond. He has previous convictions for assault, felon in possession of a handgun, felony drug possession, resisting arrest, evading arrest, DUI, and theft.

West Precinct Officer Michael Lynch alertly spotted burglary suspect Larry Groves, 19, walking on 9th Avenue South near Olympic Street.

Warrants had been issued earlier this year charging Groves with the following break-ins:

- February 17 at Page Duke Landscape Architects, 1206 17th Avenue South;
- January 8 and December 10, 2012 at Creative Soul Music Academy, 1026 16th Avenue South.

Groves, who did not have any identification, initially gave Officer Lynch a false name. He is charged with three counts of burglary and criminal impersonation. Groves, of Hillside Avenue, remains jailed in lieu of \$40,000 bond.

A Crime Stoppers tip led to the apprehension in Memphis of murder suspect Santerius Lavender, 24, who was wanted for the April 9th fatal shooting of Chad Allen Daniel on Hillside Avenue.

Investigation by West Precinct detectives shows that Daniel, 33, was shot while in the front passenger seat of a Nissan Altima that had been driven to apartments at 1330 Hillside Avenue by his 26-year-old friend, who had arranged to make a drug buy from Lavender's girlfriend, Bershia Edens. The 26-year-old reported that as he approached Edens in a breezeway, a gunman, alleged to have been Lavender, appeared and demanded money. The 26-year-old said he threw down his wallet and ran back to the Altima as the gunman followed. He said that as he tried to pull away, shots were fired into the car and Daniel was struck. The 26-year-old then drove to Wedgewood Avenue, where he noticed a police officer working a traffic assignment at Wedgewood & Beech. He pulled over there and asked for help. Daniel was already dead.

Edens, 24, of 1330 Hillside Avenue, was jailed May 31st on a Davidson County Grand Jury indictment charging her with first-degree murder, especially aggravated robbery and aggravated robbery. Lavender, who is being returned to Nashville from Memphis, faces the same charges.

Canine Unit

Canine Police Dog 1 Certification

Police Canine Training Supervisor Sergeant Danny Hale

On June 25th and 26th the United States Police Canine Association held the annual certification in Franklin, Tennessee. Our unit took six teams, Officer Dale Becraft and Shadow, Officer Brad Bracey and Dax, Officer Spencer Harris and Iwo, Officer Robert Collins and Aengus, Officer Terry Burnett and Spike, and Officer Mike Mendenhall and Rio. I am very happy to report that all of our teams certified without any problem.

Officer Robert "Bo" Brown deserves special thanks for all of his hard work over the past few weeks getting these teams ready.

I had the privilege of training Canine Class 56 which consisted of Officers Collins, Burnett, and Mendenhall. These three teams took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the novice division. I am extremely proud of this accomplishment.

The following officers in the Field Operation Bureau were chosen Investigator, Patrol, Police and Special Operations Officer of the Month for May 2013

Patrol Officer of the Month

South Precinct Officers Matthew Mehaffey and Eric Harvey

Police Officer of the Month

East Precinct Officer Coleman Womack

Investigator of the Month

East Precinct Detectives Adam Weeks and Paul Harris

Special Operations Officer of the Month

Special Response Team Officer Marcell Chalou

Retirement Celebration

Lieutenant Dana Lyon celebrated 21 years of dedicated service



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, Lt. Lyon and Madison Precinct Commander Sebastian Gourdin.

Congratulations:

Officer Wesley McClelland, East Precinct, and his wife welcomed Trenton P. McClelland, born on June 17th.

Detective Adam Weeks, East Precinct, and his wife, Daravanh, welcomed Eli Weeks, born on June 22nd.

Officer Erika Bowden, Traffic Unit, and her husband, Officer Chris Bowden, West Precinct, welcomed their daughter, Zoe Claire Bowden, born on June 26th.



Condolences:

Randall Hand, the father of Miranda Mellinger, Records Division, passed away on June 11th.

Randy Dozier, the father of Detective Brandon Dozier, South Precinct Investigations, passed away on June 13th.

Robert Humes, the brother of Sergeant David Humes, North Precinct, passed away on June 13th.

Stan Young, the father-in-law of Officer Erik Nash, North Precinct, passed away.

John York, the father of Nancy Walker, MPD Community Credit Union, and father-in-law of Porter Walker, Background and Recruitment, passed away on June 19th.

Anna Margaret Smiley, the mother-in-law of Diane Smiley, Administrative Services Bureau, passed away.