

**MIDDLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MONTHLY REPORT**



**FEBRUARY 2009**

# **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

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

### **Community Events**

A Police Department tour was given to a group of Daisy Scouts from Elm Lawn Elementary School on Wednesday, February 11.

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 has scheduled its spring training seminar for April 22 at 7:30 AM in the Middleton City Hall Council Chambers. Our guest speaker is Chuck Oglesby from RED Management (Greenway Station) who will be giving 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 is set to start April 1 and run through June 3. The Academy meets for ten weeks every Wednesday night from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM except for one class on a Saturday morning. The class is almost full.

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)**

The Middleton Police Department now has a volunteer citizen board, Middleton Volunteer Partnership (MVP), working to get VIPS up and running.

Possible volunteer positions are SafeAssured ID Operators, Speed Watch Operators, Event Workers, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, Citizens' Academy Alumni Coordinator and Office Assistant to name just a few.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for the Middleton Police Department 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**

The Middleton Police Department now has its new ID kit system and we are in the process of training persons to use it. Look for a big event in the near future. If you would like to volunteer to help run the system at events, like to 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 Ave, 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**

Nick Stroik began solo patrol in early February, after successfully completing five months of field training. Officer Stroik is currently assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift, 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM.

In February, Middleton Officers handled 1433 calls for service, 621 field initiated, 812 dispatched, issued 433 citations, made 32 criminal arrests and investigated 40 accidents.

### **Significant Events in February:**

MI 09-719, 02/01/09, 4:30 PM, Middleton Airport, 8300 Airport Road, Bomb Threat  
An employee at the Middleton Airport discovered what appeared to be a pipe bomb taped to a fuel tanker truck parked next to two in-ground fuel tanks in the taxi-way of the airport. The device was a 6" metal pipe, capped at both ends with wires coming from each end to a battery taped to the middle of the pipe. Police, Fire and EMS were notified and staged a safe distance away. The airport was closed, Airport Road was closed and two nearby businesses were evacuated. A command post was established and CV-1, a mobile command post, was requested. The Dane County Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team was requested and responded. Agents from the FBI, ATF, WI DCI and TSA

responded to the command post sight. EOD removed the device from the fuel tanker and it was taken further out on the runway and rendered safe. The device was determined to be a hoax device. The Middleton Police Department and FBI are jointly investigating this case. A person of interest has been identified.

MI 09-763, 02/04/09, UW Medical Foundation, 7974 UW Health Court, Protest

A group of Madison area medical providers were contemplating providing late term abortions at a facility in Madison. University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics scheduled a Board of Directors meeting at their Middleton facility to vote on the matter. Information was gathered which indicated up to 1000 people may show up to demonstrate or counter demonstrate the vote. Because of a past history of conflicts between the opposing groups, the Middleton Police Department requested the assistance of the Dane County Sheriff's Department Special Events Team and officers from the University of Wisconsin Police Department. The mobile command post, CV-1, was utilized and approximately 80 police officers were staged in the facility. The majority of the officers were unseen by the public, but nearby and ready to assist if needed. The event went off without violence or arrests and both sides were able to express their point of view.

MI 09-859, 02/07/09, 9:27 PM, TGI Friday's, 1610 Deming Way, Theft

Two males entered the restaurant, ate a meal, drank beers, sexually harassed the waitress and left without paying for their bill. Nineteen year old Collin Tubbs and 23 year old Christopher Ripp of Middleton were cited for Defrauding an Innkeeper.

MI 09-935, 02/11/09, 1:40 AM, 6200 block of Middleton Springs Drive, Arson and Burglary

Police and Fire were notified of a trailer on fire near a residence on Middleton Springs Drive. Middleton Fire Department was able to put out the fire, but it also caused damage to the residence. Investigation revealed the fire was deliberately set and that numerous items were stolen from the trailer. Twenty-three year old Christopher Ripp of Middleton was subsequently arrested and charged with Arson and Theft.

MI 09-990, 02/13/09, 5:26 AM, 3600 block of Valley Ridge Road, Arson, Reckless Endangerment

Police and Fire were notified of a fire at the rear of an occupied duplex on Valley Ridge Road. The fire was quickly knocked down by Middleton Fire Department. Police and fire investigators quickly determined that the fire was deliberately set. Investigation revealed that this was just one of a series of events which occurred in Dane County that evening including a fight, stabbing, two vehicle chases and two incidents of shots fired in Middleton, an arson fire in Cross Plains and an arson fire in Madison. Nineteen year old Collin Tubbs and 23 year old Christopher Ripp were arrested and charged with 39 felony counts for the crime spree throughout the County. Refer to the ISB report for additional details.

MI 09-998, 02/13/09, 3:12 PM, Elm Lawn Elementary School, 6701 Woodgate Road, Enticement

Police were called to Elm Lawn School on a reported Enticement. Two elementary school students reported a car containing two teenage males tried to get them into their car. School officials were able to alert parents and it was learned that this was a misunderstanding and no enticement took place.

MI 09-1128, 02/18/09, 1800 block of Parmenter Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Sexual Assault A female employee reported that a man came into her place of business, made unwelcome comments to her, hugged her and grabbed her buttocks. Eighty-seven year old Edward Kelly of Middleton was cited for 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Sexual Assault.

MI 09-1244, 02/22/09, 2:11 AM, Pachucos, 8152 Forsythia Street, Motor Vehicle Theft At bar time, the owner of a vehicle went to the parking lot, started his car and left it to warm up. When he and his companions returned to the car from the bar, it was gone. The vehicle has not yet been recovered.

## **TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

Officer Mike Wood has been chosen to attend the Northwestern Motorcycle Officer class in Memphis in March. The police motorcycle is slated to be delivered to the dealership the first week of April and should be ready for patrol a week to ten days later.

During February, there were 39 traffic accidents reported of which eight were in parking lots. That compares to 58 traffic accidents in February of 2008 of which nine were in parking lots. This is a 32% reduction in accidents from 2008.

Directed traffic patrols were performed on Parmenter Street, Century Avenue, N Gammon Road, Hwy 12, Branch Street, Greenway Blvd, Allen Blvd, and Donna Drive. Fifty-eight enforcement actions were taken: Speeding 31 citations and five warnings, DL Violations two citations, OAR one citation, Failure to Fasten Seatbelt one citation, U-Turn one citation, Stop Sign one citation, eight warnings for Equipment and three warnings for Registration. In addition, two citations were issued for Underage Alcohol. Nineteen and one half hours were spent on directed patrols.

There were two deployments in the OWI patrol with 16 hours of overtime patrol and eight hours of straight time patrol. Twenty-three stops were made with four citations for OWI, six citations for OAR/OAS, four citations for Speeding, three citations for Registration, one "Other" citation and 13 warnings for a total of 31 enforcement actions.

## **TRAINING**

### **Specialized**

Police Training Officer Certificate, 40 hours, Hanson and Wood  
Wisconsin Chief of Police Conference, 20 hours, Keil  
Wisconsin Association of Women Police Officers, 16 hours, Hamilton  
Ground Defense Survival Instructor, 40 hours, Hellenbrand

Northwestern University Death Investigation School, 40 hours, Faust

### **In-service**

1<sup>st</sup> quarter in-service dates: 2/9, 12, 18 and 24. Four hours at MATC. Topics: firearms, less lethal, pepper spray and ECD practice and Use of Force update.

## **INVESTIGATIVE UNIT REPORT**

The month of February brought yet another challenging case to the Middleton Police Department's Investigative Services Bureau. The case involved a two day crime spree that concluded in a physical altercation, a stabbing, two shootings, two vehicle chases, a burglary and four arsons. The following is a brief synopsis of these events.

On 02/11/09 at 1:38 AM, the Middleton Police and Fire Departments were dispatched to 6223 Middleton Springs Drive on the report of a vehicle fire. At this location, officers found a construction type trailer parked in the home's driveway that was fully engulfed in flames. This trailer was entered, property was stolen from within and it was set on fire.

On 02/12/09 at approximately 11:00 PM, Christopher Ripp, Collin Tubbs and a minor relative traveled to 2116 Fisher Street to meet with Darryl "Donnie" Brown and Armond "M-Dot" Hill. These five individuals then returned to 2635 Amherst Road #6, Middleton, where they consumed alcohol and smoked marijuana together.

At approximately 2:30 AM on 02/13/09, Hill called Ripp a "fag" and the two got into a verbal confrontation. Ripp armed himself with a sledge hammer and smashed a cinder block inside the apartment. Ripp threatened to kill both Brown and Hill during this confrontation. The altercation continued outside the apartment and was witnessed by neighbors. During the outside portion of the altercation, Ripp punched Hill in the face several times. Ripp also produced a folding knife and swung it at both Brown and Hill.

Ripp did strike Hill with the knife, cutting him in the arm. Brown and Hill then fled the area on foot. Once safely away from the Ripp residence, Brown contacted Anthony Green via telephone. Anthony Green responded to this area in his vehicle with his brother, Nathan Green. Anthony Green picked up Hill and Brown near the intersection of Century Avenue and Allen Boulevard.

Green contacted Ripp via telephone in an attempt to mediate the conflict between Ripp and Brown. During this conversation, Ripp became angry with Green and threatened to kill him. Green then drove his vehicle back to Ripp's Amherst Road apartment. At that location, Anthony Green found Ripp and Collin Tubbs driving erratically through the Amherst Road neighborhood. Neighbors state that they saw the Ripp/Tubbs SUV then chasing the Brown vehicle from Amherst Road onto Century Avenue. Neighbors further state that they heard two or three gunshots as the Brown vehicle turned from Century Avenue onto Branch Street. Brown stated that he was able to lose his pursuers within a few blocks of that incident.

Anthony Green contacted his friend, Joey Calvert, via telephone at approximately 3:06 AM. Anthony Green contacted Calvert as he is a longtime friend of Ripp's. Anthony Green told Calvert that Ripp was acting irrationally and asked that Calvert contact Ripp to try and intervene. Calvert stated that he did, in fact, call Ripp on behalf of Anthony Green at approximately 3:09 AM. Calvert attempted to calm Ripp, however, Ripp simply refocused his anger on Calvert. Ripp threatened to kill Calvert and his entire family.

During Calvert's initial contact with Ripp, he was at the residence of his friend, Joshua Parkin, in Mazomanie. Joey Calvert immediately contacted his wife, Elizabeth Calvert, and warned her of a possible attack by Ripp. Joey Calvert and Parkin then left Mazomanie and headed to Middleton. At 3:18 AM, Calvert was stopped by a Dane County Sheriff's Deputy for speeding in the Village of Cross Plains. Calvert was cited and released.

Calvert and Parkin then drove to the area of 2635 Amherst Road. At that location, Calvert and Parkin made contact with Collin Tubbs and Ripp, who were once again in Tubbs' Chevrolet Tahoe. Parkin and Calvert did pursue Ripp and Collin Tubbs throughout the City of Middleton, eastbound on the Beltline, and into the City of Madison. It is believed that at some point in time during this pursuit, someone from the Calvert/Parkin vehicle fired a .45 caliber handgun into the rear doors of the Tubbs vehicle. Ripp eventually lost Calvert somewhere in the City of Madison.

On 02/13/09, at approximately 4:55 AM, the Dane County Communications Center received the report of a structure fire at 115 Pine Meadows Court in the Village of Cross Plains. This residence is part of an occupied multi-family structure. This residence is adjacent to that of Anthony Green (113 Pine Meadows Court). This fire was determined to be the result of arson.

On 02/13/09 at approximately 5:25 AM, Middleton Police Dispatch received the report of a structure fire at 3603 Valley Ridge Road in the City of Middleton. This is the residence of Joey and Elizabeth Calvert. The residence is a duplex that was occupied by two families at the time of this fire. This fire was determined to be the result of arson.

On 02/13/09 at approximately 5:59 AM, the Dane County Communications Center received the report of a structure fire at 2116 Fisher Street in the City of Madison. This is the residence of Darryl Brown and Lindsay Kidder. This residence is part of an occupied multi-family structure. This fire was determined to be the result of arson.

On 02/13/09 at approximately 7:15 AM, Christopher Ripp and Collin Tubbs did obstruct Middleton Police Officers as they attempted to lawfully seize a suspect vehicle from this case. Ripp and Tubbs were verbally and physically confrontational as they attempted to stop officers from towing their vehicle. During the resulting arrest of Tubbs for obstructing an officer, he did knowingly spit in the open mouth and face of Middleton Police Sergeant Steve Britt.

During the month of February, 57 case files were sent to the investigative supervisor for review. Of these, eight cases were assigned to patrol officers and 24 new cases were assigned to various members of the ISB team. These case files include the following incident types:

- 2 - Arson
- 1 - Bomb Threats
- 3 - Burglaries
- 3 - Death Investigations
- 11 - Domestic Follow-up
- 9 - Fraud
- 3 - Harassment
- 10 - Larceny
- 3 - Uniform Controlled Substances
- 2 - Stolen Bicycles
- 1 - Missing Persons
- 1 - Criminal Damage to Property
- 1 - Thefts from Automobiles

## **SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER REPORT**

PLSO Jeremy Geiszler

February continued the trend of keeping me busy at the High School. There were a total of 43 calls for service that I was the primary officer for. That includes ten status offenses, six lost property, six theft, three property found, three follow up, two disturbances, two trespass, two drug, and one each of alcohol violation, assist Madison PD, annoying phone calls, EMS, fight, malicious mischief, information, traffic complaint, and traffic stop.

I issued a total of 27 municipal citations. This included eight for truancy, four for loitering, three for possession of a controlled substance, two for disorderly conduct, two for underage possession of tobacco, and one each for underage consumption of alcohol, 4<sup>th</sup> degree sexual assault, possession of drug paraphernalia, theft, prohibited daytime loitering, no seatbelt, driving with a person riding illegally, and riding illegally on a vehicle. I also issued two criminal charges to one student who started a small fire in the lobby of the performing arts center. The charges were for criminal damage to property and negligent handling of burning materials.

The thefts in the school saw an insignificant drop this month. However, I was able to meet with the school administration and discuss possible solutions to the problem. Some of the possible solutions included limiting access after the school day and assigning lockers to students. The issue that arises is that there are currently not enough lockers for all of the students. Although there are plenty of lockers for individual classes, very few students bring a lock to secure their belongings. This has been a problem throughout the year and there have been dozens of students who have had their unsecured belongings

stolen. The message I have been trying to get across is that they should leave valuables at home and if they decide to bring them here, they absolutely need to secure them.

This message was passed on to the students by a public service announcement video that I made with the help of Dea Kruger of the media production department, as well as several students. This video was played during the daily student announcements. In addition, Assistant Principal Karen Strandt-Conroy and I wrote an article for the MHS newsletter, the Cardinal Connection. Both of these items have been placed on the MHS website so they are accessible for both students and parents.

### PSLO Jill Tutaj

February was a very busy month at Kromrey Middle School. There were several significant calls for the month. Some of these included a large disturbance between groups of several 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. The disturbance occurred in the hallway where the students were claiming to be part of different gangs. It took several staff members to break up the disturbance. Four students were cited for disorderly conduct. Staff and I are trying to put together a restorative circle for the students involved. Also from this, Joel Wagner, a gang detective from Dane County, came and spoke with the students involved. Also there were several students from the High School that came to Kromrey and caused a disturbance. Seven students were cited for unauthorized presence on school property and one for disorderly conduct.

One of the main problems that have been occurring at Kromrey is students threatening other students on Face Book. One citation and several warnings have been issued. I have been going into classes to speak with students about this issue.

During February I attended the weekly attendance meeting, the weekly building consultation team meeting and the monthly Dane County School Resource meeting. I also went into all 6<sup>th</sup> grade computer classes and spoke about internet safety.

At the elementary school level I went into all kindergarten classes and read books to the students and also helped to make mailboxes for Valentine's Day.

Also during February I organized training for staff members throughout the district on the Choking Game. This was presented at Kromrey by members of the Dane County Sheriff's Department.

I was involved in a total of 19 calls for service this month. These included one trespass, five assist citizen, one smoke investigation, five disturbances, one parking complaint, two thefts, one 911 disconnect, one fire call, one threats complaint and check welfare.

## **COURT ACTIVITY**

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

47 Adults  
101 Criminal Counts  
5 Civil Forfeitures

**Dane County Juvenile Criminal Referrals**

9 Juveniles  
10 Criminal Counts  
2 Civil Forfeitures

**Municipal Court Citations Issued**

404 Adult Citations  
71 Juvenile Citations