



County Police Ink

November 2010

New Castle County Police Department

What's Inside

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Bundles of Joy

Congratulations to the Award Recipients

The New Castle County Department of Public Safety held an Awards Ceremony on November 10th, 2010, to recognize individuals for their significant accomplishments that occurred during the first half of 2010. The following officers were recognized:

- **Senior Sergeant Claudine Malone** was recognized for her diligence and perseverance in regard to a Supreme Court Decision of Search and Seizure. Her actions in pursuing a case that was originally dismissed due to a pat down being deemed "unlawful", directly resulted in setting a precedent for future cases of this kind. After her impressive testimony at a suppression hearing, the Delaware Supreme Court upheld the search of the suspect and he plead guilty to weapon offenses. S/Sgt. C. Malone was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation.
- **Corporal Thomas Purse** was recognized for his timely apprehension of a suspect who was arrested for the murder of a 28 year old New Castle man. It was his vigilance and keen investigative instincts while responding to the scene that led to the apprehension of this suspect. Cpl. T. Purse was awarded a Commendation of Merit.
- **Officer First Class Justin Caserta and Officer Keith Sydnor** were recognized for their efforts in an investigation regarding robberies involving pizza delivery persons that was occurring on the Route 9 corridor. As a result of their keen observation, aggressive patrol skills and knowledge of the crimes occurring in their assigned area, they were able to remove a dangerous felon from the streets of New Castle County. Ofc. Caserta and Ofc. Sydnor were each awarded a Certificate of Appreciation.
- **Officer First Class Trevor Riccobon** was recognized for initiating an operational plan to attack the high level of drug activity with the development of Christiana Court Apartments. His plan was extremely organized and successful. His persistence, diligence and investigative efforts led to the arrest of two illegal immigrants who plagued the community with constant drug trafficking. Officer Riccobon was awarded a Commendation of Merit.
- **Officer First Class Angel Alejandro** was recognized for his outstanding police work and quick instincts which resulted in an apprehension of two robbery suspects. Officer Alejandro was responding home after the completion of his evening tour of duty, when he observed four subjects in a gas station, one of which had his hands in the air. He quickly realized that the individual was being robbed. After a short foot pursuit and the help of Officer Reginald Barnes, both subjects were apprehended. Officer Alejandro was awarded a Commendation of Merit.
- **Officer Mark Censurato** was recognized for his thorough investigative work into a burglary, which led to an arrest of a subject who was also linked to several other burglaries, as well as two that had not yet been reported. If not for Officer Censurato's thorough investigation of the initial burglary and his excellent interview skills, the suspect would have likely continued committing his crimes and would have victimized a number of additional citizens of New Castle County. Officer Censurato was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation.

"It is time for us all to stand and cheer for the doer, the achiever - the one who recognizes the challenge and does something about it."

Vince Lombardi

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Traffic Violation Leads to Drug Bust

New Castle County Police have arrested Dashawn Mays, a 21 year old male who resides in the unit block of Jill Court in Wilmington. He has been charged with felony drug and several traffic offenses after he was stopped for a stop sign violation. He was also found to have drugs in the vehicle On November 5, 2010 at 12:50 a.m., County Police Officer John-Paul Piser observed a vehicle fail to stop at a stop sign

while at the intersection of North Park Drive and West Holly Oak Road in the community of Gwinhurst. The officer stopped the car at Governor Printz Boulevard and Winding Lane and contacted the operator, Deshawn Mays, after he had committed two additional traffic violations. As the officer approached the car he observed



Officer John Piser

Mays to be extremely nervous and leaning on the center console. When Officer Piser had Mays exit the vehicle, an assisting officer observed a small baggie of marijuana near the center console. A search of the vehicle revealed another baggie containing crack cocaine, five hypodermic needles under the driver's seat, 12 Oxycodone pills and 10 more baggies containing marijuana in a backpack belonging to Mays. Mays was arrested and charged with maintaining a vehicle for keeping controlled substances, possession of a hypodermic needle, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, possession of crack cocaine, possession of oxycodone pills and several traffic offenses including failing to stop at a stop sign. He was arraigned and committed to the Howard Young Correctional Institute after failing to post \$2,000 secured bond.

Woman Charged with Falsely Reporting Armed Robbery

New Castle County Police have arrested Susan Cook, a 40 year old female who resides in the unit block of Del Haven Court in the Del Haven Mobile Home Park in Wilmington, DE. Cook falsely reported an armed robbery so she could get her prescription medication filled prior to the refill date. On Sunday (11/14) at 11:20 a.m., County Police responded for a late reported armed robbery that allegedly took place at the intersection of East Holly Oak Road and Cherry Street in Wilmington. When officers arrived, they contacted Cook who advised that as she was walking home from a gas station located on Philadelphia Pike, she was being followed by

a male subject. The subject then pointed a handgun at her and stole her purse that contained several of her prescription medications. During the investigation Officer First Class David Hildick responded to the gas station and reviewed the video surveillance that took place during the time of the alleged incident. It was revealed that Cook was not observed entering or exiting the business within several hours of the incident. The investigation revealed that Cook told police that her medications were stolen so that she could receive a police report and have her medications refilled prior to the refill date. Cook was arrested and charged with falsely reporting an incident. She was arraigned and released on \$500 unsecured bond.



Officer David Hildick

Car Stop Leads to Drug Bust

New Castle County Police have arrested Justin Scarborough, a 26 year old male who resides in the unit block of Wellington Drive in Newark. He has been charged with felony drug and traffic offenses after his vehicle was stopped for reckless driving. On Wednesday (11/03), the Tactical Utility Team (TUT) was assigned to the area of Laurel Woods in Newark to address quality of life issues and concerns of drug activity. At 2:00 p.m., the officers stopped a Chevy Aveo that was seen driving at a high rate of speed while traveling northbound on Wellington Drive. An aluminum can was observed being thrown from the vehicle. It was revealed Scarborough was driving with a suspended license and had three capiases. He was removed from the car and placed into custody. Scarborough was then found to have drug paraphernalia in his pocket and a search of the vehicle revealed he was in possession of 18.2 grams of marijuana. Scarborough was arrested and charged with maintaining a vehicle for keeping controlled substances, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, littering on a highway and several traffic offenses including reckless driving. Scarborough was committed to the Howard Young Correctional Institute after failing to post \$2102 secured bond for the charges and \$622 cash bail for the capiases.

Safe Streets Task Force making an impact in our communities

Safe Streets Arrest Probationer, 38 Bags of Crack Cocaine Seized

The New Castle County Safe Streets Team arrested **Keisha Parson**, a 35 year old female who resides in the unit block of South Street, in the Hamilton Park community. She has been charged with several felony drug offenses after probation officers conducted an administrative search on her home and found 38 bags of crack cocaine, 11 prescription pills, digital scales and \$993 in suspected drug proceeds inside. During the past week, police have investigated a home invasion and "shots-fired" in the area of Parson's home. On November 11th at 7:30 p.m., Safe Streets officers responded to a neighboring home (of the shooting location) and attempted to contact Keisha Parson who was an active interstate probationer. While walking to the home, officers noted a surveillance camera that was pointed toward the back door of the home. After knocking and receiving no answer, the officers left the home and later "snuck up" on the camera from behind. The officer repositioned the camera which miraculously led to the back door immediately being opened by one of the four occupants. At this time, the officers moved in and detained four adult occupants and located four (additional) children inside. A search of the home by probation officers led to the discovery of the drugs and cash inside Parson's bedroom. She was arrested and charged with the following offenses: possession with the intent to deliver cocaine, possession with the intent to deliver prescription pills, maintaining a dwelling for keeping a controlled substance, and endangering the welfare of a child.

Safe Streets Arrest Probationer, Marijuana Seized

The New Castle County Safe Streets Team has arrested **George Schwenk**, a 20 year old male who resides in the 2500 block of Cedar Avenue in Wilmington. He has been charged with several felony drug offenses after probation officers found marijuana and drug paraphernalia inside. On Friday (11/19) at 9:30 a.m., the Safe Streets Team, comprised of New Castle County Police and Probation and Parole, responded to Schwenk's home after receiving information from County Police Officer First Class Scott Crum that he was possibly selling drugs out of the residence. Officer conducted an administrative search of the home that led to the discovery of 17 grams of marijuana, a digital scale and packaging materials. Schwenk was arrested and charged with the following offenses: possession with intent to deliver marijuana, maintaining a dwelling for keeping a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana. Schwenk was arraigned and committed to the Howard Young Correctional Institute after failing to post \$250 secured bond.



Officer Scott Crum

Safe Streets Arrest Probationer, Marijuana and Handgun Seized

The New Castle County Safe Streets Team have arrested **Julio Santiago**, a 29 year old level two probationer who resides in unit block of Revere Place in the community of Hunt Club Townhouses. He has been charged with multiple felony offenses after officers found marijuana and an unsecured firearm in his home. Santiago, who is a convicted felon, is prohibited from possessing guns. (Wilmington) On Tuesday (11/23) at 6:00 p.m., the Safe Streets Team, comprised of New Castle County Police and Probation and Parole, responded to Santiago's residence for a home visit. When the officers arrived, they smelled a strong odor of marijuana emanating from his home. Santiago was contacted and probation officers conducted an administrative search of his home which resulted in the seizure of the following items: a firearm that was located in an unsecured box, ammunition, scales, drug paraphernalia and a small amount of marijuana. Santiago has four children that live with him at the home. The Division of Family Services was notified of the incident. Santiago has been charged with the following offenses: four counts of endangering the welfare of a child, possession of a deadly weapon by a person prohibited, maintaining a dwelling for keeping a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and marijuana. He was to the Howard Young Prison after failing to post \$5,000 secured bond.



Cousin Charged with Strangulation, Endangering the Welfare of Two Children

New Castle County Police have arrested **Morgan Saunders**, a 19 year old female who resides in the 200 block of Beaver Court in the community of Pheasant Lake Townhouses. She has been charged with strangling and assaulting her 10 year old cousin in the presence of her 9 year old sister, while she was babysitting the two children. (Bear, DE) On Wednesday (11/17) at 11:25 a.m., County Police responded to Keene Elementary School for a report of a late reported domestic dispute that occurred at Saunders residence. When police arrived, they contacted a worker from the Division of Family Services who briefed the officer about an altercation that happened between Saunders and her 10 year old cousin. The victim sustained a bite mark to her leg and injuries to her face. The investigation revealed that on Tuesday (11/16) at 4:00 p.m., while the suspect was watching her two younger cousins an argument ensued between Saunders and her 10 year old cousin. During the argument, Saunders struck the victim in the back of the neck with a shoe, bit her on the leg and head and scratched her about the face. The officer also learned that Saunders put the victim in a headlock and began squeezing her arm around her neck. The 9 year old was able to grab Saunders arm and pull it away from her sister's neck. She was not injured during the altercation. Saunders responded to County Police Headquarters and was arrested without incident. She was released on \$5,000 unsecured bond.

Mother Charged with Endangering the Welfare of her Two Children

New Castle County Police have arrested **Amanda Hill**, a 25 year old female who resides in the 100 block of Scarborough Park Drive in the Mill Creek Village Apartments. She has been charged with endangering the welfare of her two children and a drug violation after it was discovered that she left her children unattended while she was using drugs. On Tuesday (11/23) at 4:06 p.m., County Police responded to Hill's address to check on the welfare of her two children. When officers arrived, they contacted Hill's mother who responded to the home after receiving a call from her 6 year old grandson. The child told his grandmother that his mother was not acting right and that she kept falling down and falling asleep. Hill's one year old son was also in the home. The investigation revealed that earlier in the afternoon Hill met with a friend and smoked a PCP laced cigarette, while her children were left unattended in the apartment. Hill was at the home when officers arrived, but she was observed to be very lethargic and disorientated. She was also having trouble keeping her balance as she walked around the apartment. The Division of Family Services was contacted and responded to the residence. They took custody of the children and placed them with a family member. Hill was arrested and charged with two counts of endangering the welfare of a child and consumption of PCP. She was released on \$1500 unsecured bond.



Congratulations to Officer Matthew DiSabatino on the birth of his daughter, Alaina Rosalyn. She was born on November 24, 2010, at 10:47 a.m. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 21 and 1/2 inches long. Laura (Mom), Matthew (Dad), Olivia and Emma (big sisters') and baby are doing great.



Congratulations to Officer Matthew Porter on the birth of his son, Wyatt Matthew Porter. He was born on November 22, 2010, at 12:22 a.m. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19 and 3/4 inches long. Lauren (Mom), Matthew (Dad), Avery (big sister) and baby are doing great.





Significant Crime Recap November 2010

St Andrews TH

Tuesday 11/9/10 1645

District 6- Powers

Summary: (Attempted Robbery) A 41 year old male reported that he returned to his residence on his bike after getting a few groceries. As he was securing his bike, the victim felt a “poking” at his back and turned around to see a suspect armed with a gun. The suspect demanded his money and punched the victim in the face. The victim then yelled for help to an unknown neighbor. The victim was punched in the face for a second time, prior to the suspect fleeing. No items were stolen.

Dunleith

Tuesday 11/9/10 1830

District 10- Street

Summary (Shots Fired) An argument occurred between a 39 year old victim and a male subject while they were inside the residence in the 400 block of Carver Drive. The suspect then left the residence and stated he would be back. He returned a short time later with a handgun and fired shots while he was standing outside the victim’s bedroom window. The suspect was caught and charged with several crimes.

Lancaster Court Apts.

Tuesday 11/16/10 2310

District 1- Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery) The 29 year old male victim advised that he was walking to his vehicle when he was approached by two suspects. The suspects demanded money while one suspect pointed a small handgun at the victim. The victim turned over an undisclosed amount of cash and the suspects fled toward Lancaster Avenue.

Lancaster Court Apts.

Wednesday 11/17/10 1735

District 1- Reda

Summary: (Reported robbery) A 50 year old male victim advised that he was “jumped” by a group of male subjects and cash was taken from him. The victim’s story changed a number of times, and he became agitated and uncooperative with responding officers. The victim had no signs of physical injury and was still in possession of a cell phone and cash when he made contact with the reporting officer.

Sparrow Run TH

Thursday 11/18/10 0120

District 6- Powers

Summary: (Home Invasion) The suspect entered a residence on Gull Turn from an unsecured front door and ordered the occupants of the residence into a bedroom at gunpoint. The suspect removed a laptop and money from the residence and fled in an unknown direction.

Hunter’s Crossing APTS

Thursday 11/18/10 1152

District 5- Diller

Summary: (Attempted Robbery) The 43 year old male victim advised that he was carrying groceries to his apartment and as he placed the bag of groceries on the ground

so that he could open his door, he was approached by the suspect. The suspect demanded money and the victim denied his request. The suspect then implied he had a gun, but the victim still refused to turn over any of his property and the subject fled. No weapon was ever observed by the victim.

Waters Edge Condos Thursday 11/18/10 1600 District 11- Tackett

Summary: (Carjacking) The 35 year old female victim called police and advised that she was driving with a male subject, and another male friend (suspect), when the suspect asked the victim to drive him home. The victim advised that she had to check on her husband and returned to her apartment. After she exited her vehicle in the parking lot of her apartment building, the suspect began arguing with her about taking him home. The suspect then began chasing the victim around her car, during which time he grabbed her keys from her and fled in the victim's vehicle. While officers were on scene inside the victim's apartment, the suspect returned the vehicle and fled. No items were reported missing.

Reybold Road Thursday 11/18/10 1900 District 11- Tackett

Summary: (Shots Fired) A female caller advised the 911 center that she heard what she believed to be 14 gunshots in the area of her residence. She stated that the area around her residence is used for target shooting, so gunshots are not uncommon. The victim later located a casing near her mailbox and called police.

Belvedere Friday 11/19/10 1835 District 1- Reda

Summary: (Attempted Robbery) The 51 year old male victim advised that he was sitting in a plastic chair in the rear yard of a home on Clyde Street when two unknown black male suspects came up behind him and struck him in the head with an unknown "hard" object. The suspects went through the victim's pockets and attempted to remove money, but fled on foot prior to obtaining any. The victim suffered a serious head injury and was admitted to Christiana Hospital

Simonds Gardens Saturday 11/20/10 1830 District 10- Street

Summary (Shooting Investigation) On Saturday, patrol responded to Sheridan Drive for a report of shots fired. The victim reported that an unknown male subject fired two shots at a vehicle that was occupied by her two sons' and a female driver, while in front of her residence. As her two sons' ran toward the front door, the suspect fired two shots striking the residence. Then as the female victim began to drive away, the suspect fired again striking the vehicle. No one was injured. A police canine was able to locate the suspect and he was arrested.

Dunleith Saturday 11/20/10 2225 District 10- Street

Summary: (Shooting Investigation) Witnesses reported a group of four male subjects exited a late 1980's gray Chevrolet Blazer and gold, possibly Mercury Sable, and walked

toward a residence on Carver Drive. The suspects fired approximately 30 rounds at the residence, striking the home and a vehicle in the driveway. The suspects were then observed running back toward the Blazer and gold vehicle, prior to fleeing the area.

Edgemoor Gardens

Sunday 11/21/10 2245

District 8- Cartier

Summary: (Reported Robbery) An 18 year old male victim advised that he responded to South Cannon Drive to make a pizza delivery. When he arrived and parked his vehicle, he was confronted by the three subjects. The suspects then went through the victim's vehicle, taking money from the center console of the vehicle, a basketball jersey from the back seat and the food order. All three suspects then fled the area.

Tanglewood

Sunday 11/21/10 2330

District 11- Tackett

Summary: (Reported Robbery) The 19 year old male victim advised that he was walking to a friend's house on North Brownleaf Road when the suspect vehicle pulled up next to him. A white male exited the vehicle and asked the victim for a cigarette, which he provided. The white male then pushed the victim to the ground and the other suspects exited the car and joined in on the assault. The suspects attempted to remove items from his pockets, but were having difficulty getting his wallet, etc. out of his pants. The suspects then removed the victim's shoes, pants and shirt and fled. The victim then ran to a nearby hotel in his socks and boxer shorts and called police.

Taylorstowne Shopping Ctr. Monday 11/22/10 1937

District 7- Smiley

Summary: (Reported Robbery) Two suspects entered the Derr's Liquor Store, when the second suspect displayed a shotgun and pointed it at the clerk. The clerk removed money from two registers within the store and turned same over to the suspects. During the robbery, an unknown black male patron walked into the store and was ordered to the ground at gunpoint. The suspects then went through his pockets. The suspect then fled on foot.

Stone Mill TH

Monday 11/22/10 2200

District 7- Smiley

Summary: (Reported Robbery) The 27 year old victim advised that he was walking to the Happy Harry's when he was approached by the two suspects who exited the pathway that allows access to Governor's Square Shopping Center. The one suspect brandished a handgun and pointed same at the victim, while the second suspect went through the victim's pockets removing property. The victim advised that the two suspects then fled into the development of Stone Mill.

Carpenter Plaza SHP CTR Tuesday 11/23/10 1231

District 8- Cartier

Summary: (Reported Robbery) Two suspects entered the New Hong Kong restaurant and approached the counter as though they were going to order food. When the victim opened the cash register, one suspect displayed a handgun and the second suspect

pulled the cash register onto the floor and removed cash. The suspects fled out the front door and ran to the rear of the shopping center.

Scottfield

Wednesday 11/24/10 0124

District 11- Tackett

Summary: (Home Invasion) The 52 year old victim advised that she had exited the bathroom and went into her bedroom in the house where she rents a room. The victim advised she was then confronted by two suspects who were inside her room and they demanded that she give them her purse. The suspects removed money from her purse and instructed the victim to remove all the jewelry she was wearing. The suspects then fled the residence.

Whispering Pines TH

Wednesday 11/24/10 1540

District 5- Diller

Summary: (Reported Robbery) The 18 year old female victim advised that she was walking in an alleyway between Gilbert Street and Fleming Street when she was approached by two females. One female then began assaulting the victim. During the altercation, the victim had cash and other property taken from her. The suspects were later located and taken into custody.

Carpenter Plaza SHP CTR Saturday 11/27/10 1756

District 8- Cartier

Summary: (Reported Robbery) The suspect was observed pacing in front of the Le Nail Salon just prior to entering. Once inside, the suspect approached the victim who was standing near the register. The 38 year old female victim turned over an undisclosed amount of money from the register and then the suspect demanded a patron's purse before fleeing the store. The K9 track led to the Brandywine Apartment complex.

Alban Park

Tuesday 11/30/10 2000

District 1- Reda

Summary: (Reported Robbery) The 56 year old victim advised that he was walking home when he was pushed to the ground from behind by the two suspects. After the victim fell, the two suspects began assaulting him and removed property from his pockets and fled on Homestead Road toward Bonwood Road. The K9 track led to the area of a residence in the 1500 block of Bonwood Road.