

# The Southside News

## Special points of interest:

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## Madison Police Department-South District

### The Wheeler Report

Submitted by: Captain James Wheeler

Each year the City of Madison Police Department goes through a "shift change" whereby patrol officers have the opportunity to pick the shift and district that they would like to work. This year shift change occurred on February 3, 2008. While many officers have returned to the South District, we do have a number of other officers who have either returned to the District or are new to the District. I will be putting out more information on the new officers, their designated beats, and assignments at a later date.

There have also been a couple of changes in the command staff. Most of you know that the Detective Lieutenant for South District last year was Lieutenant Tony Peterson. Unfortunately, Lt Peterson decided to retire in January. We wish Lt

Peterson well in his future endeavors.

Taking Lt Peterson's position as Detective Lt. will be Lt. Jane Stoklasa. Lt Stoklasa has been at the South District for the last three years as the Patrol Lieutenant. Finally, taking Lt Stoklasa's place as the Patrol Lieutenant will be Lt Stephanie Bradley Wilson. Lt Bradley Wilson comes to us from the traffic section.



Captain Wheeler

If you have any questions regarding district issues, please feel free to contact the command staff at the numbers below.

Capt. Jim Wheeler:	266-5938
Lt. Stephanie Bradley Wilson:	266-5934
Lt. Jane Stoklasa:	266-6560

### Patrol Operations

Submitted by: Lt. Stephanie Bradley Wilson

The South District has 41 officers (excluding detectives) assigned to the district that includes three neighborhood officers, six community policing officers, an educational resource officer and 31 patrol officers that respond to the various calls for service throughout the south district. Our goals will continue to focus on keeping our residents safe, maintaining a high level of visibility, and communicating effectively with community members through various mediums.

Priority areas for Operations will be to address quality of life concerns ranging from issues in our parks, prostitution, traffic violators as well as dealing with drug and gang related violence.



Madison Police Department-South District

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*“It is my hope that the people that live in the neighborhood will reach out to each other, will help each other.”*

## Magnolia-Cypress Neighborhood News

Submitted by: Police Officer Sue Krause

It has been a pleasure to serve as the neighborhood police officer for the Cypress-Magnolia Neighborhood for the past three years. I have enjoyed serving the residents of this community. As I think back to 2005, some of the same struggles remain, but there are also some definite successes.

When I began, many of the units were empty, with landlords at 902 W Badger Rd, 2413 and 2409 Cypress Way refurbishing their units. As density increased in these apartments, so did calls for service. The Joining Forces for Families office, located at 838 W Badger, moved to 2501 Fish Hatchery Rd. Suddenly, an anchor in the neighborhood was physically gone. The JFF office provided a safety net and calming presence in the heart of the neighborhood. JFF continues to provide many positive services to this neighborhood in the different location. It was a reminder to me, however, how even small shifts in density and environment can impact a fragile neighborhood.

Two buildings have been razed in the neighborhood: 902 Magnolia Lane and 837 Hughes Pl. The Magnolia site is now the home of the Cypress Spray Park.

The neighborhood is quiet now in the middle of a very cold winter. The summer and fall of 2007, however, was extremely busy with calls as well as a noticeable increase in prostitution activity. There were also some serious and frequent attacks on women involved in prostitution. Based on these factors, a group of concerned officers and detectives joined forces with other service providers to try to get a more comprehensive approach to the prostitution problem. Called the CCR

or Community Coordinated Response to Prostitution, the service providers began to work with the PD to try to get a grasp on the ongoing problem.

The work of the CCR has resulted in a women's drop-in group (support, resources available to the women), development of a "john school" for men arrested for solicitation, media outreach (Wisconsin State Journal, La Comunidad, La Movida-PSA, newspaper articles) and ongoing stings designed to arrest both men and women.

A number of women have gone into treatment. One woman who had been an addict for 20 plus years, is now clean for months and working "off the streets". Other women have entered treatment as well, supported by Project Respect. It is my great hope that this comprehensive approach continues in the neighborhood. Simply arresting people does not work.

The neighborhood garden located behind 926 Magnolia Lane continues to grow in strength and size. It is an example of what a neighborhood can do when they work together. Neighborhood Association President Dale Cox worked very hard with me back in 2005 to get this project started. Dale took out his garden shears and cut through red tape. We were able to convince the school district that a community garden on their property was indeed a good thing! Thanks to garden coordinator Kate Moran, the garden is organized and growing in size for the 2008 season.

This neighborhood is quite strong, but frayed in some areas that lack leadership by property owners. Because on

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outrageous number of police calls as well as type of calls at several properties, I have worked regularly with Attorney Jennifer of the City Attorney's Office on nuisance property issues. At least one letter has gone out to a landlord whose poor property management skills have allowed the location to decline. It is my hope that the nuisance ordinance can be used a tool to compel managers/owners with poor management practices to clean up their act.

I am also grateful to the dedicated staff in the Dane County Narcotics and Gangs Task Force for their assistance this year. They have done several search warrants which has led to the recovery of drugs (brick heroin), meth, cocaine and

numerous guns. I have been particularly fortunate to work with officer Denise Markham, whose knowledge of violent offenders, particularly higher level drug dealers, has allowed me to identify them in the neighborhood.

It is my hope that the people that live in the neighborhood will reach out to each other, will help each other. Tracie Jokala will be the new Charlie Forty-One, a hardworking and dedicated officer who has served the East District well for many years. She will cross train with me this month and I will try to introduce her to my friends south.

I will be walking the beat days on State Street.

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*Sgt. Dave McClurg  
reports  
improvements in  
Southridge  
apartment complex  
by CPT members .*

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## Community Police Team News

Submitted by: Sergeant Dave McClurg

As I look back at 2007 I want to thank all those who have contacted us and shared problems and information. We started our year trying to reach out to you and to learn what we could do to assist you in addressing neighborhood issues. Almost immediately it became clear that the 2900 block of Coho had become a significant problem.

Officer Scott Templeton in conjunction with the property manager of Southridge Apartments, Jane McDonald met regularly and went to work to address the problems present in the area. As a result we have seen a decrease in calls for service and an improved neighborhood.

Throughout the year we have addressed problems as varied as boom cars, drug complaints, prostitution, misuse of city parks, traffic complaints and trespass complaints. Many of these issues will need to be regularly addressed throughout the coming year.

February will bring a large change to the CPT. Officer Rahaman and I will remain. Officers Templeton, Chalecki, Wixom and Kobinski will be on to other adventures. New to the team will be officers Tom Finnegan, Scott Beckfield, Dave Dexheimer and Steve Chvala.

We look forward to working with you and encourage you to contact us with information and specific problems in your neighborhoods that we can address.

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*“This neighborhood is unique in that it has a large number of residents with special needs.”*

## Bayview/Triangle

Submitted by: Officer Jean Stenson

I have been the Neighborhood Officer for the Triangle since January 2007. The Triangle consists of housing bordered by S. Park St., W. Washington Ave, and Regent St. This neighborhood is unique in that it has a large number of residents with special needs. In order to make the Triangle safer I work closely with the CDA Housing site office to identify problem residents and trespassers. Residents are first afforded the opportunity to correct their behavior and when appropriate program support is offered. A long time resident was using her apartment as a smoke house for crack cocaine and other illegal drugs and had to be evicted. Other residents were also asked to leave or evicted due to drug trafficking and other violations. Mediating neighbor disputes takes up a lot of my time. The on-site CDA staff assists with this as they work closely with the residents and understand their needs.

During the holidays I assisted with the purchasing and preparation of food for parties held in the Triangle. Toys for Tots again solicited presents for area children in need. Two Men in a Truck picked up these toys and I along with other officers picked the toys up from Two Men in a Truck and distributed them in our respective communities. Bayview Community assisted me in handing out the toys in their community.

Besides attending local meetings, I will also be assisting with some of the following programs:

Leigh Voight of the Mental Health Center of Dane County has organized a Computer Lab that will provide computer assistance three days a week. Voight is the HUD Service Coordinator. The labs will be held at the Parkside Apartments, 245 S. Park St., Room #109. Voight is utilizing U. W. students to assist her with the instruction.

Area residents are once again assisting Edgewood College Nursing Students who are holding classes at Brittingham Apartments located at 755 Braxton Pl. The residents are donating their time by helping students improve their interviewing skills. The students interview residents and the residents along with their instructor, Nursing Professor Pamela Minden, provide feedback for the students.

The kick off for “RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS WEEK” is February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Brittingham Dinning Room from 3-4 pm. There will be refreshments, music, games and fun to celebrate the goodness of the Triangle Community. The following Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 1-2:30 pm will be the wrap up for the “official” Random Acts of Kindness Week and performing will be the HeartStrings Quartet of the Madison Symphony.

Artsbridge Classes are held on Wednesdays from 1-2:30 pm in the Karabis Community Room. These classes will be highlighted with a special class on Feb 6<sup>th</sup> with Nancy Giffey and on February 27<sup>th</sup> with clay artist Linda Leighton. There will not be any class on February 20<sup>th</sup> due to the Random Acts of Kindness celebration at the Brittingham Dining Room.

Kate Pender RN, MS Community Parish Nurse is spearheading project “Preparedness through Linking All Neighbors” (PLAN) starting January 31<sup>st</sup> through May. The first meeting will be on January 31<sup>st</sup> from 5-7 pm in the Brittingham dinning room. We will identify leaders in the neighborhood and discuss safety measures to create a safer community.

## Investigative Updates

Submitted by: Lt. Jane Stoklasa



The South District detectives have been working diligently on both persons and property crimes, in January.

On New Year's Day morning, detectives were called in to work on a weapons offense, in which a man sustained a gunshot wound to the leg. This occurred in an apartment, on Cypress Way. After many hours of follow up, a suspect was located and arrested.

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, at about 7:30 pm, the Greenbush Bakery, on Regent Street was robbed. The investigation is continuing.

On January 21<sup>st</sup>, the Joyeria Vargas Store, on S. Park Street, was robbed at gunpoint. That investigation is continuing, as well.

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, a homicide occurred on West Shore Drive. A resident of the block was stabbed, and he later died of his injuries. Numerous Detectives, Investigators, and Officers have spent

many hours, in pursuit of solving this case. Representatives of the Police Department attended a community meeting, to share what they could with the neighbors, as well as answer questions and make suggestions on how to cope with this tragedy. Crime prevention officer MaryAnne Thurber also spoke at the meeting, providing citizens with ideas and tips for personal and residence safety and security. The investigation is continuing, with several people devoted to the investigation.

These persons crimes have received many hours of focus, as well as numerous burglaries, both residential and business. Madison has been experiencing a large volume of burglaries, citywide, mostly to stores and businesses. These include incidents where the suspect(s) smash windows and glass doors, to gain entry. The Detectives are working on these cases, creating plans to study the patterns and hopefully apprehend the suspects.

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## Fisher/Baird St News

Submitted by: Sergeant Dave McClurg

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## Bram's Addition

Submitted by: Tammi Droessler

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*"The Bram's Addition is quiet under a blanket of snow, but plans are in the works for 2008."*

It is my hope that the New Year has been good to you so far! The Bram's Addition is quiet under a blanket of snow, but plans are in the works for 2008. I am looking forward to greeting PO Tracie Jokala as the new Cypress-Magnolia Neighborhood Officer. I will continue to work with both Tracie and the South CPT on various projects this year.

The patrol and detective "shift change" will occur in early February. I have getting together information for the new officers coming south so that they know the various challenges and strengths of the neighborhood. One exciting development is the opening of a new neighborhood bar, "R Place on Park", a beautifully appointed nightclub located at 1821 S Park St. The club is open 7 days a week, and plan on serving food in May. Owner Rick Flowers and bar manager Bryan Lewis hope to attract an older crowd, featuring live music and other entertainment.

One very positive outcome from 2007 was the environment in Penn Park. The park is the heart of the neighborhood, situated very close to the Boys and Girls Club, Child Development Center and Quaker Elder Housing. The park has had in the past, problems with fights and disturbances. People (often not from the neighborhood) will use the park as an area to settle conflicts. In 2006, reports of gunfire were not uncommon in the evening and early morning hours of the summer. My belief was that bringing POSITIVE activities to the park was a way to drive out the negative influences. I feel that when the elderly residents of Quaker Housing feel like they can go to the park without fear... then, I will have succeeded.

I last year collaborated with Madison School Community Recreation to incorporate a daily "playground" event for young children in the park. MSCR also ran a 3 on 3 basketball programs for teens. The presence of positive activities

definitely impacted the behaviors in the park. The gambling and drug activity subsided. Some of the activity did get displaced to the 1900 block of Baird St. The reports of shots fired in 2007 was less than in 2006.

MSCR has again agreed to provide programming for young children in the park. They will also bring the "Art Cart" to the park once a week. I am grateful that MSCR is continuing their investment in the south side. I am also very thankful to Alder Julia Kerr for providing the support for this important program.

Last year, I hoped to encourage stakeholders to also "take a stake in the park". The Bram's Addition Neighborhood Association has taken on this challenge. The stakeholders are meeting monthly with the goal of improving the park. The main focus is to bring positive, family friendly events to the park.

There are some fun intergenerational events that are coming up soon! Last year, I was able to coordinate some "junior/senior" projects at Quaker Housing that involved Boys and Girls Club kids. The great times had by the kids and elders proved that we just had to do this again!

I am working again with Boys and Girls Club as well as CDI (young kids) and Quaker Housing for Elders. On February 7, Boys & Girls Club kids will bake cookies at the Club. The cookies will be frosted on February 11, at Quaker by kids and seniors. Cookies will then be shared, with some being sold as a fundraiser at the primary election at the Boys and Girls Club on February 19. Sounds like fun!

We are planning an egg hunt for the CDI kids at the Club in March. April will bring a crafting event for the juniors/seniors. It is my hope that we can forge new friendships and learn from each other; we all have something to share.

## West High News



West High School

Submitted by: Dan Murphy, West High Educational Resource Officer, Madison Police Department

The month of January signifies the end of a semester (1-25-08). It also signifies a new beginning for many. The natural break often means new students will be transferring to WEST HS from other Madison schools. As we know these transitions can sometimes be stressful for students for a variety of reasons. My hope is that the second half of the 2007/08 school year will be safe and successful for all our students as they take on their new challenges.

From an incident perspective, January has been fairly typical. Truancy, trespassing, theft and disruptive behavior continue to be the main issues. These often result in me issuing citations. Besides issuing nine municipal citations for more minor offenses this month I also physically arrested four students. Two arrests were for battery stemming from a fight on a school bus and from a fight at the south

transfer point, each occurring after school. Another student was arrested for a theft from a staff member. The last arrest was related to a student who brought a knife to school and displayed it to other students. During my involvement in these investigations, as well as others, I have found that many of the students involved are affiliated with local gangs in some way, shape or form. While this fact doesn't demonstrate any change from earlier in the year, it continues to be a matter worthy of attention by school administration and the police department.

I continue to have the occasion to speak to students in their classrooms about a variety of legal topics. I enjoy these speaking opportunities immensely especially given that it provides students a chance to see the "police" in a different light. I appreciate your phone calls and hope you will continue to let me know when you have any questions or concerns.



Madison Police  
Department-South  
District

Captain James Wheeler  
Lt. Stephanie Bradley Wilson, Operations  
Lt. Jane Stoklasa, Detectives  
Mrs. Connie Topper, Administrative Support  
825 S. Hughes Place  
Madison, WI 53713  
Phone: (608) 266-5938  
Fax: (608) 266-4453  
Website: [www.cityofmadison.com/police](http://www.cityofmadison.com/police)  
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.  
Monday-Friday

**"Policing in Partnership with our Community"**

*The South Police District encompasses the areas of the city of Madison which are south of the south shoreline of Lake Mendota, and the areas south of Regent Street and Speedway. The South District is bounded to the east by Monona Avenue, and on the West by Seminole Highway.*