

**MIDDLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MONTHLY REPORT**



**JULY 2012**

## **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

### **Community Awareness Fund**

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

If you would like to donate money to the Community Awareness Fund please send a check or money order to “**Middleton Community Police Partnership Inc.**” or “**MICOPP Inc.**”, 7341 Donna Drive, Middleton, WI, 53562.

**Together we can make a difference.** If you have any questions about donations or programs please contact CAO Jill Tutaj at 824-7323 or [jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us).

#### **07/03/12, Fraud, Salerno Court**

A woman contacted the police to report that she had been defrauded out of \$30,000.00. She met a man on-line through Match.com, although she never met him in person. The man agreed to pay some credit card bills for her. He later told her he was going to England on a trip. He contacted her on-line and told her his credit cards did not work overseas. He asked her to send him money to Ghana, Africa. She obtained cash advances and sent in excess of \$30,000.00 to Ghana before realizing she had been defrauded. Although this case has been assigned to a detective, there is little recourse in recovering the woman's money or bringing the perpetrator to justice.

#### **07/10/12, 7:29 PM, 2050 Allen Boulevard, Armed Robbery**

Two men came to Middleton from out of town. They met three males in an apartment complex parking lot. One of the suspects displayed a pistol and robbed the men of cash, then fled the area. Police suspect a drug rip.

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

On Wednesday, July 4, Middleton Police officers assisted with neighborhood parades in the City.

On Tuesday, July 10, and Thursday, July 12, the Middleton Police gave presentations to the staff members at Aniu Salon on personal safety.

On Sunday, July 15, Middleton Police went to the EAA Chapter 1389 Fly-In Breakfast and gave squad car tours and handed out baseball cards and stickers.

On Thursday, July 19, the Middleton Police Department went to the Middleton Fire Department to meet with kids from Camp Hero. Camp Hero is an exciting new summer

camp designed to help girls develop courage, gain confidence and build character while introducing them to the protective services.

On Saturday, July 21, Middleton Police spent the day at the Dane County Fair for the parade and safety day.

On Tuesday, July 24, Middleton Police gave presentations to several kids at Hero Camp at Keva Sports Center in Middleton.

On Thursday, July 26, Middleton Police and McGruff went to the Aquatic Center in Middleton to spend the day with kids at “Mascot Day”.

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 Jill Tutaj at 824-7323 or [jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us).

**MIDDLETON  
BUSINESS WATCH  
PROGRAM IN FORCE**



Middleton Business Watch is accepting donations at this time to help purchase video equipment. Payments can be sent to: Middleton Community Police Partnership Inc.  
Middleton Community Bank  
3207 Parmenter Street  
Middleton, WI 53562

If you would like to join the Middleton Business Watch or need to update your contact information, please contact Community Awareness Officer Jill Tutaj at 824-7323 or [jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us).

Citizens can subscribe to receive Middleton Business Watch email alerts and other informational emails on the police department’s website at [middletonpd.com](http://middletonpd.com).



## *Citizens' Academy*

The next academy will start in April of 2013 and the class size is limited to 12 students.

If you live or work in Middleton and are interested in attending a future academy, please contact Community Awareness Officer Jill Tutaj at 824-7323 or [jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us).



VIPS assist the Middleton Police Department by performing tasks which free up officers to work on more important police matters. VIPS help at events like GNF (Good Neighbor Festival), National Night Out and Family Safety Day and with programs like Speed Watch and Safe Assured IDs.

Junior VIPS are teens age 14 to 17 years old. We also have an Associate VIPS program where family members of VIPS and civic groups can assist VIPS with events without having to become individual VIPS members.

If you are interested in the Middleton Police Department VIPS program please contact Community Awareness Officer Jill Tutaj at 824-7323 or [jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us).



## **Safe Assured ID Kits**

Middleton Police will take reservations for having kits made. Kits are free for Middleton residents or MCPASD students.

If you would like to register, have the ID system at an event or if you would like to donate money for the purchase of more kits, please contact Community Awareness Officer Jill Tutaj at 824-7323 or [jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:jtutaj@ci.middleton.wi.us).

## **OPERATIONS DIVISION**

In June, Middleton Officers handled 1,625 calls for service, 536 were field initiated, 1,089 were dispatched, issued 433 citations and 78 written warnings, made 14 criminal arrests and investigated 39 accidents.

In July, Middleton Officers handled 1,644 calls for service, 626 were field initiated, 1,018 were dispatched, issued 415 citations and 96 written warnings, made 15 criminal arrests and investigated 42 accidents.

### **Significant Events in July:**

MI12-4415, 07/02/12, Damage to Property

Several buildings in the downtown area were “tagged” with spray paint, including the Middleton High School, City Hall, Historical Society, Masonic Lodge and St. Bernard’s Church.

MI12-4522, 07/06/12, 3300 Glacier Ridge, Theft

A .45 caliber pistol was stolen from a residence.

MI12-4461, 07/03/12, Fraud, Salerno Court

A woman contacted the police to report that she had been defrauded out of \$30,000.00. She met a man on-line through Match.com, although she never met him in person. The man agreed to pay some credit card bills for her. He later told her he was going to England on a trip. He contacted her on-line and told her his credit cards did not work overseas. He asked her to send him money to Ghana, Africa. She obtained cash advances and sent in excess of \$30,000.00 to Ghana before realizing she had been defrauded. Although this case has been assigned to a detective, there is little recourse in recovering the woman’s money or bringing the perpetrator to justice.

MI12-4564, 07/08/12, 6900 Brookdale, Burglary

A resident discovered cash and a .45 caliber pistol were stolen from his residence.

MI12-4575, 07/09/12, 3600 Tribeca Drive, Theft

MG&E trucks had copper wire stolen from them at a construction site.

MI12-4766, 07/17/12, Bath and Body Works, Greenway Station, Retail Theft

Three women took perfume and body gel valued at over \$300.00.

MI12-4790, 07/19/12, 6200 Middleton Springs Drive, Burglary

Suspect(s) entered a business by breaking a window and took a laptop computer.

MI12-5002, 07/28/12, Middleton High School Football Field, Burglary  
The concession stand was broken into at the High School football field. Nothing was taken, but there was damage to the stand.

## **TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

On July 25, the REF was at Quaker Steak and Lube Bike Night. It had been scheduled for the week before but was cancelled due to inclement weather. Once again, this state of the art motorcycle education trailer was a big hit. The Bureau of Transportation and Safety employees who run the exhibit were well received. I noted both experienced riders and families with children taking part in the interactive displays and watching the educational videos.

In July, there were 29 reportable street accidents and ten reportable parking lot/private property accidents compared to 2011's 25 and eight.

There were 16 hours of straight time directed traffic patrols performed during the month. Hwy 12, Hwy Q, Century Avenue, N Gammon Road, Parmenter Street, Pheasant Branch Road and Pleasant View Road were targeted. Forty-seven enforcement actions were taken: 39 citations for Speeding and three warnings, nine Insurance citations, and one each for Seatbelt, No Motorcycle License and Registration.

Four S.M.A.R.T. grant patrols were completed on Hwy 12. Twenty-five enforcement actions were taken: 12 citations and 11 warnings for Speed, one citation for Operating After Suspension and one warning for Registration. This program's public service announcements have been getting a lot of air time on the local radio stations.

Officers completed four Speed grant patrols. Fifteen citations for Speed with five warnings and one warning for Registration were issued. Airport Road, Century Avenue, Hwy Q, and Hwy 12 were targeted.

Officers completed four Seat Belt grant patrols. Eighteen Seat Belt citations, one Operating After Registration citation, one False Display of Plates, three No Insurance citations and one Registration citation with one warning, two Equipment warnings and one warning for Improper Wearing of Seatbelt were issued. Allen Blvd, Branch Street, Century Avenue, Donna Drive, Greenway Blvd, N High Point Road, Parmenter Street, University Avenue were targeted.

## **TRAINING**

FBI Hostage Negotiations, 40 hours, O'Connor  
Effective Speaking for Law Enforcement, 16 hours, Tutaj  
Glock Armorer Class, 8 hours, Hellenbrand, Geiszler, Dixon and Kasdorf

## **INVESTIGATIVE UNIT REPORT**

The month of July brought closure to two unsolved bank robberies which Detective Haselow has been working on since September of 2011. Working closely with the FBI, the Madison Police Department and other law enforcement agencies, Detective Haselow was able to solve these two unsolved cases with the arrest of Tara A. Thousand and Michael J. Benicke. Based on cellular telephone records, the description of the vehicle observed at the scene of a number of these robberies and other information obtained during the course of these investigations, both Mr. Benicke and Ms. Thousand were charged federally with numerous counts of robbery. Unfortunately, while confined at the Dane County Jail, Mr. Benicke took his own life prior to providing any useful statements regarding his involvement into these crimes and prior to being sentenced. Ms. Thousand did provide information to law enforcement officers incriminating her and Mr. Benicke and placing both of them at the scene of a number of these robberies.

This case is another example of the power and current epidemic throughout Dane County involving Heroin. Both Mr. Benicke and Ms. Thousand were addicted to Heroin and based on the investigation into these bank robberies, the motivation behind all of the robberies was to obtain funds to further support their drug habit. Heroin continues to be a major cause of a number of crimes investigated by the Police Department as users must continue to use Heroin to prevent themselves from becoming severely ill from the side effects and withdrawals. Over the last couple of months, the Police Department has investigated a number of cases where family members are suspected of stealing valuable items from parents, grandparents and siblings and quickly pawning and selling items to support their addiction. The likelihood of this trend of Heroin use declining in the City of Middleton is unlikely based on the power of this drug and the desire of the users to maintain a level of euphoria. The desire for drug users to continue to support their habit will continue to affect the community as drug users will continue to commit crimes in hopes of gaining the necessary funds to support their drug addiction.

## **COURT ACTIVITY**

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

30 Adults  
58 Criminal Counts  
5 Civil Forfeitures

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

2 Juveniles  
2 Criminal Counts  
0 Civil Forfeitures