

Madison Police Department

West Police District Newsletter



About WPD



Captain Jay Lengfeld

The Fourth of July Fireworks Event at Elver Park was very safe and successful. The fireworks were fantastic and everybody looked like they were enjoying the show. I would like to thank Woodman's and Midwest Family Broadcasting for all the resources and time they put into this event and without this help there would not be a Westside fireworks show. We look forward to working with them in the future.

Talking about fireworks, the police department received quite a few complaints about illegal fireworks being set off citywide. Here on the Westside, we were busy Friday night staffing the legal fireworks show at Elver Park. After the fireworks, we had the officers move into the areas around the park until 11:30 PM. There was a team made up of one officer and one member of the MFD going around the whole Westside to handle fireworks calls. The team worked from 8 PM to 11 PM and wrote 3 citations, gave 2 verbal warnings, confiscated numerous fireworks. After 11:00 PM on both July 3rd and 4th the Westside was down to six officers who had to handle all the calls for service. A fireworks complaint is a noise complaint and is given a very low priority ranking, which means it is the last to be serviced. Many Madison residents believe they can use fireworks on the Fourth as part of the celebration and because they purchased them in the area.

Patrol Operations



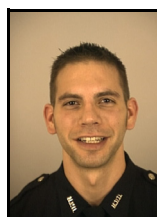
Lieutenant John Patterson

This month I would like to introduce two more of our officers, both who work on our afternoon shift. The first is Officer Bob Veatch. Bob joined MPD in 1998 and started his career working the night shift in the East and North Districts. Bob was then a part of the Traffic Enforcement and Safety Team prior to coming to the West District in 2004. Bob currently patrols the section of the district that falls east of Gammon Road and between Mineral Point Road and the Beltline. Bob is the patrol liaison to the Westmoreland Neighborhood.



Prior to joining MPD, Bob traveled for seven years on the road staff with *Up with People*. During this time, Bob visited and performed in over 20 countries on 4 continents – including a show for Pope John Paul II at the Vatican City, Rome, Italy. Bob recently worked as a sound tech for an *Up with People* alumni cast that performed in Branson, MO. Thanks Bob!

The second officer I would like to introduce to you all is Officer Alex Berkovitz. Alex patrols the area of the District that lies south of the Beltline, west of Gammon Road and north of Raymond Road. Alex joined MPD in 2002 and worked in patrol in the South, East and Central Districts before coming to the West District in 2009. Alex is the patrol liaison to the High



Point Estates Homeowner's Association. Prior to joining MPD, Alex worked in the court system as a case manager for people with chronic mental illnesses. Alex is a first generation Jewish American with familial roots in what is formerly known as Czechoslovakia. His parents came to the United States in 1969. Thanks Alex!

June was a busy month for officers in the West District. Our patrol officers responded to **4,157** calls for service. This is an average of over **138** calls per day. These incidents included:

- 5 Robberies
- 9 Weapons Offenses
- 44 Burglaries
- 16 Batteries
- 10 Stolen Autos
- 226 Motor Vehicle Crashes

Patrol Continued...

89	Retail Thefts
165	Disturbances

In May, West District Officers issued a total of **371** traffic citations, consisting of **212** “hazardous” citations (speeding, following too close, etc) and **159** “non-hazardous” citations (defective equipment, registration violations, etc). Officers also issued **148** municipal citations (trespassing, retail theft, etc). These numbers total an average of over **8** citations per officer.

Field



Lieutenant Tony Bitterman

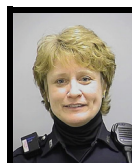
On June 9, 2009, shortly after 10pm, the Madison Police Department investigated a reported shooting in the 2000 block of Balsam Rd. Officers arriving in the area located the victim, Karamée Collins, 17 years old, outside an apartment building with an apparent gunshot wound. Collins was transported by Madison Fire/Rescue to the hospital, and was pronounced deceased shortly thereafter.

In less than one days time, two suspects in the homicide, Deandre J. Bernard, 16 years old, and Kendrick Briggs, 16 years old, had been identified, located, and arrested. Both Bernard and Briggs were charged with First Degree Intentional Homicide. A third person was arrested for Possession of a Dangerous Weapon and taken to the Juvenile Reception Center. The weapon believed to have been used in the commission of the crime had also been recovered.

Crimes of this nature require extensive and exhaustive investigation. The speed in which this case came together belies the hard work and perseverance demonstrated by the officers, investigators, analysts, and detectives working this case. Several weeks after Bernard and Briggs had been arrested and charged, detectives continued to investigate, collect and document information pertinent to the case. Having been involved in several homicide investigations over the past several years, and certainly in this case, I never cease to be impressed by the commitment and teamwork routinely exhibited by the employees of the Madison Police Department.

Neighborhood Officers

Allied Drive



Officer Carren Corcoran



Officer Samuel Ward

The Allied Drive safety walk on June 12 had a decent turnout of approximately mix of adult residents, a landlord, and children of all ages. The walk went for about an hour and the weather was good. Since the walk we have been asked numerous times by neighborhood children when we will walk again. I think that speaks volumes to the first safety walk.

Allied Neighborhood Association planned and participated in the second safety walk that was on Thursday, June 25th. We were told there was a similar turnout of adults and children who walked the neighborhood.

The Allied Neighborhood Association will be planning future safety walks. Watch future newsletter articles as we will attempt to keep all informed.

Hammersley



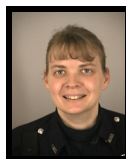
Officer Mike Hanson

June was a very busy month in my neighborhood. We had a homicide that occurred and my neighborhood had people that were involved. This homicide showed the community how it effects so many involved, from the victim's side and the suspect's side. There were a lot of concerned, long faces throughout the neighborhood for several days. From the homicide came a group of African-American community leaders who have volunteered to meet weekly regarding youth violence. Adult male role models will be more present in the neighborhoods in the next few weeks trying to reach out to youth in some of the challenged neighborhoods.

On Father's Day there was a daytime shooting on Theresa Terr/Hammersley Rd. Since that time, an arrest was made in which we believe the person may be involved in multiple shootings since April. This arrest and the arrest of others involved with guns have helped significantly in the neighborhood. The arrests have helped quiet the neighborhood to some degree.

Recently there was a report of a stabbing in the 1600 block of Prairie Rd. Although the case is still under investigation, it is believed that this was not an isolated incident and that the suspect made the attack based on a previous incident. Finally, the fireworks at Elver Park were more successful than last year. Although Hammersley/Theresa shined with several young people coming into the neighborhood after the event; there were few arrests and most of the large groups were ushered away around 11:30 p.m. In the past there had been violence and property damage and this year with the dozens of police officers in the neighborhood, it appeared to be more manageable.

Wexford



Officer Cynthia Thiesenhusen

The new Wexford Ridge Neighborhood office is finally a reality! Thanks to the efforts of **Lt. Patterson, Capt. Lengfeld, Chief Wray, Alder Paul Skidmore, the City Attorney's office, City Risk Management, City/County Public Health Dept., and Dane County Human Services (JFF)**. The new office is now located at 7011 Flower Lane #A & #C. It is my intention to bring needed services to the neighborhood. This new space will be utilized for this purpose.

It has been my belief since taking the neighborhood officer position in 2004, that there has been a significant need to bring more services to the residents of Wexford Ridge, more than what the police department can offer. The Madison Police Department, the Public Health Nurse, and Joining Forces for Families (Dane County Human Services) will have office hours in this new space. As yet, the only office currently in the space is the Police Neighborhood Office. I am looking forward to the future services that will be offered in this community.

The following is a break down of calls for service for June 2009. There were a total of 99 calls in June compared to 113 in May. Top calls include:

	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>MAY</u>
911 call totals	11	14
Information	11	8
Disturbance	8	9
Domestic/Family trouble	7	8
Noise Complaints	7	9
Check Property	5	4

Russett Road



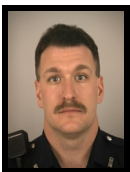
Officer John Amos

Landlords on Balsam Rd were galvanized by the murder on Balsam Rd to begin brainstorming sessions on how to solve the quality of life issues on Balsam Rd. There is going to be a meeting on recommended solutions and I am eager see if the Madison Police Department can assist in any way.

I have requested from the landlords on Balsam/Russett area a list of rent rolls from their properties. A police summer intern is compiling that data. As I get reports and we make police contact at these addresses I will compare them against each other and notify landlords of incidents so they will hopefully take lease enforcement actions when necessary. All privacy laws with respect to HIPA etc...will be respected.

West Community Policing Team has stepped up enforcement of traffic and quality of life issues in the Balsam Russett areas. We have done operations that include traffic, high visibility patrol, and use of canine and undercover officers. I believe if the landlord group is successful in getting a consensus on lease enforcement and the police continue to do enforcement actions the neighborhood will see an improved quality

Community Policing Team



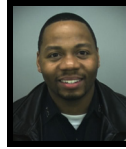
Sergeant David McClurg

The highlight of the month is an easy one. The CPT assisted Detectives in the apprehension of Stevie L. Triplett, aka Shawn Don. The arrest of Triplett was a major step in solving the rash of shootings that has plagued the West District for the past several months. The CPT also worked in conjunction with the US Marshall Service, ATF and the FBI working to arrest wanted felons in the Madison area for three days in June.

Officer Rose Douglas with her canine Martie successfully completed certification from The North American Police Working Dog Association in narcotics, tracking, obedience, building & area searches and aggression. Officer Douglas spent many hours of work with Martie to accomplish this honor.

Lastly, Officer John Amos has worked many hours to address ongoing problems in his area of responsibility the Russett Rd. and Balsam Rd. areas.

Memorial High School



Officer Shannon Blackamore

This summer I have been working with Police Officer Dan Murphy on an initiative to contact some of the troubled and at-risk youth. Officer Murphy is assigned as the ERO for West H.S. Together we have put together a list of students from each of our high schools.

These students have shown a propensity to be involved in fights, and other types of behavior that is detrimental to the school learning environment as well as the well being of others students.

Our desire is to contact the students at home and speak with them in the presence of their parents. Often times there may be a disconnect between what occurs outside the home and information that the parents are aware of.

Our initial contacts with the parents have been very positive, and we've provided some outlets and information on getting the teens involved in activities this summer. It's also a priority to let parents know that their participation in the school with their teens is critical.

Having an involved parent that is aware of the class struggles and challenges faced by their teens, is one way in which we can help combat the growing number of high school dropouts and further improve the ability of the teens to succeed.

I'll update you on the progress of this initiative and others in our next newsletter.