

This week: Assault by dangerous vagrant, Special events for TODAY, Vacation checks, Take Back the Streets initiative, Beverage booth a success, MPSA Financials, MPSA Mailbag, Community Sponsors.

Call to action: Let your city council representatives and especially the Mayor know that we want the furloughs to end quickly. NO FURLOUGHES IN 2010

ASSAULT BY DANGEROUS VAGRANT

A psychotic vagrant attacked an off-duty officer Saturday morning (4/25) during the 7am hour at Post Parkside. Someone called the officer out of bed about the individual aggressively panhandling and menacing people in front of the 10th Street entrance of the building, where the officer lives.

Officer Joe, as he is affectionately known around the neighborhood, told the subject to leave once he made it downstairs to the entrance. The assailant swung several times at the officer with a walking stick, striking the officer at least once. At some point during the incident the subject laughingly remarked "I know you are not going to shoot me." The subject was caught a short distance away. Once apprehended, police discovered a butcher knife concealed beneath his clothing. Officer Joe is fine, and did not require any medical attention.

The assailant, Albert Dees (DOB 3/11/1962), previously served 4 years in the Georgia prison system for aggravated assault and assault on a peace officer arising out of a 2004 incident in Fulton County. He was also arrested by Decatur Police in 2001 for carrying a concealed weapon, and had a recorded address of "homeless."

Our vision of a Midtown experience does not provide for having dangerous, irrational street people walking around with butcher knives, and we will put him on our court watch list in hopes that this recidivist assailant will be permanently incarcerated before he seriously hurts someone. The incident also occurred near the site of today's ATAC rally (see below).

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR MONDAY 4/27

Grand opening of the new APD mini-precinct – The new mini-precinct will open today (Monday 4/27). Emory University Hospital Midtown, (colloquially known as Crawford Long Hospital) donated the space in their facility across the street from the Peachtree Pine.

- (TODAY) Monday, April 27, 2009 at 11 a.m.
- Emory University Hospital Midtown (550 Peachtree Street, NE / ATL 30308), on the lawn between the Orr and Glenn Buildings (to the left of the Medical Office Tower)
- If it is raining it will be held in the lobby of the Orr building

ATAC rally - Atlantans Together Against Crime (ATAC) has chosen Midtown as the site for their April rally. The rally will take place at 10th & Piedmont from 5-7pm on Monday, April 27th (TODAY). They chose Midtown because of some high-profile incidents occurring in the neighborhood. Midtown needs a good showing at this rally!

- ***More information: www.atlantanstogether.org.***

VACATION CHECKS

When going out of town, please give the patrol a day or two lead time, whenever possible, so that we can get the information to all patrol officers. Be sure to send your name, street address, dates of absence, out-of-town phone number, information about who will be in and out of your home while you are away, and who has your alarm disarm code. Be sure to let trusted neighbors know you are away. Send information to info@midtownponce.org.

TAKE BACK THE STREETS INITIATIVE

During the month of May we are asking all residents to stop what they're doing between the hours of 8 & 9 PM and get out and walk around your neighborhood. Walk your dog, walk with spouse, or whomever...just get out and walk around your neighborhood and meet your neighbors. By doing so, everyone will feel safer because there will be so many people out on the streets that criminals will feel uncomfortable and go somewhere that is more conducive to their line of work.

BEVERAGE BOOTH A SUCCESS

For a group of people who have never done anything like this before, we did one heck of a great job! Tips alone (\$830) will buy 30 more hours of patrol by MPSA officers.

We will receive 7% of the total sales for the MPSA patrol - the amount will be determined in the next few days. We had a perfect score on staffing! The owner of the beverage concession complimented us on our great performance - what a team!

Two volunteers found a police officer's wedding ring. He had taken it off to put on some hand lotion, left it on top of his golf cart, and drove off. It fell off, an MPSA volunteer found it, and later asked the officer where she should take it (it so happened that he was the one who lost the ring). He got his wedding ring back!

All in all, a great weekend of fund raising, and a bunch of fun, and the officer got his wedding ring back. A huge thanks once again to all the volunteers!

2008 MPSA FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Membership dues remained constant last year at about \$80,000 – thank you so much for your continued support! The Midtown Neighbors' Association (MNA) voted to increase support for the MPSA to \$12,000 per year versus \$3,500 in prior years – thank you for supporting the MNA fundraising activities such as the Midtown Tour of Homes and Shop & Dine – please keep up your support for the MNA as that translates to additional support for your safety!

All said, the MPSA income from all sources was up 10.5% in 2008, or more than 315 additional hours of patrol than in 2007!

As usual, increase in income went to support your neighborhood patrol. Patrol expenses were nearly \$99,000 in 2008 versus \$89,000 the year before, an increase of more than 11%!

Bottom line, the MPSA managed funds carefully and was able to spend 106% of income on direct patrol expenses in 2008 due to carryover funds from 2007 and careful tracking! Please encourage your neighbors to join the MPSA. We don't expect to receive any TARP funds anytime soon and, we can't print money – we need your continued support to maintain and grow your neighborhood patrol!

	2008	2007	% Change
INCOME:			
Membership Dues	\$79,050	\$80,329	-1.6%
Donations	13,115	3,800	245.1%
Other	702	(58)	Negligible
Total	\$92,867	84,071	10.5%
EXPENSE:			
Patrol Officers	\$90,543	\$81,051	11.7%
Patrol Vehicle	6,135	5,597	9.6%
Patrol Communications	2,100	2,006	4.7%
Sub-Total Patrol	\$98,778	\$88,654	11.4%
Liability Insurance	1,232	1,232	0.0%
Other	1,436	846	Negligible
Total	\$101,446	\$90,732	11.8%
Net Income/(Deficit)	(\$8,579)	(\$6,661)	28.8%
Patrol as % of Income	106.4%	105.5%	

MPSA MAILBAG

Several weeks ago a neighbor shared a long letter to the Mayor in response to our request to write to her demanding an end to the public safety furloughs. Because of its length we could not run it inline with this e-blast. It is very interesting... We have posted it at <http://www.midtownponce.org/news/eye/mailbag20090426.html>

BE SAFE AND STAY VIGILANT! *And remember, your car + your valuables = loot for a thief!*

- Your Neighbors at the Midtown Ponce Security Alliance

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY SPONSORS WHO PROVIDE A MAJOR ENHANCEMENT TO YOUR PATROL'S EFFECTIVENESS:

Midtown Neighbors Association

The Sembler Company | Post Parkside

Midtown Tire, Inc.

AND THE MANY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS MEMBERS OF THE MPSA