



# St. Louis County Police Department INFORMATION DIGEST

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## FROM THE CHIEF

As many of you already know, Proposition E-911 will be on the November 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot. Voters will decide whether or not to approve a one-tenth of one cent sales tax to improve county-wide emergency communications by replacing outdated radio systems and improve the emergency siren system coverage. It will also provide dispatchers with the ability to know the location of cell phone users in an emergency. Federal requirements mandate that all public safety entities improve and modernize their emergency communications by the end of 2012. The counties surrounding us are already well on their way to meeting this requirement. I feel that it is important that everyone on our Department knows the importance of Proposition E-911 and the safety benefits it provides to all police officers, detectives and citizens in our region. Countywide emergency communications can better coordinate lifesaving services in a more cost-effective method.

Chief Tim Fitch

## DEPARTMENT FAMILY

Detectives **Christine McHugh**, DCI, and **Dan Christy**, DCI, had a baby boy, Shawn, born Wednesday, July 29, 2009.



Detective **Tony Berardi**, DCI, and his wife, Katie, had a baby girl, Isabella, born Monday, August 10, 2009.

Police Officer **Matthew Pleviak**, Tactical Operations Unit, and his wife, Tammy, had a baby boy, Gunnar Joseph, born Wednesday, September 23, 2009.

## WELL DONE

On Sunday, August 23, 2009, at 11:45 PM, Officers **Gregory Burke**, **Johnathan Cunningham**, **William White III** and **Patrick Hokamp**, Central County Precinct, received a call for shots fired at an apartment complex. The person reporting the shots gave a description and the direction of travel of the suspect. The officers' investigation led them to a nearby apartment. One of the two men in the apartment matched the description of the suspect. A loaded handgun was found near the suspect and he admitted that he fired a couple of rounds into the air outside his apartment to convince his girlfriend to leave. The handgun was discovered to be stolen and the suspect had marijuana in his pockets.

On Wednesday, August 26, 2009, Officers **Kathryn Mumford**, **Sean O'Malley**, **Jon Renfro** and **George Ziehl**, North County Precinct, responded to a call of a man exposing himself to a 12 year old girl at a bus stop. The officers searched the area and found the 37 year old suspect nearby. The suspect stated that a spider fell down his pants and he was attempting to get it out and did not see the young girl. The suspect matched the description of another subject who had exposed himself two days prior to a young girl in the same neighborhood. When asked about that incident he stated that a large spider fell on him and he had to remove his clothes. Once again he stated he was unaware that anyone saw him.

On Thursday, September 3, 2009, Officers **Daniel Hill**, **James Grace** and **Michael Kaemmerer**, North County Precinct, were advised by a victim that he was just robbed by three men with a shotgun who fled the area in a white four-door Toyota. Officer **Seth Everett** saw the vehicle nearby and alerted the other officers. The vehicle was pursued until it struck a parked car and the three suspects jumped out and fled on foot. Other officers responded including Officer **Brian McCauley** and his canine "Olla", who found and apprehended one of the suspects hiding in a garage. The vehicle that he used was reported stolen and inside the car were two loaded weapons as well as stolen electronics, credit cards and medications from multiple crimes.

On Saturday, September 5, 2009, at 10:30 PM, Officer **Mathias Backer**, Affton Southwest Precinct, saw a suspicious car near an ATM as someone was making a withdrawal. Officer Backer drove towards the car but the driver quickly accelerated down a dead end street and all four occupants jumped out of the car, leaving it running. A record check revealed the car to be stolen. The four suspects fled on foot through backyards as other officers responded. The suspects were spotted and apprehended by **Steven Park, Nicholas Rebholz** and **Brian Boedicker**.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION



On Tuesday, September 22, 2009, Sergeants **Karl Bulla** and **Mark Koeller**, MetroLink Unit, assisted a St. Louis City police officer in apprehending three suspects who were burglarizing a warehouse near one of the platforms.

On Thursday, October 8, 2009, Chief **Timothy Fitch** announced a new web browser – Crime Mapping System – that provides citizens the ability to locate where crime had occurred in their neighborhood. The mapping application is available for all of unincorporated St. Louis County as well as municipalities that contract with the County Police for police services. This system was developed in-house by Information Systems Designer/GIS Programmer, **Brett Lord-Castillo**, Office of Emergency Management.

Police Officer **Amir Mustic**, Affton Southwest Precinct, working with our Intelligence Unit, has created a Bosnian version of the witness translation card. This card, as well as the other translations, can be found on [CountyNet](#) under Officer Safety/Intelligence Bulletins.

### OVER THE EDGE



On Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, the St. Louis Area Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics hosted a fundraising event where six of our officers rappelled off the 19 story (400 foot) Lumiere Casino Hotel. They were Captain **“Monty” Monteleone**, Lieutenant **Mason Keller**, South County Precinct; Sergeant **Mark Koeller**, Officers **Grant Rummerfield**, MetroLink Unit; **Aaron Dilks**, City of Fenton Precinct and **Michael Wunderlich**, Police Crime Lab.

### WELCOME ABOARD



On Monday, September 28, 2009, **Amanda M. Herring** started as a police record clerk in the Bureau of Central Police Records and **Misel Mijatovic** started as a security officer in the Bureau of Security Services.

### DEDICATION CEREMONY

On Sunday, November 1, 2009, the explosives range located next to the firing range at I-44 and Beaumont Antire Road will be dedicated and named the Sergeant Michael McFarland Explosives Range. Sergeant **Michael McFarland**, Arson and Explosives Unit, passed away on Tuesday, June 2, 2009, after a courageous battle with cancer. As the supervisor of the Arson and Explosives Unit, Sergeant McFarland was instrumental in enhancing equipment and training and in making the St. Louis County Bomb Team a leader in the State of Missouri. The dedication is scheduled for 2:00 PM and everyone is welcome to attend. The dedication is intended to be a surprise for the family who is unaware of the dedication at this time.

### WELFARE ASSOCIATION NEWS

The terms of all four members of the Welfare Association will expire in 2010. Nominations for the election of new board members for three-year terms of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will be accepted next January. We encourage Department employees to consider running for these positions and getting involved with a worthwhile organization. New board members will take office on March 1, 2010, allowing them to observe and participate in one of the most important and busiest times of the year for the Welfare Association. The Memorial Golf Tournament, Washington D.C. Police Week trip and the Memorial Breakfast all occur in April and May. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at 615-5380.

Sergeant **Kevin Cavanaugh**, President