

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

A weekly update for residents, visitors, and workers in the District of Columbia



Friday, December 28, 2012

YOUTH AND POLICE SHARE IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT DURING ANNUAL SHOP WITH A COP EVENT

MPD kicked off its annual Shop with a Cop shopping spree on Thursday, December 20 — spreading holiday cheer to more than 170 pre-selected children. The youth who ranged in age from five to seventeen, partnered with a MPD sworn member for a one-on-one shopping spree at Target. This event was made possible through Target and a grant from the Washington DC Police Foundation. Each child could select up to \$100 worth of merchandise.

“The Washington DC Police Foundation is proud to partner with Target and the MPD to make this a special Christmas for the youth of our city,” said Joe Persichini, Executive Director of the Washington DC Police Foundation.

“This is something that I look to forward to every year,” said Chief Cathy L. Lanier. “Seeing the joy on the kids’ faces makes us feel really good. This positive experience with police officers is something that the children will remember for years to come. The officers enjoy it too, and they quickly sign up to volunteer each year.”



» Support the Washington DC Police Foundation. The Washington DC Police Foundation is a non-profit organization that promotes public safety by providing financial and in-kind resources to the MPD, expanding public safety awareness, and advancing public safety policy and initiatives. Learn more about the extraordinary support the Washington DC Police Foundation provides to the MPD at:

<http://www.dcpolicefoundation.org>.

TWENTY-THREE NEW OFFICERS ARE HITTING THE STREETS OF DC

Patrols in DC neighborhoods are being boosted by the addition of 23 officers who were sworn in during a graduation ceremony on Friday, December 28, 2012, at the Metropolitan Police Academy in Southwest DC.

Training awards presented during the ceremony recognized Officer Colin Rettammel (Academic), Officer Brian Trainer (Firearms), Officer John Lewis (Vehicle Skills), and Officers Blanca Abrico and Nico Scott (Physical Skills). The new officers all completed approximately 24 weeks of training at the police academy, which includes a full program of physical, classroom, and firearms training to prepare them for the challenges of being a police officer. The subjects covered include laws of arrest, search and seizure, criminal law, traffic regulations, human relations, community policing, and ethics. In addition, recruit officers receive skills training in firearms, operation of emergency police vehicles, self-defense, advanced first aid, and much more.

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) is focused on building a crime-fighting partnership with the community, and developing our own promise and potential as a department. Police work requires a certain type of individual — one who has strong interpersonal skills and the motivation to work with our partners to help build strong, safe and healthy communities throughout the District of Columbia.

» For more information on becoming a police officer in the MPD visit the police recruiting website at: <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>

» The MPD is looking for volunteers to join the MPD's Reserve Corps, which provides qualified civic-minded individuals with the opportunity to assist the MPD in carrying out its policing responsibilities. Details on the Reserve Corps and other volunteer programs are available at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/volunteer-opportunities-mpdc>

DDOT SNOW TEAM INITIATES FIRST FULL DEPLOYMENT OF THE SEASON; MPD OFFERS TIPS FOR DRIVING SAFELY IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

In anticipation of a winter storm predicted for this weekend, the DC Snow Team (Departments of Public Works and Transportation) will deploy 200 snow plows by 4 am on Saturday, December 29 and will pre-treat bridges, overpasses and other elevated structures with a brine and beet juice solution to reduce the possibility of freezing. The weather services predict about one inch of snow to accumulate in the District during the pre-dawn hours and then mix with rain after 9-10AM.

The Metropolitan Police Department wants drivers to be prepared in the future. If the temperatures drop below freezing, the streets can quickly get slick, forming a thin sheet of ice on the pavement.

Whenever the weather becomes unpleasant, motorists are advised drive with caution. If it's snowing or icy, stay far back from plows and spreaders so the drivers can see you. Remember that when it rains, sleets or snows, travelling in your vehicle will take longer than usual. Please be patient. Do not race to pass other vehicles, especially working plows or spreaders, as this is dangerous to you, the snow crews, and other motorists. Getting to your final destination safely is the number one priority, so maintain a safe distance between your vehicle and other cars, giving yourself the extra time and space necessary to stop during inclement weather.

In addition, commuters and residents are reminded to:

- Do not drive distracted.
- Listen to media reports for weather updates.
- Remember that driving on ice is significantly different than driving on snow. No cars handle well on ice. Even the tires a four-wheel-drive SUV will skid on ice.
- Drivers should use extreme caution and maintain safe speeds and distances from other vehicles during inclement weather.
- Pay attention to the road conditions, particularly black ice which can be deceptive in its appearance giving the driver a false sense of security on the road.
- Take note of Variable Message Signs placed strategically along local highways and corridors with messages like "Bridge Freezes before Roadway" and/or "Caution — Icy Conditions."
- Black ice is transparent ice located on the roadway making it very difficult to detect and becoming a major hazard to motorists. Warnings like the ones listed above are used to alert motorists where black ice is likely to occur.

Please remain alert and be aware of surrounding conditions including other vehicles and pedestrians.

- » For more information on how to receive snow/ winter weather notifications and prepare for the winter season, please go to:
<http://www.snow.dc.gov>
- » Want to track DDOT's snow plows, go to snow.dc.gov and click on:
<http://snowmap.dc.gov/>
- » If you need to request a city service, e.g., requesting that a street be plowed, call the City Service Request Center at 3-1-1, or visit:
<http://311.dc.gov>

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

Tell Us How We're Doing. MPD is now part of Grade DC. We invite you to share your thoughts on our service — positive or negative — through MPD's email groups, our social media, or by visiting the Grade DC website. Get more information at <http://grade.dc.gov>.

Join the MPD Reserve Corps. The MPD Reserve Corps, a volunteer policing program is seeking new members. Applications are now being accepted at <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>.

Report Crimes Against Children through the CyberTipline. The Report crimes 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 1-800-843-5678 or reporting crimes

online at <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

Preventing terrorism is everybody's business. If you SEE something, SAY something. Call the MPD at (202) 727-9099 to report suspicious activity that has already occurred. Call 911 to report in-progress threats or emergencies. Learn how you can help fight terrorism at <http://mpdc.dc.gov/operationTIPP>.

Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at kaylin.castelli@dc.gov

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