

**MIDDLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MONTHLY REPORT**



April 2009

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

On Monday, April 6, two new officers joined the Middleton Police Department.

Kathleen Riffenburg joins the Middleton Police Department by way of the Bakersfield-California Police Department, where she was an officer for over six years. Prior to her employment at Bakersfield Police Department, Kathleen was a Naval Corpsman and received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Hawaii. Kathleen has relocated to the Middleton area with her 12 year old son, Micah.

Scott Moen was born and raised in La Crosse and is a 2005 graduate of the University of Wisconsin. Scott worked for the Whitewater Police Department for two years prior to coming to Middleton.

Both officers are beginning their four month Field Training Program and will be on probation for 18 months.

Officers Riffenburg and Moen are shown in the accompanying photo reciting the Law Enforcement Oath of Office administered by Chief Keil. The officers were sworn in on Tuesday, April 7, as their friends, family, co-workers and elected officials looked on.



On April 21, Middleton Police Department's newest police officer was sworn in at a ceremony at the Middleton City Hall. Jesse Sellek comes to us from Henderson, Nevada, where he served as a patrol officer with the Henderson Police Department. He is a graduate of Western Illinois University where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. Jesse grew up in northern Illinois and has family there and in the Madison area. The swearing in ceremony was attended by Jesse's family, Middleton employees and elected officials. Jesse is shown in the accompanying picture being congratulated by Chief Keil and Mayor Sonnetag.



The addition of Officer Sellek brings the Middleton Police Department up to its authorized strength of 36 sworn officers, although Officer Ken Smith has been deployed to Iraq with the Wisconsin National Guard for the year.

04/15/09, 3:34 PM, MI09-2588, 5400 Century Avenue, Theft from Vehicle

Neighbors reported seeing three men breaking the window of a car. It was determined that a number of items were taken from the car including a cell phone. The investigating officer called the stolen cell phone number and pretended to be the victim. He told the person who answered the phone that his cell had important business numbers in it and offered to pay the person \$600.00 to return it. Incredibly, the suspect agreed. They agreed to meet at the McDonald's in Shorewood Hills, where two of the men were taken into custody by officers and detectives. Marshaun D, Williams, 27, and Victor Uscanga, 17, both of Madison, were charged with numerous crimes.

04/15/09, 3:18 AM, MI09-2579, Capital Ice, Burglary

Capital Ice reported two burglaries earlier in the month. Police put a portable alarm and video in the business. The alarm went off and the police observed the suspect inside but he was able to exit before a perimeter could be set up. Officers were able to get a plate number as the suspect sped away and arrested him later in the morning. Nineteen year old Deon Howard, Madison, was arrested for two counts of burglary. Investigation continues on the other burglary.

04/26/09, 4:41 PM, MI09-2873, Costco, Shoplifting

Store employees observed three subjects hide seven bottles of alcohol on their person, valued at over \$200.00 and then attempt to leave the store. They were confronted at the exit to the store and ran. As employees closed in on them in the parking lot, a man began throwing the stolen bottles of liquor at store employees. Thirty-seven year old Tyrees Scott, Madison, was jailed on a probation hold, Operating after Revocation, two counts of 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety, Criminal Damage and Retail Theft. Thirty-six year old Nyoka Tabor was jailed on a probation hold, Resisting Arrest and Retail Theft.

## **CRIME PREVENTION/COMMUNITY RELATIONS** **ACTIVITIES**

### **Community Events**

On Wednesday, April 1, Middleton Police gave a presentation at the Little Red Preschool for their "Community Helpers" week. The kids were also able to look at a police car up close.

On Saturday, April 5, Middleton Police braved the elements (snow and cold) and assisted the Jaycees with their Easter Egg Hunt at Lakeview Park.

On Saturday, April 11, under much nicer weather conditions, Middleton Police and McGruff helped out with the Downtown Business Easter Egg Hunt at Firemen's Park.

On Thursday, April 16, Middleton Police provided an auction certificate for a four hour ride-along and Department tour for the "Go Red for Women Fundraiser".

On Monday, April 20, Middleton Police joined Dane County Supervisor Kathleen Falk for a press conference at Middleton City Hall announcing the \$25.00 weather radios available for purchase.

On Saturday, April 8, Middleton Police met with concerned residents from the Meadows Neighborhood about crime in their area.

If you would like more information or would like to involve the Police Department in a community presentation or event, please contact Community Awareness Officer David Kasdorf at 827-7457 or [dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us).

### **Middleton Business Watch**

Middleton Business Watch held its Spring Training Seminar on April 22 at Middleton City Hall. Our guest speaker was Chuck Oglesby from RED Management (Greenway Station) who gave a presentation on "Surviving Today's Economy".

If you would like to join the Middleton Business Watch or need to update your contact information, please contact Community Awareness Officer David Kasdorf at 827-7457 or [dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us).

### **Police Citizens' Academy**

The 2009 Academy started on Wednesday, April 1. Students were given an overview and orientation by Chief Keil. Students were then taught about Problem Oriented Policing by Chief Keil and they tried to come up with solutions for the thefts from locker

rooms at the Middleton High School. Other classes in April included Traffic Enforcement, Investigations, Drugs & Gangs and Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT). And yes, four students volunteered to get tased.

If you live or work in Middleton and are interested in attending a future academy, please contact Community Awareness Officer David Kasdorf at 827-7457 or [dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us).

### **Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS)**

Our new VIPS were involved in helping sell weather radios, playing McGruff and helping with our new SafeAssured ID system.

If you are interested in the Middleton Police Department VIPS program please contact Community Awareness Officer David Kasdorf at 827-7457 or [dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us).

### **SafeAssured ID Kits**

Middleton Police were able to use our new system for the first time at American Girl for their "Take Your Child to Work Day". About 20 kids received their ID kits.

Middleton Police gave a presentation on the new system at the Senior Center on Thursday, April 30, and one senior citizen received his ID kit. After this, Middleton Police did kits for children from the Little Red Preschool. The event was covered by Channel 27/Fox 47 News.

If you would; like to volunteer to help run the system at events, have the system at an event or if you would like to donate money for the purchase of more kits, please contact Community Awareness Officer David Kasdorf at 827-7457 or [dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us).

### **Community Awareness Fund**

Middleton Community Awareness Programs such as Speed Watch, National Night Out, Citizens' Academy, Bike Safety Day, NSI Safety Day and Shop with a Cop are funded almost entirely from community donations.

If you would like to donate money to the Community Awareness Fund please send a check or money order to the Middleton Police Department Community Awareness Fund, 7426 Hubbard Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562. **Together we can make a difference.**

If you have any questions about donations or programs please contact CAO David Kasdorf at 827-7457 or [dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us).

## **OPERATIONS DIVISION**

Probationary officers Chris Formby, Nick Stroik and Jessica Quamme are on solo patrol, but are closely monitored by supervisors and their mentors. Officers Formby and Stroik are working on 2<sup>nd</sup> detail (3:00 PM to 11:00 PM) and Officer Quamme is working 3<sup>rd</sup> detail (11:00 PM to 7:00 AM). All three officers are performing well and are welcome additions to the Department.

### **Activity**

In March, Middleton Officers handled 1677 calls for service, 711 field initiated, 966 dispatched, issued 483 citations, made 30 criminal arrests and investigated 27 accidents.

In April, Middleton Officers handled 1565 calls for service, 711 field initiated, 854 dispatched, issued 515 citations, made 37 criminal arrests and investigated 22 accidents.

### **Significant Events in April**

#### 04/01/09, MI09-2194, 5300 Century Avenue, Fraud

A man received an unsolicited check in the mail for \$2,495.00 with instructions to cash it and return all but \$200.00 to the sender. The instructions indicated the sender was a secret shopper company and the man would receive additional instructions. The man cashed the check, sent all but \$200.00 back to the company in Canada, but was then informed by his bank that the check was no good. The man is now responsible for repaying the bank \$2,250.00. This is a common fraud and the police have little chance of being able to get the man's money back.

#### 04/02/09, MI09-2222, Northlake Neighborhood, Burglary and Theft from Vehicles

There were numerous reports of theft from vehicles and at least one burglary in the Northlake Neighborhood. Cars were entered, either parked in the street, driveway or unlocked garages and money and electronic equipment were stolen.

#### 04/08/09, MI09-2394, 7400 Century Avenue, Burglary

Resident reported that between 11:00 AM and 2:20 PM, unknown person(s) entered his apartment and took a computer, electronic equipment and then stole a tan Isuzu Trooper out of his garage.

#### 04/09/09, MI09-2427, 5500 Sedgemoor Road, Fraud

Complainant sent \$6,500.00 to someone thinking he was purchasing a 2006 Honda through Ebay. This was a fraudulent transaction.

#### 04/13/09, 8:36 PM, MI09-2537, 8300 Airport Road, Injury OWI Accident

The Middleton Police Department responded to a report of an injury accident on Airport Road. Investigation revealed that one vehicle rear ended another vehicle. The driver and passenger in the lead vehicle were injured. The driver of the following vehicle, 32 year old Middleton resident Benjamin Johnson, stated he was on his way to work at UW Hospital where he is employed as a Pharmacist. Johnson was cited for Causing Injury While Intoxicated.

04/14/09, 2:06 PM, MI09-2552, 6300 Maywood Avenue, Burglary

The resident of a duplex returned home and observed two men leaving his home. He chased after them, but they got away. Investigation showed that the suspects were in the freezer because meat had been removed and left on the kitchen table, a furnace duct had been removed and a safe stolen.

04/15/09, MI09-2585, 2200 Pleasant View Road, Burglary

Several storage units were broken into.

04/29/09, 2:50 PM, MI09-2936, Costco, Shoplifting

Three females stole several bottles of Hennessy Brandy valued at over \$300.00.

## **TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

During the month of April there were a total of 22 accidents of which five were in parking lots, a 15% reduction from April 2008, which had 26 accidents of which seven were in parking lots. These figures show the continuing trend of a good percentage of accidents occurring on private property or parking lots due to the increasing number of commercial properties within the city. The Police Department is limited in what it can do to reduce parking lot accidents as no enforcement action can be taken on private property other than hit and run, reckless driving and intoxicated driving offenses.

Delivery was taken of the Harley Davidson Electra Glide police motorcycle. It is ready for patrol purposes and will be ridden by Officer Mike Wood beginning part time in May prior to regular shift as he is field training a new officer. Air Graphics graciously donated the graphics for the motorcycle.

Sgt. Mueller and Community Services Manager Mark Walther attended a regional traffic incident management meeting sponsored by Wisconsin DOT at their Madison eastside office. Mark also attended a morning session of Train the Trainer in traffic incident management. Sgt. Mueller has attended that training in the past. The training instructs on how to safely set up an accident investigation zone and how to minimize the time required for clearing the scene thereby freeing up officers' time and clearing the roadway for regular use as quickly as possible.

April 27 saw the start of the annual Slow Down campaign which Middleton has participated in since its inception. Signs are available at the Police Department.

We were also notified that the Green-Yellow-Red campaign will again be undertaken this coming summer, some of which will be taking place at Middleton's Quaker Steak and Lube.

Directed traffic patrols were performed on 25 occasions for a total of 108 hours and 35 minutes. Full staffing on second shift accounted for being able to get an officer on traffic patrol for many more days than in prior months this year. Streets patrolled were: Airport Road, Allen Boulevard, Branch Street, Boundary Road at Stonefield Road, Century

Avenue, Donna Drive, Elmwood Avenue, Greenway Station area, Hwy Q, Hwy 12, Maywood Avenue, N Gammon Road, N High Point Road, N Westfield Road, Nursery Drive, Park Street, Parmenter Street, Pheasant Branch Road, Pleasant View Road, Stonefield Road and University Avenue. Enforcement action: 70 citations for Speeding with 25 warnings, 15 citations for various Failure to Stop for Sign/Signal with two warnings, five citations for Failure to Fasten Seatbelt with one warning, four citations for OAS/OAR, three citations for Registration violations and six warnings, two No Driver's License citations, two citations for Failure to Notify DOT of Address Change, five various Equipment warnings, one citation for Possession of Marijuana and one warrant served. In addition, a traffic count for two hours during the afternoon rush hour on N Westfield Road showed 149 vehicles with 71 under the 25 MPH speed limit and seven at 33 MPD or greater with the fastest at 37 MPH.

OWI patrols were done on April 10 and 25 with 22 stops made. Citations were: two for OWI, three for OAR/OAS, three for Failure to Stop for Sign, two for Speeding, one for Open Intoxicants and 15 warnings.

## **TRAINING**

SET Crowd Control, 8 hours, Britt, Zimmerman, Kasdorf, Geiszler and Wood.  
Leadership for Managing Organizational Stress, 8 hours, Hellenbrand and Hanson.  
Northwestern University Supervision of Police Personnel, 80 hours, Geiszler.  
SET Tactical Training, 16 hours, Britt, Zimmerman, Kasdorf, Geiszler and Wood.  
Employment Law Update, 1.5 hours, Keil, Kakuske and Ziltner.  
Criminal Investigation for New Detectives, 16 hours, Jones.  
Wisconsin Terrorism Conference, 12 hours, Foulke and Britt.

## **INVESTIGATIVE UNIT REPORT**

On April 15, 2009, at approximately 3:30 PM, Middleton Police Dispatch received the report of vandalism in progress at 5405 Century Avenue. The caller stated that she had just observed two male Hispanics walk up to a vehicle and smash the side window out. The caller then stated that the suspects entered the vehicle, stole several items and then fled with a third suspect in a tan Toyota Camry.

As officers were responding to this call for service, they were diverted to respond to Scott's Pastry Shop for the report of an armed robbery that had just occurred. A subsequent investigation into this second incident revealed that it was a fraudulent complaint as two juvenile males had placed a crank call to the 911 communication center.

Once cleared from the suspected armed robbery, Officer Formby responded to the now cold call for the vandalism. Upon investigating this report, Officer Formby gathered detailed descriptions of the parties involved and located the victim. Officer Formby determined that there were a number of personal items stolen from the vehicle, including a cellular telephone.

Officer Formby called the stolen cellular telephone several times and was eventually able to speak to the suspects who had it in their possession. Officer Formby posed as the victim of the theft and negotiated a meeting with the suspects. Officer Formby convinced the suspects that he was desperate to have the cellular phone returned. The suspects agreed to meet and sell the phone back for \$500.00.

Detectives Jones and Haselow then worked with Officer Formby to set up the transaction. After a failed initial attempt, detectives were able to set up a meet with the suspects at the McDonald's Restaurant in Shorewood Hills.

Plain clothes detectives were able to make contact with two suspects at this location. The stolen property was recovered and both suspects were arrested. Charges of Criminal Damage to Property, Larceny and Attempted Extortion have been filed with the Dane County District Attorney.

During the month of April, 79 case files were sent to the investigative supervisor for review. Of these, eight cases were assigned to patrol officers and 36 new cases were assigned to various members of the ISB team. These case files include the following incident types:

- 2 - Annoying Phone Calls
- 8 - Burglaries
- 1 - Disturbances
- 8 - Domestic Follow-up
- 3 - Child Abuse
- 10 - Criminal Damage to Property
- 5 - Fraud
- 5 - Graffiti
- 1 - Harassment
- 6 - Larceny
- 3 - Thefts from Automobiles
- 4 - Uniform Controlled Substances
- 3 - Stolen Bicycles
- 1 - Missing Persons

## **SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER REPORT**

### Middleton High School

Special thanks go out to Kromrey SRO Jill Tutaj for assisting at the Middleton High School while I was gone at a substantial amount of training throughout the month of April. Officer Tutaj took calls in all of the Middleton schools during my absence.

During the time that I was present, I was assigned as primary on a total of 17 calls for service. That included three status offenses, two thefts, two lost property, two

information, two disturbances, and one each of 911 disconnect, assist other department, check property, uniform controlled substance, damage to property, and check welfare.

These calls resulted in a total of 12 citations. This included three for truancy, two for resisting or obstructing an officer, two for prohibited daytime loitering by minors, and one each for underage alcohol consumption, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, damage to property, and receiving stolen property.

Starting on April 27, Officer Travis Kakuske began his work at the Middleton High School. Officer Kakuske will be working with me through the end of the school year and he will be taking over the School Resource Officer position on his own starting this fall.

### Kromrey Middle School

April's call activity was very high. During April, I filled in at the high school for two weeks.

During April, I had Officer Matt Sherry with me for a week and started training him as he will be the new Kromrey officer next year.

At Kromrey we did another restorative circle for the same group of girls that have been having several altercations. While doing this, we came up with a plan to have all of the girls involved have an escort while at school. After a week of being escorted by an adult, the students will be able to earn points for good behavior and will earn their way to being alone again.

Also during April, I attended Kromrey's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit Night. This is a lock-in event that keeps the students at school until 10 PM with various events.

During April, I organized training for all Para-educators on the choking game. This was presented by two Dane County Deputies.

I also organized and took four students to Ethan Allen. The four students that were picked to go on this trip were recommended by staff members and have had problems in both school and in the community.

At the elementary school level, I did three internet safety presentations at Sauk Trail.

During April, I attended the weekly building consultation team meeting, the bi-weekly attendance meeting, the monthly Dane County School Resource Officer meeting and a Peer Court meeting.

In April, there were 27 documented calls for service. These included six disturbances, a status offense, three check property, a 911 disconnect, six information calls, two traffic complaints, one sexual conduct, a found property, a theft, a uniformed controlled

substance. I was also assigned a damage to property which resulted in six citations for disorderly conduct.

I issued eight tickets for disorderly conduct, one for obstructing, one for possession for paraphernalia, one for truancy, and one for loitering. I also issued two state charges for theft.

## **COURT ACTIVITY**

### **Dane County Adult Criminal Referrals**

54 Adults  
72 Criminal Counts  
8 Civil Forfeitures

### **Dane County Juvenile Criminal Referrals**

3 Juveniles  
3 Criminal Counts  
0 Civil Forfeitures

### **Municipal Court Citations Issued**

493 Municipal Citations