



County Police Ink

March 2010

New Castle County Police Department

What's Inside

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Rest in peace, Marianne

Congratulations Colonel McGowan

Colonel Michael C. McGowan, a 21 year veteran of the New Castle County Police Department, has been officially sworn in as the new chief of the second largest police department in Delaware. In a quaint, but well attended promotional ceremony, Chief McGowan was avowed as "command one" in the presence of his family, friends, and co-workers. His comments included a special thank you to his biggest supporters, his wife and children. Below is an insert from the Community News:

Q) What was your reaction when you were named permanent chief?

A) The interviewing process was very rigorous, and I was anxious because I was going up against three very strong internal candidates. I was interviewed once by an external panel and twice by an internal panel, so when I learned I had been named to the position, my first reaction was relief. That emotion was followed by the humbling reality that we had a lot of work to do.

Q) What are the attributes that you believe will make you a successful chief?

A) I believe in a free exchange of information and opinions - even if those opinions differ from mine. In a large organization you have to be able to garner honest input from a variety of sources. If people are intimidated or afraid to speak up, you are not getting the best information to formulate your decisions. I think that character, coupled with the ability to execute the plans, will serve me well.

Q) What are your goals for the department?

A) Always in the forefront are our continuing efforts at reducing crime and disorder. Currently, crime in New Castle County is down about 12 percent. Short-term goals are the reaccreditation of the agency and the successful hiring of our next recruit class. Longer goals include continuing to develop our leadership team and planning for the future of the agency.

Q) What is one key to being an effective leader?

A) Learn to listen and ask a lot of questions.

Q) What is the best advice you've ever received?

A) It isn't so much advice as a personal belief: Treat people the way you want to be treated.

Q) Name someone who has had a major influence on you and explain why.

A) Rick Gregory, the former police chief and current chief administrative officer for the county. Rick exposed me to many facets of leadership and the challenges of running a large police agency. In addition to being an excellent leader and administrator, he is - above all things - a good person.

Q) Name three people you would love to meet and explain why.

A) The late Pierre Samuel du Pont: My wife and I enjoy gardening and take classes at Longwood Gardens. Along with being an astute businessman and philanthropist, Mr. du Pont had an incredible vision when he designed and then opened Longwood Gardens. I have such an appreciation for that place, and I would love to sit down and talk to him about it. Charles Lindbergh: Lindbergh was a hero first and later a controversial figure during World War II, but he lived an amazing life and never lost his curiosity. I respect that. Any veteran of a foreign war: To shake their hand and tell them thank you.



Colonel McGowan recites
Oath of Office



Colonel McGowan's son pins
his new badge

Car Stop, Subsequent Search Warrant, Yields 3 Guns, ½ Pound of Marijuana, Cash

Officers from the Mobile Enforcement Team (MET) have arrested **Jeffery Radcliffe**. He has been charged with various drug offenses after he was stopped for a routine traffic violation and later found to be hiding drugs inside the car and later at his home in New Castle. On Wednesday (3/3) at 9:10 p.m., officers from the MET team observed a Mazda Protégé that failed to signal for a right turn and failed to stop for a stop sign. The officers pulled over the car and spoke to the female driver and male passenger who each provided identification. The male passenger, Jeffery Radcliffe, was found to be wanted for a capias from Justice of the Peace Court 10. When asked to surrender, Radcliff refused to exit the car and suddenly reached into his front pocket at which time he was quickly removed from the vehicle. After taking him into custody, police found Radcliffe had a quarter ounce of marijuana, 30 Xanax pills (packaged for sale) and \$1,435 in suspected drug proceeds inside his pocket. He was arrested and held for charges as officers responded to his home and gathered enough evidence to obtain a search warrant. During the execution of the search warrant, officers located and seized the following items: a .22 caliber handgun, a .32 caliber handgun, a 12 gauge shotgun, additional pills, paraphernalia, and cash. Radcliffe has been charged with three counts of possession of a firearm by a person prohibited, two counts of possession with the intent to deliver drugs, maintaining a dwelling for keeping drugs, maintaining a vehicle for keeping drugs, resisting arrest, and multiple counts of unlawful dealing with a child. He has been arraigned and committed to the Howard Young Prison after failing to post \$103,500.

Decorated Retired Police Horse Laid to Rest

On Tuesday, March 9 retired police mount "Chelsea" was laid to rest at her home in Clayton, DE. Chelsea and her brother "Wellington" were the first draft horses to serve with the New Castle County Police Mounted Unit. Chelsea worked as a police horse for approximately 12 years prior to being retired. Upon retirement, she was taken to Senior Corporal Darla Hoff's home to live out the rest of her life. Chelsea was known within the unit for her bravery, willingness to work, strength and her speed. Chelsea was 30 years old when she passed which is an exceptional age for her breed and size. She was well loved by many and well taken care of right through her last day. According to members of the mounted unit, "Chelsea was truly an amazing horse. She was the boss and she was able to back it up. When an obstacle presented itself, Chelsea was the first one to complete it and the others followed. Chelsea was a hard working and well decorated horse. She was known throughout the United States and Canada. Chelsea won several uniform competitions and events all over the United States."



Suspect Arrested After Trying to Pawn Stolen Goods

New Castle County Detectives have come a long way with pawn shop owners over the past couple of years. In this case, it was critical information from an area pawn shop owner that led to the arrest of **Zachariah Zickgraf**, a 24 year old Claymont man. He has been charged with burglary and related offenses after police were alerted to a local pawn shop of a male subject who was attempting to sell/pawn items he had just stolen in a burglary. On Wednesday (3/17), detectives received information from an (undisclosed) pawn shop manager who indicated Zickgraf had just left the store after attempting to pawn several pieces of sterling silver serving items. Believing the items might have been stolen, the shop manager refused to purchase the items and was able to photograph them before he left. He then contacted police regarding the suspected theft. Detectives were able to locate a reported burglary that had just occurred in the 800 block of Causez Avenue, in the Northridge community, involving an elderly victim who had \$10,000 worth of sterling silver serving items, jewelry and prescription drugs taken from her home. Based on the photographs and additional evidence recovered at the crime scene, detectives were able to link Zickgraf to the burglary. Detectives then issued an arrest and search warrant for his home in Claymont. Inside the home, detectives found Zickgraf sleeping next to the stolen property in his bedroom. A further search revealed he had a loaded 12 gauge shotgun under his bed and a large wooden box. Inside the box, detectives found approximately 9 bundles of heroin (more than 100 individual packages) and other pills. He was arrested and charged with burglary, theft, obtaining a prescription drug by theft, possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony, possession with the intent to deliver heroin, maintaining a dwelling and additional drug related offenses. He has been arraigned and committed to the Howard Young Prison after failing to post \$20,500 secured bail.

Armed Man Surrenders to Crisis Negotiators

New Castle County Police have arrested **John Dolbow**, a 58 year old male who resides in the 100 block of Darwin Drive in the community of Newkirk Estates. He has been charged with aggravated menacing and possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony after he pointed a rifle at his sister and threatened to shoot her during a domestic dispute at his home. Although he surrendered peacefully, investigators later found an arsenal inside the home that consisted of multiple assault rifles, shotguns, handguns, smoke bombs, thousands of rounds of ammunition and other assorted survival items. (Newark, DE) On Tuesday (3/16) at 12:07 p.m., County Police responded to the Darwin Drive address for a report of a domestic dispute involving a weapon. When the officers arrived, they contacted the female victim who reported she had responded to the home to speak with her brother, John Dolbow. During the conversation, Dolbow pointed a rifle at his sister and threatened to shoot her. The sister escaped unharmed and then called 911. Police surrounded the home and closed some of the area roadways as they attempted to negotiate his surrender. Officers from the Crisis Negotiation Team responded to the home and contacted Dolbow who eventually surrendered without further incident.

Teen Charged with Attempted Theft, Malicious Mischief

New Castle County Police have arrested a 16 year old Hockessin male who attempted to steal a "heavy hauler trailer" from a home early this morning on Old Cooches Bridge Road. While fleeing the scene, the teen drove across the victim's yard (causing significant tire damage to the grass) and damaged the cover and valve for his underground propane tank. The teen was later arrested in a farmer's field just off of Chesapeake City Road. (Newark, DE) On Monday (3/22) at 2:55 a.m., County Police responded to a home in the 1900 block of Old Cooches Bridge Road for a report of a theft in progress. The 82 year old male victim reported he was startled by the sound of a pickup truck in his driveway and looked outside to see the vehicle and a subject attempting to steal his "heavy hauler trailer" from his rear yard. While driving off, the suspect's vehicle caused significant damage to the victim's lawn and underground propane tank. Evidently, the suspect was having difficulty pulling the trailer so the suspect got out of the truck and left it behind. Several officers converged on the scene as witnesses reported seeing the suspect vehicle traveling in an erratic manner on Chesapeake City Road. Senior Sergeant Stephen DiVirgilio located the suspect's vehicle in a farmer's field near the Maryland state line. The operator, who was wearing a hooded sweatshirt, mask and had spray painted his face, was taken into custody. The teen has been charged with felony attempted theft, criminal mischief, driving without a license, malicious mischief by a motor vehicle, and criminal trespassing in the 3rd degree. He has been arraigned and committed to the New Castle County Detention Center after failing to post \$2,000 secured bail.



Sergeant Stephen DiVirgilio

Burglary Ring Suspects Arrested, Four Sought

During a two month period from late December 2009 through January 2010, New Castle County experienced a significant spike in residential burglaries in several communities. As a result of several concurrent investigations, patrol officers developed details regarding a number of possible suspect vehicles. Those investigations led to a burglary ring involving students who were members of the Wilmington Job Corps. On January 29, 2010, an arrest was made for a burglary that occurred in the 800 block of Essex Road in the community of Westover Hills. Interviews from that case revealed a large scale burglary operation involving numerous current and former students at the Wilmington Job Corps. Management at the Job Corps refused to provide information on these students, even after a subpoena was issued for their records, which significantly delayed properly identifying members of this ring. Detectives conducted interviews which revealed that an organized group of 3-4 individuals would drive around and select a target house. The driver would drop off 2-3 actors and park around the corner. A female "knocker" would go to the front door while one or more person(s) would go to the rear of the residence. The "knocker" would then signal to the person(s) in the rear that no one was home verbally or by cell phone. Once the signal was received, entry would be made using one of three common methods. Most of the burglaries occurred Monday thru Friday between 8 am and 12pm. Once inside, the suspects would remove firearms, jewelry, and electronic items from the residence. Once the burglary was completed, the driver would be signaled to drive around and pick up the crew members. To date, 12 search warrants have been executed and some of the stolen property has been recovered. Between the recovered property and suspect interviews, individuals in this case have been charged with or linked to burglaries in the following areas: Claymont Heights, Gwinhurst, Bellefonte, Holly Oak, Wood Creek, Belltown Woods, Westover Hills, Mashallton, Elsmere, Glen Burnie Estates, Westwood Manor, Edgebrooke, the City of Wilmington and Landenberg, Pennsylvania. Six students have been arrested or currently have warrants on file as this investigation remains active. At this time, it is believed that this crew is responsible for well over 100 residential burglaries during the last year in all jurisdictions of New Castle County as well as in Pennsylvania. Detectives believe there are additional persons involved in this operation.

Congratulations Officer Gerald Tatum



Introducing our newest family member, Xavier Aaron Tatum

On behalf of the New Castle County Police family, we would like to congratulate Officer Tatum and his wife Daphne on the arrival of their newest gift, Xavier Aaron Tatum. Xavier was born on March 24, 2010, weighed in at a healthy nine pounds, one ounce and was 21 inches tall. He, mom, dad and the rest of the family are all doing well.



Community Officers taking questions from the audience

It an atmosphere that was more reminiscent of a rock concert, officers from the Community Services Unit presented an “Officer Friendly and Stranger Danger” awareness program to approximately 750 students (K-5th grade) at the Mount Pleasant Elementary School. The students enjoyed the interaction with the officers and McGruff the Crime Dog. The presentation began with an interaction with the student audience to allow the students to identify and relate to police officers. Later, the presenters transitioned into a “Stranger Danger” program that focused on the following: identifying strangers, common tricks, what to do if a student encounters a stranger, how to get away and more.

Rest in Peace Marianne

MARIANNE PATILLE

Marianne (Kirk) Patille

Age 55, died Sunday, March 7, 2010.

Marianne worked for Dinardo's Seafood Restaurant for 20+ years. She was currently working for the New Castle County Police Dept. Public Information Office as a Public Safety Agent for the past 16 years.

Marianne was a loving, caring, and devoted mother, daughter, sister, aunt, grandmother, and friend, whose greatest love was the time she spent with her family. She always enjoyed the time she spent with her good friends and family at Mulrooney's. She was preceded in death by her mother, Veronica in February 2002. She is survived her daughter, Sheila Cantler Pacheco and her husband Angelo; son, Thomas J. Patille III; her father, William L. Kirk; brother, Martin Kirk and his wife Nancy; sisters, Patricia Dougherty and her husband Dennis, Paula Wardell and her husband Sam, Sheila Whitehead and her husband Barry of Georgia; cousins and dear friends, Dee Degners and Danielle Messina; and grandson, Brendan Pacheco.

God bless you Marianne



Significant Crime Recap March 2010

Rosegate

Monday 3/1/10 1200

District 10-Street

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 72 year old male was driving his car on Pyle's Lane when he stopped to speak with a young girl named Dashwana. While talking, she convinced the elderly man to give her a ride to the Rosegate community. The victim then drove the girl to the area of Rose Lane and Thorn Lane where he parked his car. The girl stated she would be right back and asked the man to wait a moment. Moments later, the girl returned with several young males who pulled the victim from the car and stole his jewelry, cell phone and wallet. One of the subjects then shot the victim in the face with a BB gun prior to fleeing. The victim was later treated and released at the hospital.

Newark Oaks

Monday 3/1/10 1955

District 5-Diller

Summary: (Reported home invasion) A 46 year old male was sleeping inside his Leader Drive residence when he woke to the sound of his dog barking. When he got up, he found three subjects standing inside his bedroom door. One of the subjects, who was known to the victim as "Lexie," spoke briefly with the victim before the other two subjects brandished a knife and started to assault him. The suspects stole cash and prescription pills before fleeing. The female was identified and arrest warrants have been issued. The other two subjects have not yet been identified.

Colonial Village North

Monday 3/1/10 2005

District 7-Smiley

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 20 year old male entered Building 11 through the rear door when he was approached by a male subject. The victim attempted to ignore the subject, but he followed him into the building and then held him at gunpoint. The subject stole cash from the victim and then fled on foot toward Jefferson Farms.

Willow Run

Tuesday 3/2/10 0055

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported home invasion) Two adult victims were asleep in the residence in the 1500 block of Hickory Road when someone knocked on the front door. When the female resident opened the door, two subjects forced their way inside while armed with a handgun. One of the subjects pulled a necklace from the victim's neck while the other suspect assaulted and robbed the male victim as well. The suspects stole the male victim's medication before they both fled on foot.

Sparrow Run

Wednesday 3/3/10 0950

District 6-Powers

Summary: (Shooting investigation) An office in the unit block of Brookmont Drive (former residence) was reportedly damaged by gunfire. The owner called police after he

discovered two bullet holes in the structure. Video surveillance showed a male walking through the rear yard of the property around 0310 hours that date, but did not show the shooting in progress. The rounds were recovered inside the building and the casings were recovered in the rear yard.

Richardson Park

Thursday 3/4/10 1750

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 59 year old male was working at “The Corner Store” located in the unit block of Belmont Drive when a male subject entered the business. Once inside, the subject requested a box of cigars and was about to pay for the items when the clerk opened the cash register. The subject then displayed a handgun and demanded the money from the register. The suspect stole an undisclosed amount of cash before walking out of the store. He then robbed a patron of five dollars in the doorway of the establishment. He was last seen fleeing on foot into the community.

Woodcrest

Monday 3/8/10 0210

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 35 year old female victim returned home (300 block of Troy Avenue) from work and parked her car in the driveway. As she exited her vehicle, a male suspect ran toward her and struck her in the head with an unknown, hard object concealed within a brown paper bag. The suspect took the victim’s purse and fled to an unknown make/model dark colored vehicle parked down the street. The victim received five staples to secure the laceration to her head.

Willow Run

Monday 3/8/10 1323

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 19 year old female victim returned to her home in the 1500 block of Old Farm Road and parked her car in the driveway. She exited her car and walked to the end of the driveway to retrieve the trash can when she was confronted by a male suspect who was armed with a gun. The subject robbed the victim of her purse before fleeing on foot.

Garfield Park

Monday 3/8/10 1700

District 10-Street

Summary: (Reported robbery) Three teenage males were playing on the basketball court at the Garfield Park PAL when a male subject approached them. The suspect first accused one of the victims of taking his property, and then removed the cell phones and money from the other victims. The suspect fled the area in a gold or gray colored Honda Civic.

Lancaster Court Apts.

Tuesday 3/9/10 0035

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery, shooting) A 21 year old male victim, who resides in Maryland, had contact with a male subject named “Stacks.” The victim was trying to sell a set of 22” rims/ tires to Stacks who agreed to drive to Maryland where he picked up the victim and rims. They then drove to the Lancaster Court Apartments where Stacks

wanted to “try them out on another one of his vehicles.” After the rims were unloaded, Stacks pulled a black revolver from his waistband and robbed the victim of the rims and his cell phone. A second suspect appeared and went through the victim’s pockets while Stacks held him at gun point. As the victim fled on foot, the suspects fired one round in an unknown direction. The suspects were observed wheeling the rims/tires into building 30. The rims/tires were later located and returned to the victim. Stacks has not yet been identified.

Jefferson Farms

Tuesday 3/9/10 1700

District 7-Smiley

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 12 year old male victim was standing with a group of friends on Independence Blvd. at Constitution Blvd. when he was approached by three subjects. One of the subjects punched the victim in the face and took his bicycle. All three subjects then fled the area.

Village of Canterbury

Wednesday 3/10/10 2118

District 7-Smiley

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 26 year old male victim advised that he had just purchased his car and took it out for a quick test drive. As he parked the vehicle in front of his apartment on Bryon Court, he was approached by several male subjects. The suspects grabbed him by the neck and held him against the car as one removed a black revolver from his pants pocket and held it in the victim’s face. The suspects took the car keys (and car) and fled. The vehicle was later located unoccupied in front of 200 Sandburg Place.

Brandywine Estates

Thursday 3/11/10 2240

District 8-Cartier

Summary: (Assault, attempted robbery) Two teenage victims advised that they were walking to a friend’s house on Jackson Avenue when a vehicle pulled up and the four occupants exited the car. The occupants then approached the victims and asked them for drugs or money. One of the victims was punched in the face and knocked unconscious. The suspects then went through the victim’s pockets although no items were reported stolen. He was later treated at the Christiana Hospital for his injuries.

Maryland Park Apts.

Saturday 3/13/10 0045

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 19 year old male victim had left his Robinson Court apartment to take his trash out when he was approached by an unknown subject. The subject brandished a gun and pointed at the victim’s head while ordering him to get down on his knees. The suspect stole cash from the victim before he fled on foot.

Non-Development

Friday 3/13/10 0420

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery) Two senior adults had been out and returned to their home in the 900 block of Kiamensi Road during the early morning hours. After they parked their car in the driveway, the male victim walked to the truck to get his wife’s

wheelchair from inside. Two male subjects approached the victim and threatened him with a gun. The first suspect struck the victim in the face and went through his knapsack. The second suspect took the wallet from the female victim while she was still seated in the vehicle. The male victim was treated at the Christiana Hospital for his injuries.

Non Development **Saturday 3/13/10 1855** **District 7-Smiley**

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 51 year old male was working inside the Tobacco and Variety Store on Moore's Lane when a male subject entered the business displaying a handgun. The subject stole all of the money from the register before fleeing on foot.

Richardson Park **Saturday 3/13/10 2140** **District 1-Reda**

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 63 year old male victim returned home (unit block of Belmont Avenue) and parked his car in the driveway. As he opened his car door, two subjects approached and pointed a handgun at him while demanding his wallet. The suspects fled on foot after stealing the victim's wallet and cell phone. The suspects then fled down Belmont Avenue and turned left onto Lake Street.

Richardson Park **Sunday 3/14/10 1530** **District 1-Reda**

Summary: (Shooting investigation) Three adult victims were driving through Richardson Park, in the 400 block of Eureka Street, when the driver's vehicle was struck by another car. Several subjects exited the striking vehicle and began hitting the victim's vehicle with baseball bats. The driver was pulled from the vehicle and assaulted with the bats while the other 2 victims fled on foot. During the incident, police received reports of several shots fired.

Heritage Park **Tuesday 3/16/10 1830** **District 9-Sheldon**

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 23 year old pizza delivery man had just delivered food to an address on Whitman Drive and was driving away from the residence when two subjects flagged him down. The victim stopped his car and spoke to the men who pointed a gun at him and demanded money. One then reached into the vehicle and took the cash from the victim's lap. Both suspects then fled into a nearby wooded area. A canine track ended at Emerson Road and Heritage Farm Drive.

Dunleith **Thursday 3/18/10 1305** **District 10-Street**

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 47 year old male subject was walking home from the pharmacy on Carver Drive at Bethune Drive when he was approached by a teenage male subject. The teen suddenly produced a handgun and demanded the victim's property. He surrendered his prescription medications and cash before the subject fled the area on foot.

Non-Development**Friday 3/19/10 1415****District 8-Cartier**

Summary: The victim advised that he was walking in the area of the park on Darley Road (with headphones on) when he passed by a male subject. Moments later, the same subject came back toward him and grabbed him by his neck while demanding money. The victim turned over his wallet and backpack.

Lancaster Court Apts.**Friday 3/19/10 1500****District 1-Reda**

Summary: (Shooting investigation) A 39 year old male victim advised that he returned to his apartment (Building 42) to find it broken into and ransacked. An unknown witness advised the victim that "Zach" and another Hispanic male, who are known to hang out at Building 58 within the complex, had broken into his residence. While waiting for police at his apartment, he observed "Zach" and a verbal argument ensued over the burglary. During the argument, "Zach" told a second suspect to shoot the victim. The second suspect then fired several rounds at the victim as he fled into his apartment. Investigators have identified two persons of interest.

Brookside Park**Saturday 3/20/10 1315****District 5-Diller**

Summary: (Shooting investigation) A 24 year old female had been having ongoing problems with her ex-boyfriend. While at work at the Wendy' Restaurant on Possum Park Road, several teens arrived and began harassing and attempting to fight her. They went so far as to jump the service counter and begin to chase the victim around the store in front of other customers. The subjects fled after being told the police were called. Within minutes, all of the subjects returned and again attempted to assault her. At around 1:00 p.m., the victim returned home to her residence and was anticipating trouble. Approximately 10-20 minutes later the same subjects (from the Wendys) arrived at her residence. A third altercation ensued that led to a shooting involving one of the victim's allies. The subject fired several rounds at the vehicle (driven by the harassing girls). Although the car was hit several times, no one was injured. The driver of the vehicle fled but the car became disabled near the Brookside Plaza Apartments. The shooter was apprehended after a short foot pursuit and charged with several crimes.

Harbor Club Apts.**Saturday 3/20/10 1500****District 11-Tackett**

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 22 year old female victim had responded to 10 Cheswold Blvd. to delivery a food order. Upon entering the building, a suspect emerged from the laundry room and advised the food order was his. The subject then went into the laundry room and brandished a large black revolver. He pointed the weapon at the driver and stole cash before forcing the victim into a closet.

Cleland Heights**Saturday 3/20/10 2200****District 1-Reda**

Summary: (Reported robbery) Two adult victims advised that they had walked to the nearby store to purchase cigarettes and ice cream. The victims stated that they decided to take Willis Place back to their residence because of a disorderly group standing on the corner. While walking along Willis Place, a suspect yelled something to them to get their attention. When the victims turned around, the taller of two suspects brandished a handgun and demanded money. The suspects stole some minor items before fleeing on foot.

Lancaster Court Apts. Sunday 3/21/10 1744 District 1-Reda

Summary: (Shooting investigation) A team of officers were assigned to a patrol operation in the Lancaster Court following a “burglary/shots fired” incident that occurred on the previous day. While on foot in the courtyard area, an unknown subject fired several gunshots at the officers. Many of the rounds struck the ground before their feet and also hit a nearby tree. It was determined that the shots came from Building 52 (vacant apartment). Police recovered bullet casings within the vacant apartment and a handgun believed to be involved in the shooting. A number of people were taken into custody/detained.

Glasgow Court TP Tuesday 3/23/10 2130 District 6-Powers

Summary: (Murder/suicide investigation) Officers responded to an address in the 100 block of S. Patrice Drive for a report of a shooting that just occurred. Two shooting victims were found inside the trailer who each appeared to have suffered gunshot wounds to the upper body. The investigation has revealed the male subject (Ramiro Benitez) shot and killed his girlfriend and then turned the gun on himself. The girlfriend died at the scene and he passed en route to the hospital.

Swanwyck Estates Tuesday 3/23/10 2330 District 7-Smiley

Summary: (Reported robbery) Officers responded to a home in the unit block of Prince Avenue for a report of a robbery that just occurred. Two elderly victims had just returned home and had parked their car in the driveway. While the male subject was removing his wife’s wheelchair from the trunk, a male subject approached the car. The subject brandished a handgun and robbed the female victim of her purse and cash before fleeing in a light colored sedan.

Garfield Park Tuesday 3/23/10 2345 District 10-Street

Summary: (Homicide investigation) Officers responded to a home in the unit block of Chase Avenue for a report of a shooting that just occurred. When the officers arrived, they found a male subject who appeared to have been shot in the upper body. He was pronounced DOA. Detectives are currently following up on leads.

Wilmington Manor Gdns. Wednesday 3/24/10 0050 District 12-Bell

Summary: (Reported robbery) Officers responded to a home in the unit block of Boston Place for a report of a robbery that just occurred. An adult female victim had just returned home and was accosted in her driveway when she opened her car door. A male subject pointed a handgun at the victim and demanded her purse. When the victim refused, they subject struck the victim about the head with the butt of the gun and then reached in the car and stole her purse.

Gordon Heights

Thursday 3/25/10 2240

District 8-Cartier

Summary: (Reported robbery) A male victim was walking in the 100 block of Lore Avenue, when he was approached by four male suspects, one of which displayed a small black handgun (possibly an airsoft gun). The victim turned over his iPhone before the suspects fled on foot.

Richardson Park

Friday 3/26/10 0251

District 1-Reda

Summary: (Reported shots fired) An anonymous caller and two persons contacted on a neighborhood canvass advised that they heard what they believed to be a series of gunshots in the area of Belmont Avenue. A check of the area for shell casings, etc. was negative.

Pine Valley Apartments

Tuesday 3/30/10 0414

District 12-Bell

Summary: (Reported stabbing) An adult male victim was reportedly stabbed in the neck by another male during an altercation of the sale of crack cocaine in Building 139. The victim was transported to the Christiana Hospital where he was treated for a non-life threatening injury. The male suspect was later arrested and charged with felony assault.

Saddlebrook T.H.

Tuesday 3/30/10 2200

District 7-Smiley

Summary: (Reported robbery) An adult female responded to an address in the unit block of Freedom Trail to deliver a bogus food order. When she arrived at the home, two male suspects brandished a handgun and robbed her of the food and cash. The suspects were last seen fleeing on foot.