



# MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

May 18, 2012

## News from the Chief



As National Police Week draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to ask that you today once again pause to remember the brave men and women of our department who gave their lives in service to this city. Forty-three Nashville/Davidson County law enforcement professionals have died in the line of duty since 1875. During this week each year, I stop to personally remember my ten colleagues, who were killed in the line of duty during my time with the Metro Police Department: Curtis Jordan, George Hall, Steve Pinkleton, Edward Tarkington, John Smith, Billy Bowlin, Ronnie Woodard, Paul Scurry, Candace Ripp and Christy Dedman. Some I knew better than others, but they were all good people who stood for what's right and cared deeply for Nashville and its police department. They took law enforcement jobs to make a difference, to make life better for those citizens who called upon them for help. Without a doubt they succeeded. This special week, which includes the FOP's annual memorial service, ensures that the ultimate sacrifice of those who went before us will never be forgotten.

It has been eight years since Officer Dedman was killed on I-40. We will once again celebrate the lives of our officers who meant so much to us next May, with, we pray, no additional names on the list. Thank you for all that you do. Stay safe.

## Budget Update

The police department's budget hearing before the Metro Council's Budget & Finance Committee is scheduled for next Wednesday, May 23, at 4 p.m. in the council chamber. This is an open meeting. Mayor Dean has proposed a \$6 million budget increase for the police department. The recommended budget provides funding to continue operations at the Madison Precinct (including transitioning 50 officers from the expiring COPS grant into the general

fund), allows for three recruit classes next fiscal year to keep pace with attrition, allows for the hiring early next year of 17 scientists for the DNA Crime Laboratory, and provides for a 4% pay increase for most employees and a 2% raise for senior managers.

The mayor's proposed budget allows our police department to move forward and build on your tremendous public safety successes. Now is not the time to take a step backward. Thank you, again, for all of your hard work.

## **Happenings**

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. Twelve officers from across the country including New Jersey, Washington, Massachusetts, Alabama, Florida and Tennessee graduated from a one week recertification course on May 18<sup>th</sup>.



**G.R.E.A.T. program recertification graduates**

## National Black Police Association Provides Scholarships

The YMCA held their “Black Achievers Scholarship” banquet at Vanderbilt. The Nashville Chapter of the National Black Police Association (NBPA) provided two \$250 scholarships for aspiring students attending college this fall.



**Pictured (l-r) are scholarship recipient Sean Jackson and NBPA Nashville Chapter President Detective Reggie Miller.**

## El Protector Program

El Protector and several business partners last Saturday participated in an educational fair at La Conchita Panaderia at 4239 Nolensville Pike. More than 400 persons attended and received valuable health tips and crime prevention information.



## **The Precinct News**

### **Hermitage**

Operation May Day, an undercover effort led by Hermitage Precinct during the first weekend of May to take eleven indicted murder or attempted murder suspects off of Nashville's streets, led to the apprehension of all but two who were arrested the following week.

The eleven suspects are each charged in one of three separate and unrelated homicide cases, two from 2011 and one from this year, or a violent home invasion robbery last October. The Davidson County Grand Jury returned sealed indictments against the eleven on Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Investigations by Detectives Johnny Crumby, Andrew Injaychock and Andrew Vallee resulted in the ultimate identification and indictment of the suspects in these cases:

#### **March 24, 2011 murder of Avery Hernandez, 18, outside a Nashboro Village apartment building**

Officers responded to a shots fired call at 1:30 a.m. and discovered Hernandez slumped over the steering wheel of a Mercury Marquis in the 300 block of Village Green Drive.

Indicted in this case is:

- Terrell Fields, 25, of 2622 Weatherford Street, Laverne (Rutherford County). Fields was arrested at his residence. His bond was set by a Criminal Court Judge at \$750,000.

#### **December 14, 2011 murder of Calvin Davis, Jr., 27, outside his apartment in the Noah's Landing complex on Murfreesboro Pike**

Davis, who was known to sell marijuana, was fatally wounded during a confrontation with individuals in the breezeway outside his apartment. He ran to a sidewalk where he collapsed and died. A baggie of marijuana was recovered from the breezeway.

Indicted in this case are:

- Brandon Horton, 22, of 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North, who is presently incarcerated in the Sumner County Jail.
- Daniel White, 20, of Jackson Street. White was arrested at S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street near S. 8<sup>th</sup> Court. His bond on the murder case was set by a Criminal Court judge at \$750,000. White is also charged with possessing felony amounts of cocaine at the time of his arrest.
- Joshua Holt, 19, of Forest Park Road in Madison. Holt was arrested at his residence. His bond was set by a Criminal Court judge at \$750,000.
- John Travis Baker, 27, who is last known to have lived in the 3700 block of Village Trail. (Baker, a convicted home burglar who was arrested on May 7<sup>th</sup>, was one of two persons at large following the weekend initiative)

**January 5, 2012 murder of Jason Covington, Jr., 17, on University Court in the Tony Sudekum public housing development**

Witnesses reported that Covington was watching several girls argue on the sidewalk when a gunman approached, asked Covington who he was, and then shot him.

Indicted in this case are:

- Donald Peoples, 19, of Heiman Street. Peoples was taken into custody on Clarksville Pike. A semi-automatic pistol was recovered at the time of Peoples' arrest. His bond was set by a Criminal Court judge at \$750,000.
- Cordell D. Clark, 19, of Garfield Street. Clark was taken into custody on Charles E. Davis Boulevard at Green Street. He is also charged with possessing a felony amount of cocaine and misdemeanor quantity of marijuana at the time of his arrest. His bond on the murder case was set by a Criminal Court judge at \$750,000.
- Donnetha Lewis, 22, of 2400 Buena Vista Pike. Lewis was arrested at her residence. Her bond was set by a Criminal Court judge at \$250,000.
- Gabrielle Holmes, 23, of Trailwood Circle (Holmes, who surrendered herself on May 8<sup>th</sup>, was one of two persons at large following the weekend initiative)

**October 20, 2011 critical shooting of Earl Kelly, 25, who suffered a head wound while sitting inside his 2717 Nodyne Drive home in Donelson**

Kelly was sitting inside the living room with three friends when a gunman rushed through the front door and ordered everyone to the ground. The gunman called Kelly by name, ordered him to get up and demanded to know where the money was. Kelly's mother was ordered from the kitchen to the living room. Kelly wound up fighting the gunman and was very critically wounded by a gunshot to his head.

Arrested in the case on November 8, 2011 was Johnnie Frank Newsom, 22, who was charged with attempted first-degree murder, especially aggravated robbery, especially aggravated burglary and aggravated kidnapping.

Now indicted on the same charges are:

- Michael T. McDade, 22, of Old Lebanon Dirt Road. McDade was arrested at the Mt. Juliet restaurant where he worked. A Criminal Court judge has set McDade's bond at \$100,000.
- Marcus J. Short, 22, of 2390 Bellevue Manor Drive. Short surrendered himself at police headquarters. A Criminal Court judge has set Short's bond at \$100,000.

"The outstanding police work tied to these time consuming and complex investigations has, without a doubt, taken several dangerous persons off the streets and enhanced the safety of several communities," Chief Steve Anderson said.

The coordinated effort to bring these individuals into custody involved a number of Hermitage Precinct components, SWAT officers, the U.S. Marshal's Task Force, the police department's Gang Unit and the Central Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit.

## **South**

South Precinct detectives charged two men in connection with the drug-related murder of Terrance B. Nelson inside the kitchen of a home at 132 Karen Ray Court in Antioch.

Marcelious D. Russ, 20, and Wallace R. Mathis, 18, are now jailed on a charge of criminal homicide.

The investigation to this point shows that Nelson, 33, of Lavergne, met Russ and Mathis at the home to buy cocaine. A confrontation occurred and Nelson was shot multiple times. Russ and Mathis fled the scene.

South Precinct detectives charged Christopher Rowlett with criminal impersonation of a law enforcement officer and theft stemming from his stop of a citizen on Murfreesboro Pike.

Daniel Mejia, 19, of Lavergne, reported that he had just left work and was driving on Murfreesboro Pike at 11:20 p.m. when a white pickup truck drove up behind him with a flashing blue light coming from the area of the rearview mirror. Mejia said he started to pull over twice, but the driver of the truck yelled for him to keep going. Ultimately, Mejia stopped at 319 Plus Park Boulevard. He said the driver of the pickup truck, who wore a gold badge on his hip, asked for his driver's license and wound up taking \$200 from his wallet before getting back into the truck and fleeing.

At 1:40 a.m., Detective Rick Heiman spotted a Ford F-150 pickup truck matching the vehicle description given by Mejia near the intersection of Murfreesboro Pike and Thompson Lane. The truck was stopped and Rowlett was found to be driving without a license. Because Rowlett has a history of driving on a revoked license and not showing up for court on misdemeanor citations, he was physically arrested. Mejia has now viewed a photo lineup and positively identified Rowlett as the man who pulled him over and took his money.

Rowlett, 38, remains in the Metro Jail. The 2007 pickup truck he was driving has been impounded. A flashlight was found in the truck. Officers did not find a badge on Rowlett or in the vehicle.

## **S.T.A.R. (South Tusculum Area Residents) Community Garden Dedication**

A community garden dedication was held May 5<sup>th</sup> on Brook Drive.



**Pictured (l-r) are former Metro Councilman Sam Coleman, Beautification Commissioner Monyette Gore, Metro Councilman Fabian Bedne, Assistant Commissioner TN. Department of Agriculture Joe Gaines, Sgt. Pat Bianconi, S.T.A.R. President Ruby Angelle-Smith, Officer John Jackson and S.T.A.R. Vice-President George Hunt.**

### **North**

Months of investigation by North Precinct detective Tim Codling resulted in the first-degree murder indictment against convicted felon Ronald Armstrong for the brazen January 11<sup>th</sup> shooting death of James Nicholson III outside Givens Community Market at 28th Avenue North and Clifton Avenue.

Nicholson, 33, was standing alone outside the convenience store when Armstrong, 33, calmly walked up to him and allegedly fired several shots at close range just after 2 p.m. Nicholson was transported to Vanderbilt University Medical Center where he died.

In February, Armstrong was convicted of cocaine possession and felon in possession of a weapon. He was serving a nine year sentence at the time of his indictment.

### **Madison**

Officer Jean McCormack was on routine patrol when she spotted a man asleep at the wheel of his Dodge Magnum at the intersection of Old Hickory Boulevard and Gallatin Pike. She approached the vehicle and saw his hand next to a loaded gun. Despite repeated

verbal commands to step out of the vehicle, the man continued to doze off. Finally, he opened the car door and was taken into custody without further incident. Seized from the car were the handgun and 3.8 grams of cocaine.

He is charged with felon in possession of a weapon, cocaine possession and a crooks with guns law violation.

## **West**

Investigation by West Precinct detectives led to Thursday's arrest of parolee Jerry Brock, 60, who is suspected of burglarizing at least ten apartments and townhomes since March in the Green Hills area.

After Brock allegedly broke into an apartment on Sloan Road yesterday afternoon, he was taken into custody at a Harding Place jewelry store where he attempted to sell items taken during the burglary. Brock was developed as a person of interest after citizens provided good suspect and vehicle descriptions following previous break-ins.

For now, Brock is charged with two counts of aggravated burglary, two counts of attempted aggravated burglary and firearm possession by a convicted felon. The nine millimeter pistol found in his vehicle had been stolen during yesterday's Sloan Road break-in.

Brock has three previous aggravated burglary convictions. He was sentenced to ten years in 2007. He is currently being held in lieu of \$75,000 bond.

The investigation continues and additional charges are pending.

Outstanding, coordinated police work led to the arrest of Edward Raetzloff, 25, who is accused of assaulting a woman on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> as she ran the trails at Ellington Agricultural Center, and who is suspected of following and watching female joggers in the Belmont University area.

West Precinct Officer Matthew Moses stopped Raetzloff's blue Chevrolet TrailBlazer on Belmont Boulevard at Woodmont Boulevard the following Tuesday for a broken tail light and alertly recognized that the vehicle matched the description of the SUV involved in the assault. Sex Crimes Detective Chuck Fleming responded to the scene of the stop and, during an interview, Raetzloff admitted his involvement in Saturday's assault during which he grabbed the victim on the buttocks and attempted to push her down. She punched him and he ran off. A witness in the parking lot saw Raetzloff drive off in the TrailBlazer.

Anyone with information about this matter or any similar offenses is urged to contact the Sex Crimes Unit at 862-7540.

At present, Raetzloff is charged with one count of sexual battery and is being held in lieu of \$25,000 bond. He has previous domestic assault and harassment convictions.

Convicted felon Deshon Burleson is back in custody after a two-hour manhunt on May 10<sup>th</sup> in the area of the Edgehill public housing development.

Burleson, 25, who was wanted for felony aggravated assault, domestic assault, probation violation, failure to appear in court, evading arrest and criminal impersonation, was on the West Precinct's most wanted list when he was taken into custody.

West Precinct Flex officers received information that Burleson was likely inside an apartment on Hillside Avenue. Officers went to the apartment and learned that Burleson was on the second floor. Before they could go in after him, Burleson climbed out onto the roof of the apartment building, jumped to the ground and led officers on a foot chase and briefly eluded apprehension. As officers went door to door in the 1400 block of Hillside Avenue, Flex Officer Anthony Venable spotted a gray T-shirt sticking out of a blue tarp in front of one of the units. Venable ordered Burleson, who was hiding under the tarp, to surrender. He did so without incident.

Burleson is charged with pulling a .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol on his 33-year-old girlfriend during a domestic fight at her Antioch home. His girlfriend said he threatened to shoot her if she sent him back to jail. Three young children were in the home at the time.

Burleson has a lengthy arrest history and conviction record. He was last convicted of felony cocaine possession in December 2010 and received a two-year probated sentence.

### **Cold Case Homicide Unit**

Members of the U.S. Marshal's Fugitive Task Force, along with Gang Unit detectives and SWAT officers, arrested accused murderer DeAndre Rucker at his wife's apartment in the Crestview complex on Thompson Place.

Rucker, 24, is under indictment for the October 8, 2009 shooting death of Demetrius Riley on Richmond Hill Drive near Spears Road.

Riley, 27, who lived on Brick Church Pike, was walking on Richmond Hill Drive with a friend when two young men suddenly ran up behind him. One of the suspects fired and Riley fell to the ground. The second suspect then stood over the victim and shot him several more times. The motive is believed to be connected to a gang dispute. Riley's friend was not injured.

Investigation by Detective Norris Tarkington led to the identification of Rucker as one of the suspects. The second defendant, Quincy Terrell Sharpe, 19, was arrested last August.

Rucker was convicted of attempted aggravated robbery in 2007 and received a three-year probated sentence.

### **Warrants Division**

A total of 64 persons took advantage of the two-day Failure to be Booked Self-Surrender Program. Fifty-eight failure to be booked arrest warrants were recalled. Thirty-four additional outstanding warrants were served.

Fifty-one persons surrendered Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Thirteen came in on Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Persons who had received misdemeanor citations for offenses such as driving without a license, criminal trespassing, drug possession or any other minor crime, but who neglected to be booked on the date specified on the citation, were able to see their failure to be booked arrest warrants recalled by taking advantage of this special initiative. Judges, assistant public

defenders and assistant district attorneys were also on hand during the two days to help resolve the charges that resulted in the citations in the first place.

Joining the police department in taking part in this program were the Criminal Court Clerk's Office, Public Defender's Office, District Attorney's Office, Davidson County Sheriff's Office and the General Sessions Court.

### **Sex Crimes Unit**

A concerted two-day effort to verify the addresses given by 262 of Davidson County's registered sex offenders revealed 49 possible violations of the sex offender registry law. Sex Crimes detectives will be conducting investigative follow-up and will swear out arrest warrants as necessary.

On Wednesday and Thursday, teams of officers and detectives from the Sex Crimes Unit, the East & Madison Precincts, the U.S. Marshal's Fugitive Task Force and representatives of the Tennessee Board of Probation & Parole fanned out and knocked on the doors of addresses provided by sex offenders during their required registration meetings with law enforcement.

Similar checks will be conducted in the coming months.

### **Training Division**



**Sessions 67 & 68 go for a joint run.**



**Officer Brandon Frith provides training in pepper spray application as Officer Marshall Willis observes and Trainee Wisarut Sinchai volunteers.**



**Defensive Tactics**



Spanish class

## **Retirement Celebration**

Dianne Binkley celebrated 40 years of dedicated service



**Pictured (l-r) are grandson Bryce, Diane Binkley holding granddaughter Ava, son Keith, daughter Wendy, Chief Anderson, husband Mike Binkley and Captain Michelle Richter.**

**The following officers in the Field Operation Bureau were chosen Investigator, Patrol, Police and Special Operations Officer of the Month for April 2012**

**Patrol Officer of the Month**

South Precinct Officers James Jensen & James Reese

**Police Officer of the Month**

Hermitage Precinct Officers Joshua Spurlock and Andrew Grega

**Investigator of the Month**

East Precinct Detective Adam Weeks

**Special Operations Officer of the Month**

SWAT Officers Ryan Lockwood and Robert Doak

**Congratulations:**

Detective Aaron Cothran, North Precinct, and his wife, Dana, are the proud parents of Reagan Marie Cothran who was born on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Officer Michael Baujan, Madison Precinct, and his wife are the proud parents of Bradley Michael Bajaun who was born on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Officer Jesse Gilliam, Central Precinct, and his wife, Haylee, are the proud parents of Barrett William Gilliam who was born on May 9<sup>th</sup>.



Sergeant Dwayne Greene and Officer Brandon Tennant graduated May 5<sup>th</sup> from Cumberland University with a Masters of Science in Public Service Management.

## **Condolences:**

Josh Tucker, the brother of Trainee James Tucker, Session 68, passed away on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Margaret Adams, the great grandmother of School Resource Officer Chris Stafford, passed away on May 6<sup>th</sup> at age 100.

Former Homicide Detective Al Gray passed away on May 9<sup>th</sup>. He served the department from 1980 until 1999.

Retired Sergeant Wallace "Wally" Elmore passed away on May 14<sup>th</sup>. He retired in 1998 after 27 years of service.

Retired Officer Arnold Hendricks, age 88, passed away on May 15<sup>th</sup>. He retired in 1989 after 30 years of service.

## **FYI:**

### **Shoney's 5K Family Run**

Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run benefiting the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department is set for **Saturday morning, June 2, at LP Field, two weeks from tomorrow.** Participants will include Nashville area run & walk enthusiasts of all ages and police officer trainees (who will run in formation).

"Shoney's is pleased once again to sponsor this event that unites runners and families from across the mid-state region to raise money for a great cause: the Nashville Police Department Support Fund," said Davoudpour. "We look forward to bringing the community together for an exciting day and to show appreciation for the men and women who protect us."

Chief Steve Anderson said the Family Fun Run is an important annual event that strengthens the bond and partnership between the police department and the Nashville community as a whole.

"The Shoney's Run provides an opportunity for us to showcase major elements of the police department to Nashville's families," Anderson said. "At the same time, 100% of the race proceeds will go to a special fund established within the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee to fund higher education opportunities and other advanced training programs for Metro officers."

The Family Fun Run & Festival will be based in LP Field's Lot T, which is adjacent to the Shelby Street Bridge. Registration for the run will begin at 6 a.m. and the 5K will start at 7 a.m. The 3.1 mile route includes parts of downtown. There will be a Kids' Fun Run/Walk

following the race. **A registration form accompanies this media release. A form is also available by logging onto: [www.shoneys5krun.com](http://www.shoneys5krun.com).**

Prizes for the 5K top finishers in the male and female categories are \$250 cash. Male and female first place winners in each age category will receive a \$25 Shoney's gift card. Second place winners in each age category will receive a \$10 Shoney's gift card. The age categories include 9 and under, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65 and up. All participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt. Children participating in the Kids' Fun Run will receive a goodie bag. Participants will also be provided complimentary beverages and fruit at the finish line.

The festival, featuring live entertainment, random drawings and refreshments, will begin immediately after the run. A variety of Metro police equipment will be on display, including a police helicopter, SWAT gear, Bomb Squad vehicles, a bomb robot and a police boat.

The Kids' Zone will include free activities, such as face painting, giant inflatables, games and an appearance by Shoney Bear.

### **Morningstar Golf Classic**

The annual Morningstar Golf Classic, which benefits the domestic violence shelter and the 100 Club, is scheduled for July 12 at the Hermitage Golf Course.

Please call Mike Eller, owner of the Hermitage Golf Course, at 714-6453 to participate.