

**MIDDLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MONTHLY REPORT**



**MARCH 2008**

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

**Community Events:** Middleton officers were busy with a variety of community events and presentations in March.

On March 16, officers participated in the Middleton Jaycee's annual Kid's Day and Easter Egg Hunt at Middleton Fireman's Park. Despite the cold weather, this event was well attended with approximately 100 kids participating in the event. Middleton Officer's gave two tours of the police department to community groups during the month.

On March 18, Sgt. Troy Hellenbrand gave a presentation to students at Middleton High School concerning law enforcement careers. On March 3, 2008 Sgt. Darrin Zimmerman, and Deputy Keith Kelly of the Dane County Sheriff's Department visited the Little Red Preschool in Middleton, along with Deputy Kelly's dog "Indy" to talk to the students about police officers and police k-9s. The children were thrilled with the experience.



The department has begun scheduling many of the community events for 2008, such as the National Night Out which is scheduled for August, and the second annual NSI/ West Bend Mutual Family Safety Day, which is scheduled for September.

**Middleton Business Watch:** The MBW Board is currently planning the Spring 2008 Seminar, which is scheduled for April 10, 2008 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Wisconsin Trade Center – Mendota Conference Room. The program for the seminar will be Workplace Violence and other Hair Raising Employment Tales by the Bald Guy, a presentation on workplace violence, hiring, and other employment issues by Attorney

Bob Gregg. Further information on the seminar will be distributed in early March. For more details or to join MBW call Sgt. Barry Reynolds at 827-1017.

**Citizens Police Academy:** The Middleton Police Department completed the fourth session of the Citizens Police Academy in November. This program has been very popular and there is currently a waiting list for future academy sessions. The Citizens Academy is intended to give Middleton residents, or people who work in Middleton, a chance to learn about police practices in general and specific information about the Middleton Police Department. Topics covered during the 8 week course include: traffic stops, OWI enforcement, radar/laser speed devices, investigations/crime scene processing, emergency vehicle operation (participants will drive police cars at the 151 Speedway), firearms (participants will have a chance to fire weapons at the MATC indoor shooting range and will participate in shoot/no shoot scenarios), defense and arrest tactics, learn about MIPD proactive and crime prevention programs and will have a session at the Middleton Fire Department and EMS. If interested in attending a future academy, contact Sgt. Barry Reynolds at 827-1017.

**Middleton SCAN:** SCAN is the Middleton **S**afety and **C**rime **A**wareness **N**etwork, an initiative of the Middleton Police Department and the Middleton Senior Center. The goal of SCAN is to develop a communication network within the Middleton Community which can be used by the police department and citizens to share information on crime and crime prevention. SCAN will form partnerships with local residents, neighborhood groups, Middleton Outreach Ministry and church organizations, local businesses, and the local media, among others, to develop a fast and efficient means of communication to disseminate information. Following the success of the Middleton Business Watch partnership, SCAN will follow a similar model to keep residents more aware of crime and safety events within their community. For more information on SCAN, watch our website at [www.middletonpd.com](http://www.middletonpd.com)

## **OPERATIONS DIVISION**

### **Significant Events in March:**

**08-1137 03/01/08 6200 Block of Countryside Lane – Burglary**

A woman reported that someone had entered her residence and stole a Xbox game as well as several games for the system.

**08-1151 03/01/08 6900 Block of Donna Drive – Burglary**

A homeowner reported someone broke into their residence and stole items.

**08-1153 03/02/08 Marriott Hotel – Theft/Fraud**

A hotel guest reported that his credit card was stolen while he was at the hotel. Subsequent investigation showed that the credit card was used at the local Walgreens store and video was obtained of the subject using it. Investigation continues on this case.

**08-1165 03/02/08 5300 Block of Century Avenue – Burglary**

A complainant reported that the door to his apartment was kicked in and items were missing from his apartment.

08-1210 03/04/08 2500 Block of Allen Boulevard – Theft from Vehicle

Middleton Police investigated a number of thefts from vehicle cases in the parking lot of Harbor Athletic Club during the months of February and March. Two subjects were arrested in Sun Prairie for similar offenses. Investigation showed that these people had a GPS in their vehicle and used it to mark locations where they had stolen items from vehicles. Middleton Detectives obtained a search warrant for the contents of the GPS and were able to prove that the suspects were at the Harbor Athletic Club numerous times. Charges are pending.

08-1255 03/06/08 2:11 AM 6900 Block of University Avenue – Burglary

Police discovered that the windows were smashed out to Willow Creek and Sue's Hallmark in the Parkwood Plaza Shopping Center. This is one in a series of a number of commercial burglaries occurring in the metropolitan Madison area. Middleton Detectives are participating in a task force response to these burglaries.

08-1512 03/16/08 6300 Block of Maywood Avenue – Aggravated Assault

Report of a fight between a male and a female involving a knife. The male subject was arrested for reckless endangerment, false imprisonment, battery while armed and disorderly conduct while armed.

08-1567 03/20/08 3700 Block of Pheasant Branch Road – Theft

Theft of tools overnight from a construction site.

08-1617 03/22/08 Pachuco's 8100 Block of Forsythia Street – Drug Offense

Employees of the nightclub discovered a man using cocaine in the bathroom. He was arrested and charged with Uniform Control Substance Violation.

08-1642 03/23/08 1:20 AM Midtown Pub 2400 Block of Allen Blvd – Fight

Middleton Police responded to a fight at Midtown Pub involving a number of patrons. One person was pushed through the plate glass window, sustaining a laceration on his hand. A number of ordinance citations were issued.

08-1657 03/23/08 Petro Express 3300 Block of Parmenter Street – Alcohol Violation

A customer complained that alcohol was sold to another customer by an 11 year old person working behind the counter. Police responded and determined that the only employee on scene was in fact 11 years old. The owner of the business returned, stating he was only gone for a few minutes. The owner was issued a citation for no licensee on premise.

In March, Middleton Police Officers responded to 59 traffic accidents, 51 alarms, nine burglaries, 11 damage to property reports, 12 domestic abuse complaints and seven theft from auto complaints.

Calls for services continue to increase for the police. From January 1, 2007 to March 31, 2007, Middleton Police responded to 3,958 calls for services. During the same period in 2008, the Middleton Police responded to 4,269 calls for services. Undoubtedly due to weather, traffic accidents are up in 2008. During the first three months of 2007, Middleton Police investigated 104 traffic accidents, in the same time period in 2008, the police responded to 146 accidents.

## **TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

On March 4, Sgt. Mueller attended the Dane County Traffic Safety Officers' Committee meeting in DeForest. A lively discussion about various traffic issues took place. One issue was whether or not today's officers are more tolerant of speeding and allow greater speeds than historically before making a stop, thereby leading to ever greater speeds by violators. This has been a continuing discussion between traffic safety advocates for years. No consensus was reached at this meeting either.

Sgt. Mueller and Officer Dan Jones attended the Wisconsin Traffic Safety Conference in Green Bay from March 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>. A session was devoted to how to make enforcing traffic laws and handling accidents safer for the officer as many officers are injured and killed each year doing so. It appeared that Middleton was very near the cutting edge of officer safety in this area as we have a very restrictive pursuit policy, provide our officers with reflective vests, have post accident/pursuit review boards and have ongoing driver training for officers. Many agencies nationwide are lacking in all four categories.

The portable radar gun for our upcoming *Speed Watch program* has been ordered. Officer Greg Dixon will be the instructor for the citizens and citizen volunteers will also be utilized to send out the letters to violators. So far two citizens have contacted Sgt. Mueller and expressed interest in performing speed watches at an area school. Once the radar gun is here and Officer Dixon has his teaching outline done we will announce the program to the public.

On March 13, Sgt. Mueller instructed six volunteer crossing guards at Sauk Trail School. They are needed immediately as the regular guard left to do other things and the new guard was not yet formally hired but it is hoped she will be on board shortly.

Directed traffic enforcement patrols were performed for a total of thirty-seven and one half hours. Eighty-four enforcement actions were taken and one warrant was served. There were forty citations for Speeding and seventeen warnings, three citations for various Registration violations and ten warnings, three citations for OAR/OAS, six citations and three warnings for Failure to Fasten Seatbelt and two warnings for Equipment.

Now that the weather has finally turned and we don't anticipate having to deal with snow and ice issues the *Speed Warning Trailers* will be moved around the City to various locations depending on citizen requests and identified hazard areas.

## **TRAINING**

Wisconsin Association of Identification Educational Conference, 24 hours, Faga (Craig was once again elected to the Board of Directors of this association).

Field Training Officer Certification, 40 hours, O'Connor.

ATAC Crime Analysis Training, 24 hours, Kakuske, Britt, Kasdorf, T Kakuske and Montour.

Wisconsin Traffic Safety Conference, 20 hours, Mueller and Jones.

Taser Instructor, 16 hours, Dixon (recertification), Kasdorf (certified instructor).

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter In-Service**

March 19, 28, 31 and April 3. Firearms and OWI legal update from the Resource Center on Impaired Driving, University of Wisconsin Law School.

## **INVESTIGATIVE UNIT REPORT**

In March the Investigative Services Bureau investigated 18 newly assigned cases, an increase from the previous month. As winter comes to an end and the weather improves, the number of cases investigated typically increases. Among the new cases that we saw this month were 3 commercial burglaries, 3 larceny cases, 2 domestic abuse investigations, 1 fraud case, 1 assault and 1 Death Investigation.

As the weather has been getting warmer, the department is beginning to see an increase in thefts from vehicles. The majority of these incidents are occurring during the overnight hours and involve vehicles parked outside or in underground parking lots. Residents are reminded to park their vehicles in a secure garage, if at all possible; always lock your vehicle at night; and remove any valuables or hide them from sight. Middleton officers are currently working with several local apartment complexes to help decrease the potential opportunities for these crimes.

The department has also seen an increase in the number of nighttime commercial burglaries. This trend began in December and matches a trend that has been seen for nearly all Dane County communities during that same time span. The burglars are typically targeting small businesses or strip malls, causing damage when entering the businesses, and taking small amounts of cash or other small valuables. Middleton detectives are coordinating the investigation into these crimes with other local agencies.

The level of activity in March increased from the previous month, currently the detective bureau has 123 active cases, including the following:

Assault	1
Burglary	14
Child Abuse	2
Damage to Property	7
Death Investigation	5

Disturbance	8
Fraud	29
Larceny	20
Motor Vehicle Theft	2
Sex Offense	3

## SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER REPORT

Officer Jill Tutaj  
School Resource Officer  
Kromrey Middle School

### **Kromrey**

3 Disturbance  
1 Theft  
1 Drug info  
1 Harassment

### **Northside**

2 thefts  
1 disturbance

### **Elm lawn**

1 Check welfare/possible child abuse

### **Sauk Trail**

1 Theft  
1 Threat  
1 Disturbance

### **High School**

Assist with gang activity

### **Meetings**

Staffing on Child Abuse case at DA office  
SRO meeting  
Gang trend meeting  
Peer Court- Trying to get eighth graders involved  
Presentation to parents on My Space  
2 Truancy meeting  
1 IEP meeting

2 home visits with school social worker

### **Citations**

2 -Truancy

1 Disorderly Conduct

Officer Jerry Raffel  
School Resource Officer  
Middleton High School

**Meetings - Classroom**

- SRO's of Dane Co.
- Youth Trends of Dane Co.
- Gang Task Force of Dane Co
- Deans meeting
- DAC Safety Meeting

**Monthly Activity**

- 29 Documented incidents for the month, including;
- 5 Truancy arrests
  - 6 reports of "Theft". 1 citation, 3 thefts happened after school.
  - 3 Disturbances- 2 warnings, 1 citation
  - 1 citation for "Uniformed Controlled Substance"
  - 3 Trespasses - 2 citations and 1 warning.
  - 2 gang disturbances – In one incident driver was cited for No Drivers License and passenger was a runaway and taken into custody.
  - 2 Suicidal (Check Welfare) Incidents- students were taken into protective custody and later released to parents to take to hospital.
  - 1 Report of a found credit card (Gift Card) found in lot. I located and returned to owner.
  - 6 reports of students losing property somewhere in the building.
  - 1 information report of an incident not happening in school but needing follow up by the police department.

**COURT ACTIVITY**

**Dane County Adult Criminal Referrals**

45 Adults  
83 Charges  
11 Civil Forfeitures

**Dane County Juvenile Criminal Referrals**

0 Juvenile  
0 Charge  
2 Civil Forfeitures

**Municipal Court Citations Issued**

369 Citations