

THE NEW BEAT

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July

THE TORCH RUN

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The 24th annual Torch Run took place Friday, April 20, 2007, with a torch hand off to Chief John F. Timoney by F.D.L.E. at Carver Elementary on Grand Avenue. It continued its path on Bayshore Drive through Coconut Grove, then through Brickell Avenue, up Biscayne Boulevard and making its final City leg east on the MacArthur Causeway, where the runners were accompanied by Motors, Marine Patrol and Aviation units.



The Torch Run is a charity that is supported by police agencies across the United States. It is the largest grassroots fundraising program benefiting Special Olympics in the world. The City's portion of the run was made possible mostly in part by Sr. Executive Assistant Anthony Utset, who organized the City's event and our S.W.A.T. Team who gave it their all by providing runners with a safe path and by actually participating as runners themselves.

"The New Beat" is the official employee newsletter of the Miami Police Department, published by the Public Information Office.

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Miami is ready. The demonstration was conducted at the Orange Bowl on June 13, 2007, with a mock warehouse set up on the field which involved a simulated terrorist cell that constructed a dirty bomb. The Miami Fire and Rescue Department assisted by using their robot to detonate the explosive. It all came to an end when the F.B.I. Hazmat Team collected any and all radiological evidence from the scene.

Story continued on page 3.

PREPARING FOR AN ATTACK

If we are ever attacked by terrorists, are we ready to confront them?

As part of the "Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism Law Enforcement Conference," a collaborative effort between the Miami Police Department's S.W.A.T. Team, F.B.I., and local agencies laid out a strategic demonstration that revealed



CHIEF'S CORNER



Greetings:

I hope this issue of *The New Beat* finds you and your families well. I'm sure you are looking forward to enjoying all that tropical Miami has to offer this time of year. I do take this opportunity to remind you, however, that hurricane season is upon us and those of us in law enforcement need to be ready to mobilize, on a moment's notice, should Mother Nature pose the threat. Therefore, I urge all of you to secure your homes with the necessary supplies and have a plan in place in case you are called to duty.

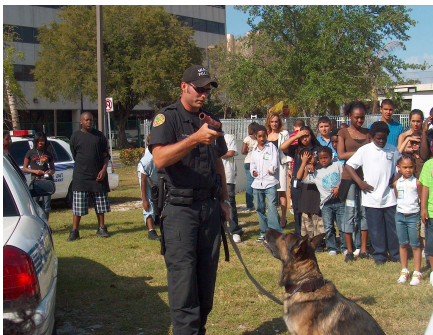
A couple of months ago we promoted a number of employees, both civilian and sworn. Once again, congratulations to all. Among those moving up the ranks was Thomas W. Cannon, our new Assistant Chief of Criminal Investigations. The staff and I are confident that Assistant Chief Cannon and his top team will be able to address the challenges at hand by using innovative and resourceful investigative strategies.

This *New Beat* features stories about Miami Police employees who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make a difference in the lives of victims of crime or misfortune, children, the disabled, and others. I take tremendous pride in this agency and the fine men and women who genuinely care, and also recognize that no job yields greater satisfaction at the end of the day than ours.

Sincerely,

John F. Timoney
Chief of Police

BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK



On April 26, 2007, 193 youths swept into the lobby of Miami Police Headquarters. It was Bring Your Child to Work Day, an opportunity for those who work at the station to introduce participants to their jobs. Community Relations Lieutenant Joseph Schillaci kicked off the day by warming up the kids and families with a motivating welcome. After a continental breakfast, the day

featured educational activities, including Bomb, Motors, Mounted, S.W.A.T., K9 and Marine Patrol presentations. Later, they were treated to hotdogs, snacks, gifts.

"The event was a great success," said Lynda Roberts of Community Relations. "This is the best way for kids to see the different jobs that are available and to continue their education in order to pursue the career of their choice." Special thanks to the Community Relations Section and to sponsors such as Jamaican Bakery, Jetro's Cash and Carry, MacArthur Dairy, Next-Port Incorporated, Hector Lopetegui Corporation, Randy McMichael Foundation, Police Athletic League, and the Do The Right Thing Program.

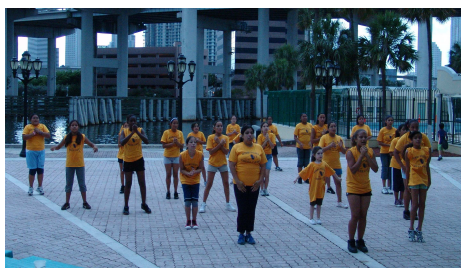
RESIDENTS GIVE BACK

Nineteen-year veteran, Officer Darrell Nichols, is described as professional, helpful and accommodating. He attends all Citizens Crime Watch meetings and is on top of all the issues and concerns in the Morningside area of the City. As a result, he was nominated by local resident, Damian McNamara, for 2006 Police Officer of the Year.

Officer Nichols is seen as someone who displays a sincere commitment to keep the neighborhood safe. "Officer Nichols' efforts make the City of Miami's fight against crime in our neighborhood real and accessible 24/7," says McNamara. He is referring to Nichols availability any time a serious situation arises. Congratulations to Officer Nichols.

PREPARING FOR AN ATTACK – Continued

"It was an extraordinary display of our ability to handle these types of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) situations, including the multi-agency effort in tapping all available resources," boasted Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security Captain Richard Walterman. The collaboration turned out to be a significant achievement in bringing our partners in law enforcement together to accomplish one goal.



CHEERLEADING CAMP

Two, four, six, eight, who do we appreciate? The Miami Police Little Havana NET who teamed up with coaches from the Top Gun

Cheerleading Gyms to put together a cheerleading camp for close to 40 at risk youths. The Camp took place on June 8, 2007 at Jose Marti Park and allowed these inner city youngsters to be part of a program that teaches the fundamentals of cheering and dance. It was spearheaded by Officer Joseph McCrink, and generously sponsored by the City of Miami through the office of Commissioner Joe Sanchez.



GOING FOR THE GOLD

Featured above is the City of Miami Police baseball team that brought home the gold during this year's 2007 Florida Police and Fire Olympic games held in Sarasota, Florida. Gold medals were also awarded to several other of our department's athletes in such events as the high jump, the long jump, javelin, hurdles, 4 by 10 relay race, sprint medley relay, 100 sprint, track, and dominos, just to name a few. The Florida Police and Fire Games were established in 1985 and attract over 5,000 law enforcement competitors from over 200 agencies across the State of Florida.

M.A.D.D. AWARDS

The MADD Awards took place at Sheraton Miami Mart on May 17, 2007. Recognized during this auspicious occasion was Traffic Homicide Investigator Kim Andrews, who received the William Craig Memorial Award for her outstanding work as a D.R.E. (Drug Recognition Expert). In a short period of time she has become an investigator with an unrelenting dedication to saving lives. Also awarded were officers and employees of the City of Miami Traffic Unit, the Traffic Homicide Unit, the Training Unit, as well as several Public Service Aides. Top Cop Awards were presented to Officer Jerry Davenport and Officer Aristides Paulino-Laja. These officers are greatly committed to MADD's mission to eliminate drunk driving.



OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

APRIL

Ofc. Carlos Decespedes

MAY

**Ofc. Carlos Decespedes and
Ofc. Alexander Canovas**

JUNE

Ofc. Thomas Trujillo

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

MAY

**Schcola Douse and
Ernestina Castañeda**

LEO AWARD WINNERS

**Ofc. Orlando Benitez
2006 Officer of the Year**

**Ofc. Manuel Gomez
Specialized Services**

**Ofc. Luis Taborda and
Ofc. Pedro Beltran
Safety Award**

Moving On

The following personnel 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!

SWORN

27 Years

Lieutenant Kevin L. McKinnon
Sergeant Nathan Daniels

26 Years

Lieutenant Raphael O. Suarez

24 Years

Officer Raimundo M. Martinez

23 Years

Officer Thomas Parker
Officer Julius B. Wiggins, Jr.

22 Years

Officer Alberto A. Lopez

20 Years

Sergeant Carole M. Thony
Officer Randy Hicks

19 Years

Sergeant James Sayih

18 Years

Sergeant-at-Arms Emilio Canciobello

CIVILIAN

23 Years

Martina Sanders

17 Years

Rosendo A. Soriano

DANCING WITH LOLITA

"It was like seeing them become kids again," said Officer Wanda Mendez, NRO for the Downtown area, "watching them laugh and dance." She is referring to the yearly Mother & Father's day field trip for seniors which took place at the Miami Seaquarium on June 20th. Funded by the Downtown beat officers, Gesu Church and the United Methodist Church, these seniors had the opportunity to dance with Lolita and Salty the Sea Lion to 50's rock and roll. "They are still talking about it, even today,"

RECRUITMENT DRIVE

Over 350 applied for the positions of Police Officer and Communications Operator/Assistant during the City of Miami Police Department's second recruitment drive on May 19th, 2007. Officers from other agencies were also attracted to the drive, showing interest in becoming laterals. The Headquarters' lobby was decorated with white, blue and gold balloons and banners. Representatives were on hand to give tours of the station. To add to the event, K9 and SWAT demonstrations showed examples of what specialized fields had to offer. "The event was a whopping success," said Officer Delrish Moss. "It offered even the only curious a chance to rethink their career future."

C.P.A.



The 11th annual Citizen's Police Academy Class graduated on June 19, 2007, with a ceremony in the Police Headquarters' lobby.

Chief John F. Timoney, Deputy Chief Frank G. Fernandez and staff were in attendance to congratulate the ten graduates. The program has been a continuous success which has helped Miami residents understand the Police Department's philosophy, goals and objectives.

WORD SHUFFLE

Unscramble the letters below to come up with a word(s) in this newsletter. Answer in the next issue.

R D N E L I G H E C E A A P C M

Last issue's answer: SAINT VALENTINE

Special thanks to: Liz Babun-Matos for her continuous editorial collaboration and Ofc. William Moreno for his photographic input.

If you have a story or event that took place that you would like to see featured in "The New Beat" newsletter send an email to Napier.Velazquez@Miami-Police.org.