



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

June 1, 2012

News from the Chief



The tremendous support our police department enjoys from Nashville's citizens and businesses will once again be at the forefront tomorrow morning as Shoney's sponsors its fourth annual 5K Family Fun Run & Festival to benefit the Nashville Police Support Fund. I strongly urge all of you to join us in Lot T of LP Field tomorrow. The 5K Fun Run (or walk) begins at 7 a.m. from the Shelby Street Pedestrian Bridge. The festival, with food, music, activities for kids and a display of police equipment, will crank up immediately after the run/walk. **THIS**

IS A GREAT EVENT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY! I hope to see you, your families and your neighbors tomorrow morning.

Shoney's CEO David Davoudpour is very passionate about your work and raising money to support higher education and specialized training opportunities for police officers. The Nashville Police Support Fund is housed within the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. Almost all of the money in the fund has come from the Shoney's events. We will look closely at the fund this year to determine when we can begin making disbursements while at the same time ensuring the viability of the account. David Davoudpour will be at LP Field in the morning and will be running in the 5K. Please thank him for his strong support.



Chief Anderson joined 105.9 The Rock's Joe Elvis for a radio interview about the Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run & Festival.



Veteran Nashville Sportscaster Hope Hines came out of retirement Wednesday night to host a special edition of Sportsline, highlighting Saturday's Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run & Festival. Pictured (l-r) are Hines, Shoney's CEO David Davoudpour, Deputy Chief Todd Henry, and professional wrestler Scott Steiner (who will be in attendance on Saturday).

The police department's May 23rd budget hearing before the Metro Council went well. I told council members that the police department takes the commitment of financial responsibility very seriously, and that Mayor Dean has proposed a thoughtful and judicious budget for the police department that allows us to build on our successes without taking steps backward or losing ground. Mayor Dean has recommended a \$6.3 million budget increase for the police department next year, as well as across the board pay raises. Much of the additional money would be used to retain the 50 officers hired under a soon to expire federal grant and hire 17 scientists for the DNA Crime Laboratory. The Metro Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed city budget next Tuesday evening.



Chief Anderson speaks to the Metro Council's Budget and Finance Committee, chaired by Councilman Sean McGuire, on May 23rd. Accompanying Chief Anderson were MNPD Finance Manager Samir Mehic and Supervisory Budget Analyst Kathy Kirkham.

It is clearly evident that the strong community and political support we have is due to your dedication and hard work. Thank you very much for all that you do for Nashville, its families and visitors.

Happenings

Mayor Dean Visits Madison Precinct, Tours Construction Area

Mayor Karl Dean joined Madison Precinct Commander Brian Johnson Thursday on a tour of the 84,000-square-foot building under construction that will be the permanent home of the Madison Precinct and the department's first-ever DNA Crime Laboratory. Precinct operations will be based on the first floor. The crime lab will be on the upper level. The precinct will include about 5,000-square-feet of community space, the largest dedicated community area of all the police department's precincts. The city's proposed capital spending plan includes \$8 million to complete construction and equip the lab, as well as the overall Madison Precinct part of the building.



After the tour, the Mayor spoke at Madison's B-shift roll call. He told officers that he deeply appreciated their work and commended them on the partnerships they have formed with Madison's community and business leaders.



Citizen Police Academy Graduation

Chief Steve Anderson on May 22nd congratulated 56 Nashvillians as they graduated from the MNPD's Citizen Police Academy.

The graduation ceremony was held in the community room of the Hermitage Precinct, 3701 James Kay Lane.

The 56 graduates, including four volunteer chaplains, were part of the 25th session of the Citizen Police Academy, which began its 12-week run on March 13th. Participants learned about the intricacies of police work from a variety of guest speakers, including members of the police department's specialized components.

More than 1,000 citizens have graduated from the Citizen Police Academy since it began in 1995.



Session 25 Citizen Police Academy

Church Safety Seminar

Dozens of ministers and administrators from churches throughout Nashville attended the fourth annual Church Safety Seminar Thursday morning, sponsored by the police department's South Precinct in partnership with St. Edward Church

The police department led the discussion on steps churches can take to enhance the safety of clergy, staff and members, as well as ways to enhance environmental crime prevention measures. Information was also provided regarding scams that target churches and steps administrators can take to prevent being victimized.



Community Coordinator Sergeant Taylor Schmitz provides crime prevention tips during the Church Safety Seminar.

North Precinct Community Meeting

Residents and business owners in the many neighborhoods that make up the North Precinct met with Commander Anthony Carter and his staff Thursday night to discuss crime trends, successes and challenges.

Commander Carter also addressed how the proposed Metro budget for next fiscal year relates to operations at the North and Madison Precincts.

Mayor Karl Dean and Chief Steve Anderson were also in attendance and thanked the community for their interest and involvement in public safety.



Mayor Dean, State Senator Thelma Harper and Reverend William Harris of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church are in attendance as Commander Carter discusses the successes and crime trends.

Special Flood Badges Retired

The special commemorative flood badges Nashville police officers have been wearing for the past year were retired at midnight Thursday.

The flood badges were proudly worn in tribute to Nashville's community spirit, resiliency of its citizens and dedicated commitment of the men and women of the Metropolitan Police Department in recovering from the historic flood of 2010.

Almost all officers took advantage of the opportunity to purchase the special flood badges, which cost about \$70 each. Those officers began wearing their regularly assigned badges on Friday.



Flood Badges



Regularly assigned badges

Goodguys Car Show Winner

East Precinct Sergeant David Merlin and his son, Noah, won first place in the Homebuilt Heaven Traditional category during the May 19th Goodguys car show at L.P. Field.



1941 Chevy Coupe

The Precinct News

Hermitage

Witness descriptions coupled with alert police work led to the arrest of Jermarkus Pittman, 35, who is charged in two hotel robberies.

Pittman is accused of attempting to rob the La Quinta Inn at 2345 Atrium Way at 12:30 a.m. He allegedly approached the clerk, displayed a knife and demanded cash while threatening that he had a gun in his back pocket. The victim refused and the suspect fled in a maroon Ford Taurus.

A few minutes later, Pittman entered the Alexis Inn at 600 Ermac Drive and demanded cash while holding a knife. He was given money and fled in the Taurus. Hermitage Precinct Sergeant Josh Blaisdell spotted the suspect car at the Drake Motel at 420 Murfreesboro Pike where Pittman was taken into custody without incident at 4:30 a.m. He was positively identified by both victims as the robber.

The knife used in the crimes and a crack pipe were recovered from the Taurus.

Pittman, of Thomas Street, is charged with aggravated robbery, attempted aggravated robbery, unlawful use of drug paraphernalia and driving on a suspended license.

South

South Precinct patrol officers apprehended three suspects a short time after they allegedly held-up two men at gunpoint at the Hickory Manor Apartments at 2900 Hamilton Church Road, shooting one victim in the lower leg even after he complied with their robbery demands.

The victims drove to the apartment complex at 1 p.m. to meet Thomas Gooch. Gooch, 21, and two other men armed with handguns, approached their vehicle and demanded their car and cash. They surrendered a small amount of cash and a cell phone before Gooch reportedly told his accomplices they needed to go. As the suspects walked away, Joshua Smith, 19, allegedly fired shots into the vehicle, striking the driver in his shin.

Officers flooded the area and quickly apprehended Gooch, Smith, and Keno Lane, 20. Both victims identified the three as the robbers. They are each charged with two counts of aggravated robbery and are being held in lieu of \$100,000 bond.

Smith will also be charged with aggravated robbery for another violent armed hold-up outside the Stonewood Village Apartments at 5161 Rice Road. In that case, the victim was shot in the leg **after** he relinquished his wallet. Smith was positively identified as one of the robbers.

At the time of his arrest, Smith was free on \$10,000 bond in relation to cocaine and unlawful handgun possession charges.

Aggravated robbery suspect Antoine Orlando Miller, 19, surrendered himself at the Criminal Justice Center.

Miller is charged in the May 19th hold-up of the Subway at 769 Bell Road. Miller is accused of taking money from the cashier at gunpoint before he fled on foot.

A tip to Crime Stoppers led to the identification of Miller as the suspect.

Community Coordinator Sergeant Taylor Schmitz attended several career days at south Nashville schools prior to summer break explaining the benefits of becoming a police officer.



Sgt. Schmitz with Paragon Mills Elementary students.

North

Investigation begun as the result of DNA analysis has led to the indictment of convicted rapist John B. Flye for the February 2011 murder of a 47-year-old North Nashville woman.

Gwendolyn Williams' body was discovered inside an abandoned home at 1900 14th Avenue North on February 19, 2011. There were no visible signs of trauma to the body, although DNA evidence was recovered. Based on that evidence and work by Cold Case Detective Mike Roland, Flye, 50, was identified as a potential suspect in Williams' strangulation. He was indicted on a charge of second-degree murder after making incriminating statements during an interview.

Flye was convicted of aggravated rape for an assault against a young girl in 1981. He served more than 20 years in prison and is on the state's sex offender registry.

Flye is now jailed in lieu of \$200,000 bond and will be arraigned in Criminal Court in the near future.

Outstanding police work by North Flex officers and Sex Crimes detectives led to the speedy identification of 17-year-old Gregory Hodge as the suspect who allegedly sexually assaulted and robbed a woman at gunpoint inside her Booker Street home.

Officers arrived at the home within minutes of the attack and immediately aired a description of the getaway vehicle which ultimately led to Hodge's identification. An arrest order was issued for Hodge just hours after the crime. Hodge subsequently surrendered himself that evening at the Juvenile Justice Center.

In a separate case, quick police response by Metro Park Police, North Flex and Patrol officers led to the apprehension of four juveniles, ages 16 and 17, who are now charged in the carjacking of a 59-year-old woman at Hadley Park.

The victim was sitting in her Infiniti sedan when four persons, three males and one female, approached her and demanded her vehicle at gunpoint.

The four drove off in the victim's car. They bailed from the vehicle in the 700 block of 19th Avenue North after seeing Metro Park Officer Darrell Howse. Howse captured one of the teens. Information was then developed identifying the other three. All four are charged with aggravated robbery at Juvenile Court.

The handgun used in the crime was recovered from the Infiniti.

East

Investigation by East Precinct detectives led to this morning's arrest of 17-year-old Yassin Mudey in connection with a home invasion robbery on Shelby Avenue last Friday night and a second armed hold-up Thursday night on Boscobel Street.

Mudey was identified as one of three men who entered the home and robbed a man and woman before one of them attempted to sexually assault the woman.

In Thursday night's robbery, two men armed with handguns approached three construction workers on Boscobel Street and demanded cash and cell phones.

Evidence collected at the Shelby Avenue home by Crime Scene Specialist Jonesta Nolan resulted in the identification of Mudey as the robber. A Juvenile arrest order charging five counts of aggravated robbery was issued against Mudey last night.

East Precinct officers actively patrolling the area in and around the James Cayce public housing development spotted Mudey walking on South 6th Street this morning and took him into custody. Mudey, who is homeless, admitted his involvement in both robberies.

Anyone with information regarding the other persons involved in these robberies is urged to contact Crime Stoppers at 74-CRIME. Citizens can also send an electronic tip to Crime Stoppers by texting the word "CASH" along with their message to 274637 (CRIMES) or online at www.nashvillecrimestoppers.com. Persons who contact Crime Stoppers by phone, text or Internet can remain anonymous and qualify for a cash reward.

Central

Investigation by Officer Travis Baxter during a routine traffic stop led to the identification and arrest of a passenger who was wanted on outstanding aggravated robbery warrants.

Michael Tate initially gave Officer Baxter a false name. Once Tate was identified, he was taken into custody without further incident.

Officer Jason Gross quickly responded to a burglary in progress at the Goodwill on Herman Street where he located Marlos Mann hiding under a trailer.

Mann was charged with burglary. He also had an outstanding warrant for cocaine possession in Dyersburg, Tennessee.

Specialized Investigations Division

A major pill pusher to Nashville drug addicts/abusers is now in police custody, as are his more than 7,100 painkillers, including Lortab, Xanax, Hydrocodone and Oxycodone.

Richard Allen Williams, 27, of 9351 Rocky Fork Almaville Road in Smyrna, is presently jailed on charges that he sold 300 Hydrocodone pills to a police operative on May 2nd, 301 Hydrocodone pills on May 11th, and that he possessed 203 Hydrocodone pills while on his way to a drug deal in Antioch Wednesday. Williams' girlfriend, Brittany McCool, 26, who lives at the same Smyrna address, is charged with joining Williams in the 301 pill deal on May 11th.

Following Williams' arrest May 23 at the intersection of Bell Road and Mt. View Road, detectives from the Specialized Investigations Division Narcotics Unit, West Precinct Crime Suppression Unit and TBI agents went to the Smyrna residence where McCool was taken into custody. The defendants consented to a search of the home, during which detectives and agents seized 6,334 pills (an assortment of Lortab, Xanax, Hydrocodone and Oxycodone), \$67,100 cash, 9.7 ounces of cocaine, three new plasma televisions, 224 pairs of new shoes (mostly the Nike Air variety with price tags in the \$150 range), a set of vehicle rims valued at \$20,000 and nine vehicles.

The TBI filed four felony drug counts against the couple in Rutherford County for the drugs found at the Smyrna home.

The investigation that led to the arrests of Williams and McCool began in the West Precinct, where undercover detectives initially arrested smaller level drug pushers before working their way to the supplier in coordination with the Narcotics Unit.

Williams refused to tell investigators where he got his vast quantity of pills.



Seized pills and cash.

Training Division

Session 67 will graduate Monday, June 4, at 6 p.m., at Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, 3475 Lebanon Pike. All are welcome to attend.



Session 67 erected a flag pole on the gun range as their class project.

Session 68



Vehicle stop and extraction training.

Retirement Celebration

Sergeant David Rueff celebrated 32 years of dedicated service



Chief Anderson presents Sgt. Rueff with a commemorative plaque.

From the District Attorney's Office

Director of Communications Susan Niland

A jury convicted Devonta Cunningham of first degree felony murder and especially aggravated robbery for the 2007 shooting death of Corey Sanders. Sanders was killed outside of his Highland Drive home. The murder conviction carries an automatic life sentence of at least 51 years in prison. Sentencing on the especially aggravated robbery conviction is set for June 14.

Kudos to Detective Curtis Hafley for his work on this case.

Co-defendant Deandra Smith still has pending charges in this case.

A Nashville jury convicted a former pastor of a local church of aggravated sexual battery. John Vine was a pastor at the Faith United Church in North Nashville at the time he assaulted a 12-year-old girl whose family he had befriended. Vine has since left that church.

The jury took less than two hours to find him guilty of two counts of aggravated sexual battery, each of which carries a sentence of 8-12 years, and one count of solicitation of aggravated sexual battery, which carries a sentence of 3-6 years. Vine will be sentenced on June 27.

Congratulations:

Sergeant Scott Byrd, Special Operations Division, and his wife are the proud new parents of Nash Allen Byrd born on May 19th.

Officer Brian Ewing, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife are the proud new parents of Connor Nathaniel Ewing born on May 21st.

Detective Craig Christie, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife, Krista, are the proud new parents of Lauren Michelle born on May 29th.

Officer John Jackson, South Precinct, and his wife, Dena, are the proud new parents of Claire Elizabeth Jackson born on May 29th.



Officer Josh Mayo, Case Preparation, graduated fourth in his class of 74 from the Nashville School of Law on May 19th.

Condolences:

Martha Tune, the mother of retired Officer Buford Tune and Eagleville Mayor Sam Tune, died on May 23rd.

Pat Edmondson, a School Crossing Guard for 25 years, passed away on May 28th.

Retired Officer Walter "Junior" Davis passed away on May 18th. He was the brother-in-law of retired Canine Officer David Gant.

The mother of Central Precinct Officer Archie Spain passed away on May 24th.

Retired Officer Billy Hicks passed away on May 29th.

Retired Officer Jerry Lee Pinkleton passed away on May 24th.

FYI:

Gift Cards for Guns

MAPCO is joining with the Metro police department, Nashville's clergy and Crime Stoppers in a summertime push to get unsafe, unwanted and unused firearms out of the city's neighborhoods and away from young hands.

Chief Steve Anderson, Tony McLarty, Vice President of Community Relations for Delek US Holdings, Inc. (MAPCO's parent company), Pastor Frank Stevenson of St. Luke Primitive Baptist Church and Dwayne M. Duhon, President of Nashville Crime Stoppers, today announced a Gift Cards for Guns Initiative will take place **on Saturday, June 9th, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon in the parking lot of St. Luke Church, 135 Lewis Street. Davidson County citizens will be able to safely exchange real firearms for \$50 MAPCO gift cards, no questions asked.**

"All of the partners in this effort have made the safety of our community a top priority," Chief Anderson said.

"Nashville parents, grandparents and other citizens who know of firearms that are in poor working condition or are of significant risk of falling into the wrong hands, particularly now that school is out, are invited to surrender them safely on June 9th and receive gift cards that will be good for gasoline or groceries at MAPCO stores," Anderson said. "I am deeply appreciative of MAPCO, Pastor Stevenson, our many other clergy friends and Crime Stoppers for their commitment to public safety and peaceful neighborhoods."

"With more than 80 stores in Davidson County alone, MAPCO is deeply invested in Nashville and the health of its many diverse communities," said McLarty. "Our company is pleased to help enhance the safety of us all through the upcoming Gift Cards for Guns Initiative."

Pastor Stevenson leads a growing and vibrant church in an inner-city neighborhood just south of downtown.

"I have seen firsthand how firearms in the wrong hands can destroy families and significantly weaken quality of life in what should otherwise be closely knit communities," Stevenson said. "This program is more than worthwhile if it prevents even one gun from falling into the wrong hands and being used in an act of violence against another human being."

Board members from Nashville Crime Stoppers will staff a booth at the event to distribute the gift cards and to answer questions from the community about its 29-year cash reward program for information on those who have committed major crimes.

Officers from the MNPD Training Academy will be in the church parking lot on June 9th to receive the guns, ensure that they are unloaded and do not pose any immediate danger. The weapons will then be turned over to an officer from the police department's property room.

Last December's Gift Cards for Guns event, during which citizens received \$25 Kroger gift cards in exchange for real firearms, was a resounding success. Ninety firearms were turned in during a four hour period at Greater Faith Missionary Baptist Church in Bordeaux.