



# MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

November 15, 2013

## News from the Chief



Earlier this week, Tennessean reporter Mary Hance asked me, “What about Nashville are you most thankful for?” She is posing that question to a number of persons for a column that is to run in the paper on Thanksgiving Day. My response was this: “I am thankful for a caring Nashville community that actively engages with and supports the dedicated men and women of our police department. Other major city police chiefs are envious of the strong and meaningful partnerships that we have formed in neighborhoods across the city that contribute greatly to public safety.” I was again reminded of one such partnership on Tuesday in a conversation with a minister from another Tennessee city. This minister was well aware of the relationship we have with clergy members in our community who volunteer of their time to be on call and assist us with death notifications. He was also aware of a smaller group of ministers that respond to incidents of youth violence in an effort to dissuade retaliatory acts. He believes that the Nashville program is such a good thing that he wants to begin to replicate it in his city, and asked for ideas on how to break the ice with his local police department. I am very proud of the way you are encouraging all parts of Davidson County to meaningfully work with us. I am convinced that we have moved beyond community policing to community engagement. Your work, in partnership with the collective communities across Nashville, is making a difference in deterring crime and improving the quality of life for our citizens. An analysis by our Strategic Development Division shows that, since 1993, Nashville has averaged an annual major crime decrease of 3.4%, compared to the national average major crime decrease of 2.7%. We are ahead of the national average because of your dedication to this community. Thank you for all that you do, and please keep up the outstanding work. I wish for each of you and your families a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving.

### **Chief’s Quote for the Week:**

**“Believe you can and you’re halfway there.”-Theodore Roosevelt**

## Happenings

### Youth Violence Chaplains



Officers are reminded that we have a dedicated group of clergy members who have undergone specific youth intervention training in order to assist us with our investigations. One of these clergy members is on call 24/7 and ECC maintains the monthly schedule. The primary purpose of this group is to respond to any violent incident where young persons (generally 18 and under) have been the victim of a serious aggravated assault or homicide. These particular clergy members will oftentimes respond to the scene and begin to intervene with victims and potential suspects with the end goal of reducing the probability of a retaliatory act. These pastors do not interfere with the investigation; however, they have a very good sense of how they can involve themselves to assist the victim as well as the police department.

Chief Anderson, noting the importance of the Youth Violence Intervention chaplains and their willingness to respond, night or day, has provided these pastors with the above sticker to place on the rear of their vehicles in order to assist officers in recognizing these chaplain vehicles as they may encounter them at crime scenes in neighborhoods and other locations. These chaplains, responding to our call for assistance will often find the same challenge that responding officers encounter in parking their vehicle. While this sticker grants no additional authority or exemption from law, officers encountering these vehicles parked at scenes, or other unusual locations where the vehicle may need to be moved, are asked to make every effort to locate the chaplain prior to any enforcement action. These stickers should be on vehicles registered to the actual chaplain. Officers can use sources available to locate the chaplain if he/she is not readily apparent at a scene, including contacting the Emergency Communications Center.

## **Newly Trained Volunteer Chaplains**

Newly trained Volunteer Chaplains were recognized for joining the ranks on November 1<sup>st</sup> during a ceremony at the North Precinct Community Room.



## **Strengthening Families Program**

The 15<sup>th</sup> class of the Strengthening Families Program graduated on November 4<sup>th</sup> after a nine-week session designed to assist participants in developing or improving life skills.

The session included tours of Vanderbilt, Trevecca, and David Lipscomb Universities. If you know of any families who would like to participate in the Strengthening Families Program, please direct them to the Youth Services Division at 862-7417.



## Women's Training Conference

The MNPD hosted the Building Warrior Women Conference October 22-25 at the North Precinct Community Room. Nineteen MNPD officers participated along with two members of the Emergency Communications Center.

The four day event included training designed for female police officers to improve tactical and physical skills.



## Officers Visit Elementary School

Specialized Investigations Division Officers Bill Morgan and Jamie Scruggs visited kindergarten students at Christ Presbyterian Academy with Scruggs' partner Raven. Students learned about Raven's role while Officers Morgan and Scruggs answered questions about their police work.



**Officer Bill Morgan, left, with Officer Jaimie Scruggs, and his partner Raven.**

## The Precinct News

### South

During International Police Station Visitors Week, members of the Vera/Altus Global Alliance and the Fairlane Park and Cane Ridge community groups stopped by the South Precinct for a tour and conversation with officers.



### East

Outstanding cooperative police work between East and Madison Precinct Investigations led to the arrest of three persons charged with felony theft for their involvement in taking more than \$12,000 worth of Tennessee Lottery tickets from the following convenience stores:

- November 5, Z-Mart at 927 Gallatin Avenue
- November 4, Village Market at 313 Rosebank Avenue
- November 3, Discount Smoke at 1805 Dickerson Pike
- November 2, Jerry's Market at 1401 Gallatin Pike
- November 2, Delta Express at 3053 Dickerson Pike
- October 30, Camilla's Market at 1142 Gallatin Pike
- October 28, Community Market at 336 East Trinity Lane

Michael Warren Jr., 31, was identified as the man who, on each occasion, entered the store, grabbed the lottery countertop display case, and fled to a gold Chevrolet Suburban getaway vehicle.

Based on an investigative tip, Madison Precinct Officer Nathan Clark responded to a South 15<sup>th</sup> Street residence where he located the suspect SUV parked outside. Tennessee Lottery display cases were inside the vehicle in plain view.

Warren and two women, April Williams, 37, and Brandi Hawkins, 26, were taken into custody. During interviews with East and Madison Precinct detectives, Warren admitted taking the lottery tickets from the stores while Williams and Hawkins admitted to helping “scratch off” the tickets before cashing them at various markets.

Warren, of Goodlettsville, is charged with ten counts of felony theft. He has multiple previous theft convictions and is being held in lieu of \$110,000 bond. Williams, of Kingston Street, and Hawkins, of Greenwood Avenue, are each charged with felony theft of property. Williams remains jailed in lieu of \$5,000 bond. Hawkins is jailed on \$10,000 bond.

Field Training Officer Laura Wall and her partner Rodney Phipps attended the November 12<sup>th</sup> Girls Scout meeting at the Martha O’Bryan Center where they shared important safety information with girls ages kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.



## **North**

North Precinct detectives arrested 15-year-old Veretez P. McGill on a Juvenile Court petition and arrest order charging criminal homicide and aggravated robbery in connection with the August 11<sup>th</sup> shooting death of Darrell Lyndell Wright during a robbery at Church & Son Market on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.

McGill, of Litton Avenue, was taken into custody without incident at Stratford High School.

Investigation by Detective Lindsay Farnow led to the identification of McGill as one of two suspects. The investigation is continuing to confirm the identity of the second individual.

On the night of Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, Wright, 50, was visiting his friend and owner of the market, Augustus Church, 55, when two young men, one armed with a gun, the other a knife, entered. Witnesses reported that the gunman fired as he entered the business. Wright was hit and died at the scene. The robbers fled on foot with less than \$10.

The police department is continuing to seek the community's assistance in regard to identifying and locating the second suspect.

Alert police work led to the arrest of accused armed robber Joshua Sanford who is now charged with the September 17<sup>th</sup> hold-up of the Family Dollar at 2600 Jefferson Street.

A citizen's tip led to the identification of Sanford, 21, as the man who entered the Family Dollar and demanded cash from the register at gunpoint. A warrant charging him with aggravated robbery was issued on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

North Precinct Detectives Andrew Chouanard and Lindsay Farnow on October 26<sup>th</sup> spotted Sanford walking on Jefferson Street. Despite initially providing officers with a false name, Sanford, of Brinkhaven Avenue in Madison, was taken into custody without incident.

North Flex officers are assisting 5-year-old Elvis Angel Wells who was born with a rare genetic disorder. He has undergone several medical procedures to help him gain mobility. The officers are helping him in his recovery and will also be making sure that his Christmas is bright.



**Officers and family members celebrate Elvis Wells' 5<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 21<sup>st</sup>.**

## **Madison**

Community Coordinator Sergeant James Vivrette on Thursday was elected a board member of the Madison-Rivergate Area Chamber of Commerce. Sergeant Vivrette will begin his three-year term in 2014.



**Sgt. James Vivrette**

## **Central**

Officer Jeremy Smith was on his way home after shift change when he spotted a man setting a tree on fire next to the Capitol Towers apartment building. Responding officers extinguished the blaze preventing what could have been a devastating fire for the residents since the tree branches touched the building.

Mark Mitchell, 40, who is homeless, was arrested. He admitted to starting the fire because he was upset over the death of his girlfriend two years ago. Mitchell appeared to be extremely intoxicated.

### **Specialized Investigations Division**

A vehicle stop by Officer Thomas Spence led to the seizure of 10.5 pounds of marijuana being trafficked through Nashville.

Officer Spence, who is assigned to the Interstate Interdiction Unit, stopped a white SUV for traveling 80 m.p.h. in a 70 m.p.h. zone on I-40 east near Bellevue. The front seat passenger and renter of the SUV, Anthony Reeves, 41, of Cincinnati, said that he had been in Irvine,

Texas, to box. Reeves agreed to allow Officer Spence to search the vehicle. A subsequent search of the rear cargo area revealed seven duct taped packages of marijuana inside a suitcase.

Reeves admitted that the marijuana was his. Reeves, who remains jailed in lieu of \$25,000 bond, is charged with possession of marijuana for resale.



**Seized marijuana**

**The following civilians were chosen Employees of the Month for July, August and September 2013**

**Professional Support Employee of the Month for July**

Administrative Assistant for Deputy Chief Todd Henry, Diane Smiley

**Professional Support Employee of the Month for August**

Administrative Assistant for South Precinct Commander Paul Trickey, Kay Martin

**Professional Support Employee of the Month for September**

Administrative Assistant for East Precinct Commander David Imhof, Jeanette Reed

## **Congratulations:**

Detective Sharraff “Lou” Mallery, Domestic Violence Division, and his wife welcomed their son Justice Sharraff Mallery on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Detective Andrew Davis, North Precinct, and his wife, Ashley, welcomed their daughter Rachael Olivia Davis on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Sergeant Jason Spencer, Madison Precinct, and his wife, Danielle, welcomed their son, Harrison Grey Spencer on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Officer Paul Goebel, South Precinct, and his wife, Brittany, welcomed their daughter, Emmersyn Rose Goebel on November 12<sup>th</sup>.



## **Condolences:**

Noble Parrish, the father-in-law of School Crossing Guard Nora Howse, passed away.

Barbara South, the mother of School Crossing Guard Terry Martin, passed away.

Monequa Mastin, the sister of Officer Ricky Sanders, South Precinct, passed away.

Jo Ann Moss, the mother of Detective Mike Moss, West Precinct, passed away on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Kathleen Ann Sisk, the mother of Officer David Sisk, Central Precinct, passed away on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

James Larry Hayes, the father-in-law of Canine Officer Robert Collins, passed away on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **FYI:**

This is good information for your MNPD business and personal computer activity. Please read!

With the holidays rapidly approaching, Metro ITS wanted to take a moment to remind you that the bad guys are looking to have a nice holiday season, too (at your expense). Cyber criminals like to leverage Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah and New Years' for social engineering purposes. Malicious items are typically launched against social media, like Facebook, Pinterest and Instagram, as well as via email. Please take a moment to read over the following tips to help keep you and Metro secure:

**Be careful with links and attachments:** Phishing messages use deceptive measures to get you to click on a malicious link or to execute a malicious file. These are sent in email, via IM and posted on social sites. Types of scams could be:

- Too good to be true offers ("Free *something* here")
- Holiday "coupons", seen especially around black Friday and cyber Monday
- UPS / FedEx notices (Bogus delivery notices have been seen a lot. If you did not order it, don't click the link **OR** go to the appropriate website and enter the tracking number manually.)

It is usually a good idea to do a search on the subject matter of the link and get to it that way.

**Be careful with site registrations:** Always use a different password for external sites than the one you use for the Metro work. Ideally, you should never use the same password for financial sites, such as credit card, bank, etc., that you use for less secure sites, such as Facebook, Google+, free email, etc.

**Be careful with e-mail:** As always, please remember to use best practices with regards to email. This includes:

- Never providing your password. Be wary of any request for this information as most legitimate providers of IT related services do not need to know your password to provide assistance.
- Being wary of unexpected email messages, even if sent by people you know.
- Not clicking on links contained within an unsolicited email.
- Verifying with the original sender before clicking on an email that looks suspicious in any way.
- Please pass this information on to those that work with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Technical Support Service Center at 862-6222.

Thanks! Technical Support Service Center