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Upcoming Stories

- *Mobile Precinct Initiative*
- *PAL Boxing News*
- *Continued Spring Cleaning in Atlanta*
- *Spotlight Partnership*
- *Message from the COPS Commander*
- *Picture of the Month*

Community Expo on Public Safety

Meet Your COPS

The long anticipated unveiling of the new and dynamic Community Services Division and its subsidiary the Community Oriented Policing Section (COPS) took place Saturday, March 19, 2011. The weekend marked the beginning of spring and with that comes new beginnings as represented in beautiful blossoms on the city's Dogwood trees. The Atlanta Police Department's new flower, COPS, is in full bloom and poised to put a new light on the concept of community policing.

The Atlanta Police Department was awarded an 11.2 million dollar grant over a three year period through the COPS Hiring Recovery Program. This federal grant will place 50 offi-



cers in the Community Liaison Unit of COPS who will work closely with the citizens of the city to embody the APD's mis-



sion statement of reducing crime and promoting the quality of life in partnership with our community.

"We expect COPS officers to be able to dedicate the time to strategize and follow up with our communities more closely than patrol officers are currently able to due to their busy workloads," Chief George Turner said. "While every officer's job is to work diligently to fight crime in concert with our communities, I believe these officers truly are uniquely positioned to make a difference."

Mayor Kasim Reed joined us in the rollout event held in the beautiful Woodruff Park, a center point for the city. A very fitting location for the rollout as it models the deployment of the fifty assigned officers from central headquarters to all points of the city. Their deployment will tackle issues that affect the quality of life of At-

lanta's residents such as graffiti abatement, illegal dumping, code enforcement issues, and aggressive panhandling.

Many of our COPS partners came out and joined us in service to the community: Ambassadors Force, BHL-Behavior Health Link, The Office of Code Compliance, St. Joseph's Mercy Care, the Atlanta Police Foundation, Crime Stoppers, United Way, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Atlanta Day Shelter, The Entry Forcer,



Central Park Progress, CNN, The Social Goat, and AAA Parking.

The Community Oriented Policing Section (COPS) consists of four units: The Community Liaison Unit, Crime Prevention Unit, Weed & Seed, and the Police Athletic League (PAL). The Community Liaison Unit houses the Fifty (50) officers

Community Expo on Public Safety cont'd



Atlanta Police Mounted Patrol Officer with curious onlookers.



assigned to the six zones in the city. The Zone assigned officers will identify community issues, develop strategies and implement multi-disciplinary solutions within neighborhoods. Because they are not 911 driven they can dedicate ample time to the neighborhood's longstanding issues.

Within the CLU unit is the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, and Transgendered Liaison (LGBT), Hispanic Liaison, the Homeless Outreach Proactive Enforcement Team (HOPE), and the Graffiti Abatement Taskforce.

The Police Athletic League (PAL) is a non-profit charitable organization. PAL's purpose is to foster and encourage a spirit of trust, loyalty and value among the city of Atlanta's youth. Carefully planned activities teach moral, civic,

academic and social principles to the participants, utilizing athletics as a basis for this interaction and teamwork.

The Crime Prevention Unit, through its dedicated Crime Prevention Inspectors, provide the community services and programs that assist in the prevention of crime through education, physical security, and the control of environmental conditions.

The Weed & Seed Unit is a community-based, multi-agency comprehensive strategy approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood revitalization. This initiative brings together people and resources to prevent and control crime. The strategy takes a two-pronged approach: law enforcement agencies and

prosecutors Weeding Out criminal activities and Seeding in human services to the area encompassing prevention, intervention, treatment and neighborhood revitalization.

Each of these Units bring a very specific and unique service to the citizens, communities, and neighborhoods of our city.

The Community Oriented Policing Section and all its members are dedicated to forming partnerships between police and community stakeholders. Our goal is to educate, empower, and foster partnerships within Atlanta's communities towards an outcome of reduced crime and a better quality of life. (Pix on page eight)



Spring cleaning is underway in the ATL



1300 Bags of trash collected by Atlanta Department of Correction under the Leadership of Chief Patrick Labat

The city of Atlanta Department of Corrections under the leadership of Chief Patrick Labat began a community service initiative involving inmates confined to the city of Atlanta Jail and defendants sentenced to community service. When the Atlanta Police Department learned of this initiative we jumped at the opportunity to partner with Corrections in this endeavor. This collaboration has led to the sprucing up of

our house. In this case "our house" is the city of Atlanta. Crews of up to 60 inmates and community service workers have taken to the streets of Atlanta to clean up trash and debris while members of the Community Liaison Unit provide traffic control and create safe zones. Locations for these clean ups are identified by the CLU officers through the course of their daily interaction with communities. The De-

partment of Corrections then deploys work details to these areas of public property to remove trash. So far more than 1300 bags of trash have been collected. If you know of areas of public property in need of some spring cleaning contact the Community Liaison Unit for an assessment.



How many COPS does it take to repair a bicycle?

This question was answered on Monday, March 14, 2011 by officers from the Community Liaison Unit (CLU), one of four units under the newly formed Community Oriented Policing Section (COPS).

Through the course of his community policing Officer Jergler became aware of kids in a neighborhood that had bikes in need of repairs. However, their families were not financially able to repair the bikes. Through the course of his business drop-ins Officer Jer-

gler made contact with the owner of South Atlanta Bike Shop. In his conversations with the owner it was found that he was willing to devote a certain amount of time and resources to repairing bikes of children at no charge who could not otherwise afford to do so. Officer Jergler, Officer Dowd, Officer Hilton, Officer Smith, and Officer Williams, picked up seven kids from the Cary Dr / Jernigan Dr neighborhood and transported them to South Atlanta Bike

Shop where Officers and store employees alike joined to repair the bikes and make them operational again. Neighbors, hearing of this effort, then bought pizzas for the Officers and kids and had them delivered to the Bike Shop.

Citizens and police officers were brought together and the quality of life of seven kids improved through the efforts these CLU officers and South Atlanta Bike Shop.



PAL members with their eye on the prize

The PAL 14 and under team finished in second place in the state basketball tournament held in Savannah, Georgia! The team enjoyed a very successful season and represented the city and Atlanta Police Athletic League well. Congratulations to the PAL team for all their hard work this season. The team was led by coach Richard

Light of PAL and coach T. Cofer, volunteer.



PAL needs volunteers. Be a hero to a child. Contact us at: www.atlantapal.com

(404) 799-2340

Lets keep it clean Atlanta

In 2008 larceny from autos were nearly 50% of Zone 5's Part I crimes (Homicides, Rapes, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, Burglaries, Larceny from Autos, Other Larcenies, and Auto Thefts). To curtail this trend, Major Khirus Williams, Zone 5 Commander, implemented the "Clean Car

Campaign." This simple but effective initiative asks everyone to remove **all** valuables from their vehicle prior to leaving their vehicle. Removing valuables reduces the odds of your vehicle being illegally entered. The campaign also charges citizens to remind co-workers, clients, neighbors,

family and friends to remove valuables prior to leaving their vehicle. Visible valuables create opportunities for a theft to occur. "Nothing left behind, means nothing taken." An easy thing to do to reduce your chances of becoming a victim. Crime prevention is a joint effort. We all have to do our

part to make it work.



"Nothing left, means nothing taken"



Getting our man during a “Chief” presentation

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are not the only group of police officers who can boast that they “always get their man”

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are not the only group of police officers who can boast that they “always get their man”. Ask the Community Liaison Unit, who recently apprehended an entering auto perpetrator who previously eluded them on February 24th. On that date Ricky Daniels was seen attempting to break into vehicles at 250 10th St by officers of the Community Liaison Unit (CLU), who were conducting surveillance in that area to curb vehicle larcenies. Daniels was able to get away but inadvertently

dropped his cell phone in the process and was thus identified and a warrant secured for his arrest. Despite a city wide search Daniels continued to avoid arrest even after a second encounter on March 5th where an officer was assaulted attempting to arrest him. Daniels days of freedom would soon come to an end thanks to the sharp eye of Community Liaison Officer A. Smith.

On March 19th, while participating in the Community Expo on Public Safety event in

Woodruff Park, Officer Smith saw Daniels observing the festivities from across the street and immediately recognized him. Other CLU Officer’s were advised to respond and Daniels was soon detained and arrested without incident. While waiting for the prisoner transport vehicle to arrive Daniels was able to listen to Mayor Reed and Chief Turner as they spoke to the commitment and dedication of the Community Liaison Officers – a fact that Daniels has just learned firsthand.

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

National Education Association (NEA) Reading Across America program

The Police Athletic League participated in the National Education Association (NEA) Reading Across America program at the In Town Academy. NEA’s Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2nd,

the birthday of beloved children’s author Dr. Seuss. Officer Vail, one of the PAL officers, is pictured reading to a classroom of 4th graders. PAL agrees that motivating children to read is an important factor in student achievement and creating lifelong successful readers.



“If the price is too good to be true, it’s probably stolen goods”

Don’t be a partner to crime.

Don’t Buy Crime \$\$\$\$\$\$

Wonder where that laptop computer came from you purchased form a guy on the street for a price that was too good to be true. Well chances are it came from the home of a victim of a Burglary. The Atlanta Police Department’s public awareness campaign, “Don’t Buy Crime”, tackles the cycle of crime initiated by people

who buy stolen goods, whether knowingly or by turning their back on the truth.

The market for stolen goods motivate thieves because most thieves steal to sell goods for cash. When you buy stolen goods you help keep these markets thriving. The proceeds from crimes such as burglaries,

shop-lifting, theft from vehicles, and robberies fund additional crimes, most frequently the drug trade.”Don’t Buy Crime” is about breaking the cycle, in other words, directly tackling the markets where these goods are sold and the crimes associated with these markets.

Training....it's not just for COPS

On March 15th and 16th Citizens of Atlanta came together with Officers in group training entitled **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design**. This two day course gave officers and citizens a chance to learn how the built and natural environment affects crime, while offering solutions to reduce real and perceived crime.

During the session, attendees had a combination of class-

room and practical training. During the practical portion students were broken up into groups and sent out to evaluate various locations in the city using the principals they were taught. The groups evaluated their respective location as a team and presented their findings to the rest of the class the following day. The combination of Officer and Citizen observations and experiences kept the training fun and lively. Evaluations of the class said

"This training is a must for members of any public safety committee" and, "This course empowers citizen & Police Officer relationships".

The Community Services Division will be hosting more collaborative training throughout the year. If you are interested in attending send an e-mail to:

atlantacops@atlantaga.gov

"This training is a must for members of any public safety committee" and, "This course empowers citizen & Police Officer relationships".

Gloves not Guns

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Police Athletic League Boxers competed in the Georgia Golden Gloves Championships March 11th & 12th at Metro Fitness. All PAL Boxers won their bouts.

The winners included Elijah Holyfield (13 YOA) the son of Champion boxer Evander. Others winners include: Holyfield , Ayite Medgi (18 YOA), Quatavious Cash(19 YOA), Antwon Brown (10 YOA), Demarko Stokely (9 YOA), Edwin White (19 YOA) , Keno Bellows (18 YOA), and Rondarrius Hunter (17 YOA).

Rondarrius Hunter won the men's open 114lb. division and will represent Georgia at the regional boxing championships in Knoxville TN. March 30th thru April 2nd. Rondarrius will

represent Georgia against boxers from Tennessee, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Alabama for a chance to advance to the National Golden Gloves. After the National Golden Gloves Rondarrius will have a chance to qualify for the Olympic team.

The Police Athletic League officers train kids' ages 8-18 years of age. After 18 the PAL members become mentors and volunteer their time to help other youth involved in the program. While doing this they continue to train and compete. Some become professional boxers rising to the level of World Olympics competitors.

Congratulations to PAL Officer Vail who has been selected as one of Georgia's team

coaches and will accompany the Atlanta PAL team to Knoxville.



Mayor Kasim Reed with PAL kids at Community Expo on Public Safety

Spotlight Partnership

Each month the Community Oriented Policing Section (COPS) will spotlight a partner in the community. This spotlight will introduce to our readers an entity or individual who joins us in service to community. We are excited about the opportunity to showcase those who demonstrate the concept of partnerships toward better communities.



South Atlanta Bike Shop is a non-profit youth development program in the historic South Atlanta. Youth from the neighborhood, ages 11-18, can earn “shop bucks” by working in the bike shop and use these to purchase bicycles, bicycle accessories, parts and pay for bike trip registration fees.

The bike shop also places repaired bicycles for sale in the neighborhood thrift store for never more than \$30 to make them affordable to local residents.

There are no hand-outs at the South Atlanta Bike Shop. The youth earn everything they get - with pride. The staff recognize the dignity the youth already possess and help them realize it.

Coming from a neighborhood with many challenges and often broken families with glaring lack of positive role models the youth coming through the doors often lack basic work habits and communication skills. Unless something is done they are positioned to perpetuate the cycle of the challenges of their environment.

The process of earning a bicycle is framed as a job and the time the youth spend at the bike shop is used to prepare them for success in the workplace in terms of their skills as well as habits.

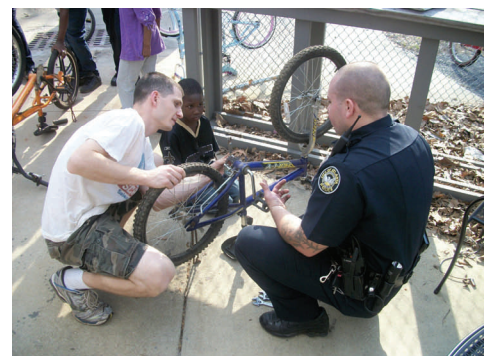
These include coming to work on time, dressed for the job, with the right attitude, communicating clearly and professionally.

Whenever possible an individual or a team of youth get delegated an area of responsibility so that they can exercise their minds and develop/practice leadership skills.

The youth are pushed to do the job the right way, using the right tools. The staff have high expectations of the youth because they have a high value to offer to the world. The staff care for the youth and are here to help them meet the high expectations of the program and life in general.

The bike shop just officially hired one of the students in the program as an assistant mechanic. The goal is to provide employment for teens in the neighborhood for leadership/management positions in the program.

To find out how you can help the South Atlanta Bike Shop impact more urban youth please visit <http://southatlantabikeshop.org/donate>



Message from Deputy Chief E.R. Propes



Deputy Chief E.R. Propes
Community Services Commander

In 2009, the Atlanta Police Department (APD) applied for and received a federal grant through the Federal Office of Community Oriented Policing Service's Hiring Recovery Program. Through this grant the APD was able to hire 50 police officers. As these officers graduate from the Atlanta Police Academy they are assigned to the various Zones throughout the city and veteran police officers are moved into the newly created Community Liaison Unit (CLU) which is a part of the Community Oriented Policing Section (COPS). Also within COPS you'll find the Weed and Seed Unit, the Crime Prevention Inspectors, and the Police Athletic League (PAL). The Community Oriented Policing Section falls under the Community Services Division along with the Airport Section and the Special Operations Section.

The APD is fully

committed to the community oriented policing philosophy. Our commitment begins with the incorporation of the community policing philosophy in our mission statement which is to reduce crime and promote the quality of life, in partnership with our community. Through our organizational strategies, every member of the department takes part in the fulfillment of that mission. From the beat officer who is given the responsibility for a specific geographic area and the autonomy to deal with issues they identify through their collaborative citizen partnerships to our Zone Commanders who routinely provide crime data to citizens and community groups to increase transparency and create opportunities for ongoing dialog. In order for the community oriented policing philosophy to work and flourish it must be embraced and implemented at all levels of the organization.

The entire Community Services Division (CSD) unequivocally embraces the community oriented policing philosophy in our crime fighting efforts. We focus on developing proactive strategies which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem solving techniques to address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and the fear of crime with the anticipated outcome of increased public trust in the police and the improvement in

the quality of life of our citizens. The members of the Community Services Division are committed to being a force for positive change in our city. To be truly successful in this endeavor, we know that we must strive to do more than simply respond to a crime after it occurs. We must become and remain actively involved in our communities, engaging and partnering with civic groups, businesses, social service organizations, other government and law enforcement agencies, and individual citizens to achieve our shared goal of creating a safer and better Atlanta for all.

To realize this shared goal not only are traditional measurements of crime fighting important like the crime rate, number of arrests made, and citations issued but non-traditional measurements also need to be included like the reduction in the fear of crime, citizen satisfaction, and the improvement in the quality of life. The city of Atlanta has seen a dramatic reduction in crime yet we realize that many citizens have remained dissatisfied and fearful of crime. The creation of the Community Liaison Unit is our way of adding a proactive layer to the police department to augment the work of the beat officer and provide better customer service. We know that beat officers often spend the majority of their day responding to 911 calls thus leaving little time to address complicated quality

of life issues. Our idea is to give the beat officer and the citizens another "partner" who will have the time to get at the root of issues and really address the problem therefore providing long term solutions and improved outcomes.

Throughout this newsletter you will find a variety of matters the members of this division have been involved in. As we move forward you will see the list of items they tackle grow and become even more varied. From identifying a crime trend, setting up surveillance, and "getting their man" to conducting outreach with the youths of this city to creating educational opportunities that brings our officers and citizens together to working with other government agencies to clean up areas of this city, our goal is to reduce crime, strengthen relationships, create lasting partnerships, and increase citizen's trust in our police department. We believe that the addition of the Community Liaison Unit will only help foster better relationships between the Atlanta Police Department and our communities and provide one more tactic in our overall crime fighting strategy.



DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION OR CONCERN FOR THE CITY OF ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT?

The mission of the Atlanta Police Department is to reduce crime and promote quality of life, in partnership with our community. Please let us know how we may be of service to you. Email COPS at:

atlantacops@atlantaga.gov

Police Emergencies Dial 911

Police Information (404) 614-6544

Zone 1 (404) 799-2487

Zone 2 (404) 848-7231

Zone 3 (404) 624-0674

Zone 4 (404) 756-1903

Zone 5 (404) 658-7054 / 7830

Zone 6 (404) 371-5002

Community Oriented Policing Section (COPS)
(404) 546-5650



Call: 404-577- TIP\$ (8477)



Atlanta Police Department

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