

THE NEW BEAT

AN ANGELIC FUNDRAISER	2
POLICE MEMORIAL	2
KIDS LEARN ABOUT 911	3
EXPLORERS HONORED	3
M.P.D. VS. N.Y.P.D	3
KAPOW	4
JOSIE'S BRUNCH CONT'D	4
BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY	4

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WONDERFUL ACT OF KINDNESS



On the evening of March 12, 2011, 14-year-old Grace Strachan and her younger brother, 13-year-old Joshua Strachan, were walking home from the library where they had just printed up their homework. As they crossed through Charles Hadley Park, the



youngsters were approached by two males. What happened next was unthinkable. The two men beat and robbed the teenagers of their only laptop. Grace was laying on the ground injured, when one of the men kicked her in the face so hard that several of her teeth were knocked out. The men then fled from the park. The two teens walked home, and their mother phoned the police. When Miami Police Crime Scene Investigators Sheila Carter and Ralph Garcia learned of the incident, they were heartbroken. They visited the family and learned that the teens were hard working and part of their school's honor roll. "They have always been great kids," said their mom, Pamela. Garcia immediately contacted a friend, who generously donated the oral surgery for Grace. Several of her teeth were saved, and medical treatments continue. During a presentation on April 20th, 2011, both teens were gifted with a laptop donated by a Miami doctor, who wishes to remain anonymous; and, they also received a printer from Public Information Office Commander, Delrish Moss. Additionally, local Chef David Mitchell, of David's Kidz Wish Grant Foundation Charity, donated a variety of toys. "In the 37 years of service, I have never seen a shortage of kindness by the employees of the Miami Police Department," said Chief Miguel A. Exposito during the ceremony.

Photos by Det. William Moreno

JOSIE'S PASSOVER/GOOD FRIDAY BRUNCH



On April 2, 2011, the 29th Annual Josie's Passover/Good Friday Brunch took place at the Marriott Biscayne Bay. The event has honored thousands of Miami Police employees and community leaders since its inception. Guests partook of a scrumptious meal, musical performance by Lieutenant Lorenzo Whitehead and a special candle lighting ceremony to remember loved ones who have passed away. The brunch was highlighted by a

Continued on page 4

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CHIEF'S CORNER



Dear Employees:

It's always a pleasure to take this opportunity The New Beat offers to express my appreciation for your hard work. I'm constantly stopped by people who tell me about specific incidents involving our employees which were handled with professionalism and compassion. Sometimes it's the little things you do that make a big difference in the lives of others, although oftentimes you only hear or read about the negative. This issue provides a brief snapshot of some of the great things that are happening at the Miami Police Department. Read about them and congratulate each other for your commitment to excellence and dedication to public service.

This May we celebrated our Police Memorial, along with our brothers and sisters in law enforcement throughout our nation. I must say that this most recent tribute to our fallen officers was unlike any other I've ever experienced during my career at the MPD. Family members of our heroes, who had stopped attending, joined us once again and expressed their heartfelt appreciation for the dignified and touching event. Allow me to congratulate Sgt. Armando Aguilar, Jr. and Commander Richard Gentry for organizing such a fitting event. I'll have you know that a few months prior research conducted by Sgt. Aguilar led to the discovery of two more fallen MPD officers who were never taken into account. I'll let you read more about this in the newsletter; you will be amazed at what you learn.

Recently, the Miami Police Department hosted the 26th National Conference on Preventing Crime in the Black Community in Miami. Aside from being an honor to have been selected as the host city once again by the Attorney General's Office, this conference afforded us a practical forum that allowed us to share views, challenges and solutions to problems in an effort to work together for a better Miami. The end result portrayed the MPD as a "change agent" in the struggle against crime, solidifying our commitment to join forces with public officials, clergy, activists and organizations to address crime and enhance the quality of life for others.

Keep making us proud and take good care of yourselves.

Sincerely,

Miguel A. Exposito
Chief of Police

AN ANGELIC FUNDRAISER

On April 22, 2011, a fundraiser was held to collect monies for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in honor of the late Sergeant Angel Calzadilla. Police Academy Class (P.A.C.) 87 competed against the Miami Police coed team in a game of basketball that raised \$300. Additionally, Calzadilla's family will be receiving a fully paid trip to Orlando, Florida, on the day of the P.A.C. graduation. "I had so much fun, but more important was the meaning behind this event," said Officer Robin Starks, who organized the fundraiser. "It's always amazing when people come together to support one another for a good cause. It felt good to do something nice for someone else."



POLICE MEMORIAL



Members of the Miami Police Department gathered on May 4, 2011, at the Police College Auditorium, commemorate their fallen colleagues. During the memorial, Miriam Fernandez,

mother of fallen Hollywood Police Officer Alex del Rio, gave a heartfelt speech reminding everyone of the inherent dangers officers face on a daily basis. Chief Miguel A. Exposito solemnly called out the names of the 36 fallen officers, adding two more names to the roster who were recently discovered by Sergeant Armando Aguilar Jr. during an historical research. The first was Officer Hubert Carl Paul, who was fatally struck on September 4, 1925, when he was attempting to stop a vehicle during his second day on duty. The second was Deputy Constable John Dickson, who was fatally shot on December 24, 1933, while serving a court order. The ceremony also included a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem by Michelle Stirrup-Spence, a prayer by Pastor Razz Vazquez and concluded with a 21 gun salute. *Story by Ofc. William Moreno—Photo by Ofc. Rene Pimentel*

KIDS LEARN ABOUT 911



9-1-1 what is your emergency? On Wednesday April 20, 2011, 100 second grade kids were given the opportunity of learning how to dial 9-1-1. Retired Police

Lieutenant Jerry Green, along with the staff of the PBA hall, hosted the second annual 9-1-1 training day. A bounce house and mounted police and K-9 demonstrations were just a few of the extra features the kids enjoyed during the class. This training was unique because it taught the children when they should call 9-1-1. Some examples include what to do during a fire, a crime in progress, a life-threatening situation, when someone needs an ambulance, and situations where personal injury has occurred or may occur. They also played out scenarios on what to say when they call 9-1-1. At the end of the day the kids were reminded that calling 9-1-1 is a serious matter.

Story by Det. Keandra Simmons—Photo by Det. William Moreno

EXPLORERS HONORED



The first explorer post established within the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' district was honored on March 30, 2010, with a celebratory lunch at the Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial High School. Five of the students recently competed in the South Florida

Law Enforcement Exploring Competition and came in 5th place for an in-progress call. They competed in the categories of traffic stops, criminal investigations, in-progress calls, crime scenes, and search and arrest. The winners were presented with a silver necklace adorned with miniature handcuffs. The school's principal, Christopher Shinn, was honored by the students with a framed picture of the teacher and the club officers of the school's Florida Public Service Association, along with a souvenir mug. "This is just a small sample of the great kids we have here and the partnership we have with the Miami Police Department," said Shinn. Shinn also praised Academy Leader, Roslind Martin, for her commitment and determination to the program. He went on to say how she goes above and beyond on a daily basis. When asked how she felt about the program, Roslind stated, "this is a perfect chance for the students to act out what they learn in class. I feel honored to be a part of it."

Photo by Det. William Moreno

MONTHLY WINNERS

OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

JANUARY

Officer Alexander May &
Officer Adrian Rodriguez

FEBRUARY

Detective Dexter McGahee

MARCH

Sergeant Eunice Cooper &
Detective Emiliano Tamayo

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

JANUARY

Amarily Diaz

MARCH

Hector Infante &
Arnold Yen

M.P.D. VS. N.Y.P.D.



The stands at Flamingo Park in Miami Beach were filled with fans. The game

was in Honor of Detective Amanda Haworth and Detective Roger Castillo of Miami-Dade Police Department, who were killed in the line of duty executing a felony warrant on January 20, 2011. Detective Haworth was survived by her son, Austin, who was the Honorary Captain of the Miami Team. "It's not about the game, it's about reminding ourselves that we are a solid family and we're here for one another," said MPD's Lt. Jorge Gomez who spearheaded the event. Many donated their time and efforts to make game-day fun filled. The final score was 11-6, with NYPD taking the win. An astonishing \$ 6,200.00 was raised for the Haworth and Castillo families. Donation may still be made via POAT at poat.org.

Story by Ofc. Kenia Reyes—Photo by Det. Moreno

MOVING ON

The following employee retired during this quarter. Their years of dedicated service to the citizens of the City of Miami are appreciated. They will be missed. We wish them continued success and a very happy retirement!

31 years

Lieutenant Armando Bello

29 years

Lieutenant Edmond H. Croughwell

Officer Alfredo M. Alvarez

Officer Maria Iglesias

27 years

Officer Bernard Carr

24 years

Sergeant Richard Cosner

23 years

Officer Rondal L. Brown

21 years

Barbara C. Shaffner

16 years

Officer Oswaldo Tapanes



KAPOW

On May 4th, 5th, 11th, and 12th, students from the elementary schools of Morningside, Orchard Villa, Shadowlawn, Dunbar, and Henry Flager participated in the K.A.P.O.W. (Kids And the Power Of Work) program by taking a field trip to Miami Police headquarters. Officers Amos Pierre and Willie Smith of the Community Relations Section educated the children about work ethics and the many job opportunities that exist within the police department. K.A.P.O.W. was founded in 1991 and is a national business/education partnership program designed to give elementary school youth exposure to the world of work.

Photo by Det. Moreno

JOSIE'S BRUNCH (CONT'D)

generous contribution of \$10,000 to Josie's foundation by Finish fashion designer Peter Nygard, who visited from the Bahamas. "I always share my bread," said Nygard "and what better way to do this than to share it with a great cause."



BRING YOUR KIDS TO WORK DAY

On April 28th, 2011, the Miami Police Department hosted the national "Bring Your Child to Work Day." The event, which was put together by Crime Prevention Specialists Greicy Lovin and Sergio Guerrero, with the support of staff from the Community Relations Section, was a great success. Major Craig McQueen kicked off the celebration at the headquarters' lobby, which consisted of approximately 198 kids ranging from age 8 to 15, and some of their parents. The national event that began as the "Bring Your Daughter to Work Day," in 1993 by founder Gloria Steinem, was expanded to include boys in 2003. Its purpose is to expose children to different professions and the skills needed for that job. "The kids enjoyed the day tremendously," said Lovin. "Parents were so proud to show their kids what they do for a living." The children's day began with a hardy breakfast donated by Mr. Frank Cruz of Jamaican Bakery. They also received drawstring backpacks donated by Officer Michelle Bell, which contained pads and pencils from Jodi Atkinson of "Do the Right Thing" Program and candy favors from Princess Collection by Mary. Finally, C.P.S. Lee Hernandez donated fresh

apples and bananas, and the kids thirst was quenched with lemonade by MacArthur Dairy. Officer Malcolm Moyse and Officer Amos Pierre conducted a station tour for the children, who were also privy to demonstrations by officers from K-9, S.W.A.T., Marine Patrol, Mounted, Motors, and Homeland Security.

Photos by C.S.I. Priscilla Miller