



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

April 20, 2012

News from the Chief



Our police department's partnership with Nashville's neighborhood and community groups was clearly evident Thursday during the MNPD's annual awards ceremony at the Loews Vanderbilt Hotel. Among the 68 award recipients in attendance were 20 citizens (several others were unable to join us) who played major roles in the apprehension of dangerous criminals. There was Patricia Ferguson, who came to the aid of an officer engaged in a fight with a theft suspect. Ms. Ferguson actually rushed into the action and grabbed the suspect by the neck, allowing the officer to subdue the individual. There were Perla Gonzalez, Dalia Aburto and Fidel Garcia, whose assistance was instrumental in the apprehension of an armed robbery and child rape suspect. There was senior citizen Avo

Sain who fired a shotgun blast wounding three men who were breaking into her Glencliff Road home. And there were several other citizens whose individual decisions to get involved led to apprehensions in a number of home burglary cases. Recognition of citizens such as these is very important. I want to thank those of you who submitted their nominations, and I thank you in advance for nominating citizen partners who assist the police department in 2012.

Also Thursday, I was very pleased to proudly congratulate nearly 50 members of our police department for outstanding acts performed during 2011. The various stories of great police work and ingenuity by officers and professional support staff underscore that this is a great police department with caring, dedicated employees. Thanks to all MNPD staff for everything that you have done, and will do, to make Nashville a better place.



Pictured (l-r) are Mayor Dean, Avo Sain and Chief Anderson.



Tornado Bus Company employees pictured with Mayor Dean and Chief Anderson.



Officer Michelle Hammond and daughter Cammie

Happenings

Madison Precinct Commander Brian Johnson presented Mayor Karl Dean with a commemorative coin at the Madison Chamber of Commerce meeting for his leadership in the creation of the new Madison Precinct.



G.R.E.A.T. Officer Training Graduation

The Nashville Police Department was chosen in 2009 to host one of only four regional training centers in America for the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T) program. Sixteen officers from across the Southeast Region graduated from the two-week course on April 4th after gaining valuable knowledge they will share with their communities.



Chief Anderson attended the G.R.E.A.T. program officer training graduation.

Donelson-Hermitage Exchange Club Officer of the Year

Officer Angelo Iezzi was named the 2011 Officer of the Year by the Donelson-Hermitage Exchange Club for his outstanding dedication and commitment to the community he patrols.

Officer Iezzi, 38, came to the Nashville Police Department seven years ago after serving in the United States Army. He is presently assigned to the Hermitage Precinct's overnight shift.

Officer Iezzi is credited with being a conscientious and innovative patrol officer whose ability to develop street level intelligence led to major successful drug investigations and arrests in the Hermitage Precinct over the past several months.

“Due to Officer Iezzi’s initiative and talented police work, several criminal suspects are behind bars and quantities of illegal narcotics are off our city’s streets,” Hermitage Precinct Commander Michele Donegan said. “This award is so fitting because our winner lives, shops and works in the Donelson-Hermitage area.”

Chief Anderson Assists West End Synagogue in Passover Ceremony

Chief Steve Anderson and Rabbi Kliel Rose of the West End Synagogue met April 5th as part of an annual practice to offer assistance to Nashville's Jewish community in the celebration of the Passover holiday.

Chief Anderson formally purchased leavened products, known as "chametz," from the West End Synagogue congregation for the eight days of Passover. Jews are prohibited from owning leavened products such as bread, cereals, and even beer, during the holiday. In many instances, Jewish families place canned or packaged leavened foods in a closet or cupboard that will stay closed for the duration of the eight days. A rabbi is given the power of attorney to sell all of the products to a non-Jew until Passover has ended. After the holiday ended April 17th, Rabbi Rose bought back the leavened products from Chief Anderson.

Rabbi Rose also generously made a donation to the Nashville Police Support Fund, a fund maintained within the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, in appreciation of Chief Anderson's assistance. This is the 18th year the police department has partnered with the West End Synagogue in the Passover tradition.



Chief Anderson formally purchases leavened products from Rabbi Rose.

Southeast Annual Easter Egg Event



The Precinct News

Hermitage

Armed with knowledge of an attempted pharmacy robbery that occurred just hours earlier Hermitage Precinct Detectives Johnny Crumby and Andy Injaychock were in the right place at the right time and caught the suspect.

The detectives left a business in the 2600 block of Murfreesboro Pike after conducting an interview in a separate case when Detective Injaychock alertly spotted a silver Pontiac G6 believed to be involved in the attempted robbery of the Kmart pharmacy at 2491 Murfreesboro Pike. They soon observed that the driver also matched the suspect description and stopped the car just before 7 p.m. on Murfreesboro Pike near Hamilton Church Road.

During an interview with Detective Crumby, the driver, Marco Hamilton, 26, admitted he had been inside the Kmart at the time of the attempted robbery. He was positively identified by the clerk as the person who demanded oxycodone after showing her he had a gun in his waistband. Hamilton, who was wearing the same clothes that appeared in video surveillance photos from Kmart, had a loaded handgun tucked in his waistband.

Hamilton, of Village Green Drive, is charged with attempted aggravated robbery. At the time of his arrest, Hamilton was free on \$159,500 bond for felony cocaine possession in a drug-free school zone, theft and a crooks with guns law violation.

Acting on a tip from the Davidson County Sheriff's Office, Hermitage Precinct detectives shut down a marijuana grow operation inside a home at 4301 Cambridge Drive in Antioch.

Sheriff's deputies went to the residence to serve an eviction notice. While there, they discovered evidence of marijuana activity and notified the Hermitage Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit. When officers arrived, one of the residents, Mark Wesley Howarth, 31, took them to an upstairs room that had been outfitted with grow lights, fertilizer and generators. Dried marijuana plants were found wrapped in a tarp. In the attic of the home were more dried marijuana plants. A check of Howarth's cell phone revealed text messages indicative of his involvement in drug sales.

Just prior to police arrival, Howarth's girlfriend, Stacy Michelle Russell, 29, had taken two bags and silver case to a neighbor's home for safekeeping. A search of those revealed two containers of marijuana and packages of marijuana seeds.

The total weight of the marijuana seized was 12 pounds.

Howarth is charged with manufacturing marijuana, possession of marijuana for resale, a crooks with guns violation for having a pistol in the house and possession of drug paraphernalia. He is free after posting a \$7,000 bond. Russell is charged with possession of marijuana for resale, a crooks with guns violation and possession of drug paraphernalia. She is free after posting a \$5,000 bond.

South

Sergeant Taylor Schmitz participated in Reading Day at the Coleman Park Library where he shared the story of Officer Buckle who attends school to teach safety tips.

After the reading, Sergeant Schmitz answered the children's questions and stressed the importance of contacting police in case of an emergency.



Sgt. Schmitz participates in Reading Day at Coleman Park Library.

Sergeant Schmitz also attended a Hearing Loss Association of America meeting and participated in a discussion about how police officers can improve communication with persons who are hearing impaired.



Hearing Loss Association of America meeting.

East

Gang Unit officers, working closely with East Precinct detectives, Thursday night located murder suspect Michael Mills, 18, and stopped the vehicle he was in on Fern Street near Weakley Avenue.

Mills, who is now charged in Wednesday's fatal shooting of Quintin Johnson outside 1044 Chicamauga Avenue, fled on foot. During the pursuit, Mills turned and pointed a handgun at an officer. He was found hiding in a nearby home that was being remodeled and taken into custody. A nine-millimeter pistol was recovered.

Mills is accused of shooting Johnson, 22, during a robbery early Wednesday morning. Johnson was a passenger in a Chevrolet Suburban driven by Ronald Partee, 22. Partee reported that he and Johnson were parked outside the Chicamauga Avenue residence at 2:30 a.m. when Mills allegedly fired shots into the SUV striking Johnson. The gunman then robbed Partee of his boots, pants, cocaine and cash. During the execution of a search warrant, East Precinct detectives located Partee's pants and boots inside the Chicamauga Avenue house.

Mills, of Stewarts Lane, was convicted at age 16 of aggravated robbery in 2009. He is now charged with criminal homicide, aggravated robbery, aggravated assault against a police officer, resisting arrest and unlawful handgun possession. Mills is being held in lieu of \$1,110,000 bond.

Eighteen-year-old Gregory Eugene Suggs was recently arraigned in Criminal Court on a first-degree murder indictment charging him with the January 19, 2010, shooting death of fellow teenager Deonte Darrington in the 600 block of South 7th street in the James Cayce public housing development.

Suggs, who was 16 when Darrington was killed, was initially charged last October in Juvenile Court. The case was transferred to adult court at the first of this year, resulting in Suggs' indictment Friday.

Darrington, 18, was standing on the sidewalk with several people when a young man, alleged to have been Suggs, approached the group and fired several shots at Darrington. Months of investigation by Detective Matt Filter and his colleagues at the East Precinct led to the development of the case against Suggs. Detectives believe a marijuana dispute was behind the fatal gunfire.

Suggs, at age 17, was arrested for armed carjacking in December 2010 and was subsequently convicted.

North

North Precinct Flex officers arrested Trent Hull, 20, who is accused of shooting Ezekias Walton Sunday night outside Litton's Corner Market at 2830 Gallatin Pike.

Walton, 20, was standing in the parking lot at 9:30 p.m. when Hull reportedly fired shots from a beige Chevrolet Malibu and drove off. Walton, who was struck multiple times, is in stable condition at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

East Precinct detectives swore out an attempted homicide warrant against Hull Monday night.

Flex Officer Clifton Huffmaster stopped the driver of a car for rolling through a stop sign at 23rd Avenue North and Heiman Street. After Officer Huffmaster detected a strong odor of marijuana, he received consent to search the vehicle where he recovered one pound of marijuana. At the time of his arrest, the suspect was on federal probation for cocaine possession.

Madison

Sergeant Lukas Merithew was flagged down by a citizen who told him two men and a woman had attempted to sell him marijuana. Sergeant Merithew alertly spotted the suspect car on Dickerson Pike.

Officers recovered 25 pounds of packaged marijuana in the vehicle's trunk. The trio admitted driving from Texas to Nashville. All three are charged with felony marijuana possession.



Sgt. Merithew with 25 pounds of seized marijuana.

Quick police response by Flex officers to a threatening gunman in the 3100 block of Brickdale Lane led to the arrest of two teens, ages 15 and 19.

The victim provided an excellent suspect description and officers located the pair walking two blocks away. The 15-year-old was carrying a loaded .40 caliber handgun. The victim reported that the 19-year-old twice pointed the weapon at him and then handed the gun to the 15-year-old.

The 19-year-old is charged with two counts of aggravated assault, marijuana possession, providing a handgun to a juvenile and contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile.

Officer Keith McNamara stopped the driver of a Ford Taurus for an illegal turn from the number two lane of southbound Gallatin Pike onto Old Hickory Boulevard where he nearly struck another driver in the right lane preparing to make the same turn.

The driver had a revoked license. Seized during a consent search were 44.5 grams of marijuana that had been hidden under the steering column, a digital scale and a stolen handgun.

Officer Steven Snitzer stopped the driver of a Buick Regal for littering. During a consent search of the vehicle, officers recovered two loaded handguns, both of which had been reported stolen. The driver and his passenger were each charged with felon in possession of a handgun and theft of property.

Officers participated in opening day of Madison Little League. Sergeant James Vivrette threw out the first pitch!



Commander Brian Johnson at opening day with Metro Councilman Bill Pridemore.

West

Outstanding police work by West Precinct Flex officers led to the arrest of three members of a suspected shoplifting ring moments after two of them walked out of Old Navy at 6724 Charlotte Pike with bags of stolen merchandise worth \$1,150.

Officers were conducting an undercover operation in partnership with merchants in the Nashville West Shopping Center in response to a recent rash of shoplifting incidents, when they saw Trivia Allen, 30, and Jekia Peters, 27, walk into the store with empty shopping bags. They were accompanied by convicted felon Robert Hill, 33. Officers observed all three removing tags from merchandise and placing it into the bags.

Hill walked from the store to a silver Hyundai SUV just after 9 p.m. and opened the door. The women exited the store soon after and all three were placed into custody. In addition to the merchandise in the bags, items apparently taken from other stores at the shopping center valued at more than \$3,500 were recovered from the SUV, along with a small amount of marijuana and brass knuckles.

Allen, of South Street, Peters, of Cocoa Drive, and Hill, of Carroll Street, are each charged with felony theft, drug possession and unlawful weapon possession (brass knuckles).

All three have multiple theft convictions. Additionally, Hill has been convicted of drug possession and aggravated assault.

The investigation continues into their potential involvement in similar crimes.

Officers stopped the driver of a Dodge Charger, who was traveling 75 mph in a 55 mph zone on I-65 near Armory Drive, and detected an odor of marijuana inside the vehicle.

Seized in a subsequent search were 7.2 grams of marijuana, 44 ecstasy pills, two handguns and over \$15,000 cash stored in a backpack. The car was also seized.

Three men are each charged with felony drug possession, a crooks with guns law violation and child endangerment. One of the suspect's 13-year-old brother was also in the vehicle. The teen was placed with the Department of Children's Services.

Central

16-year-old Calvin Miles is charged in Juvenile Court with aggravated robbery for allegedly carjacking a man at the intersection of Neill Avenue and Smiley Street.

The victim reported that after he stopped at the intersection a gunman approached him at 1 a.m. and threatened to shoot him if he did not get out of his 1998 Nissan Pathfinder. The victim complied. A second suspect took the victim's belongings from his pockets. The pair got into the SUV along with two to three other suspects who had been hiding nearby. They drove off and the victim contacted police from his nearby residence. He had been returning home from work.

Central Precinct Sergeant Marty Reed spotted the Pathfinder at the corner of Main Street and South 5th Street. The suspects drove off, running a red light, before bailing from the vehicle on South 5th Street near Sylvan Street. A short time later, Central Precinct Sergeant

Steve Beck saw Miles walking in the area and took him into custody. The victim identified Miles, who lives on Dew Street, as the gunman who robbed him.

Domestic Violence Division

Coordinated, determined work by Domestic Violence Division detectives led to the arrest of convicted cocaine felon Marquis McGee, who is accused of wounding his ex-girlfriend in the hip after opening fire on her Chevrolet Impala night near the J.C. Napier public housing development.

Shatika Watkins, 28, reported that she was traveling on Claiborne Street just after 7 p.m. when McGee, 24, stepped into the street, pointed a pistol at her car and started shooting. Watkins sped away and notified police. She was taken to Vanderbilt University Medical Center for treatment.

Detectives sent word to those who know McGee that he was wanted on warrants charging attempted murder and possession of a handgun by a convicted felon. As officers attempted to locate McGee in the community, he surrendered at the Domestic Violence Division office. McGee is jailed tonight in lieu of \$105,000 bond.

The following officers were chosen Police, Patrol, Investigator, and Special Operations Officer of the Month for March 2012.

Patrol Officer

East Precinct Officer Nicholas Kulp

Police Officer

East Precinct Officer Frederick Nelson

Investigator

South Precinct Detectives Brandon Dozier & James Gafford

Special Operations

Canine Unit Officers Jerry Denton & Dale BeCraft

Retirement Celebration

Sergeant Doug Jones celebrates 31 years of dedicated service.



Central Precinct Commander Jason Reinbold presents Sgt. Jones with a commemorative plaque.

From the District Attorney's Office

Director of Communications Susan Niland

Davidson County Criminal Court Judge Seth Norman found Hank Wise guilty of second degree murder in the 2009 shooting death of karaoke D.J. Ben Goeser. Goeser was working inside Jonny's Sports Bar in South Nashville the night of April 2, 2009. Wise was also there that night, and when managers at the restaurant asked him to leave because he made a customer feel uncomfortable, he shot Goeser multiple times, killing him. Several customers tackled Wise and held him until police arrived. Testimony during the trial indicated that Wise suffered from a delusional disorder. He thought Goeser and other individuals were using the internet to try to discredit him, although there was not any proof of that.

This was a bench trial, heard by a judge, without a jury. The defense argued that Wise was not guilty by reason of insanity, but the judge found him guilty of second degree murder. Wise faces a sentence of 15 to 25 years at 100%. A sentencing hearing is set for May 30.

17-year-old Ladarius Bryant was scheduled to go on trial for first degree murder, but pled guilty to second degree murder in the May 2010 fatal shooting of Kowan Ahmad, 22, outside the Sultan Café on Nolensville Pike.

Bryant, who was a 10th grader at the time of the shooting, was attending a party at the Sultan Café when several teens started throwing gang signs and began fighting. Bryant went to a car in the parking lot, retrieved a gun, and fired a shot into the air before firing into the crowd, striking Ahmad.

Bryant will serve 20 years at 100%.

A Davidson County jury found a Nashville teen guilty of second degree murder for the shooting death of 21-year old Dontrell McFadden in 2009. Christian Walters was 17- years- old when he was in a car that drove past McFadden as he walked on Nashboro Boulevard. Walters suspected that McFadden belonged to a rival gang. The two exchanged words and gang-related gestures. Walters held a gun out the window and fired several shots, striking McFadden who ran and collapsed nearby. Walters reported that he expected the shooting would result in a higher ranking within his gang.

Another man in the car, Julian Adams, still faces a murder charge in this case. Walters' conviction carries a sentence of 15 to 25 years in prison. He will be sentenced on May 17.

Congratulations:

Officer Trainee Benjamin Fisher, Session 68, and his wife are the proud parents of Jackson Charles Fisher who was born on April 4th.

Officer Douglas Fowler and his wife are the proud parents of Evelyn Grace Fowler who was born on April 11th.



Condolences:

Benny Houchin, the father of Shelly Osterhoudt, Field Operations Support Section, passed away on April 18th.

The sister of retired Detective Norris Tarkington and sister-in-law of Pam Tarkington, Officer of Professional Accountability, passed away.

Retired Captain Charles Hall passed away on April 4th. He retired in 1986 after 31 years of service.

Johnny Johnson, the grandfather of Detective Chris Turner, Specialized Investigations Division, passed away on April 8th.

The father of retired Sergeant Ron Fielder passed away.

Charles Britton, the brother of James Britton, Information and Technology Division, passed away on April 11th.

Jean Gonzalez, the grandmother of Lieutenant David Leavitt, West Precinct, passed away.

Edna Comer, the grandmother of Sergeant Troy Gossett, Hermitage Precinct, passed away on April 12th.

Georgia Barbee, the grandmother of Leland Greer, Information and Technology Division, passed away on April 17th.



Protect yourself, fight crime and be **GREEN** at the same time!!

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

Saturday, April 21st, 2012

10:00am- 1:00pm

****NEW LOCATION DUE TO I-24 TRAFFIC CONSTRUCTION****

TENNESSEE STATE FAIRGROUNDS
500 WEDGEWOOD AV

Take the first step in protecting yourself from identity theft crimes. Your old personal documents will be instantly destroyed by a Shred-it high speed, mobile, cross shredder.

All shredded material will be recycled so you will also help protect the environment!

All proceeds from your \$5 per box donation will benefit Nashville Crime Stoppers, Inc., a 501 (C) 3 not-for-profit organization, that is working with local law enforcement to solve serious crimes in your community. ALL DONATIONS GO DIRECTLY TO OUR REWARD FUND! Receipts will be made available for your tax deductible donation.

Nashville Crime Stoppers' community partner for this great event is Shred-It, the world's leading on-site document destruction company. For information about Shred-It visit www.shredit.com

ALSO INCLUDED IS PHARMA TRASH DISPOSAL

The improper use of prescription medication should be a concern to everyone. Metro police officers will be on site to collect the prescription medications that you no longer need and we will properly dispose of them to protect our environment.

Metro Nashville Police Department's Auto Theft Unit Offers VIN Etching:

The MNPD's Auto Theft Unit will be teaming up with Crime Stoppers for VIN etching during this year's event at LP Field. These etchings will be performed free with a \$10 donation to **Nashville Crime Stoppers, Inc.** VIN etching involves the use of acid to etch your vehicle identification number (VIN) into every window of your vehicle and is used as an anti-theft deterrent. It not only provides law enforcement with easy access to your VIN number in the unlikely event your car is stolen, it also provides identification of your car if it happens to be sold for parts. For more information on the VIN etching, please contact the Auto Theft Unit, 862-7612 or 862-7609.

WEB  SUBMIT A WEB TIP WWW.NASHVILLECRIMESTOPPERS.COM

CALL  615-74-CRIME (615-742-7463) Se Habla Espanol
TEXT  Text "CASH" plus your message to CRIMES (274637)