

**MIDDLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MONTHLY REPORT**



**JUNE 2008**

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Middleton Police Receive Award

The Middleton Police Department received an award from Wisconsin Attorney General JB Van Hollen as part of the annual ceremony commemorating Wisconsin's Missing Children and Adults. The ceremony, held on June 20th at the State Capitol, was produced by the Department of Justice's Clearinghouse for Missing and Exploited Children and Adults to commemorate Wisconsin's 904 missing children and 258 missing adults.

Attended by families of missing persons and law enforcement from across the state, the ceremony was an opportunity to reflect on those who continue to be missing; to acknowledge their families; and to recognize the ongoing work of law enforcement professionals, and volunteers to recover missing persons and to provide services to the families of missing persons.

The Middleton Police Department received the AMBER Alert Law Enforcement Award from Attorney General Van Hollen as a result of a missing children and AMBER Alert investigation in 2007. The award was presented for outstanding public service in helping to protect and save the lives of children and adults.

Along with Attorney General Van Hollen, Middleton Police Sgt. Barry Reynolds spoke at the ceremony, delivering a message of hope to the families of missing persons. Sgt. Reynolds was requested to speak at the ceremony by the Wisconsin Department of Justice because of his involvement in the training of state law enforcement officers in missing children investigations, and as an advocate for missing children and their families.



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

### **Community events:**

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> two lucky winners of the Sauk Trail PTA's Valentine Carnival were given rides to school in a police car.

On June 14<sup>th</sup> most of the Middleton Police Department worked the "Big Event". The crowd was smaller than anticipated for the concert. This was probably due to the severe weather which evacuated the grounds twice just after they opened. Eventually the weather cleared and the concert went off without any arrests.

On June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> select Middleton Police Officers attended training for the installation of child car safety seats. This is part of a pilot program, "Stop and Seat", through the Dean Foundation where officers will issue warning notices to drivers for not having a child in a safety seat. The driver will then have 14 days to buy a child safety seat or rent one through the Dean Foundation for a nominal fee. There will be a press conference and demo next month at the Police Department.

On June 19<sup>th</sup> Officer Dave Kasdorf gave a presentation at the Pheasant Branch Senior Apartments on Basic Crime Prevention and Personal Safety.

On June 21<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Barry Reynolds and Officer Dave Kasdorf participated in a Child ID event at Walgreens. Sgt. Reynolds handed out ID kits and Walgreens took free pictures of the kids. Officer Kasdorf performed as McGruff.

On June 30<sup>th</sup> Officer Dave Kasdorf gave a presentation at The Little Gym for their "Who's Your Hero" summer camp. The campers were taught about when and how to call 911 in an emergency, shown the equipment an officer carries/wears and given a tour of a real police car.

The Department has many upcoming events in 2008, such as National Night Out on Wednesday August 6<sup>th</sup> and the second annual NSI/West Bend Mutual Family Safety Day on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at the Wisconsin Trade Center. 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 is finalizing plans for the Fall Seminar which will be held at the Middleton Police Department on September 9<sup>th</sup>. The topic for the seminar will be “A Business Perspective on an Actual Mall Shooting”. If you have any questions please contact Community Awareness Officer David Kasdorf at 827-7457 or [dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us](mailto:dkasdorf@ci.middleton.wi.us).

### **Police Citizen’s Academy**

The Middleton Police Department’s annual Academy is tentatively scheduled to start Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> through Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Participants will learn about police operations and have a chance to drive police cars at the 151 Speedway and fire weapons at the MATC indoor range. Participants will also attend sessions at the new EMS and Fire Department facilities. If 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).

## **OPERATIONS DIVISION**

### **Personnel**

June has become a transition month for the Department.

School ended in mid-June and our Police School Liaison Officers have been returned to patrol duty for the summer.

Officer Raffel has concluded his three year term at Middleton High School and is now working first shift patrol. Jerry has done a great job in the high school and will be missed by administrators, staff, teachers, parents and students. Jerry is an assistant basketball coach for the Cardinals so he will still be involved in school activities.

Officer Geiszler was chosen as Officer Raffel’s replacement and shadowed Jerry for six weeks at the end of the school year. Jeremy is working second shift patrol this summer and will be attending a one week School Resource Officer training class in July.

Officer Tutaj completed her second year at Kromrey Middle School and is now working second shift patrol. She will return to the middle school this fall for her final year there.

Officer Kasdorf was named the Department’s Community Awareness Officer some time ago, but due to staffing shortages was unable to begin working in that capacity until June. Dave is eagerly working on many proactive, community oriented projects which we feel will support our mission of working collaboratively with our community.

Officer Jones has been chosen to fill the opening in the Investigative unit created when Sgt. Zimmerman was promoted. Dan has been attending training in June and will be assigned to the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force in July for three months.

Sgt. Reynolds has been transferred from the Investigative unit to first shift patrol after finishing a successful three year tenure as the Investigative Services Bureau Supervisor. Barry's unit has been responsible for the successful arrest and conviction of suspects in a number of high profile cases. Barry has been recognized by Madison Exchange Club, Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the State Attorney General's Office for his work on Missing and Exploited Children.

Sgt. Britt will be taking over the Investigative Unit. He was sent to Evanston, IL, for training at Northwestern University on managing a detective unit. Instructors and students came from all over the country.

The Department has hired three new officers this year. Officer Formby has completed Field Training and is performing solo patrol work on third shift. Officer Parent graduated from the Police Academy in May and is on Phase 1 of Field Training, transitioning to Phase II in July. Officer Stroik is currently at the Fox Valley Technical School Police Academy in Appleton and will complete his training there in August. He will then be in Field Training. The Department is one short of its authorized level and a recruitment is underway.

### **Middleton Bank Robber Convicted in Federal Court**

On June 18, 2008, Jarrett M. James, 28, of Madison, was found guilty in Federal Court (Western District of Wisconsin) of two bank robberies occurring in Middleton after a three day jury trial. Both robberies occurred at Bank Mutual, the first robbery occurred on 03/16/06 and the suspect pointed a gun at the tellers and obtained \$62,000.00. The second robbery occurred on 03/14/06 and the same suspect threatened the tellers with a gun and obtained \$59,000.00. The guilty verdicts were the result of a lengthy investigation by the Middleton Police Department, lead by the case detective Darren Zimmerman and the FBI. James was identified as the person responsible for both robberies and both weapons and proceeds of the crimes were recovered. James was also convicted of two counts of brandishing a firearm during the robberies. He faces sentencing in September.

### **Increase in Gas Thefts Results in Policy Change**

The Police Department is seeing a rise in gas thefts, a 340% increase so far in 2008. The high cost of gasoline no doubt is responsible for this phenomenon. The Department has seen an increase in the number of incidents, as well as the monetary amount of each theft. What used to be a \$20 or \$30 crime is now a \$60 to \$100 crime. Solving these crimes can be difficult. Suspects are stealing license plates for the sole purpose of filling up with gas and driving away, surveillance cameras seldom capture the license plate and clerks are often distracted or unable to read the plate numbers.

The Department has been working proactively, with limited success in some cases, with the owners of convenience stores and gas stations to encourage them to institute pre-pay methods at the pumps. This is an entirely preventive crime, the Department is spending

an inordinate amount of energy in investigating (usually unsuccessfully) these crimes and the businesses are losing more and more money. Notice has been sent to area convenience stores and gas stations that the Middleton Police Department will no longer respond to gas drive off complaints.

### **Mid Year Statistical Comparisons**

Some interesting mid year comparisons (January 1 to June 30):

#### **Incidents:**

2006: 3617

2007: 4200

2008: 4059

#### **Calls for Services:**

2006: 8423 (Field Initiated: 3690, Dispatched: 4733)

2007: 9020 (Field Initiated: 4041, Dispatched: 4979)

2008: 9055 (Field Initiated: 3853, Dispatched: 5202)

#### **Citations:**

2006: 2348 Citations, 164 Warnings

2007: 2892 Citations, 701 Warnings

2008: 2233 Citations, 816 Warnings

#### **Arrests:**

2006: 333

2007: 267

2008: 342

#### **Accidents:**

2006: Data not captured

2007: 215

2008: 230

### **The Big Event**

Middleton's Big Event was held on June 14. The Police Department switched the patrol force to 12 hour shifts and manned the concert event with 16 officers, two dispatchers and two mounted patrol (horse) officers from the Capitol Police Department. We used the Dane County Command Vehicle 1 for our Command Post. This mobile command post was provided to Dane County by Homeland Security funds and is available for use by any Dane County Emergency Service for major events. The command post has state of the art communication facilities, phones, computers and cameras.

Other than the weather, the event was uneventful, from the police perspective.

### **Significant Events in June**

08-3316 06/01/08 12:19 AM 2000 Block of Allen Boulevard – Motor Vehicle Theft

Complainant reported that his vehicle was stolen from an apartment complex parking lot. Investigation revealed that shortly before the vehicle was reported stolen, Madison Police Department was involved in a short chase with the driver of the vehicle who fled on foot and was not taken into custody. Inside the vehicle was Marijuana. The vehicle was towed to the Madison Police Department impound area. Investigation continues.

08-3326 06/01/08 12:35 PM 7500 Block of Hillcrest Avenue – Fire

Middleton Police Officers assisted Middleton Fire at a significant house fire on Hillcrest Avenue. The house was significantly damaged because of the fire and a house pet perished. No one was home at the time. The fire was not suspicious in nature.

08-3329 06/01/08 Zimbrick-Acura – Theft and Damage to Property

Employees of Zimbrick-Acura discovered that five vehicles had been broken into on the lot. Windows were broken and electronics taken from the vehicles. Furthermore, one car was left on a jack and tires were stolen.

08-3361 06/02/08 5:05 PM Copp's Food Store – Retail Theft

A suspect stole six bottles of expensive liquor and ran out into a lot and got into the passenger side of a vehicle. The license plate of the vehicle was seen by store employees. Investigation continues.

08-3414 06/04/08 7100 Block of Allen Boulevard – Attempted Burglary

Residents of an apartment observed that a screen was torn away from their window and the window was attempted to be forcibly opened. It is not believed that anyone gained entry.

08-3429 06/05/08 Kelley-Williamson's – Employee Theft

Daniel Despolo, age 20, was charged with employee theft for taking cash cards from the business.

08-3435 06/05/08 7500 Block of Rohlich Court – Theft

A woman reported that several prescription medications were taken from a locked box from her apartment.

08-3447 06/06/08 2800 Block of Century Harbor Road – Attempted Burglary

Residents of an apartment observed that their screen door was bent and it appeared as though someone had attempted to pry open the patio door. It is not believed that anyone gained entry to the residence.

08-3533 06/09/08 3230 Parmenter Street – Theft from Vending Machines

Change machines located at Middleton Power Center and Middleton Car Wash were broken into and money taken.

08-3579 06/11/08 Tobacco Outlet – Attempted Burglary

Police were notified of window breakage at Tobacco Outlet. It did not appear as though the suspects entered the business.

08-3614 06/13/08 Falbo's Pizza – Burglary

Witnesses observed the front door to Falbo's Pizza was broken out. Investigating officers determined that entry had been gained and items taken.

08-3621 06/12/08 Full Compass Systems – Fraud

The business received two bogus checks, one for \$5,000.00 and the second at \$12,000.00.

08-3608 06/12/08 5100 Block of Torino Court – Burglary

The resident of an apartment reported that someone entered his apartment without consent and stole a Sony Playstation.

08-3614 06/13/08 2:08 AM – Stabbing

Police received a 911 cellular call indicating a disturbance, but the caller hung up before an exact address was established. Officers were sent to the GPS location indicated by the cell phone and located a large crowd in the parking lot of 6301 Maywood Avenue. It was determined that a man had been stabbed and he was given medical assistance by officers and eventually by Middleton paramedics. Twenty-three year old Courtney Ellington of Middleton was taken into custody in the parking lot, disarmed and arrested for reckless injury.

08-3782 06/19/08 Kromrey Middle School – Graffiti

Tagging was done on the school near the roof area.

08-3912 06/24/08 Elm Lawn Elementary School – Graffiti

Tagging was done to the school.

08-3916 06/24/08 6:11 PM Pachuco's – Battery

One man was beaten up by four men in the bar. The victim suffered significant injuries. Three of the four men have been identified at this time, but the investigation continues.

08-3926 06/25/08 4:01 AM 2000 Block of Allen Boulevard – Attempted Burglary

A woman observed a suspect attempting to get into her residence through a window. He left when she screamed and turned on a light.

08-3938 06/25/08 7100 Block of North Avenue – Attempted Burglary

A homeowner observed that a screen had been removed from his door and attempted entry to the residence. It is not believed that the suspect entered the residence.

08-3952 06/26/08 Crandall's Carry-Out – Theft

The tip box was stolen between 06/25 and 06/26/08.

## **TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

During the month of June, the Click It or Ticket campaign was wrapped up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and as a result, in August at the Governor's Traffic Safety Conference, our Department will be in a drawing for a traffic safety grant.

On June 3, Sgt. Mueller attended the Dane County Traffic Safety Committee meeting held at the Fitchburg Police Department where this summer's SMART program plans were firmed up with the kick off planned for June 20. Unfortunately, due to the pressing need for patrol officers to hold over into the next shift due to an extremely busy night on the kick off date, we were unable to participate that night. We did participate on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Sgt. Mueller attended basic motorcycle safety classes during the month on his own. Knowledge learned in those classes will help him to explain motorcycle safety procedures to riders interested in learning the same. He also applied for a grant for the Department to obtain a motorcycle for use in traffic patrol and for training of three officers to ride it.

Directed traffic patrols were performed on Airport Road, Allen Blvd, Branch Street, Century Avenue, Deming Way, Donna Drive, N High Point Road, Park Street, Pheasant Branch Road, Pleasant View Road, Stonefield Road, University Avenue, CTH Q and Hwy 12. About 46 hours were spent on traffic patrols. Seventy-nine enforcement actions were taken: 27 citations and 12 warnings for Speeding, eight citations for Seat Belt Violations, six citations and three warnings for various Registration violations, four citations for OAS/OAR, two citations for Stop Sign violations, two citations and five warnings for various Equipment violations, one citation and five warnings for Failure to Obey Sign, one OWI citation and one No Driver's License citation. In addition, one ordinance citation each was issued for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Disorderly Conduct with a Motor Vehicle.

## **TRAINING**

### **In-service**

The last 2 sessions of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter in-service were held in early June. Topics included: firearms, emergency vehicle operation and vehicle contacts. 4<sup>th</sup> quarter in-service will be in September and October. Topics will include firearm qualification and simmunition scenarios.

### **Specialized Training**

Firearm Instructor, 40 hours, O'Connor  
Physical Security Surveys, 16 hours, Kasdorf  
Internet as an Investigative Tool, 8 hours, Haselow  
Special Event Team Tactical Training, 8 hours, SET Team  
Canine Legal Update, 8 hours, Zimmerman  
Street Crimes Seminar, 24 hours, Jones  
Crime Free Multi Housing and Rental Housing, 16 hours, Kasdorf

Northwestern University Managing Criminal Investigation Units, 40 hours, Britt  
QPR Suicide Prevention, 8 hours, Hamilton  
Basic Rifle Instructor, 24 hours, Geiszler

## **INVESTIGATIVE UNIT REPORT**

In June, the Investigative Services Bureau investigated 13 newly assigned cases, a slight increase from the previous month. Among the new cases that we saw this month were three burglaries, two fraud complaints, three thefts, one sex crime and one death investigation.

Middleton detectives continue to investigate two bank robberies from earlier this year, both at the branches of the State Bank of Cross Plains. The suspect was described as a male, white, early 20's medium height, slim, wearing a dark knit hat with a brim, sun glasses, long sleeve shirt, jeans and brown shoes. A reward has been offered by the bank for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect.

Detectives investigating the latest robberies believe that the suspect may also be responsible for the robbery of the Amcore Bank on Odana Road in Madison, on March 19, 2008, and a more recent bank robbery in Monona.

Detectives are also continuing to investigate a fire at the Lakeview Park Shelter at 6300 Lakeview Blvd. Investigators determined that the fire was deliberately set. The fire resulted in significant damage to the Lakeview Park shelter.

On June 11, investigators responded to a report of a burglary at Falbo's Pizza, 3301 Parmenter Street. This is the second occurrence of a burglary at this business within the past several weeks, although detectives are unsure if the two burglaries are related.

The level of activity in June increased slightly from the previous month. Overall, detectives have been successful in closing several older cases and the number of active cases has decreased to 97 cases, including the following:

Assault	2
Burglary	13
Damage to Property	4
Death Investigation	5
Disturbance	4
Fraud	22
Larceny	12
Robbery	2
Sex Offense	4

## **SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER REPORT**

Officer Jill Tutaj

School Resource Officer  
Kromrey Middle School

The end of the school year went well, but was very busy. During the end of school, I spent four days at Sauk Trail teaching internet safety and “Team Up”, a drug and alcohol awareness course. I also completed a “Keeping Safe” review for every class at North Side and Sauk Trail, and completed several internet safety classes at Elm Lawn School.

There was a great deal of tension with the eighth grade girls at Kromrey at the end of the year which resulted in several disturbances and citations for Disorderly Conduct.

One of the larger cases at the end of the year was damage to property at Kromrey Middle School. Several people that no longer attended Kromrey spray painted the basketball court. This resulted in four citations for damage to property.

Also thefts and damage to property calls were up at all schools during the end of the year. There has been a large increase in younger elementary students stealing property from the school and other students.

Officer Jeremy Geiszler  
School Resource Officer  
Middleton High School

During the month of May at the high school, officers joined forces with the Dane County Sheriff's Office and three of their canine deputies to perform a drug sweep of MHS and MASH along with the school parking lots. There were no hits from the canines and no arrests were made.

I also participated in teaching several health classes about the consequences of alcohol and other drug use and abuse, and was involved in several meetings with the administration discussing the incoming freshman class. Another meeting involved a debriefing of the school year and what could be changed in the upcoming year.

MHS and MASH generated a total of 45 calls for service. This included 12 Thefts, nine Status Offenses such as truancy and prohibited daytime loitering, six Disturbances, five Lost Property calls, three Traffic Complaints, two Welfare Checks, and one each of the following: Accident, Assist Citizen/Motorist (lockout), Alcohol Violation, Annoying Phone Calls, Battery, EMS, Sexual Assault, and Threats.

There were a total of 24 citations and criminal arrests this month in addition to 15 warnings. They were for the following violations: five Truancy citations, six Prohibited Daytime Loitering citations, three Theft citations and three warnings, three Disorderly Conduct citations and eight warnings, one Underage Consumption of Alcohol citation, two citations for Driving without a valid license, one Hit & Run citation, four warnings for riding on a car, and three referrals to Dane County Juvenile court for criminal charges of Battery, Disorderly Conduct, and 4th degree sexual assault.

## **COURT ACTIVITY**

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

59 Adults  
95 Charges  
8 Civil Forfeitures

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

7 Juveniles  
10 Charges  
0 Civil Forfeitures

### **Municipal Court Citations Issued**

320 Citations