



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

February 24, 2017

News from the Chief



The month of February has been extraordinarily difficult for us all. The loss of Officer Eric Mumaw on the morning of February 2 was shocking and deeply saddening. I was very proud of the memorial service held for Eric on February 6. It was a tribute to, and a celebration of life for, an excellent police officer and a good man who cared greatly for this community. Mayor Barry, MNPD Honor Guard members, and other close friends of Eric joined me in the representation of you at his funeral service in a suburb of Columbus, Ohio, on February 10.

On the afternoon of February 10, an officer involved shooting occurred in the James Cayce public housing development in East Nashville. Investigations into this case are continuing.

In light of these two February events, I have submitted a column to The Tennessean, which I expect to run in the coming days. I want to share it with you here.

Two tragic incidents in Nashville this month have heightened emotions in our city from one spectrum to the other. As part of my commitment to be open and responsive to the more than 650,000 citizens who call Nashville home, I would like to address these two incidents and the actions that have been/are being taken.

In the early morning hours of February 2, Madison Precinct Officer Eric Mumaw, an 18-year veteran of this police department, lost his life on-duty in the Cumberland River while trying to prevent an intoxicated suicidal woman from taking her own life. Many people in the Madison community and in the police department were grief stricken by the loss of Eric, who, by all accounts, cared deeply for his adopted city and the persons who live here. A memorial service to celebrate Eric's police career and a life dedicated to serving others was held at Cornerstone Church on February 6. Thousands were in attendance. Thousands of others paid their respects in other ways. On behalf of the men and women of the MNPD and the Mumaw family, thank you for your kind and meaningful words and notes.

On Friday afternoon, February 10, as Mayor Barry, other MNPD officers, and I were leaving the graveside service for Eric at a cemetery just outside of Columbus, Ohio, I received

word from Nashville of an officer involved shooting in James Cayce public housing. This use of force by Officer Joshua Lippert, which resulted in the death of Jocques Clemmons, is the subject of active and continuing investigations by this police department, the Davidson County District Attorney General, and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. The Federal Bureau of Investigation is monitoring the overall investigative process on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice. Ultimately, at the conclusion of these investigations, I will make a decision as to whether the use of force in this matter complied with MNPd rules and regulations; District Attorney General Glenn Funk will make a decision as to whether the use of force was contrary to Tennessee criminal statutes; and Middle Tennessee U.S. Attorney David Rivera will make a decision as to whether the use of force was contrary to federal civil rights protections. District Attorney Funk can present the investigative findings to a panel of citizens, the Davidson County Grand Jury, which is randomly chosen from voter rolls, to help him in the review process.

While the investigations are in progress, I am confident in saying that none of us, General Funk, U.S. Attorney Rivera, nor I, have drawn any conclusions or made any decisions. We are waiting for all of the facts to be fully developed through the investigative process. Officer Lippert remains on administrative leave.

This police department has worked to be as open as possible with the community in regard to the preliminary investigation into what took place between Officer Lippert and Mr. Clemmons. A photograph of the pistol Mr. Clemmons was carrying was released early in the investigation, as was the identity of Officer Lippert. Surveillance video depicting the interaction between the men was released the same day as the shooting. Additional video, not initially available due to a broken video server at Cayce Homes, was released in the subsequent week. That video showed that there was no initial physical altercation between Lippert and Clemmons, as suggested at first by another video angle from a camera further away. To be clear, Lippert did not claim initial contact when he was interviewed, contrary to what some are saying. It was the video from Friday that seemed to show it.

While the investigations continue, certain facts are known. There have been references to the histories of both men involved. It is a fact that Mr. Clemmons had an arrest history, was on probation for eight years for a felony drug conviction, and was carrying a gun during this incident. It is also a fact that Officer Lippert has disciplinary infractions that include a suspension of eight days arising from an October 2015 matter where he used poor judgement and physical force to extract a motorist from his vehicle during a stop. In this police department, progressive discipline is a tool to admonish and correct unacceptable actions. Similarly, probation in a criminal felony case is used to address and correct unacceptable behavior.

One part of this entire matter that should not be lost on anyone is the reason East Precinct Commander David Imhof assigned Flex Units to the Cayce Homes area to supplement normal patrol coverage. Commander Imhof had become greatly concerned at the significant increase in aggravated assaults and gunfire in the area in and around Cayce just this year. On the same week as the officer involved shooting, Commander Imhof had drafted a memo to Cayce Place neighbors informing them that officers would be providing a larger presence in the area to help curb the violence. Commander Imhof noted that he was greatly concerned that

Kipp Kirkpatrick Elementary School in the area had to be placed on lockdown on more than one occasion due to reports of gunfire in the immediate area. The commander was in the process of arranging a community meeting at the Martha O'Bryan Center, the date of which was to have been included on the memo, when the events of February 10 took place.

Moving forward, this police department will do everything in its power to ensure full, impartial and accountable investigations concerning the death of Mr. Clemmons. Mayor Barry and I met personally with his family to reiterate that commitment and express our condolences. Our police department will also continue working to create a safer environment for the families who live in Cayce Homes. They deserve the same neighborhood peace that other communities enjoy. I agree with Commander Imhof that it would be a neglect of our responsibilities if that were not the mission of the East Precinct team.

The community has our pledge to continue to be as open and accountable as possible as this matter progresses.

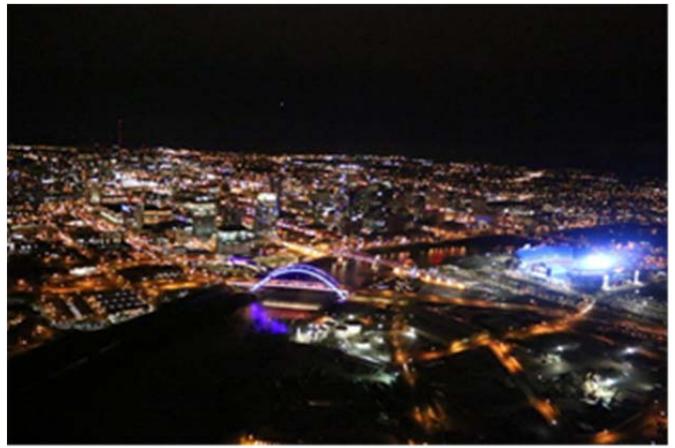
In addition, I am heartened by this statement made today by Mr. John Zirker resident association president of Cayce Place:

“We have worked tirelessly with the East Precinct and MDHA Security Office to build a productive and peaceful relationship with our Zone Officers and Task Force for many years.

While my personal prayers surrounding this situation are with the Clemmons family and the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department that justice will be rendered, I, in no way, support a decrease in the protection of our community but rather desire a stronger presence.”

Throughout the month of February, I have been approached by countless citizens to offer words of support. Please know that you are valued by citizens throughout Nashville. Thank you for all that you do to make our city safe for all.







Members of the Madison Chamber of Commerce today presented a special gift for the family of Officer Mumaw. Through citizen donations for special yard signs created by Jarvis Sign Company that show support for first responders, the Chamber raised \$5,470. A special thanks to the Madison Chamber, as well as to Jarvis Signs and Nathan Massey who spearheaded this project.





Preston Run Apartments, where Officer Mumaw lived, created a permanent memorial in his honor.

Did you know...

The men and women of the MNPB supported 648 neighborhood & business groups during 2016? We attended a total of 2,265 community meetings last year across Davidson County, an average of 6.2 meetings a day, every day of the year.

Happenings

Hume Fogg Magnet High School Sponsors Panel

Chief Anderson, Juvenile Court Judge Sheila Calloway, Schools Director Dr. Shawn Joseph, and Councilman Freddie O'Connell answered questions from teens re: The State of African American Teens in Nashville. The panel was sponsored by Hume Fogg Magnet High School.



Behavioral Health Symposium

Lieutenant Grant Carroll and Dr. Carol Harp attended Mental Health America's Feb 21st symposium on Incarceration and Behavioral Health at Trevecca Community Church in Nashville. Lieutenant Carroll represented the MNPd in one of three panel sessions throughout the day. Approximately 375 attendees participated in the discussion.



MNPD Explorers

Nine members of the MNPD Explorers attended the 2017 Boy Scouts of America Winterfest in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, February 10-11. The co-ed team of young persons interested in law enforcement joined 85 other Explorer Posts comprised of more than 3,300 participants who competed in various skill and teamwork demonstrations. The MNPD Explorers placed first in Cornhole, third in Drug Identification, fourth in EVOC & Crash Investigation, fifth in Bomb Threat Response & Felony Traffic Stop, eleventh in DUI Stop, thirteenth in Written Exam, and nineteenth in Red Man/Use of Force.



Precinct News

East

A continuing investigation into a citizen complaint about illegal drug activity at a North 2nd Street residence in East Nashville led to the arrest of convicted felon Walter L. Jones, 45, and the seizure of more than 22 pounds of cocaine, eight pounds of heroin, and three loaded handguns.

Jones was arrested after he left the North 2nd Street residence. Undercover detectives recovered several bags containing cocaine and heroin, a loaded handgun, drug paraphernalia including digital scales, a marijuana grinder, and sandwich baggies, and more than \$3,000 cash inside his vehicle.

Subsequent investigation led to the execution of a search warrant at a storage unit at 5246 Cane Ridge Road where 22 pounds of cocaine and more than six pounds of heroin were seized. Two loaded handguns were also located inside the storage unit.

During the execution of a second search warrant at Jones' 1631 24th Avenue North residence, detectives seized 1.63 pounds of heroin, a rifle, three handguns, and drug paraphernalia.

Jones is charged with possession of cocaine and heroin with intent to distribute, felon in possession of a gun, unlawful gun possession during the commission of a felony, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He has previous murder (1999), aggravated robbery, and drug possession convictions. Jones is being held in lieu of \$550,000 bond.

This investigation is being led by the East Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit with assistance from the North Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit.



Seized weapons, heroin, and cocaine.

The Historic Edgefield Neighborhood Association delivered Valentine's Day treats to the East Precinct.



The men and women of the East Precinct on January 17th were treated to a delicious meal courtesy of the folks at Mission BBQ.



Madison

Madison Precinct detectives believe a planned robbery led to gunfire at Nashwood Park Apartments on N. Dupont Avenue that resulted in the murder of Javonte Robinson, 18.

Around the clock investigative work led to the arrest of the two suspects, both age 16. Terrence Rainey and Byron Berkley are charged at Juvenile Court with criminal homicide and especially aggravated robbery. Rainey was arrested at his Tisdall Drive home. Berkley was arrested at school, Cohn Alternative.

Both teens implicated themselves in this case during interviews with detectives.

Hermitage

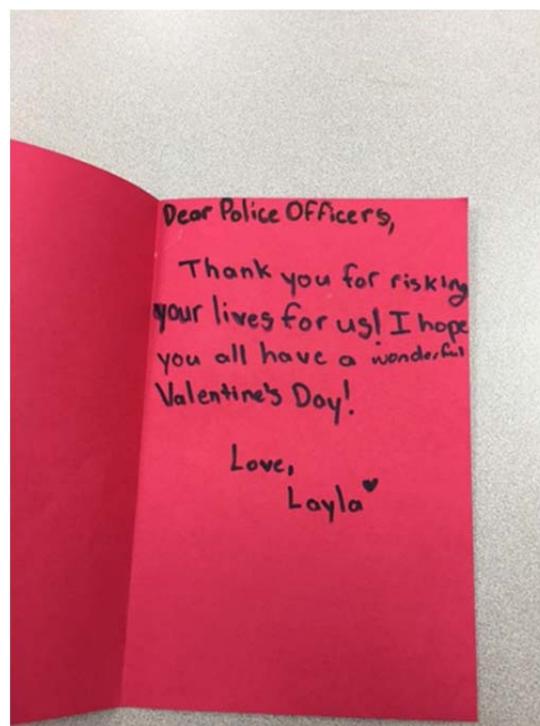
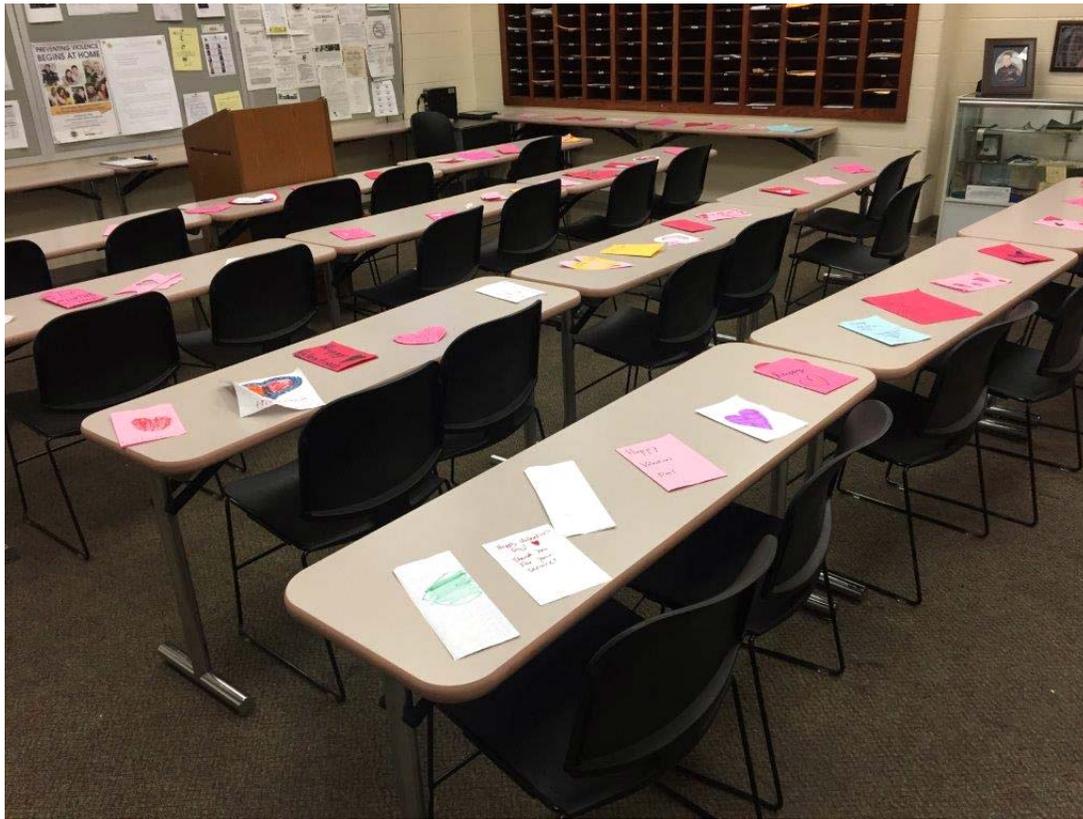
Assistance from the community led to the arrest of convicted felon Timothy Stafford, 29, after he allegedly robbed the Mapco at 550 Donelson Pike.

The suspect entered the Mapco at 9 p.m., asked for a package of cigarettes, and then demanded cash at gunpoint from the register. He fled with a small amount of money.

Officers canvassing the area looking for the suspect were approached by area residents who reported a suspicious man run towards Claridge Drive. He was identified as Stafford who was located inside a house in the 600 block of Claridge Drive.

During an interview, Stafford admitted that he robbed the Mapco. The handgun used in the hold-up was recovered from his bedroom. Stafford has previous convictions for aggravated burglary and theft.

Children from Harding Academy delivered Valentine's Day cards for Hermitage Precinct Officers. Their thoughtful messages were deeply appreciated.



North

Officers Zachary Ronan and Khalid Abbady played basketball with several young people on Wednesday while attending a community fair at the Cumberland View Apartments.



Officers Raymond Heymann and Alex Marchak gave away backpacks, pencils, water bottles, and sunglasses during “Kid Day” activities at Tennessee State University.



Midtown Hills

Investigation by Midtown Hills Precinct detectives led to the identification of convicted robber Walter Welch, 51, as the person responsible for the December 31st hold-up of the Circle K at 2001 Belmont Boulevard.

Welch was already in the Metro Jail after his arrest on New Year's Day for the October 21st robbery of Twice Daily's at 2017 8th Avenue South.

Welch, of Rowan Drive, also has previous convictions for aggravated burglary, felon in possession of a weapon, theft, and drug possession.

West

An alert citizen coupled with outstanding police work led to the arrest of three burglary suspects a short time after they broke into a residence at the Bellevue Heights Apartments, 1000 Amberwood Circle.

The victim reported that he went to check on noises he heard coming from a bedroom when he saw one of the suspects inside. He fled out the front door and called police. The suspect vehicle, a white Lexus, drove off at a high rate of speed and crashed on the ramp to I-40 East from Old Hickory Boulevard. The suspects bailed and fled on foot. Officers apprehended two suspects on Sonya Drive. During the foot chase, one of the men tossed a backpack. A fully loaded revolver was found inside. The third suspect was captured behind a residence in the 7400 block of Charlotte Pike.

Darius Fisher, 22, Darrell Adams Jr., 18, and Evan Smith-Erving, 19, are each charged with aggravated burglary and evading arrest.

Central

Thanks to students and staff at Frederick Douglass Head Start for hosting Sergeant Rickey Bearden at Career Day.



Billy Ray Cyrus on February 8th performed at Skulls Rainbow Room in Printers Alley. After his show, the venue donated \$3,000 to the Fraternal Order of Police Youth Camp in memory of Officer Eric Mumaw.



Special Operations Division

Our newest canine partner, Gunner, with Sergeant Chris Warner visited the Davis Early Learning Center. Gunner is being trained to detect hazardous materials and will also play a major role in community policing and events.



Youth Services Division

Investigation by Youth Services Detective John Grubbs into the March 2015 shooting death of a two-year-old boy has led to the indictment of Marlon Middlebrook, 23, on charges of criminally negligent homicide, reckless endangerment, and evidence tampering.

Marlon Middlebrook, 23, was arrested February 21st for his alleged involvement in the death of 2-year old Kendall Pinkerton inside a 333 Rio Vista Drive apartment.

Several adults and children reportedly spent the night at the apartment prior to the shooting. After breakfast the next morning on March 31st several of the adults went back to sleep. Just before 3 p.m., Kendall's mother heard a gunshot. She found him in a bedroom and saw a handgun on the floor. He had been shot in the head. Kendall was transported to Vanderbilt University Medical Center where he died the next day. One of the children present told a detective they had been playing with a gun.

Middlebrook, who had been asleep on a couch in the apartment, allegedly picked up the gun after the shooting and hid it outside under leaves where it was recovered by police. Ballistics testing linked the gun to the shooting. According to witnesses, Middlebrook was in possession of the handgun before the shooting and left it on the couch next to him.

At the time of his arrest, Middlebrook was free on \$13,000 bond after his February 13th arrest on felony marijuana and weapon possession charges. Middlebrook has previous drug and weapon possession convictions.

Detectives Brett Kenney and Kelly Cantrell arranged for middle school students to create artwork for the temporary Youth Services Division office on Massman Drive. The art will be transferred to canvass and displayed in the near future.



Cold Case/Homicide Unit

Nearly 10 years after the senseless murder of Cheryl Denise Phillips at a high school graduation celebration barbeque on Edgehill Avenue, two men have now been indicted on first-degree murder counts for her death.

The defendants are Larry Anthony Wade, 38, and Jayson G. Polk, 36, inmates in the Tennessee Department of Correction serving time on unrelated convictions. Both were brought to downtown Nashville and booked on the indictment on February 22nd.

Phillips, 38, was shot in the back on May 23, 2006, while attending the barbeque in celebration of Glencliff High School's 2006 graduation class, of which her daughter was a member. About 30 people were taking part. The investigation showed that three men approached and at least two opened fire. Phillips was fatally shot. Two other men received non-critical wounds.

Detectives soon determined that the suspects arrived at the scene in a car registered to Larry Wade. It was recovered a few days later behind his aunt's home. Wade has remained under investigation during the past two years as Homicide-Cold Case Detective Mike Roland began renewed work on the shooting death of Cheryl Phillips. Detective Roland is continuing the investigation. Charges against other persons are likely.

Specialized Investigations Division

The keen nose of police dog Stryker led to the discovery of one pound of heroin and one pound of meth concealed in the stuffing of a cookie pillow.

The case began with a speeding Toyota Solara sedan. It was traveling on I-24 west near the Bell Road exit at 86 mph in a 70 mph zone. Interdiction Officer William Taylor stopped the car and asked its driver, Francisco Javier Guzman, 29, for his license. Guzman appeared nervous and acknowledged that he did not have a license. Officer Taylor had Stryker, his canine partner, do an open air sniff around the car. Stryker alerted to the presence of drug odor. On the front seat was a parcel wrapped in Christmas paper. Inside the box was a cookie pillow with a small slit cut in the side. The heroin and meth were concealed with the stuffing.

Guzman is charged with possessing heroin and meth for resale, and driving without a license.



Retirement Celebration

Sergeant John Campbell celebrated 25 years of service



Officer Randy Kroll celebrated 26 years of service



Officer Ken Alexandrow celebrated 25 years of service



Officer Randy Papadinec celebrated 20 years of service



John Humes celebrated 36 years of service



Congratulations:

Officer John Thomas, West Precinct, and his wife welcomed their daughter, Virginia Hanly Thomas, on December 28th.

Officer Taylor Jeansonne, Midtown Precinct, and his wife, Susan, welcomed their son, Jack R. Jeansonne.

Officer Wesley McClelland, East Precinct, and his wife, Patricia, welcomed their daughter on January 9th.

Officer Brent Hoadley, Central Precinct Mounted Unit, and his wife, Ashley, welcomed their son Harrison Edwin Hoadley on January 11th.

Officer John Daugherty, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife, Sarah, welcomed their son Kyle Thomas, on January 12th.

Officer Chad Brown, Canine Section, and his wife welcomed their daughter, Sadie Lynn Brown, on January 18th.



Condolences:

Michael Hobbs, the brother of Sergeant Misty Hobbs, West Precinct, passed away in a tragic vehicle crash on December 25th.

Jamin Sponaule, the brother of Vanessa Sponaule, passed away on December 24th.

Milton Osborne, the grandfather of Officer Jim Crissman, Central Precinct, passed away on January 7th. He was a WWII US Navy Veteran.

Bruce Eldridge, the father-in-law of Sergeant David Humes, Midtown Precinct, passed away.

Thomas Mark Cairnes, the brother of Julia Hooper, Identification Division, passed away on January 17th.

Dolores Linville, the grandmother of Charles Linville, Forensic Services Division, passed away on January 22nd.

Retired Officer Kerry Bissinger passed away on January 20th. He retired in 1992 after 20 years of service.

Retired Officer Alfred Hibler II passed away on January 21st. He retired in 1993 after 13 years of service.

Retired Sergeant Jack Burnett passed away on January 19th. He retired in 1990 after 38 years of service.

Bradley Griggs, the son of retired Assistant Chief Johnnie Griggs, passed away on February 4th.

James Lewis Brown, the father of Sergeant Sandra Brown, Hermitage Precinct, passed away on February 7th.

William Joseph (Joe) Griffin, the brother of retired Sergeant Charles Griffin and the late Major Pat Griffin, the great uncle of Officer Charles Griffin II, Midtown Precinct, and uncle of Officer Charles Griffin, Midtown Precinct, passed away on February 11th.

Judy Alexander, the mother of Captain Mike Alexander and retired civilian employee, passed away on February 14th.

Leonard Robertson, the grandfather of Sergeant Rich Lowry, West Precinct, passed away.