



Des Moines Police Department

BLUE LINE



Chief Judy A. Bradshaw

April 2009

Spring Edition

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EFFECTS OF CITY BUDGET CUTS AT DMPD

By Captain Doug Harvey

As the City of Des Moines prepared a budget analysis for fiscal year 2010, the city manager identified a large deficit and every city department was tasked with reducing expenditures. The police department looked at every line item expenditure, attempting to reduce costs with the understanding that the core mission of the police department would not be affected and sworn positions would not be eliminated.

As the process continued, \$280,000 in non-personnel costs were identified as expenditures that could be eliminated with minimal effect on the police department's services to the community. Unfortunately, the police department had to identify approximately an additional \$750,000 to cut from the fiscal year 2010 budget.

This mission was difficult as every employee is valued and they serve a function that the police department believes is important. However, with the understanding that sworn personnel were exempt from the process, positions within the police department were identified to be eliminated or reduced and the process went into effect April 3, 2009. Many of the positions that were eliminated involved support personnel and the retired officers that staff the telephone report unit and the cold case squad.

Also, the duties of the Animal Control Unit were outsourced to the Animal Rescue League (ARL). The ARL provided this service in other communities in Iowa and has operated the shelter duties for several years.

The main change for the public will be reduction of the hours at the information counter which has been open every day, all day. The new hours will be 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM, every day.

During the next fiscal year, all of the changes will be evaluated and modifications will be made if necessary.

To the employees that were affected by the lay-offs or exercised their bumping rights to another city department, we miss you and wish you the best in your new endeavors.

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You can find the Blue Line on the Web www.dmgov.org

CHANGE OF LOBBY HOURS

By Lt. Dan Northup

Beginning May 18th at 7:00 p.m., there will be a big change at the Des Moines Police Department. For the first time ever, the front doors will be locked. In the past, the information desk and lobby have been accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, but, due to a decrease in personnel caused by recent budget cuts, the doors to the Police Department will be locked every night at 7:00 P.M.

The new information desk and lobby hours will be from 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M. Residents wanting to purchase case reports and/or get impound releases will need to do so during those hours.

In case of emergency, there has been a phone installed in the vestibule at the west door, along with the existing phone located at the handicapped entrance on the north side at the sidewalk level. These phones ring into the information desk and dispatch.

Since 80% of the in-person transactions at the information desk already occur during the hours of 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M., these new hours of operation should not cause a great deal of inconvenience to the public. The impact within the Police Department should also be insignificant. Police Information Typists will work from 6:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M. so they will have time to keep up with the records data entry and to facilitate information processing for the morning roll calls in the Detective and Patrol Bureaus and for morning court.

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ANIMAL CONTROL

By Sgt. Scott Raudabaugh

With the expected city budget shortfalls, the Des Moines City Council approved a proposal for the City of Des Moines to enter into a contract with the Animal Rescue League of Iowa, Inc. to provide animal control field services.

On April 4, 2009 the Animal Rescue League of Iowa began providing those services between 7 A.M. and 11 P.M. daily and they are on call overnight. Dispatch services for animal control will continue to be provided by the Des Moines Police Department at 283-4811, or 911 if there is an emergency.



The Animal Rescue League of Iowa has been providing contract animal shelter services at the city animal shelter since July 23, 2005. The shelter is open between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M. Monday through Friday and between 10:30 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. on Saturdays and Sundays and can be contacted between those hours at 284-6905.

The Des Moines Police Department will continue to have a Police Sergeant assigned at the city animal shelter to serve as the Chief Humane Officer for the City of Des Moines and as a liaison with the Animal Rescue League of Iowa.

STIMULUS FUNDING

By Major Jim O'Donnell

The Des Moines Police Department has pursued, and will continue to pursue, monies made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) of 2009 as signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009.

The following grants are being applied for by DMPD:

COPS HIRING RECOVERY PROGRAM (\$1 billion nationally)

Approved by City Council 04/06/09

This grant provides for nine (9) police officers that will be assigned to the Patrol Services Bureau to support our community policing efforts. Services and support will be tailored and adapted to crime and neighborhood needs as they change during the grant period.

EDWARD BYRNE COMPETITIVE GRANT (\$225 million nationally)

Approved by City Council 04/20/09

In addition to the upcoming inclusion of a law enforcement domestic violence advocate, the Des Moines Police Department is also requesting funding for overtime for officers. It is understood that domestic assaults and child and adult assistance cases do not end with an arrest or even a successful prosecution. The police department wishes to pursue the use of overtime to provide assistance to these victims by conducting a continued investigation. The follow-up will involve sworn personnel and social services support making contact with the victims to ensure their safety, to encourage involvement with any programs the court might have ordered or recommended and to offer continuous support. This service should allow for more successful prosecutions and for the safety of the victims.

EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) (\$2 billion nationally of which Des Moines will receive \$1,178,833)

Will be on City Council Agenda 05/04/09

JAG funds can be used to pay for **personnel, overtime, and equipment**. Funds provided for the states can be used for statewide initiatives, technical assistance and training, and support for local and rural jurisdictions.

We will ask for the following:



Replace 911 Phones	\$ 300,000
CJIS Compliance For Toughbooks	\$ 35,000
Contract Employee For PTS (3 yrs)	\$ 200,000
Squad Cars W/Full Equipment (10)	\$ 450,000
In-Car Video Camera (5)	\$ 35,000
Server for Video Storage	\$ 10,000
Ident Section Equipment Upgrade	\$ 61,000
Technology Upgrades	\$ 87,833
	\$1,178,833

National Police Week

By Lt. Todd Dykstra

Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week honors the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement, paying special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

Police Week activities at the Des Moines Police Department Police Week include a ceremony that recognizes those officers, active or retired, who passed away the previous year.

In conjunction with National Police Week, the Des Moines Police Department (DMPD) will be hosting an Open House on **Saturday 16 May 2009** from **8:00AM until Noon**. Police equipment from the DMPD, as well as emergency equipment from the Des Moines Fire Department, will be displayed on the Court Avenue River Bridge. Come and enjoy the event and get to know the people who make our community a safer place to live and work. Other displays and demonstrations will include:



- DMPD K-9's
- Horse Patrol Unit
- United States Army Blackhawk helicopter landing
- United States Army National Guard rock climbing wall
- Metro STAR tactical equipment
- DMPD Bomb Squad and bomb dog
- Des Moines Fire Department emergency equipment
- Des Moines International 132nd Airport Fire Department
- 132nd Fighter Wing Air National Guard displays
- Other local police agencies
- Drug awareness and crime prevention information
- Turn in unwanted fireworks, ammunition and firearms
- McGruff the Crime Dog will also be on patrol

The Des Moines Police Department's team in the City of Des Moines bowling league was made up of DeDe Kern, Anne Miller, Sandy Morris, Rena Thomas and Mary Jo Woolman. They finished 7th – but had a great time!



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THANK YOU KCCI

By Sgt. Vince Valdez

On January 5th, 2009 SPO Kelly Drane was flagged down in the 1900 block of Hartford Avenue by a man who found another man who had fallen from a railroad trestle. Officer Drane walked across the trestle and located a man lying on the rocks near the river. She called paramedics and other officers to assist. The bank of the river was steep and very slippery due to a buildup of ice and snow. This made the rescue attempts difficult and potentially dangerous for the rescuers as they were not able to get their footing. The rescuers were finally able to get the man to a hospital.

KCCI-TV was on the scene and witnessed the difficult rescue. News Director Dave Busiek and Reporter Cynthia Fodor contacted me saying they wanted to do something to help the officers be safe while doing their jobs under icy conditions. Their idea was to have a fund drive and collect money for the purchase of Yaktrax, a shoe accessory that straps on to the shoe allowing the person to walk safely on icy surfaces.

The campaign went on the air and the station began to get calls and donations. G&L Clothing sold the Yaktrax at a discount and the Yaktrax Company donated one pair for every pair purchased. Polk County Attorney John Sarcone donated \$1000 that was forfeited from drug purchases. The fund drive raised a total of \$6,350.

This gesture of support and good will from KCCI and all of the persons who donated is greatly appreciated.



Chief Judy Bradshaw, Cynthia Fodor and Dave Busiek

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Peer support team

By Sandy Morris

Members of the Des Moines Police and Fire Departments, with the help of the Departmental Chaplains and Doctor Ascherman, have been working to develop a Peer Support Team. The goal of the Peer Support Team (PST) is to provide public safety personnel with the opportunity to receive emotional and tangible peer support through times of personal and professional crisis and to help anticipate and address potential difficulties in advance. PST members are dedicated to the prevention and reduction of marital problems, substance abuse, suicide and psychological symptoms that may be caused or exacerbated by job related stress.

The PST is being designed as a group of police and fire department employees who have volunteered to provide first-line assistance and basic intervention to their peers in times of stress. PST members are volunteers who will receive specialized training and are committed to helping others while maintaining confidentiality. PST members are not trained counselors but will offer a safe and trusting opportunity for employees and their families to discuss emotional issues with someone that they can trust and who can understand their struggles. Assistance provided by PST members includes emotional support, basic needs, information, advice and referrals.

Examples of when a PST member should be called include:

- Shootings when a suspect is killed or wounded
- When an employee witnesses another employee's death or serious injury
- When an employee is taken hostage
- When an employee is a witness to a violent death, suicide or serious injury
- When an employee is a witness to an infant or child death or serious injury
- Any incident that is likely to affect the employee's ability to interact with the public and carry out their job functions or that has a significant impact on an employee's personal life and/or relationships
- **ANY SITUATION WHERE THE EMPLOYEE ASKS FOR PEER SUPPORT**

Training for PST members is scheduled for May 8th. After the training has been completed, a list of trained PST members will be made available to employees throughout the Department. Employees (or family members of employees) can contact PST members directly or can call the Police PST Coordinator, Sgt. Lori Lavorato, or the Fire PST coordinator, Captain Dean Rodriguez, for assistance.



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IN MEMORIAM

By Sgt. Dave Mulford

SPO William "Bill" Breman 1952 – 2009

Retired Officer William "Bill" Breman passed away on January 4th, 2009. Bill became a Des Moines Police Officer on January 27th, 1975 and worked First Watch patrol until June of 1990 when he was chosen to be one of the founding members of the Special Compliment Against Thugs Unit, the (SCAT Team). He was one of 10 officers chosen to take back the streets of Des Moines from the various gangs that had infiltrated the city, and they did just that. Bill loved the work he did on the SCAT Team.

Bill went back to First Watch Patrol in 1992 and then on to work in the jail. In 1996 he transferred to Second Watch Patrol and in 2007 he went to work at the Airport where he stayed until he retired. Bill was promoted to Senior Police Officer in 1977.

Bill received numerous commendations and certificates over his police career and they all ended up in the same place. He took them home and put them in a drawer as that is not why he did police work, not for those types of rewards. He just plain loved the job and was good at it.

Bill received the nickname of "Hamburger" from a couple on the eastside of Des Moines while they observed him eating. This was one of Bill's favorite pastimes, he loved to eat, and eat a lot. There were many restaurants within the Des Moines area that knew Bill. One of his favorites was the old Knox Café, at E. 14th and Euclid. They knew him well as they had several nights of all you can eat, and Bill was always there to help them.

Bill was also a founding member of the Des Moines Police Mounted Patrol Unit. The horses he rode were Champ Cannonball and Big John. He especially enjoyed riding Cannonball – they worked numerous events and many long hours together. His hero was John Wayne. He could tell you every John Wayne movie, its plot, lines and the character John Wayne was playing. When people remember Bill "Hamburger" Breman they will remember the cowboy; he was a true cowboy, born 100 years too late.

Bill was a great guy that you could always count on. He was the guy you could call at any hour of the night and he would be there for you. He was a loving father, husband and friend. Our thoughts and prayers remain with Bill, as he will always be part of our Des Moines Police Family.

A NEW LOOK!!

By Lt. Todd Dykstra

If you've noticed that the latest edition of the Blue Line is sporting a little different look, you're right. Recently, the Blue Line committee decided on adopting a few changes in order to enhance the look of future Blue Line editions, reduce overall costs, reduce paper waste and make it easier to review past and present publications.

As you may have noticed, the glossy paper is gone and more colored photos have been inserted. Also, the number of printed publications were nearly cut in half eliminating the personal copy that each employee was receiving. Although this was a substantial cost savings decision, we still wanted to provide every individual easy access to view the Blue Line. So how do you get a copy? With the aid of the internet, you can review the most current edition of the Blue Line by accessing the Police Department's link from the City of Des Moines' home page and clicking on the "Blue Line" link. It's as easy as that.

If you still want a printed copy of the Blue Line, the most recent edition will be available in the Chief's Office and in the main lobby near the information desk. If you are currently receiving a mailed copy of the Blue Line and wish to discontinue the mailing, please contact the Des Moines Police Department at 515-283-4800. With the advantage of the World Wide Web, we are hoping someday to have every edition of the Blue Line available on-line.

The DSM P.A.R.C. Inc. (D.B.A. The PARC Event Center)

By David Foreman

Your Board of Directors consists of the following members:

Denny O'Donnell Chairperson	Greg Dickel Director	David Foreman Director	William Hansen Director
Laddie Jobe Treasurer/Secretary	Wayne Lunders Director	Mike McTaggart Director	Dennis Morgan Director

Reservations

Building members wishing to reserve the Recreation Center should contact **David Foreman**, Rec. Center **265-2777**, Cell Phone **250-4253**, or at home **262-7685**. If you are unable to contact him, please leave a message. Your call will be returned promptly. We receive phone calls to reserve the Center up to a year in advance. It is advised that you reserve your event as soon as possible. The Building Manger will send you a reservation confirmation.

Please read and sign your Reservation/Confirmation Contract and return it with your deposit as soon as possible so that your reservation can be confirmed. Thank you.

NOTE

Any member who reserves the P.A.R.C. Event Center must be present during the event. Reservations cannot be made for those who would normally pay a rental fee. Use of the building without paying a rental fee is exclusive for members only. Violation of this policy, as outline in the By-Laws of the DSM PARC Inc., Article XII, will result in the forfeiture of the clean/damage deposit and/or restrictions in future rentals.

Remodeling/Repair

Work on the building is progressing well. The entryway has been redone with new dry wall, ceiling, lights and new furniture. We continued with the drywall and new ceiling tiles down the stairs to the basement bathrooms.

The week of May 11th, weather permitting, the parking lot will be replaced.

Work on the pool bathroom is progressing and should be completed by the time the pool opens.

Pool

The pool should be open as soon as the parking lot is replaced. We are looking to open the weekend of May 16th and 17th.

Meetings

The Des Moines Police Association holds their meetings on the last Tuesday of the month just prior to the Burial Meeting. An agenda will be posted with the Burial and Bargaining Unit agendas. Our meetings are held upstairs. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Articles

If you have any ideas on what you would like to see in this article please contact any Board member.



REMEMBER WHEN?

*Lt. Dan Northup and Sgt. Joe Gonzalez
patrolled the streets of Des Moines on bicycles*

CONGRATULATIONS

By SPO Scott Baker

The 2008 Donald H. Mackaman Outstanding Unit Award was presented to the Des Moines Police Reserve Officer Unit by the board and members of the Iowa State Reserve Law Officers Association. Each year the ISRLOA presents this award to the most outstanding reserve law enforcement unit in the state of Iowa. The winner is selected by the Board of Directors and is based on participation in the association and uncompensated community service. The award's founder is Donald Mackaman, former assistant chief of police at Marshalltown.

In 2008 our reserve officers, like many of our full time officers, were called in to help with the floods and made a significant impact on our efforts in evacuations and traffic control. They too were called away from their families and loved ones at a time of crisis, and many of them even left their full-time jobs to answer the call for assistance.

Reserve officers volunteer their time for many events around the city including, but not limited to, Clowns at the Carousel, Police Week Bridge Display, and an annual fundraiser for the Special Olympics. In 2008, our reserve officers put in just under 900 hours of special event functions, over 1300 hours of training, and accumulated over 3850 hours of patrol time, for a total of 6078 hours, all while five of them were off on unrelated injuries and deployment overseas. If you were to pay these reserve officers a police officer's base pay right out of the academy at straight time for all of the time they put in, it would have cost the city \$137,849.04. Also keep in mind, each reserve has more than eight years of experience with the DMPD.

This is the first time the Des Moines Reserve Officer Unit has been named as the recipient of this award and it is an honor and testimony to all their hard work.



SPO Scott Baker, Major Rick Singleton,
Chief Judy Bradshaw

SAFE HAVEN FOR SENIORS

By Sgt. Larry Davey

The Des Moines Police Department has initiated a new program called "Safe Haven For Seniors".

This program was the result of Luther Park management, senior citizens, Chief Judy Bradshaw, and the Neighborhood Area Resource Office, working together to develop a program that would assist retirement facilities with crime prevention and safety related training. This program also showcases the safety of independent senior living facilities.

"Safe Haven For Seniors" is much like Crime Free Multi Housing as there are three phases that must be met in order to achieve the certification. However, the components have been tailored for senior citizens. Once these three phases are met, the Des Moines Police Department will designate them with a "Safe Haven For Seniors" sign to be posted at the entrance of the complex as well as a certification they will receive that can be framed and placed on a wall.

This certification will be monitored annually to make sure the integrity of the program is upheld. Should the requirements fall below the standards set, they will lose their certification until they are in compliance.

The three phases are based on the components listed below:

- Safety education and awareness training applicable to senior residents
- A security assessment of the premise by our staff to address issues pertaining to Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and other related topics
- Providing statistical crime data for both the specific property, and the general area, from the N.A.R.C. office

Since Luther Park was a catalyst in developing such a program, we celebrated the kick off through a press release on their complex, (Rose Glen Apartments, located at 2808 E. 16th St.).

Our goal through this program is to do everything we can through community involvement, prevention education and enforcement, in making the independent living facilities in Des Moines even safer than they already are.

The Blue Line Notes

Welcome Aboard

Jayne Davis, Senior Public Safety Dispatcher, 03/30/09
Maureen Miller, Word Processor Operator, 04/06/09

Promotions

Rich Hickle to Lieutenant, 12/29/08
David Ness to Lieutenant, 02/09/09
David Seybert to Sergeant, 02/09/09
Lillie Miller to Sergeant, 02/09/09
Chris Wellman to Sergeant, 02/09/09
Lori Neely to Sergeant, 02/09/09

Retirements

Robert Webber, Senior Police Officer, 05/01/09

Congratulations!



Officer Trevor Spear



Officer Brandon Singleton



Officer Greg Trimble

On March 25th Chief Bradshaw presented Certificates of Commendation and Certificates of Appreciation to employees of the department. The Ceremony was held in the Police Museum with many fellow police employees and family members in attendance.

A certificate of commendation was also presented to Officer Trevor Spear for his diligence that effectively halted a rash of 30 plus vandalism incidents that plagued the South Side of Des Moines. Officer Spear, while on routine patrol, stopped a suspicious car. During the traffic stop, a baseball bat was recovered which Officer Trevor was able to connect to the vandalism.

Officer Brandon Singleton and Officer Greg A. Trimble received certificates of commendation for their combined effort which resulted in the arrest of a notorious habitual offender with a long criminal record.

Continued from page 11



Terry Mitchell



Rex Sparks



Judy Stanley

A certificate of commendation was presented to Detective Judy Stanley, Detective Terry Mitchell, and Identification Technician Rex Sparks for their diligent work investigating a homicide that occurred in 1999. The homicide investigation started in 1999, but had remained unsolved until an informant came forward. Detectives Stanley and Mitchell renewed the investigation, which produced a suspect. The determined detective work, along with the assistance of Identification Technician Sparks, resulted in an arrest and a charge of Murder in the First Degree.

Anna Kingery and Sergeant Vince Valdez were presented Certificates of Commendation for their combined effort in producing the department's tribute to African-American Police Officers. The tribute includes a display case featuring current and old photographs, old police equipment, and historical artifacts. The display case also features a 30 minute video, which was developed to showcase the long history of African-American police officers.



Sgt. Vince Valdez
and Anna Kingery



Retired Sgt. Roth
and Chief Bradshaw



Officer Anthony Ballantini
and Chief Bradshaw



Sgt. Matt Schmell
and Chief Bradshaw

You can find the Blue Line on the Web www.dmgov.org

The final certificate of commendation went to Retired Sergeant Ralph Roth, who is currently working part-time for the Crimes Against Property Section. Sergeant Roth's current position does not include the investigation of bank robberies, but that didn't stop him from getting involved. Ralph's investigative sense was alerted when he noticed a vehicle matching the description of a stolen vehicle and observation of the presence of ski masks. Ralph reported the vehicle and suspicious activity which ultimately led to a vehicle chase and arrest, but most important, an averted bank robbery.

This year a new department award, Certificate of Appreciation, was presented to Sergeant Matt Schmell and Officer Anthony Ballantini. Chief Bradshaw wanted to acknowledge both officers for their service to the citizens of our nation and their continued commitment to the Des Moines Police Department. Sergeant Schmell served in the US Army and was deployed to Iraq for a period of one year. Officer Ballantini served in the US Air Force and was deployed to Saudi Arabia.

CREATING A 5-STEP SPENDING PLAN

By Becky Zemlicka



With the economic challenges of recent months, many people are being forced to live on a budget for the first time, while others are simply choosing to live more economically. No matter the reason, you don't have to feel like you're giving up "all the good stuff" just because you live on a budget. Creating a spending plan will provide a means to tracking your expenditures and help you set priorities with your spending.

A spending plan is a simple, straightforward tool you can use to track your spending habits. Most people don't take time to write down their plan for how they're going to spend their income, which typically leads to spending "leakages" – those days when you think, "Where did all my money go?"

A Spending Plan will help you:

- figure out whether you're going in the direction you want to go financially
- make informed choices about where your money goes, leading to a more enriched life
- determine whether you're living within your means (that is, whether your income exceeds expenses) meet your savings goals and prepare for emergencies

When you don't have a spending plan in place to help manage your money, you lose control of your spending, have more stress, and are less likely to achieve your financial goals.

Develop your plan:

1. List all income sources
2. Determine where your money goes (track fixed and variable expenses)
3. Balance income and expenses: If income > expenses = you should save more!
If expenses > income = you need to make changes
4. Communicate new spending plan – get the entire family onboard with the new spending plan!
Manage your system and make changes as necessary.

To download a free budgeting spreadsheet, visit our website at www.dmpo-cu.org and click on "What's New."

This article brought to you by Des Moines Police Officers' Credit Union – serving DMPD employees

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