



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

June 13, 2008

News from the Chief

As we near the midpoint of 2008, crime in Nashville is continuing to trend downward, and that is a direct result of your unrelenting and outstanding work.

Through June 7, overall major crime is down 9% when compared with the same period one year ago. Robbery this year is down nearly 18%, a very positive indicator after three years of robbery increases. The only two categories showing increases at this point in the year are rape and homicide. Rape is up by four cases (146 vs. 142). Homicide is up by seven cases (32 vs. 25).

Data through May 31 also suggests that we, along with prosecutors, courts, clergy, and parents, may be having an important impact on juveniles before they turn to crimes of violence. The number of juveniles arrested for Part 1 violent crime this year is down 32%. There is a 24% reduction in the number of juveniles charged with robbery this year compared to last. Quality police investigations and enhanced prosecution of violent juveniles, combined with an engaged community, will, I hope, continue to drive the juvenile arrest number down.

I am very proud of this department's police officers and professional support staff. Thank you for all that you do to protect Nashville's families and visitors.

Happenings



**Members of Session 58 were fitted for their body armor this week.
They are in week 2.**



**Session 57 completed their emergency vehicle operation training this week.
They are in week 17**

Congratulations to the numerous officers whose efforts resulted in another
SUCCESSFUL and SAFE
CMA Music Festival!

You don't need to be a country star to receive fan mail:

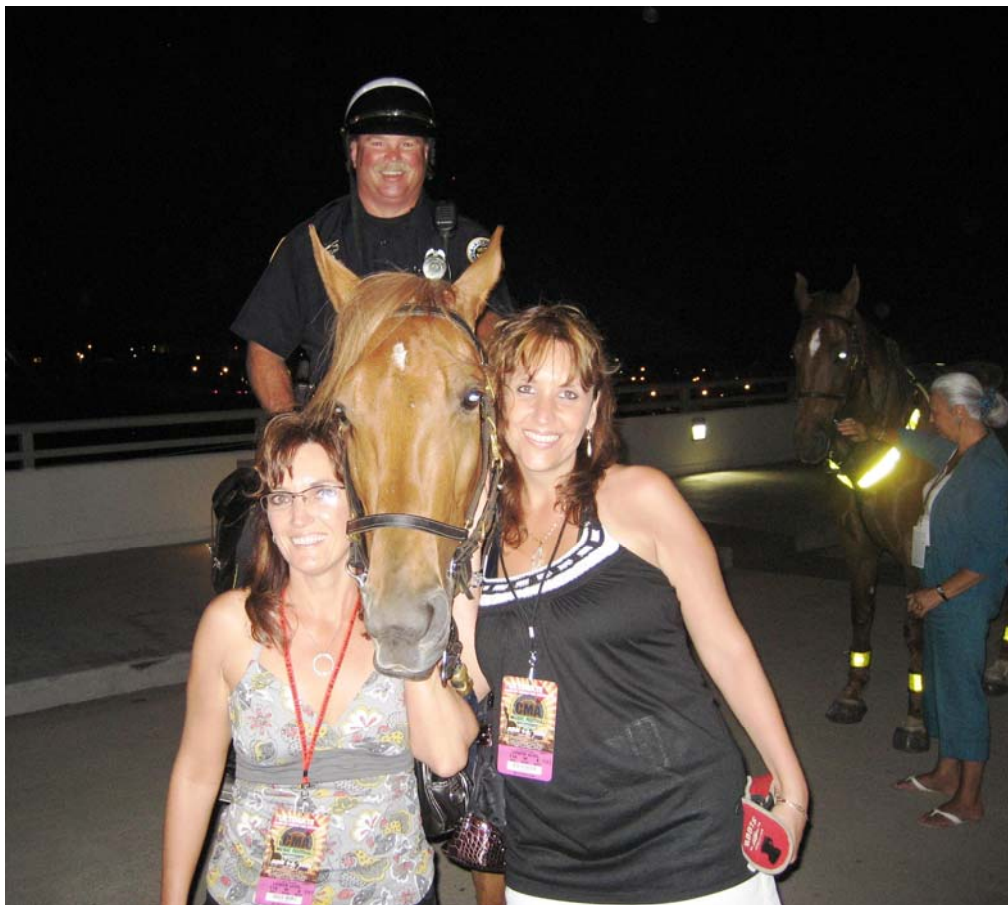
My sister and I had our picture taken with this nice officer and his horse, and he was very gracious in letting us do so.

This was our first trip to Nashville and we enjoyed it thoroughly, the locals are so friendly, the city center very clean and we felt very safe walking downtown in the evenings to enjoy the CMA fest.

We had such a great time in your fun and lively city we are coming back with 18 friends from Canada for CMA Fest 2009!

Thank you !

Shauna Lee & Shannon Bennett from Alberta, Canada



**Officer Mark Stockdale and his partner Storm, pictured
with Shauna Lee and Shannon Bennett**

The Precinct News

Hermitage

An ex-convict who has served time for robbery, burglary, and theft is back behind bars on a number of new charges after he sped away from a burglary scene, almost hit a police car, and refused to pull over.

Nathan Dean Lewis, 45, drove away from Howard's Honda on Donelson Pike at 2:50 a.m. with his headlights off into the path of Canine Officer Mark Sydenstricker, who happened to be passing by. Sydenstricker activated his emergency equipment, but Lewis refused to pull over. Sydenstricker ceased the pursuit due to the high speed.

A short time later, Lewis crashed into a car on East Thompson Lane. Sergeant Daniel Newbern then pursued him at a top speed of 35 mph to Eugenia Avenue, where Lewis finally stopped after hitting a chainlink fence. Inside his car were two Honda generators valued at \$1,000 each that were taken during the Donelson Pike burglary.

Lewis is charged with burglary, felony reckless endangerment, two counts of vandalism, possession of burglary tools, evading arrest, leaving the scene of an accident, DUI, and driving with an open can of beer. Lewis smelled strongly of alcohol and told officers that he had been drinking all day. He refused to submit to a breath alcohol test.

Lewis has been charged with 43 offenses by Metro police since 1985.

Officers arrested a man a short time after he threatened to kill a woman if she didn't give him money.

Kenneth Dickerson, 30, of Lebanon, Tennessee, approached the victim as she sat in her car talking on her cell phone in an alley behind her Old Hickory Boulevard home at 1:30 a.m. Earlier, Dickerson had asked the woman for money, but she told him she didn't have any. Dickerson returned later with a brick, and threatened to kill her. When he walked in front of the car, the victim drove off, hitting Dickerson, who was knocked to the ground. He fled on foot.

Canine Officer Mark Sydenstricker and his partner Balto tracked Dickerson to a home just one block away on Woods Street where he was taken into custody.

Dickerson is charged with aggravated robbery. He is being held in lieu of \$10,000 bond. He has past convictions for illegal drug possession and DUI.

South

A brazen purse snatcher who victimized women in two Kroger stores and then took steps to avoid capture is now confined to the Metro Jail.

Ricardo Alers, 44, of Old Hickory Boulevard in Hermitage, is charged with assault on a police officer, resisting arrest, three counts of theft, and fraudulent use of a credit card.

Alers' crimes began at 8:15 a.m. inside the Kroger at 2284 Murfreesboro Pike near Nashboro Village. He approached a grocery cart while the shopper's attention was focused on the bakery case, grabbed her purse from the cart, and ran from the store. A short time later, a

credit card in the victim's purse was used to buy \$36 worth of gasoline at a South Nashville convenience market.

At 9:05 a.m., Alers approached a grocery cart inside the Kroger store at 5319 Mt. View Road. The shopper had walked away from the cart momentarily, which gave Alers the opportunity to wheel it away with the victim's purse inside. He fled the store in a Ford F-150 pickup truck. Alers drove to nearby Willow Pointe Apartments on Hickory Hollow Terrace, where he crashed into the sign at the complex entrance. He then drove to Hickory Manor Apartments on Hamilton Church Road, where he abandoned the truck.

South Precinct Detective Andy Belew spotted the truck and saw Alers walking near one of the apartment buildings. Alers refused to stop and ran into a nearby wooded area. As South Precinct Flex officers searched the thick woods, Alers continued running, jumped a fence, and fled into The Club at Hickory Hollow apartment complex. He headed into a breezeway and was cornered by officers. Alers was taken into custody despite his struggling and refusal to obey police commands. As Officer Mike Straube attempted to obtain Alers' identifying information, Alers spit in Straube's face and threatened to do it a second time. The spitting resulted in the charge of assaulting an officer. At the time of his arrest, Alers was carrying the second victim's cell phone.

Alers is being held in lieu of \$80,000 bond.

This case also serves as a reminder to citizens to "Shop Smart" by not leaving purses or other personal valuables unattended in shopping carts, even if just for a few moments.

During an investigative stop, Officer Shaun Hardin arrested two men for felony marijuana possession and a Crooks with Guns law violation. Seized were 89.5 grams of marijuana and a handgun.

A domestic violence suspect who initially told officers he would put up a fight if they tried to arrest him surrendered peacefully and without incident once he saw Officer Jason Mayo had drawn his Taser.

27-year-old Jeremy Scruggs is charged with domestic assault, false imprisonment, and probation violation. He is being held in lieu of \$30,000 bond.

A concerned citizen's tip led to the arrest of seven men who are each charged with felony cocaine possession and a Crooks with Guns law violation. Officer Charles McEachron responded to a complaint that the men were inside an apartment with weapons and illegal drugs in the 5100 block of Rice Road. Seized in a subsequent search of the apartment were 1.2 grams of cocaine and five weapons.

East

School Resource Officer James Freeman alertly saw a student behaving suspiciously in the Maplewood High School parking lot. The 17-year had gone to his car three times and

appeared to be very nervous. The teen gave Officer Freeman consent to search his car where a .40 caliber handgun was recovered from the console.

The student is charged with possession of a weapon on school property. He was attending summer school in preparation for the 11th grade.

Officers were investigating a rash of vehicle break-ins around South 11th and Fatherland Streets when Officer Park spotted Raphael Shinkle, 28, in an alley. Shinkle was in possession of several items stolen from a van and a car.

Shinkle was charged with two counts of burglary of a motor vehicle.

A quick response to a reported robbery led to the arrest of three men shortly after they broke into a Rose Park Drive home.

Once inside, they robbed a family of four at gunpoint. The victims, a 30-year-old man, his 28-year-old wife, 17-year-old son, and 50-year-old father, complied.

Before the robbers could flee, Patrol officers arrived and took them into custody. All three admitted to the robbery.

Tapscott is charged with four counts of aggravated robbery. Prak is charged with two counts of aggravated robbery and two counts of attempted aggravated robbery. Both are being held in lieu of \$200,000 dollars bond. Srey is charged in Juvenile Court with two counts of aggravated robbery.

North

Officers spotted a driver who appeared intoxicated on South Gallatin Pike at Harrington Avenue.

Benjamin Ishman, 29, continued to drive for a short distance, even though he had a flat rear tire and was driving on the wrong side of the street. After running up over a sidewalk, Ishman finally stopped in a driveway on Harrington Avenue.

Seized in a subsequent search of the car were a loaded .40 caliber pistol and a small amount of marijuana. Ishman was charged with felon in possession of a weapon, evading arrest, second offense DUI, marijuana possession, and driving on a revoked license. He was also wanted on two outstanding probation violation warrants.

West

DUI Unit officers spotted a robbery in progress at a restaurant on Charlotte Pike. They responded on foot. The suspect, Mitchell Moore, Jr., 19, exited the business armed with a handgun. Moore turned and aimed the weapon at the officers, before he ran into a wooded area.

Patrol officers quickly established a perimeter. Moore was taken into custody a short time later when he exited the woods.

Moore, who admitted to the robbery, was charged with two counts of aggravated robbery, aggravated assault, and evading arrest. He is being held in lieu of \$260,000 bond. Moore has been arrested five times since last July. His arrest history reflects charges for cocaine possession, disorderly conduct, and trespassing.

Central

A traffic stop by Officer Walter Gray led to the arrest of two men charged with stealing \$4,000 worth of copper wire from A & S Electric at 1200 4th Avenue North. Officer Gray spotted Kerry Wilson, 33, driving erratically in the area of 1st Avenue North and Gay Street.

As Officer Gray approached the van, he saw a large amount of copper wire in the back seat. Wilson and his passenger claimed they had found the wire in a dumpster. Through further investigation, Officer Gray learned an alarm had sounded at A & S Electric. A business check revealed that a hole had been cut in the company's fence. The owner came to the scene and identified the stolen property.

Both men are charged with theft.

Officer Jason Cregan approached Patrick Flemming, 25, who was playing music very loudly in a 1995 Cadillac Deville in the 1500 block of Delta Street. When Flemming saw Officer Cregan approach him, he began to walk away from the car. He was told to stop due to the noise violation and for leaving his car unattended. Flemming continued to walk away and was observed putting a baggie into his pocket prior to his arrest.

Seized in a subsequent search were 23 ecstasy pills, \$1,101 cash, and two cell phones. Flemming was charged with unlawful drug possession in a drug-free school zone, criminal trespass, and driving on a revoked license. He also had an outstanding warrant for aggravated assault. Flemming's lengthy arrest history reflects convictions for aggravated robbery, unlawful weapon possession, and DUI.

Specialized Investigations Division & East Precinct Crime Suppression Unit

Metro police narcotics detectives dismantled a lucrative heroin distribution organization by shadowing a deliveryman as he made his rounds throughout West Nashville. A total of 19 persons were arrested Tuesday, including 15 customers.

The investigation shows that buyers of heroin would call a "dispatch" number, which rang to a home at 425 Cedar Creek Trail in South Nashville. The buyer would then be directed to one of a number of public parking lots on White Bridge Road, Charlotte Avenue, or in Bellevue. After each sale Tuesday, undercover detectives would move in and arrest the buyer(s) while other detectives continued to shadow the deliveryman. The customers bought an average of one gram of heroin each for about \$140.

At 5 p.m., the deliveryman, Leobardo Mayorga, met his brother, Juan Antonio Mayorga, at a West Nashville Mexican restaurant. Juan took possession of the day's proceeds, which totaled \$2,800. Both men were arrested there.

A search warrant executed at the Cedar creek Trail residence led the seizure of six ounces of brown tar heroin wrapped in tape along with 138 multi-colored balloons which contained single-gram amounts of heroin that are sold on the street. Also recovered from the house was a shoebox containing \$35,000 cash.

Juan A. Rodriguez was arrested as he pulled away from the house prior to the execution of the search warrant. He had a dozen of the heroin balloons in his mouth. Arrested inside the home was Dalia Ramirez-Covarrabias, who is suspected of dispatching the deliveries.

As the result of paperwork found inside the Cedar creek Trail home, detectives executed a search warrant at a unit of Storage Ltd at 202 Front Street in Smyrna. Inside the storage unit were 39 additional ounces of heroin, much of which was packaged inside tubes of axle grease. Detectives believe the brown tar heroin was packaged into axle grease tubes in Mexico and then transported into the United States.

As a result of the operation last week, detectives seized more than 46 ounces of heroin worth \$180,000 on the street, \$38,000 cash, and six vehicles.

The Specialized Investigations Division Narcotics Unit headed this investigation, with assistance from the East Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit. The Davidson County Sheriff's Office staffed a mobile detention vehicle in West Nashville on Tuesday to assist in the initial processing of those arrested.

Congratulations:

Officer Tony Simonelic, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife, Brittany, are the proud parents of Calen James born May 27.

Captain Ben Dicke, Administrative Services, is the proud grandfather of Martina Lynlee Clem, born June 5 to his daughter Adrienne Clem.

Sergeant Buddy Mitchell, Central Precinct, is the proud grandfather of Audrey Mitchell, born June 7 to his son Joel, Nashville Fire Department, and his wife, Alicia.



Condolences:

Retired Officer Andrew James Mullins, Jr., passed away June 4 at the age of 88. Officer Mullins joined the Metropolitan Police Department in 1963 after serving ten years with the Davidson County Sheriff's Patrol. He retired from the MNPD in 1984 after 31 years of service.

Vera McLeod, the grandmother of Officer Tammy Stephenson, Trainee, passed away recently.

John L. Jayne Sr., grandfather of Officer John Jayne, West Precinct, passed away June 4.

Mary MacLennan, grandmother of Officer Michael MacLennan, Hermitage Precinct, passed away recently.

FYI:

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Annual Morningstar Golf Classic is just 4 weeks away- **THURSDAY JULY 10, 2008!** It's a fundraiser that benefits two great causes- **Morningstar Domestic Violence Shelter** and **Officer Danita Marsh**, (brochure attached). Last year we raised \$40,000, (\$20,000.00 went to each). This year we're trying to double that.

Individuals, Teams, Corporate Sponsors- all are welcome! Cost includes Lunch by **Chic-Fil-A** and Dinner by **Outback**, and **75% of entry fees are deductible**, (100% deductible for donations/ listed sponsorship packages/ and advertising). What a deal!!!

TWILIGHT WALK

If you don't play golf, join us for the Twilight Walk around the golf course after the tournament. \$25.00 entry fee includes a souvenir T-shirt and refreshments by **Purity Dairies**. Anyone who raises at least \$200 in sponsorship for this event will be entered into a drawing for a Wii Game System to be given away after the walk.

DONATIONS

For those of you who can't make it to either event, but would like to do something.....this options for you, and I thank you in advance for your generosity.

Please help me get the word out. We only have four short weeks to go. I can be reached at **615.830.0752** or **615.480.6180**. Hoping to hear from you soon, or see you there!

North Precinct Commander Kelton

Retirement Party



FOR

Commander Andy Garrett

Come join us to celebrate Andy's retirement after 25 years of service.

Monday, June 23, 2008

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

First Baptist Church

108 7th Ave South

(next door to Central Precinct)

Parking on Broadway, 6th Av S. and rear parking lot of the Church

If you would like to CHANGE how you receive your clothing allowance in Fiscal Year 2008-09, please email Darlene Sanders before June 30, 2008. The current options are by payroll check or maintaining an account with Greene Military.

For the current Fiscal Year:

Officers may order goods through June 15, 2008, as long as the item is received and picked up on or before June 30, 2008.

You may purchase items through June 30, 2008 as long as the item is in Greene Military's inventory and picked up on or before June 30, 2008.

Note: Your clothing allowance allocation cannot be carried over to the next fiscal year.

Please contact Darlene Sanders at 862-7115 if you have any questions. Thank you.

***MNPD Wellness Tip-off
Tip-off for the week***

Eat Heart Smart: Remove the skin from chicken: this can cut the fat content by three quarters and the calories by half. Choose the breast instead of the thigh: skinless dark meat has twice as much fat as skinless light meat.

Choose to Move: Walk hills to burn more calories. It's not surprising that you burn more calories when you walk uphill than on level ground. But, in fact, walking downhill also uses significantly more energy than walking on flat terrain.

Source: UC Berkeley Wellness Made Easy, 365 Tips for Better Health, 2005.

NFD/MNPD Wellness Initiative

Tara Beever, MS and Sarah Vaughn, RD

For more information, please call (615)-340-0466