THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

BEHIND THE BADGE

ISSUE 127

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

This Issue:

1-2
Changing of the Guard

3-4
Recognition

4
Department

6-7
Retirement

Changing of the Guard

Submitted by: Officer Bill Kaiser

On January 31, 2016, Police Director Toney Armstrong, who led the Memphis Police Department as our TOP COP for five years, retired, ending his honorable 27 year career. During his time with the Memphis Police Department, he held many positions. Director Armstrong worked Uniform Patrol, OCU, Robbery, and Homicide and he held many ranks from patrolman all the way to Director of Police. We wish him well as he embarks on a new career as Director of Security with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

However, his retirement meant that we were left with a void in the most crucial position of the Memphis Police Department. The Mayor announced his decision to launch a search for a new Director, but in the meantime, who was it going to be that will handle the day to day responsibilities as Director? Many rumors circulated and many were guessing who they thought would take on this position in such a challenging time and on February 1, 2016, Deputy Chief Michael Rallings was appointed Interim Director of the Memphis Police Department.

Interim Director Michael Rallings joined the Memphis Police Department in 1990 and has served in Uniform Patrol, Organized Crime Unit, Firearms Training Unit, Investigative Services, and the Training Academy throughout his 26 years of service. Interim Director Rallings not only brings a diverse resume from his police career, he is a military veteran, as well, having served in the United States Army.

Mayor Strickland, flanked by former Director Armstrong and Interim Director Rallings (cover), stated during the ceremony, "I have full confidence that he can carry forward this most important work of city government — and that's providing for the public safety and retaining our quality police officers." Strickland said, "We're going to work in tandem in that effort."

Interim Director Rallings hopes to continue the "great things" his predecessor has implemented, including community and data-driven policing and places recruiting and retaining officers as a top priority. Interim Director Rallings wants officers to know, that as Director of Police, he is still an advocate of benefit restoration. Congratulations to Interim Director Michael Rallings as he assumes command of the finest Police Department in the nation.

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Submitted by: Officer Bill Kaiser

Behind The Badge would like to recognize Officer James Walton of the North Main Station Alpha shift for his dedication to community involvement. Officer Walton is a member of "The Chive Charities" organization.
Chive Charities, is a non- profit organization whose focus is to help first responders, veterans and people of all ages with rare illnesses and financial needs.
To date, Chive Charities has helped over 80 underfunded causes with over $3.3 Million in grants. Chive Memphis has also held can food drives, and toy drives for Toys for Tots.

Officer Walton is one of the administrators of the Memphis Chive Chapter and his job is to help the group fulfill their drive to make the world 10% happier by performing Random Acts of Kindness (RAKs) and fundraising.

As a Chives member, Officer Walton also spends his off time taking the children of St. Jude to Grizzly games and other fun events around the Memphis Area. On behalf of the men and women of the Memphis Police Department, Thank you Officer Walton for giving back to the community.

Officer David Gunther recognized by the 100 Club of Memphis

Submitted by: Officer Bill Kaiser

On January 25, 2016 Officer David Gunter was awarded the Jerome Turner Community Justice Award by the 100 Club of Memphis for his dedication to community youth.
Gunther is the founder of the Memphis Knights Youth Sports Association, and spends his off time mentoring to children through sports and working closely with the Davis Community Center youth.

He has made it his job for the past 10 years to teach these children how to “overcome and grow into inspiring and productive citizens.”

Congratulations to Officer Gunter for his hard work and dedication in giving back to the community.

MPD BALL CAPS IN OUR FUTURE?

Submitted by: Officer Bill Kaiser

At the request of Interim Director Rallings, two designs were drafted and a survey was sent out in early February to determine the best design. You all voted the second design (pictured) as the winner. Memphis Police ball caps have been approved and will be sold at Shapiro and Mid-South Solutions Uniform shops. The MPD ball cap will be optional for sworn and civilian personnel in uniform, and can only be worn with B and C class uniforms. Please refer to MPD Policy and Procedures 09-16 governing Headgear for more information. A different design will be made available to the general public for purchase as well. Stay tuned for future uniform additions.

BELOW 100

- Wear your seat belt
- Watch your speed
- Wear your vest
- W.I.N. (What’s Important Now)
- Remember: Complacency Kills!

WINNER OF THE VISIONARY VOICE AWARD 2016!

Submitted by: Officer Bill Kaiser

Each year the National Sexual Violence Resource Center works with state coalitions to present this award in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in April, recognizing the creativity and commitment of individuals around the country who have demonstrated outstanding work to end sexual violence. This year Our own **Sgt. Ouita Knowlton (Sex Crimes/DNA)** is the recipient of the Tennessee’s Visionary Voice Award for 2016.

We salute Sgt. Knowlton for her dedicated service to the victims of sexual violence.

MEMPHIS POLICEDEPARTMENT
201 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38103
www.memphispolice.org

BEHIND THE BADGE

The Future Of MPD!

Congratulations to the 123rd Basic Police Recruit Session and the 54th Police Service Technician Session.

CONTENTS:

3 NEW POLICE HEADQUARTERS 170 North Main

4 ADDING TO THE RANKS

5 BLUE PATH

6 WALKING ACROSS WITH SAFETY

7 WHISKEY VAN'S DAY OUT

8 BIG BUST IN THE MID-SOUTH

12 OPENING WEEK WITH MPD

13 BEAR NECESSITIES

14 TILLMAN STATION

16 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2017

18 GUN SAFETY REMINDER

20 EXCHANGING VIEWS

Wait, WE FINALLY MOVED?!

Here's a quick rundown of what's different.

- **Ground floor** - Central Supply, Mail Room, and MPD Gym.
- **7th floor** - Central Records, Photo Lab, Quality Assurance Unit, Compstat and the Video Lab.
- **8th floor** - Sex Crimes Bureau, DNA and Economic Crimes Bureau.
- **9th floor** - Felony Response and the Missing Persons Bureau.
- **10th floor** - Homicide Bureau and Investigative Services.
- **11th floor** - Payroll, Grants, Human Resources, Finances, Legal Advisors Office along with Research and Development.
- **12th floor** - Command Staff and the Public Information Office.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

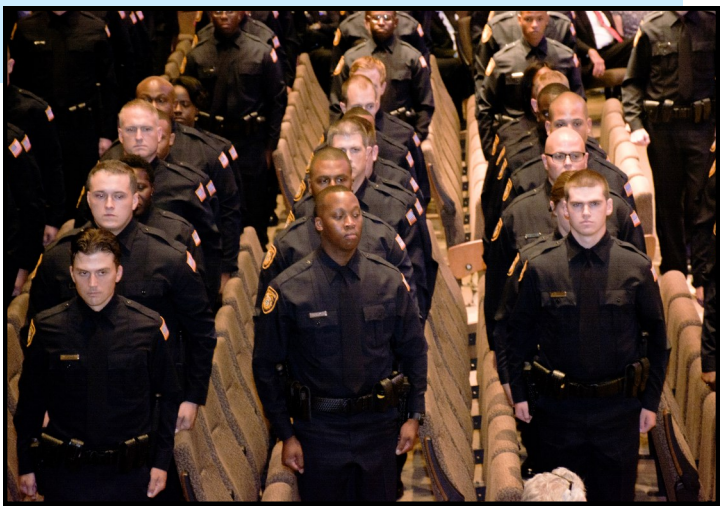
170 North Main Street

In case you've been too busy humping calls, working overtime, or you're just "that" officer completely out of the loop. The Memphis Police Department has finally moved from 201 Poplar Avenue over to 170 North Main Street. With that in mind, some things have changed.

OUR NEW HOME!

ADDING TO THE RANKS

Director Rallings and Mayor Strickland's goal of making the streets of Memphis safer by hiring more police officers is underway. Director Rallings expressed the need to increase MPD's complement to 2,400 officers in order to assist with the call load and adequately combat crime in the city streets. On August 10, 2017, the Memphis Police Department pushed forward with the goal of increasing complement at the graduation of the 123rd Basic Police Recruit Class; graduating eighty-five men and women. This class was the largest graduating class of recruits in over a decade.



With this robust class, more are sure to come. On August 28th the 124th Basic Police Recruit Class began with seventy-six recruits. These recruits will be joined by twenty-four more who will be returning to the training academy for their final 15-weeks of training. Bottom line--MPD has the potential to gain another 100 officers once the 124th Basic Police Recruit Class graduates!

Don't forget to do your part and recruit future MPD officers. Remember, for every person that you recruit who completes training, you can earn a $1,000.00 recruiting bonus.

THE BLUE PATH

On August 4th of 2017, history was made for the Memphis Police Department by successfully graduating the first "Blue Path" Police Service Technician (PST) Recruit Class. On June 26th, eleven (11) young men and women began their journey with MPD by taking the first step into a law enforcement career. Straight out of high school, these young individuals chose to step up and make a difference by joining the Memphis Police Department and serving the citizens of Memphis.

Their first day began at MPD's John D. Holt Training Academy with a welcome from Director Michael Rallings and academy staff. Shortly thereafter, a 6-week training process began. Learning community policing, traffic control, radio procedures, ethics, and conflict resolution are only a few courses that were taught during their 280 hours of training. All eleven PSTs completed the training requirements and graduated on August 4, 2017.

In order to qualify for the "Blue Path Program" several steps were required. First, these young men and women had to graduate from high school. Next, they had to stay on track by applying for the Tennessee Promise. After completing these steps, they were required to attend "Blue Path" workshops hosted by Southwest Community College, fill out the required application and fulfill the requirements of the Memphis Police Department. These individuals remained focused and satisfied all the requirements showing dedication and enthusiasm.

The role of a Police Service Technician is vital to the Memphis Police Department. Adding more PST's to our complement will allow officers to respond to higher priority calls for service and will reduce officers call load relative to traffic violations. We welcome the 54th PST Recruit Class to the Memphis Police Department, and we look forward to them returning to the training academy to become one of the "Best in Blue".

Walking across with Safety

In the year of 2016, officers handled 400 pedestrian related crashes; out of these 400 crashes, 33 were fatal. Many of these crashes could have been avoided if citizens took time to make sure it is safe before crossing the street.

Officers take time out to remind pedestrians and motorist of the following:

- When crossing a roadway, cross at the intersection and walk in the designed cross area of the intersection. If there is not a crosswalk, pedestrians are still advised to walk at the nearest intersection with a labeled crosswalk and pedestrian signal if available.
- When attempting to walk across the street, make sure to pay attention to your surroundings. Try to avoid using cell phones or any other distractions such as headphones or earbuds when crossing an intersection.
- At night, wear safety reflective clothing to be more visible to motorist and the public.

Drivers:

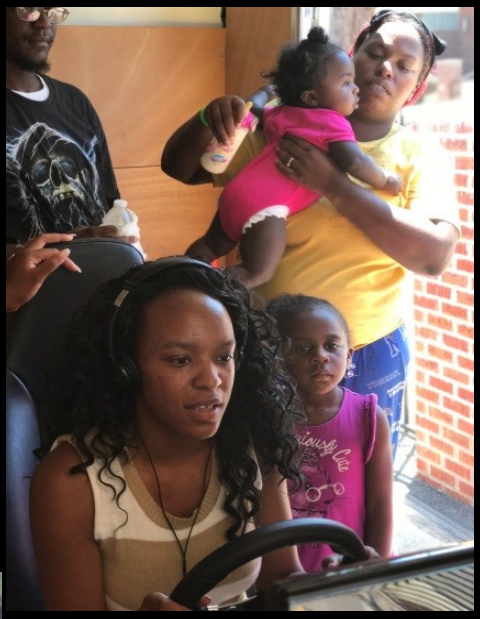
- When approaching the intersection make sure to not block the cross walk for pedestrians to walk safely across.
- When driving through school zones, be mindful of posted speed limits.

* ***In 2017, MPD's Public Information Office produced the Memphis Police Department Pedestrian Safety PSA:***

click to watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Y8ec7FfXc0

THE WHISKEY VAN'S DAY OUT

Recently, the Memphis Police Department's DUI unit participated in an awareness event at Vance Community Center. Officers reminded citizens of the dangers of driving under the influence. Officer Cory Smith and Officer Robert Gallison demonstrated the effects of a DUI with the fatal vision goggles-- giving the user the feeling of being under the influence or impaired. The DUI unit also utilized the driving simulator which simulates being an intoxicated driver attempting to operate a vehicle. This event was a success and many learned the importance of being a responsible driver.



BIG BUST IN THE MID-SOUTH

March 2017 marks a large success of stopping drug trafficking in the mid-south. Members of the Memphis Police Department's Organized Crime Unit (OCU) conducted an extensive 6-month long investigation regarding a cocaine trafficking organization that centered around the North Memphis area. The investigation identified several individuals who were responsible for the acquisition and distribution of large quantities of cocaine within the City Of Memphis.

On April 28, 2017, Organized Crime Unit Detectives executed eight (8) search war-rants and provided with the following results:

- 9.82 pounds of Powder Cocaine
- 144.5 grams of Marijuana
- 187 grams of Promethazine with Codeine cough syrup
- 14 Hydrocodone pills
- 7 firearms
- 8 vehicles
- $184,548.63 in US Currency

Continued on page 9

On August 3, 2017, OCU Detectives presented evidence from the investigation to the Shelby County Grand Jury resulting in the indictment of thirty-six (36) defendants. The defendants were charged with various offenses such as:

- Conspiracy: Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance with Intent to Sell greater than 300 grams of Cocaine
- Possession of Controlled Substance with Intent to Sell greater than 300 grams of Cocaine
- Money Laundering
- Convicted Felon in Possession of a Firearm
- Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Dangerous Felony.

Twenty-five (25) out of the thirty-six (36) defendants were later located and arrested. During the arrests, detectives seized the following:

- 45.8 grams of Crack Cocaine
- 7.2 grams of Powder Cocaine
- 513.2 grams of Marijuana
- 146.83 grams of MDMA (Ecstasy)
- 34.28 grams of Methamphetamine
- 0.7 grams of Heroin
- 11.5 Xanax pills
- 315.8 grams of Codeine
- 7 Hydrocodone pills
- 5 Methadone pills
- 6 Firearms
- 2 Stolen ATVs
- 13 Vehicles

$7,737.22 in US currency

**Director Rallings addressed the media along with the SDAG Amy Weirich*

Continued on page 10

OPERATION COCAINE COWBOY

"We will continue operations such as this one and we will rid our streets of those who choose to violate the law," said Deputy Chief Hardy.

Throughout this investigation, six (6) of the defendants were found to be known gang members; 5 Gangster Disciples and 1 Vice Lord, and the majority of the defendants have some type of criminal history related to drug offenses.

The Organized Crime Unit will continue this investigation, seeking the remaining defendants that are currently at large.

"I am extremely pleased with the work that Organized Crime put forth in this investigation," said Director Michael Rallings. "Continue the great work!"

FENTANYL AND CARFENTANIL HAZARDS TO FIRST RESPONDERS

Be sure to check out the OCU ALERT video on Fentanyl and Carfentanil hazards to law enforcement and first responders @

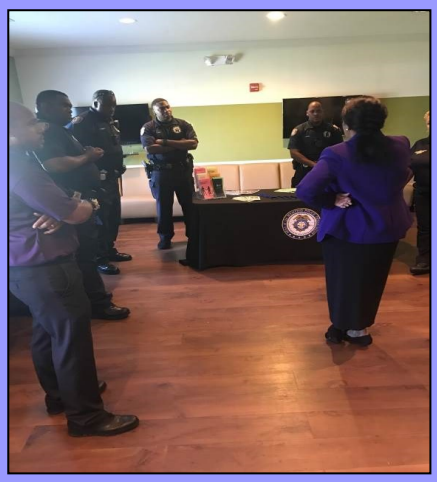
https://www.dropbox.com/s/k3xc58uwb1qjlnx/Fentanyl%20and%20Carfentanil%20Hazards%20to%20Law%20Enforcement.mp4?dl=0

DON'T FORGET ABOUT OPEN ENROLLMENT

OPENING WEEK WITH MPD

LeMoyne Owen College kicked off the school year right with an Opening Week celebration with food, music, and fun. Along with the fun festivals, the college welcomed MPD's C.O.P. unit to inform young scholars about public safety on school grounds and tips on how to handle dangerous, hazardous, or hostile situations while on campus.

Community Outreach Program officers told students about safety measures that should be utilized on campus and how to properly report a crime. Officers also spoke with students on the importance of building relationships with officers in their community.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM
C.O.P.
MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Bear Necessities

The wonderful members of the Heartsong Church on 800 N Houston Levee Rd Cordova TN, recently donated dozens of teddy bears and stuffed animals to each precinct of the Memphis Police Department for its officers to give out to the children in their communities during their tour of duty. The outcome of this will be a great opportunity for officers to give back to the kids in their respective areas and a chance to get to know them while putting a smile on their face.

Tillman Station

The Tillman Precinct continues to shine and make great strides to help develop pos-itive relationships within the community. Over 45 faith-based organizations, local businesses, Neighborhood Watch groups, and associations continued to be an extension of support during both positive and trying times for law enforcement.

Ongoing letters, notes of kindness, drinks, snacks, and amaz-ing meals were just a few of the continuing acts of support that has been demonstrated from the community throughout the year.

The Tillman Precinct also has the endless support of the MPD Ambassadors. The ambassadors at Tillman Station are a great support system for MPD officers and the community. The love and generosity shown to the officers continues to help boost morale throughout the station. We are very appreciative of the ongoing efforts the Tillman ambassadors make to ensure the officers are well supported.

Tillman Station continued on page 15

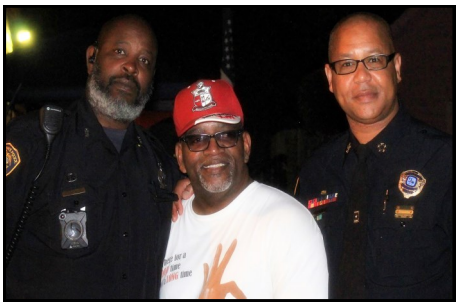
Here at Tillman Station, the officers continue to go above and beyond their daily duties to show their dedication and commitment to protect and serve. With excitement, the Command Staff, supervisors, officers and Neighborhood Watch Coordinator attended close to 200 Crime Prevention community events in 2016. We anticipate to attend even more this year.

Community events provide opportunities for law enforcement to educate and empower members within the community, while building positive relationships. MPD is proud to partner with local businesses, organizations, associations and agencies to continue efforts in minimizing crime and improving relationships between first responders and law enforcement.

Moving forward in 2017, Tillman Station is excited to build upon current partnerships and develop new working relationships with members throughout the community to help continued efforts in making Memphis a great place to work and live.

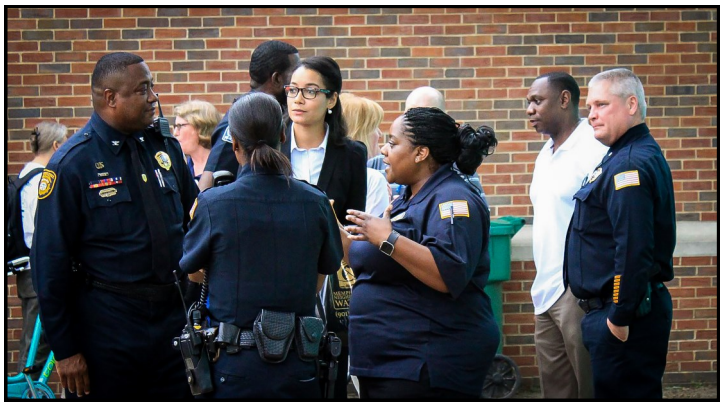
National Night Out (NNO) is a community-building campaign dedicated in promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood's trust and friendship with law enforcement to make our communities safer and better to live in. The purpose of this event is the enhance the relationship between neighbors and police, while bringing back a honest and true sense of community. This is a great way to bring both sides of the spectrum to have fellowship and come together under positive circumstances.

NNO was launched to (1) Heighten crime and violence prevention awareness; (2) Generate support form and participation in local anti-crime programs; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime along with police.



On August 1, 2017, MPD and citizens throughout our community (128 neighborhood associations) participated in National Night Out. Many first responders took time out to visit with citizens within their respective area. Beginning as early as 3:30 pm, members of the command staff and officers visited numerous locations and engaged in conversations with the members of the community. The festivities lasted until around 10:30 pm when the final locations shut down for the night. Every year, more and more citizens step up to make a difference in their community by supporting MPD, their neighborhood, and by hosting a NNO event. Next year, we anticipate even more participation. In a collaborative effort--community and law enforcement, NNO will always be a great success.

Great job to the citizens of Memphis and the officers of MPD!



Crashes have a way of breaking up families!

Wear your belt! **Wear your vest!**

Watch your speed!

Below 100 - The time is now!

www.Below100.org

GUN SAFETY REMINDER

Recently with the increase in accidental and self-inflicted shootings involving children and toddlers, the Memphis Police Department took a stance on the subject of gun safety in the community. As law enforcement officers, we should continuously remind citizens about the importance of gun safety.

Gun safety locks are located at every precinct, help spread the word!

OFFICER HANNAH OF THE MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT FIREARMS TRAINING UNIT STATED "GUN SAFETY STARTS AT HOME BY EDUCATING OUR KIDS ABOUT GUNS."

The Memphis Police Department made a public service announcement in response to the events that occurred as well as making gun locks available at all the local MPD precincts.

https://youtu.be/DO00csmPLoM

Continued on page 19

CABLE LOCK

GUN SAFE

LOCKING HANDGUN SAFE

TRIGGER AND CABLE LOCK DEVICES

TYPES OF WEAPON SAFETY DEVICES

Exchanging Views

At the request of Mr. Clonte Thomas of The Barber School located at 1309 Jackson Avenue, members of MPD's Community Outreach Program attended a Q&A session addressing community relations with citizens and officers. Mr. Thomas reached out to MPD because of a particular situation that happened at his business that involved one of his students and a police officer. Mr. Thomas did not want that event to leave a negative impact on his students.

Officers of C.O.P. conducted open conversations with students who voiced their concerns of how certain situations are handled related to law enforcement. Officers discussed and educated the students about how every situation is different, and regardless of the situa-tion, law enforcement officers still have a job to do. Students were also reminded that officers and citizens must work together and be respectful at all times.

During this interaction both sides exchanged view points and common grounds of understanding why things happen; also how relationships can get better. " I try to lead by example," Thomas states, " I believe it is a need for the community and police to have a better understanding and relationship with each other."

CONCERN Employee Assistance Program

CONCERN Employee Assistance Program (EAP) has provided EAP services for companies acrossthe U.S. for over 30 years. Today, we cover more than 80,000 employees and their families.

Employee Assistance Services We Offer

Unlimited confidential counseling sessions for employees and anyone living with an employee

On-site Crisis Response

On-site Supervisory and Employee Training

Management Consultation

Conflict Resolution Services

Drug Free Workplace Assistance

Directly Observed Therapy Assessments

Referral Assistance

And more

View the full range of EAP Services we offer now.

Contact Us

CONCERN Employee Assistance Program

Address

2670 Union Extended

Suite 610

Memphis, TN 38112

To make an appointment, call

901-458-4000 or

800-445-5011

FAX

901-458-0048

For additional information, email

concern@bmhcc.org

In an effort to better communicate with field officers, Director Rallings is looking for volunteers to serve on a Police Director's Advisor Board. If you are interested, please email Sgt. Banks at

Darrel.banks@memphistn.gov.

joinmpd.com

Follow us on

BEHIND THE BADGE

LA 2017 WORLD POLICE & FIRE GAMES

MEMPHIS POLICE SPORTS FEDERATION

Bring Home the Medals !

CONTENTS:

3 "MPD K9 JAKE"

4 MPD YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

5 OPERATION CLEAR TRACK

6 SOARING WITH THE BLUE

7 1ST ANNUAL PAL SUPERBOWL

8 MEMPHIS ANIMAL SERVICES TRAINING

9 JUST IN TIME FOR THANKSGIVING

10 MPD SPORTS FEDERATION AWARDS

15 HIGHLIGHT FOR A HOT SHOT

16 OFFICER SAFETY

18 GOOD BLUE

19 I AM A MAN PLAZA

20 NATIONAL DAY OF GIVING 2017

21 DELIVERING THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

22 OPERATION BLUE CHRISTMAS 2017

Condolences to Sgt. Shannon Bowen regarding the loss of his partner, friend and loyal companion, retired MPD K9 “Jake” who peacefully passed away on September 20, 2017 due to age related illness.

K9 Jake joined the Memphis Police Department in January of 2007 and faithfully served with honor through June of 2014. There is no greater picture of love, commitment, courage, passion and desire to do the job of police work than that which is displayed in a police K9. “Jake” was an exemplary example of this passion as he earned the honor along with his partner, who was during that time Officer Bowen, as Special Operations Officers of the year for 2007. K9 Jake, over the course of his career, was credited with the most felony apprehensions than any other K9 in the unit during the course of his active duty. The sayings, “catching the bad guys” and “you can run, but you can’t’ hide” were most certainly taken to heart by K9 Jake. However, he also had a soft, kind, compassionate and gentler side, by which he demonstrated numerous times at community events and public educational appearances with both children and adults.

K9 Jake was a true community-oriented police officer and ambassador of goodwill for the City of Memphis as he continued making community event appearances even after he retired from active duty. K9 Jake truly loved his job. He loved kids and shared an unbreakable bond with his handler, Sgt. Shannon Bowen and his family. Thank you, K9 Jake!

“MPD K9 JAKE”

MPD HOSTS YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SYMPOSIUM

The Memphis Police Department's C.O.P. Unit hosted a 9th Grade Youth Empowerment Symposium at Whitehaven High School. Ninth graders were able to take a break from regular studies to have conversations and learn more about topics such as Police Interactions, Domestic Violence, Drug Abuse Resistance, Firearms Safety, Gangs, Bullying, and Cyber/Social Media woes. "This event allows students to have dialogue with MPD officers who serve their community, which in return, educates and builds trust between the community and police," said Officer Clarence Campbell, event

"Operation Clear Track"

September 24th-29th was designated as "Rail Safety Week" across the country. The Memphis Police Department's Traffic Division teamed up with Amtrak Police and Operation Lifesaver in an effort to bring awareness to rail safety. According to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Memphis has two top locations where crashes frequently occur involving a train. On September 26th, officers saturated the areas of East Person Avenue//Castalia Street and South Parkway East//Ragan Street in order to help spread awareness and provide safety tips to citizens. Amtrak Police and MPD handed out flyers concerning safety measure that should be taken to help minimize accidents or incidents with trains.

In order to reducing incidents related with trains, officers should continuously remind motorists and pedestrians about these helpful tips that could lower chances of incidents.

Never drive or walk around lowered grade crossing gate.
Never attempt to outrun an approaching train.
Never stop your vehicle on a grade crossing waiting for traffic to move.
Never begin to drive across the tracks unless you can get all the way across.
Always remember a train can take a mile or more to stop.
Always know that the average train is three feet wider than the track on each side.
Always slow down and stop your vehicle prior to train tracks when lights begin to flash.
Only cross the tracks at designated public crossings.
If you're standing on the train tracks, you may not hear or feel an oncoming train in time to get away.

Soaring with the Blue

Congratulations to newly promoted Eagle Scouts, Iriwn Todd, Matthew Rhodes, and Keenon Payne of Troop 641; all three were selected from a group of over 100 Boy Scouts. The Eagle Scout rank is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scout program of the Boy Scouts of America. Since its introduction in 1911, the Eagle Scout rank has been earned by more than 2 million young men. The title of "Eagle Scout" is held for life, thus giving rise to the phrase "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle".

Several of Memphis' Best in Blue are volunteer troop leaders for Troop 641. Lt. Kevin Brown, Sgt. John Goad, Sgt. Byron Johnson, Sgt. Derrick Williams, Officer Keith Payne, and Officer Clayton Turner all worked diligently to help guide these three young men through their journey to becoming Eagle Scouts. Although the process was a test of mental preparedness, longevity, and endurance, these scouts earned their wings with high honor for their hard work and dedication to Boy Scouts of America.

www.scouting.org

1st ANNUAL PAL SUPER BOWL

On November 18, 2017, Memphis Shelby PAL (Police Athletic League) hosted its Inaugural SUPER BOWL & CHEER-OFF SHOWCASE. The event took place at Kirby High School and featured Memphis Shelby PAL football teams and cheerleaders. Putting in many hours, MPD's Sgt. Craig Littles continues to build upon his dream of mentoring local youth to ensure a healthy and supportive environment while highlighting the positives of what Memphis' youth has to offer.

Memphis Shelby PAL (Police Athletic League) is a non-profit youth mentoring organization devoted to preventing crime, building character and promoting success for children 5-18 in the Mid-South area. They offer year-round and seasonal sports for children including football, cheerleading, basketball, baseball, softball, track & field, and boxing , as well as mentoring.

"Our youth see us in uniform, but to see us on the field wearing shorts, t-shirts, and carrying a whistle makes them see us in a different light," said Sgt. Craig Littles.

Teams that participated in the Inaugural Super Bowl and Cheer-Off Showcase and the winners are as follows:

SEMAA Tigers vs Memphis Falcons (SEMAA took home the win!!)

Desoto Saints vs Appling Station Wolves (Appling Station)

Allen Station Bears vs Desoto Saints (Desoto Saints)

Allen Station Bears vs Appling Station Wolves (Allen Station)

For more information concerning Memphis Shelby PAL, visit their website at memphisshelbypal.org

Memphis Animal Services' training provides local law enforcement with insight into investigating animal abuse.

On October 4th, the Humane Society of the United States presented a free training session at Memphis Animal Services (MAS) for local law enforcement agencies concerning proper procedures related to investigating animal cruelty and illegal fighting of animals. Instructors discussed key indicators of when abuse may be occurring, and what officers should do when they encounter an animal abuse incident. Topics such as background on animal fighting and abuse laws in Tennessee, the link between animal cruelty and other violent crimes, the process of investigating cruelty complaints, recognizing key evidence, issuing warrants, and gathering statements were discussed. MPD officers joined in this 6-hour training session, along with other local agencies (approx. 60 different agencies), to stay up-to-date and informed about the new and existing laws related to animal cruelty. Thank you to the Humane Society and MAS for inviting MPD to attend!

Memphis Animal Services offers a wide range of programs and services including the sheltering of lost and homeless animals, pet adoption and placement, spay/neuter programs, handling of animal control complaints & bite cases, dog licensing, cruelty investigations, humane education, and more. For more information, visit www.memphisanimalservices.com, call 901-636-1416, or visit the facility at 2350 Appling City Cove.

Pictured (left to right):

James Boyland and Brad Wilburn, Memphis Police Department; Marandia Benton, Memphis Animal Services; Nina Wingfield, Collierville Animal Services; Kristen Walker, Humane Society of Memphis & Shelby County; class presenter Matt Barnett, Wiggins Police Department Chief and HSUS law enforcement trainer.

Just in time for Thanksgiving

After many hours of sorting and boxing up complete meals for Thanksgiving, Director Michael Rallings and members of MPD's Community Outreach Program made deliveries to those deserving citizens who needed a little assistance throughout the Thanksgiving holiday. Teaming up with Feed the Needy, Valero, Memphis Depot and many other organizations made this amazing initiative possible! Over 3000 boxes were delivered to various families throughout our community.

Good things are happening in Memphis!

MEMPHIS POLICE SPORTS FEDERATION

Bring Home the Medals!

This year's World Police and Fire Games were held in Los Angeles, California from August 7th through August 17th, 2017. The Memphis Police Department's athletes participated in the following categories: Men and Women Bowling, Boxing, Grappling, Men and Women Track & Field, and Flag Football at the World Police and Fire Games.

Sgt. William Porter is one of our most consistent bowlers in the World Police & Fire Games, International Games and State Police Games. Major Felecica Adams set a record of 25 years bowling with the Memphis Police Department. Unfortunately, they were not able to place this year; however participating, supporting, and having fun is the win at the end!

World Police and Fire Games continued on next page

In boxing, Officers James Guy III and Brian Hall represented MPD well. Officer Brian Hall obtained 2nd place in Freestyle Wrestling and 3rd place in Greco Roman Wrestling and Submission Grappling!

Don't forget about MPD's boxing gym; stop by and take in a few rounds in the rink. MPD's boxing gym is located at 315 S Hollywood Street and is available to all MPD Officers-- take advantage of this free workout facility and training!

MPD's men and women track team brought home multiple placings and medals from Los Angeles this year! The MPD track team consists of Lt. Tracey Washington, Officer Jennifer Burton, Officer LeCharra Yarbrough, Reserve Office Robert Harris, Jr., Officer Marco Reed, Officer Godfrey Howard, Officer Lakendus Cole, and Major Carlos Davis.

World Police and Fire Games continued on next page

Officer LeCharra Yarbrough brought home 4th place with a BRONZE medal in the 400 meter dash and 1st place with a GOLD medal in the 4x100 meter relay!

Lt. Tracey Washington brought home 3 BRONZE medals placing in 3rd place in the 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 4x100 meter relay.

Officer Jennifer Burton brought home 3 GOLD medals placing 1st place in the 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, and 4x100 meter relay.

World Police and Fire Games continued on next page

Major Carlos Davis brought home 4th place in the 110 meter hurdles, 5th place in the 400 meter hurdles, and 5th place in the 400 meter relay.

Sgt. Jerry Knowlton carries the lead in the Masters 4x100 meter relay and brought Team Memphis to 3rd place.

Officer Godfrey Howard brought home 5th place in the Grandmaster "A" 100 meter dash, 6th place in the 200 meter dash, and 3rd place in the 4x100 meter relay.

Officer Howard and Officer Robert Harris competed in the Master "B" 200 meter sprint. Harris was able to retrieve 3rd place and Officer Howard brought home 5th place!

World Police and Fire Games continued on next page

Congratulations to our Flag Football Team for their wonderful accomplishment in placing 1st place in the 2017 World Police & Fire Games! They remain undefeated continuing their winning streak from the 2016 Las Vegas Nevada Police Games.

Our Flag Football Team consists of the following officers: Dustin Beard, Trace Cisneros, Lakendus Cole, Patrick Hubbard, Devin Thompson, Taft Bradley, Daemien Jefferson, William Walker, Nacarious Lucas, Dennis McNeil Jr., Markus Agnew, Leployer Franklin, Lyndon Baskin, Terrell Burks, Tavin Davis, Nicholas Gordon, and Tony Parks.

Congratulations to all the MPD athletes!

HIGHLIGHT FOR A HOT SHOT

On Friday, September 29, 2017 Officer Helen Magee was inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2017.

Officer Magee was four-year winner and starter at point guard for the Lady Eagles. She helped lead Southern Miss to three NCAA appearances and ranks second on the all-time assist list with 564 assists. Officer Magee scored 1,007 career points to go with 454 rebounds and 227 steals.

She earned multiple All-Metro Conference honors and was named the Most Valuable Player in the Metro Tournament in 1990. She is one of only four players in Lady Eagle's history to record a triple double in a game and led the team in assists for four consecutive seasons. Officer Magee ranks in the program's Top-20 in all-time scoring, free throws made, free throws attempted, assists averages, steals, games played, starts and minutes played.

Congratulations Officer Magee on achieving this top honor!

CITY OF MEMPHIS
Division of Police Services

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Presented to
Officer
Helen Magee

In Recognition of being inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2017

On Friday, September 29, 2017, Officer Helen Magee was inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2017.

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On behalf of the Memphis Police Department, I would like to congratulate Officer Helen Magee on her great accomplishment.

I do hereby affix the seal of the Memphis Police Department, the 9th day of October, 2017.

Director of Police Services

FENTANYL AND CARFENTANIL HAZARDS TO FIRST RESPONDERS

Be sure to check out the OCU ALERT video on Fentanyl and Carfentanil hazards to law enforcement and first responders @

https://www.dropbox.com/s/k3xc58uwb1qjlnx/Fentanyl%20and%20Carfentanil%20Hazards%20to%20Law%20Enforcement.mp4?dl=0

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Watch your speed!

Below 100 - The time is now!

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GOOD BLUE

Thanks to the men and women of HealthNet Federal Credit Union for donating teddy bears to the Appling Farms Station. Our officers will enjoy giving these furry friends to children this holiday season!

A great Chrismas surprise from Colonel Sheffield and officers of Appling Farms Station to the FedEx House at LeBonheur Children's Hospital.

CITY OF MEMPHIS

Mayor Jim Strickland, Director Michael Rallings and other city and community leaders were in attendance for the formal groundbreaking ceremony of “I AM A MAN” Plaza.

The Plaza will be located adjacent to the historic Clayborn Temple where hundreds of men and women marched for change, justice, and equality.

City Sanitation workers from the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Worker’s Strike participated in the groundbreaking ceremony and were honored as well.

Here are a few photos from the event!

NATIONAL DAY OF GIVING

On Tuesday, November 28, 2017, the National Day of Giving, members of the Memphis Police Department Training Academy Staff, in conjunction with St. Mary's Catholic Church Soup Kitchen gathered at B.B. King Boulevard and Exchange Street to give to those in our community.

The Training Academy Staff was able to meet and hand out items to several members of the community who experience struggles that we sometimes take for granted.

"What a beautiful experience. We were glad we could be here for our community and in the end, they gave much more to us as some expressed their thanks through words, others through their smiles, and yet others through the look on their face," said Lt. Colonel Anthony W. Rudolph, Commander of the Training Academy.

ANGEL TREE

Delivering the Magic of Christmas

The City of Memphis held its 2017 Angel Tree finale at City Hall this year.
Each of the City of Memphis divisions loaded their Angels' gifts onto waiting Salvation Army trucks to be delivered to deserving children or "Angels" in need.

The Memphis Police Department has participated in this event over the years and has brought smiles to the faces of many children and seniors in the Memphis area. This year over 70 Angels were sponsored by The Memphis Police Department.

Bethel Grove Elementary students provided a special musical performance for the event that had all in attendance singing along.

Here are a few photos from this year's event!

OPERATION BLUE CHRISTMAS

Making the holidays more festive, with the 3rd annual Operation Blue Christmas. The mysterious masked men known as the Secret Order of Boll Weevils, along with MPD Officers, delivered Christmas gifts to families that were victims of a burglary just days before Christmas.

In the time of need, MPD, the Secret Order of Boll Weevils, along with the help of Target, wanted to help bring a closer meaning to the spirit of Christmas to relieve the parents during these stressful times and unfortunate events.

Many smiles, tears and hugs were shared today. Thank you to the Secret Order of Boll Weevils and Target for making this event so successful.

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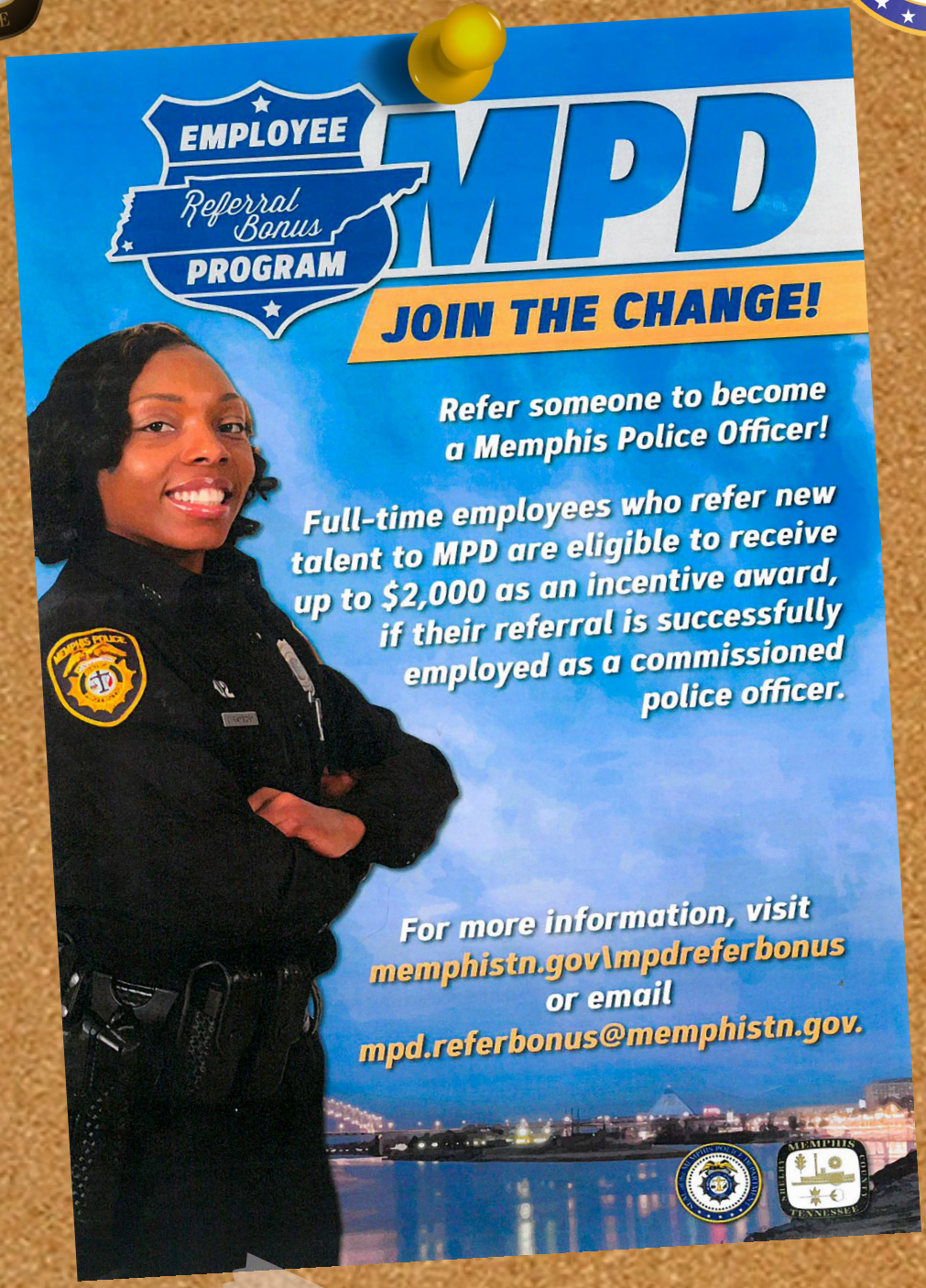

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ISSUE 130

BEHIND THE BADGE

MLK50

1968 - 2018

& MPD

CONTENTS:

3 ERNEST C. WITHERS

4 2018 MPD KNOWLEDGEBOWL

5 NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME PREVENTION GRANT AWARDS

6 NEW HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY VISITS 170 NORTH MAIN

7 PUT YOUR MASK ON

8 UKRAINE POLICE VISIT MPD

9 PIZZA AND A MOVIE

10 MLK50 and MPD

14 OFFICER SAFETY

16 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

18 GOOD BLUE

19 I AM A MAN PLAZA

20 NATIONAL DAY OF GIVING 2017

21 DELIVERING THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

Ernest C. Withers Historical Marker

Former Memphis Police Officer and world-renowned photographer Ernest C. Withers was an American photojournalist and Memphian. Ernest Withers was mostly known for his hard work and capturing over 60 years of African-American history in the South. Ernest Withers was also a historical figure in the Memphis Police Department. Withers was one of the nine African-American men that were hired as police officers in 1948. This was the first time that African-Americans were allowed to serve as police officers in the City of Memphis.

Withers profound photography captured many incidents during the Civil Rights Movement. Photographs from the Sanitation Workers' Strike are etched into the minds of many. Withers also captured many images of musicians, including those related to Memphis blues and Memphis soul.

In honor of his service to the citizens of Memphis and the world, on February 10, a historical marker was placed at 480 West Brooks Road, Memphis, TN. This was the longtime home of Ernest Withers. Memphis Police Director Rallings and other MPD Officers attended the historical marker unveiling ceremony to honor one of our own and Memphis Legend, Ernest C. Withers.

Historical marker at 480 West Brooks Road, home of the late Earnest C. Withers.

The first nine African-American MPD officers in 1948.

Ernest C. Withers' son, Andrew Withers and Retired Memphis Police Officer, Cpt. Jerry Williams.

This year's Black History Knowledge Bowl was hosted by MPD's Community Outreach Program (C.O.P.) at First Baptist Broad Church. The day brought challenging questions about famous African-American writers, activists, musicians, athletes, performers, and forward thinkers. Each school that participated brought forth knowledge, great competition, and the willingness for success.

This event was conducted with the help of C.O.P., precinct officers, and Neighborhood Watch Coordinators. All involved spent many hours making this year's knowledge bowl a great success.

The following middle schools participated: Cordova, Whitehaven, Hollis F. Price, Kirby, Havenview, Georgian Hills, Humes Prep, City University, Ida B Wells, Lott, Craigmont, White Station, Westwood, Chickasaw, Georgian Hills and Mt Pisgah.

In the final round, four schools arose higher to gain their awards: 1st place- City University, 2nd place- Mt Pisgah, 3rd place- Cordova Middle and 4th place- Westwood Middle School.

Congratulations to this year's winners and a big thanks to all who participated!

NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME PREVENTION GRANT AWARDS

Since January, Lia Roemer and her team have worked hard throughout our community to share the great opportunities that our Neighborhood Crime Prevention Grant offers. Neighborhood Crime Prevention Grants are funded by monies generated from red light camera systems and are used to benefit neighborhood watch organizations by providing them with $2500 to use in conjunction with their crime-fighting initiatives. These funds are used for various projects such as adding surveillance cameras, coordinating neighborhood clean-ups, communications and monitoring projects, National Night Out events, and much more. Thus far, Lia and her team have awarded upwards of $350,000 to 131 different neighborhoods associations.

Thank you to Lia Roemer and her team for their continued work in keeping Memphis safe.

New Hope Christian Academy Tours 170 North Main

While on a field trip, students from Frayser's New Hope Christian Academy were walking down North Main Street when they encountered Director Michael Rallings leaving City Hall. After a brief conversation, the students were invited inside the Memphis Police Department's headquarters located at 170 North Main. The students were treated to a mini-tour guided by Director Rallings and members of the Command Staff.

First, the students viewed the MPD historical display cases located in the lobby. Next, groups of students were taken to the Executive Administration offices located on the 12th floor. There, the students were given a tour of the Director's office, Command Staff offices, and the Director's conference room. Emergency Communications Administrator, Michael Spencer, was also present and arranged a 911 dispatch radio demonstration.

At the conclusion of the tour, the students were allowed to explore the inside of an MPD squad car and were given Jr. police officer hats.

This was truly a great time. We thank New Hope Christian Academy for visiting with us.

Deputy Chief Don Crowe

911 Administrator, Michael Spencer

PUT ON YOUR MASK!

The Memphis Youth Crime Watch students at Douglass High School participated in a “Masking” their feelings project in conjunction with bringing awareness of teen violence. The students were given blank masks by Officers Kassandra Smith, Benjamin Huff, and Tommie Jones. The students' assignment was to paint each mask displaying emotions that they so often hide. Painting their mask allowed them to unmask their inner feelings and deal with their emotions in a positive manner without resulting in violence or delinquent behavior. Using a color chart, which indicated a corresponding emotion, the students painted selected colors on their mask in proportion to the strongest feeling that they were hiding or “masking”. The students also talked about their feelings and asked for solutions on how to deal with their emotions in a healthy manner.

Officer Kassandra Smith

Officer Benjamin Huff

UKRAINE POLICE VISIT MPD

The Memphis Police Department had the pleasure of welcoming several police officers from various regions, and the State police of the eastern European nation of Ukraine. The goal of the trip was to visit Memphis in order to learn more about community policing and crime prevention efforts from the Memphis Police Department.

The group first visited the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) where they received a brief overview of the functions of the center. Next, they visited the Memphis Police Department's Training Academy and Firearms Training Unit to observe, firsthand, the training of Memphis' Finest. After leaving the academy, they visited Crime Prevention/C.O.P. The visit to Crime Prevention's Hollywood location helped to shed light on efforts that the Ukrainian PD could implement in their respective divisions. Lastly, they attended classroom instruction of MPD's 9th Clergy Academy class. The group was intrigued with the idea of working with our faith-based community in order to aid in crime prevention efforts.

This was a great experience for everyone involved. The men and women of the Memphis Police Department and the City of Memphis should be proud that your police department was selected among the best to help other departments develop better ways to serve their communities.

Visiting officers and MPD Officer James Lash

PIZZA AND A MOVIE

Serving as great mentors, Major Myron Lawrence and Lieutenant Colonel Eddie Bass teamed up with the Greater Life Network in treating 25 children to a movie and pizza. The movie of the day, “Blank Panther”, a superhero film based on the Marvel Comics which is directed by, and features mostly African-American cast members, was a hit. It reminds our youth that hard work, dedication, and a determination to succeed will allow them to accomplish their dreams. Whether a police officer, a doctor, a teacher, or even an actor on the big screen, there are no limits.

Great job to you both for taking time out to mentor our future leaders!

MLK50

1968 - 2018

April 4, 1968, marked one of the saddest days in our country and city's history, as it was the day that Civil Rights Leader Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was struck down in Memphis, TN by an assassin's bullet at the Lorraine Motel. For many years since this fateful day, there have been events scheduled throughout the city to honor the slain Civil Rights leader. April 2-7, 2018 was designated as a time of reflection to commemorate the legacy of the Dr. King and the 50th anniversary of his death.

Throughout the week, more than 7,000 spectators from across the county attended the MLK50 events; at The National Civil Rights Museum, the Peabody Hotel, Mason Temple, Clayborn Temple, and the Cannon Center. One of the high points of the slated events included the Commemorative Ceremony that was held at The National Civil Rights Museum. The Commemorative Ceremony was an event where dozens of speakers and thousands of participants came to honor Dr. King at the exact place where he was assassinated. There were various presentations including a ceremonial wreath laying, tributes, and performances culminating in a symbolic moment of silence at 6:01 pm--the time Dr. King was shot while on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

Continued on next page

MLK50

1968 - 2018

Other significate events were the dedications of the I AM A MAN Plaza and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Reflection Park. The I AM A MAN Plaza is located adjacent to Clayborn Temple near East Pontotoc Avenue and Hernando Street in downtown Memphis. This plaza honors the City's sanitation workers whose strike in 1968 brought Dr. King to Memphis, TN. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Reflection Park is located at the northwest corner of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and South Second Street. Uniquely positioned a few blocks from Clayborn Temple, the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel, and Beale Street. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Reflection Park will be a focal point for those seeking to understand Dr. King's impact on Memphis and the world. At this site, you will find a bronze sculpture that reflects Dr. King's famous "I've Been to the Mountaintop."

On April 6th, all scheduled events were concluded without incident. Over 300 Memphis Police Officers, Police Service Technician, dispatchers, and police recruits ensured the safety of all who attended. This is truly a testament to the collaborative work of local, state, and federal agencies working together to ensure the safety of all who chose to take part in the MLK50 commemorative events.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 35TH ANNIVERSARY 2018

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Another great night at this year's National Night Out; thank you to those who participated. National Night Out is observed annually on the first Tuesday in August. This night focuses on the community and raising awareness throughout the United States. Here in Memphis, over 120 different locations were displayed citywide. Promoting police-community partnerships and showing neighborhood camaraderie were at the forefront of each event.

Each year, members of our Neighborhood Watch Associations work hard to display a perfect setting for neighborhood fun. Without a doubt, they were yet again successful in doing so. Without the involvement of the citizens of Memphis, MPD Commanders, and officers, this event could not have been such a success. Great job to all!

Continued on next page

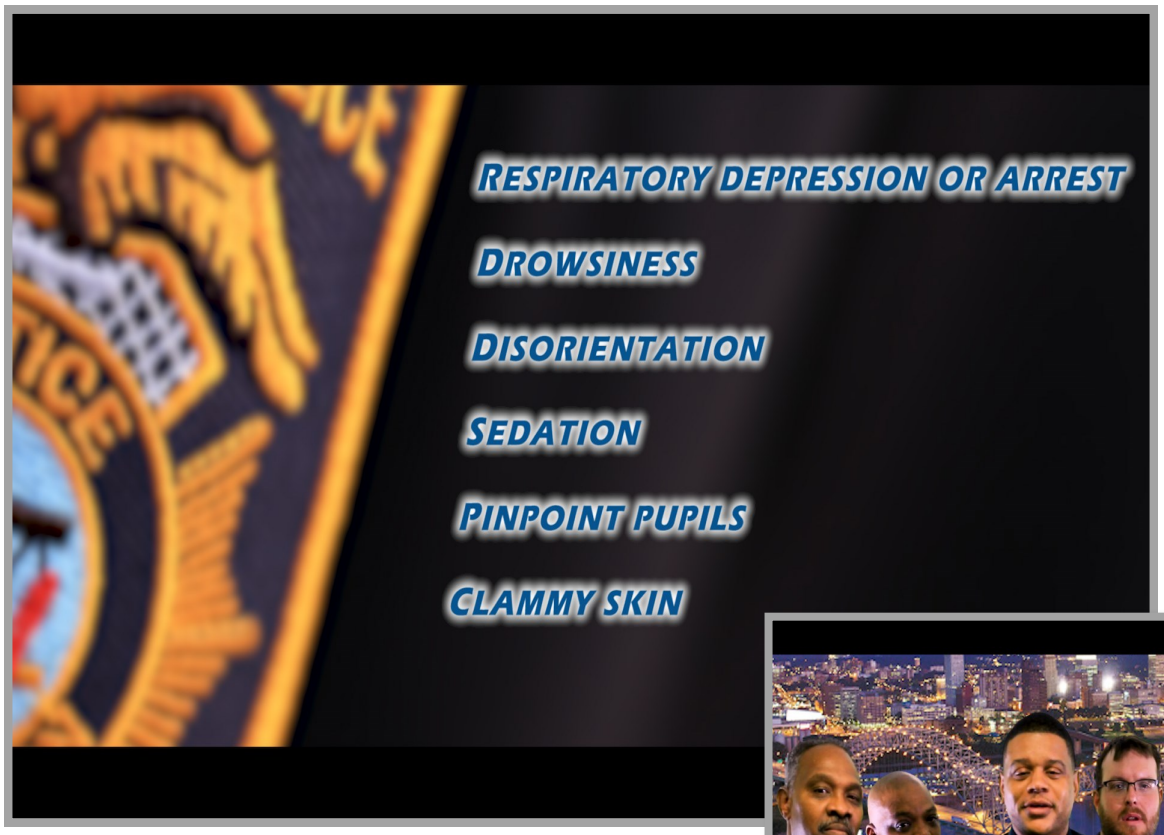
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 35 ANNIVERSARY 2018

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

FENTANYL AND CARFENTANIL HAZARDS TO FIRST RESPONDERS

Be sure to check out the OCU ALERT video on Fentanyl and Carfentanil hazards to law enforcement and first responders @

https://www.dropbox.com/s/k3xc58uwb1qjlnx/Fentanyl%20and%20Carfentanil%20Hazards%20to%20Law%20Enforcement.mp4?dl=0



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COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Thank you to St. Benedict at Auburndale (SBA) for including the Memphis Police Department in their celebration of “Our Nation with Community Servers” event. Members of the command staff and officers of Appling Farms enjoyed refreshments and conversation with staff members and students at SBA.

The Woman’s Exchange of Memphis hosted an appreciation luncheon to say thank you to the officers of the Memphis Police Department. Commanders and officers from various precincts were in attendance. Thank you for your continued support and to all who were involved in making this event special for MPD!

Precinct Ambassadors continue to bring smiles to officers' faces at Raines Station. These ladies went all out for "Hot Soup Friday" making sure officers walked away with a full belly of warm soup and a side of cornbread. Thank you all for the kind gesture and the continued support.

Thank you to the members of the Hollywood Community Center who held an appreciation luncheon for law enforcement and first responders. Officers enjoyed a great lunch and fellowship with the community center staff and those who attended from within the community.

Mt. Moriah Station back-to-school

What a great way to start the school year off with a back-to-school giveaway hosted by the Mt. Moriah Station! The event was filled with many kids with big smiles and happy faces as they walked into the New Testament Christian Church to receive their free backpack. Each backpack was filled with pencils, paper, notebooks, pens and much more.

Mt. Moriah Station Officers handed out over 160 backpacks full of items to help students start the school year off right!

Backpacks weren't the only things given away. Aldo's Pizza and other pantry goods were also available for families.

Mt. Moriah Station would like to thank Mapco, Walmart, Cascade Tissue Group, Aztec Missionary, Bogie's Deli, Three Little Pigs BBQ, Z-Market, Neil's Bar-n-Grill, Jason's Deli and others that contributed to this great event.

Great Job, Mt. Moriah Station!!

PROUD TO WEAR THE BADGE

On August 21, 2018, six (6) Police Radio Dispatcher Trainees from the Memphis Police Department's Emergency Communications Bureau completed their year-long training and probation period. This is the first time a graduation ceremony for Dispatchers has been held to celebrate this milestone, and they are among the first to receive a Communications Badge. The dedicated employees of the Emergency Communications Bureau answer over 3,500 police calls made in the City of Memphis each day and dispatch officers on nearly 1 million calls for service annually. To all the hard working dedicated employees of the Communications Bureau, we thank you! Congratulations to Memphis Police Radio Dispatchers Class 17-02!!

DREAM ACADEMY

The Youth Academy of Dreams is a school that wants to help keep our kids educated and safe in high crime areas. One of their goals is to help stop the cycle of kids falling into gangs and drug violence.

Our own MPD Sgt. Craig Littles is the founder of the new academy. Sgt. Littles has been involved with the community for over 20 years and has a strong vision of the success of our youth. Sgt. Littles states that, "This program is offering the youth in its community educational programs, after-school programs, sports, tutoring, mentorship; anything that deals with the involvement of our youth through positive activities. I grew up in this area, so I needed this positive outlook to keep me on track despite the negative things that were around me."

IHEARTMEMPHIS, Memphis Home Entertainer & YAOD Ambassador, also arrived at the event and talked about how important it was to give back to the community. "The best thing I had was mentors and my mom to help me keep out of trouble."

Sgt. Littles and others have worked diligently to make this dream come true.

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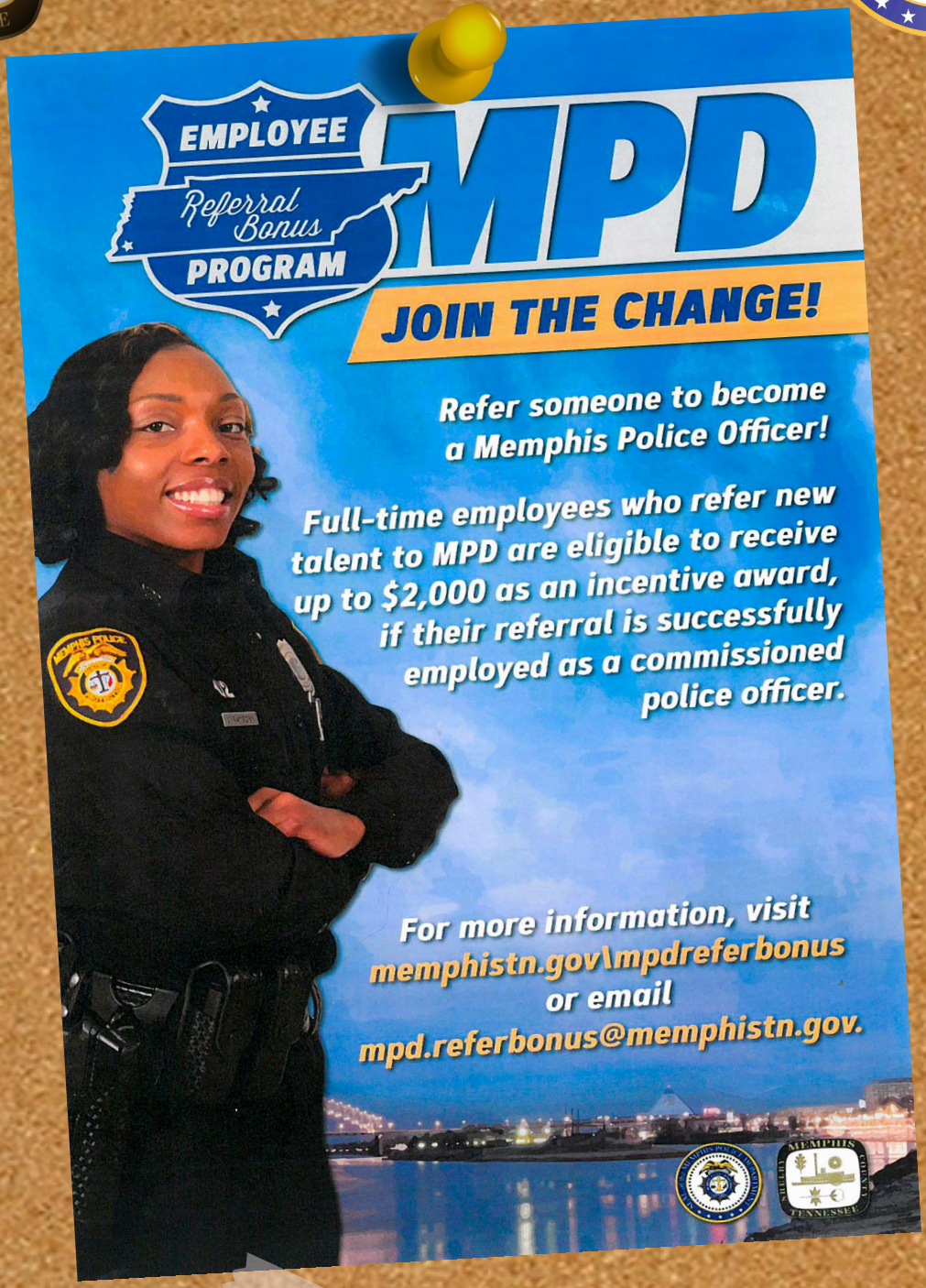

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BEHIND THE BADGE

Memphis Police A Law Enforcement Experience for the community

CONTENTS :

3 A Talk with Memphis' Finest

4 Crump Station's School Surprise

5 Call If You Can Text If You Can't

6 PSTs Yancey & Yos

7 MPD vs. PST Basketball Tournament

8 Memphis Animal Clinic

9 MPD D.A.R.E. Graduation

10 A Boy's Best Friend

11 Officers Meads & Clark

12 Going Beyond the Call Of Duty

13 Best In Blue

14 Having Dinner with a Cop

17 Answered the Call for Help

18 Cleaning up the Community

19-20 The Citizens of Memphis Thank You!

21 Community Event

A Talk with Memphis' Finest

Officer Jasmine Tolbert, of the Memphis Police Department's Raines Station, was asked by one of the teachers at First Assembly Christian School to visit a class of Kindergarteners; along for the visit was Police Service Technician (PST) Catrellus Yancey. Together, they spoke to the class about what it means to have a career in law enforcement. Speaking of day-to-day experiences, showing off their equipment and answering questions was a hit with this group of youngsters. Officer Tolbert and PST Yancey were both surprised that many of the students already knew some of the many duties of a police officer, but enjoyed fielding questions and reassuring all that law enforcement employees are their friends, not enemies. After engaging with the class, each student was made honorary Junior Police Officers. Great job to these two for exemplifying what it means to be the "Best in Blue"!

Crump Station's School Surprise

The Memphis Police Department's Crump Station, along with the Community Outreach Program (C.O.P.) wanted to do something special for students at Cummings Elementary School. Officers surprised 50 students at Cummings Elementary School with backpacks full of school supplies. Each student also received a food basket! After the giveaways, each student was made an honorary Junior Police Officer. The C.O.P. Unit also brought the kids' favorite officer, Sergeant Biggs, to have fun and hang out. Crump Station thanked Target for donating the school supplies and food baskets. Great job to Crump Station for all the hard work and dedication they put into making this event a success!

Remember, if you plan to visit a school and need police hats, Junior Police Officer patches, or backup from Sgt. Biggs or Officer Goodheart, contact the PIO's office or C.O.P. for assistance.

Call If You Can,Text If You Can't

The Memphis Police Department's 911 Communications Bureau is proud to announce their latest accomplishment in being the first Telecommunications Service in Tennessee to provide 911 text alerts. Taking the initiative and recognizing citizens within our Deaf community, Michael Spencer and his team worked diligently to make this process come to fruition. After meeting with citizens from the Deaf community, our Communications team learned that 911 text messaging would bring the community closer to the department by providing an alternative way of communicating with 911. Offering another way to contact 911 services is another way that our 911 Communications Bureau can assist the citizens of Memphis. Now the MPD 911 dispatchers are able to receive text messages from citizens who may be deaf or may be in a situation where they are unable to call during an emergency situation.

PSTs Yancey & Yos

As many of you know, the duties of a Police Service Technician (P.S.T.) can vary from conducting minor traffic accident investigations to assisting with traffic control during major city events, but the duties don't stop there. Every morning, Monday-Friday, PSTs are assigned to elementary schools to ensure students cross the street safely and make it to school. One morning, PST Catrellus Yancey and PST Destinie Yos were assigned to Sheffield Elementary School when they saw a little girl walking by herself to school without a jacket or backpack. After crossing the student, they decided to ask the little girl if she had a jacket or backpack at home; and she replied, "No." Feeling discomfort, the two PSTs made it their mission to make sure the little girl would have a warm coat and a nice backpack when walking to school. After their post, they went to a store and bought the little girl not only a backpack and a jacket, but also a hat, gloves, a scarf, and some snacks for the little girl to enjoy. They returned to the school to surprise the little girl of what they had gotten her. The little girl smiled with joy and gave both of them a hug. Kudos to PSTs Destinie Yos and Catrellus Yancey, for surprising this little girl with a backpack full of goodies, jackets, and a scarf!

MPD VS PST

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The Memphis Police Department hosted its first Memphis Police Officers vs Police Service Technicians (P.S.T.) basketball tournament. It was a 3 on 3 team match-up; winner wins bragging rights. The tournament was held at the Beale Street Landing Basketball court located along Riverside Drive. It was a fun day where both PSTs and officers came to hang out and enjoy some good old basketball. The competition was fierce, but ultimately, the PSTs came out on top and won the tournament! Thank you to everyone who made this event possible and came out to support the teams!

Memphis Animal Clinic

The Memphis Police Department's Canine Unit received gift baskets for Service Animal Appreciation month. The Memphis Animal Clinic donated baskets for all canines and provided lunch for the officers assigned to the Canine Unit. In appreciation for all the wonderful gifts, the Canine officers gave the veterinarians a tour of the Canine facility. Thank you so much to the Memphis Animal Clinic for this generous donation and for appreciating our canines!

MPD D.A.R.E. Graduation

On May 8, 2019, we celebrated and graduated 880 young students from the MPD Drug Alcohol Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program where the students are dedicated to having a safer and drug-free future! The students contributed many hours to learn the dangers of drugs and weapons and how to avoid them. The ceremony was held at Cummings Street Missionary Baptist Church to show appreciation to the students for their dedication of a brighter and safer future. Way to go kids, keep up the great work!

The program was taught in 12 different schools by 5 (five) D.A.R.E. Officers (Officers T. Rutherford, C. Leake, L. Banks, T. Johnson, and K. Miles).

Graduating schools:

- **Belle Forrest Community School**
- **Crump Elementary**
- **Hamilton Elementary**
- **Ida B. Wells Elementary**
- **Kipp Memphis College**
- **Kipp Preparatory Elementary**
- **Magnolia Elementary**
- **Riverview Elementary**
- **Shady Grove Elementary**
- **Springdale Elementary**
- **Vision Prep Charter**
- **Willow Oaks Elementary**

A Boy's Best Friend

Jalen Manns is a 9-year-old boy who was diagnosed with a brain tumor in May 2018. His mother, Hannah Manns, said the tumor has caused psychological and sensory issues for Jalen for some time. After he was diagnosed, his family started a Facebook page called "Team Jalen" to serve as a support system for Jalen. Since, he has received an enormous amount of support from friends, family, and followers of the Facebook community. Since, Jalen came to Memphis to begin his treatment at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Once he arrived, the MPD's Public Information Office was contacted by Warner Robbins Police Department and asked if MPD would be willing to let Jalen visit our Canine Unit. After hearing his story, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to make a positive impact on Jalen's life. Jalen and his mother came for a tour of our Canine Unit and he had an opportunity to visit with our K-9 officers and see how they train. Jalen loved Nikka and enjoyed meeting our bloodhound, Anthony. After his tour, Jalen was given an MPD Canine patch, coin, t-shirt, hat, toys, and he was made an honorary MPD Canine handler. We were very grateful for having Jalen come out and see our Canine Unit, and we will keep him in our prayers as he continues to fight his battle.

Officers Meads & Clark

Catherine Clark is a preschool teacher at St. John Catholic School, located in the Orange Mound Community. Each year, Ms. Clark focuses on community helpers. Ms. Clark teaches her class that police officers and firefighters help keep us safe. Many of her students often express negative feelings toward the police; so, it is her goal to change those feelings by allowing her students to have a memorable and positive experience with police officers. For the past two years, Officer Patrick Meads and Officer Zachary Clark have visited her classroom for a "Popcorn Party with the Police." The officers talk about their duties and responsibilities as a law enforcement officer. The officers passed out junior police badges to the students and then sat with them to have popcorn as they continued to discuss the importance of law enforcement. After snacks, the officers danced with the students and shared stories. The students opened up to the officers and began to realize that officers are their friends and not their enemies. According to Ms. Clark, many of the students now say that they want to be police officers when they grow up. "I am so grateful that these officers have committed themselves to help improve our community, even when they are off duty. By volunteering to visit my classroom, they have helped change the attitudes of my students." Great job to both officers for taking time out of their schedule to make a difference to these children!

Going Beyond the Call of Duty

Members of the Memphis Police Training Academy learned that the children of Hawkins Mill Elementary lacked supplies for their Physical Education Department. Collectively, the officers at the Training Academy gathered over $1200.00, which was used to purchase various items to donate to the school. Donated items included a basketball goal, basketballs, footballs, hula hoops, cones for calisthenics, a teambuilding parachute, a badminton court, frisbees, and many other items. Going beyond the call of duty and setting a great example of being some of the Best in Blue, these officers get a BIG thank you from the children of Hawkins Mill Elementary! Great job officers!!

Best In Blue

Going into our second year of MPD's "Best in Blue" podcast and TV show, the Public Information Office will be presenting various units and officers to highlight the great things that the men and women of MPD do on a daily basis.

The "Best in Blue" podcast and TV show provides audiences with an in-depth look into the Memphis Police Department.

Don't forget to tune-in!

Text BNB to 72000 TO GET INSTANT ACCESS TO OUR SHOWS!!! You can also check out the Best In Blue on your favorite Podcast Provider!

To watch on TV, tune-in to WYPL TV-18. You can keep up with the updated schedule by going to memphislibrary.org, click on "Program Schedule" and look for The Best in Blue. If you are interested in being featured on the next Best in Blue, contact the PIO's office at PIO@memphistn.gov.

Having Dinner with a Cop

Officers Justin Cacaro and Anthony Williams of Crump Station responded to a robbery call at Cooper and Felix to find that a couple from London had been robbed. The London couple had been in Memphis visiting for a few days and were on their way to get dinner when they were robbed. After taking the report and making sure the couple was okay, the officers took it upon themselves to take the couple to get something to eat at a nearby deli. The officers told management what they were doing, and instead of the officers paying for dinner, management of Young Ave Deli treated the couple and officers to dinner, free of charge. Kudos to these officers, they are true examples of what it means to be the Best in Blue!

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Answering the Call for Help

Two officers with the Memphis Police Department saved a man's life who was trapped in a house that was on fire. Officers Jason Waddell and Jonathan Newport responded to the call of a house fire and heard a man yelling for help from inside the residence. The two officers went inside the house and found the man. The officers then freed the man and got him safely outside. Both officers said they were just doing their job and hope the man makes a full recovery. These two officers should be recognized for their incredible act of courage.

Cleaning up the Community

Three years ago students at Kingsbury Middle School painted a fence across the street from their school. Since, vandals painted over their hard work with gang graffiti. Students at Kingsbury Middle School wanted to make a difference in their community by setting an example for all to see so they decided to paint the fence again.

Working with Officers Cassandra Leake and Timothy Rutherford, these 6th grade students spent two days painting a mural on a fence across from their school. The mural was designed by their art teacher and a local artist. Both artists spent many hours creating a prefect image that reflects the diversity of not only the students at Kingsbury, but the community of Memphis. These students, being part of the Memphis Police Department's G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training) Program said gang graffiti was not welcomed in the neighborhood.

Great job to all the students who helped make their community better!

The Citizens of Memphis Thank YOU!

Often serving as a law enforcement officer may feel like a thankless job, but you should know that the hard work and daily grind is paying off. The citizens of Memphis thank you!

Here are just a few….

Susan Murray
Assigned to Mem

Thx to the officer who came over. This was happening all afternoon and evening....corner of Helene/Hopewell. Thankful for the response from MPD. Y'all have a good night!!

Hi! Today @ Overton Park we had a person riding a three wheeler through the restricted roads in the park. Just wanted to say thank you to the quick response of the officers who came out. Thank You so much for protecting our community❤️

🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏

just wanted to take a moment and said thank you to MPD for a great officer don't have a name but she was great my 7 year old son and 3 year old daughter always talk about been a police officer and we are visiting Memphis for the weekend at the time we was getting out of the Zoo the kids was just looking at the officer and she start to talk to them been very professional and personal with the kids and even let the kids sit down on her motorcycle a great officer very hard to find thanks to her. I will like to share a picture with you this was yesterday

Thanks for the presence in Westwood today! I live alone and seeing the Men in Blue if only for a short time made me feel safer.❤️

Thank you officer Breaux(3316), for your quick response and for taking animal cruelty seriously. You're my hero!

The Thank You Continues…..

Thank you for all you do

Kudos you guys are awesome

AT&T 11:51 88%

Whitney Durand Ross
16 mins ·

Just witnessed MPD giving a down-on-his-luck guy a hot drink. I'm sure they were telling him to get out of the cold rain, but at least they did this instead of take him to 201. **#ItsTheLittleThings** 💙

Hello. My wife posted this and I just wanted to show you some of your officers at work. Thanks for protecting this city.

Wonderful police work. Thanks very much.

5 Thanks

A BIG THANK YOU to the Memphis Police Dept. and specifically Officer Mosley!!! I was in Memphis today for the first time and lost my wallet while attending a football game. Needles to say I was very distraught and it was putting a huge damper on the entire trip. I got back to my hotel room and get a call from the front desk stating Officer Mosley found and dropped off my wallet at my hotel!!! He found my room card and made a specific trip just to give back a wallet to a complete stranger! Thank You so very much again Officer Mosley and the Memphis PD for showing an out-of-towner that much kindness! God Bless!

Naomi L., Colonial Acres · 9 May

We are thankful to all of you for your service every day to our neighborhoods and communities. We don't take your duty and sacrifice for granted. Thank you for posting and keep safe!

8 Thanks

GK E., Stage Park Meadows · 9 May

So extremely grateful for all our policemen & those in law enforcement, the ones gone & those still here. Honoring these heroes is a wonderful thing to do!

4 Thanks

Renée B., South Main · 19 Apr

Thank you

2 Thanks

Community Event

Officers enjoyed celebrating Festival Cinco de Mayo with Radio Ambiente and thousands of Memphians at this year's Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Agricenter.

MPD's Community Outreach Program, our recruitment team, Air Support and our Canine Unit were a huge hit!

Thank you to everyone who made this event a success!

Summer Camp at Raines Station

For the second year in a row, Raines Station officers partnered with the Police Activities League (PAL) program to host a "Meet and Greet" for this year's FREE summer camp at the Dominion Church. During the "Meet and Greet" parents had an opportunity to meet some of Memphis' Finest and also the sponsors of this year's summer camp. Bringing in more than 200 children; this camp will provide these children with a safe place to hang out during the summer months.

"On the first day of camp, kids are often scared and holding on to their parents, but by the end of the day, the kids don't want to leave. Seeing the impact these officers and PAL have on these kids is amazing," said Sgt. Craig Littles.

Great job to all involved, and we would also like to thank the sponsors and the Dominion Church for helping make this year's event possible!

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS!

May 22, 2019, marked the 200th anniversary of the City of Memphis. For 200 hundred years, Memphis has been a beacon of light to the south, the country, and the world. Whether it's hospitals that save children's lives or ideas that create industries. Memphis has attracted those who rise above and see a brighter future for themselves and others. And it's those people- from Doctor Martin Luther King Jr, Tom Lee, Elvis Presley, Ida B. Wells, Danny Thomas, and many iconic idols that have made Memphis what it is today. Memphians relentless pursuit of positive change, resilience, and a strong sense of community allow us to overcome the challenges and emerge stronger than ever to work towards becoming a better city!

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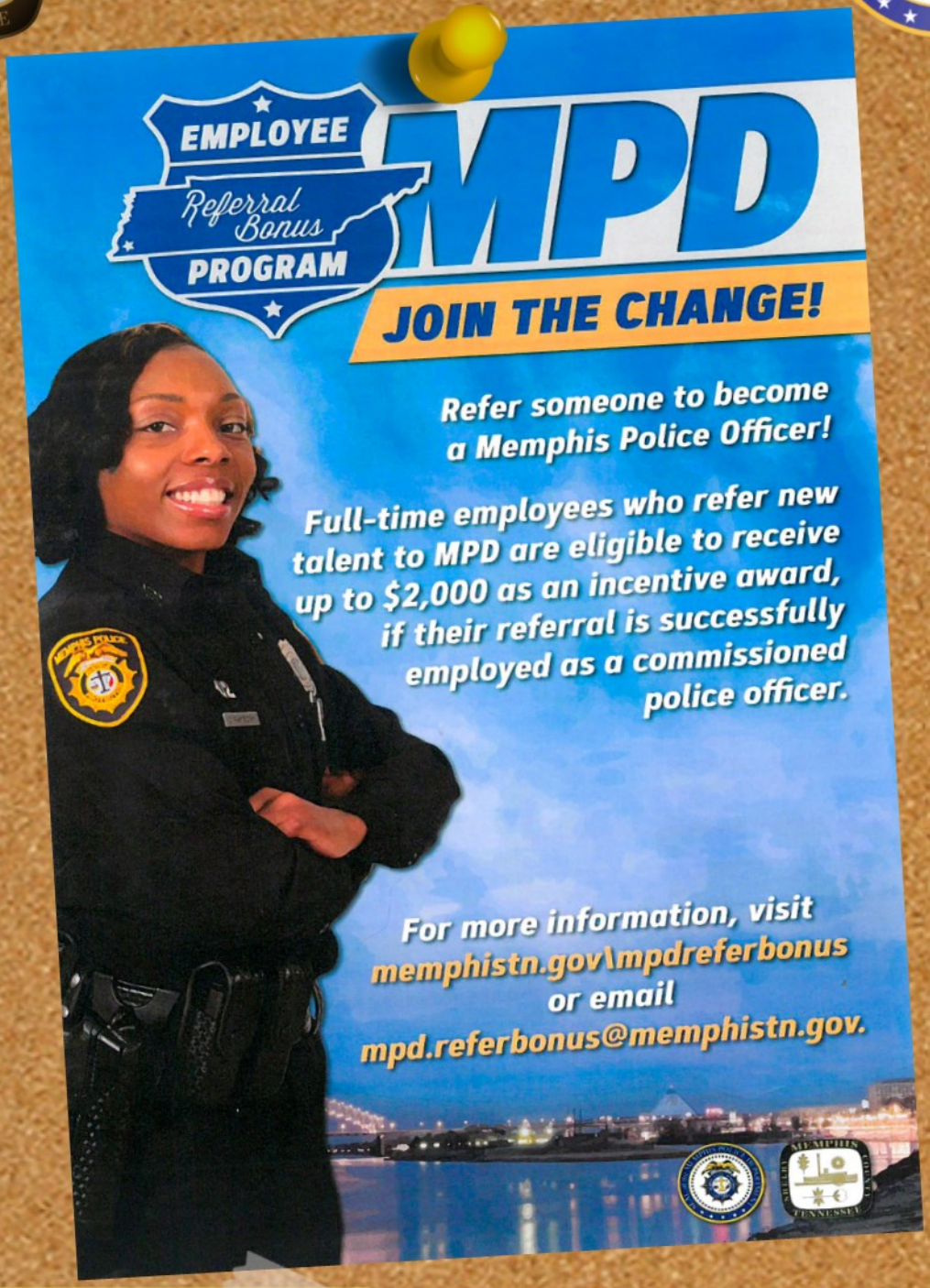

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