



## NOTICES

**Tuesday, Feb. 6** — Executive Board meeting at 9 a.m. at the DPOA office.

**Tuesday, Feb. 13** — Board of Directors meeting, 5 p.m. at the Gaelic League Hall, 2068 Michigan Ave.

**Thursday, Feb. 15** — 2024 Summer Furlough Draw and date to notify of intent to sell furlough time.

**Monday, March 4** — Executive Board meeting at 9 a.m. at the DPOA office (Please note day change.)

**Tuesday, March 12** — Board of Directors meeting, 3 p.m., at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Activities Building, 3451 Rivard St. (Please note time and location change.)

**Tuesday, March 12** — General Membership Meeting at 5 p.m., at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Activities Building, 3451 Rivard St.

**Friday, April 12** — 39th annual District Officers of the Year Banquet, 6 p.m., Motor City Sound Board.

# Homicide rate lowest in 58 years

There was some very good news in the crime numbers released by the City of Detroit on Jan. 3.

The City of Detroit finished 2023 with 252 homicides, the fewest recorded since 1966. The

city also saw a 16 percent reduction in nonfatal shootings and a 34 percent reduction in carjackings. The announcement was made by a coalition of local, state and federal partners.

"In 2023, many cities in the U.S. saw a reduction in crime as the Covid-era violence has begun to abate," Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan said. "What's truly remarkable is that De-

troit's homicides dropped below pre-Covid levels. I want to thank the men and women of the Detroit Police Department and all of the other partners in the law enforcement system that made

this possible."

The 252 homicides that were recorded in 2023 were below the 261 homicides recorded in 2018 and are the lowest since Detroit experienced

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## A jolly good time for all



Smiles certainly were not in short supply at the Kiddie Christmas Party in December, as evidenced here by Ciera Helms (above) with Leilani, Noah, Giovanni and Antoine; and Khali Roland (upper right photo) with Marcel, Hailey and Boston Clark. At right, Daveda Couch is either sharing a Christmas list or perhaps explaining Miranda to Santa. For more photos from the fun afternoon, see Page 11.



Photos: David L. Chapman

# On-duty deaths decline sharply

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The number of law enforcement professionals nationwide who died in the line of duty in 2023 decreased 39 percent compared to the previous year, according to preliminary data provided by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, the leading authority on officer fatalities.

As reported in their official 2023 End-of-Year Preliminary Law Enforcement Officers Fatalities Report, the NLEOMF data shows that 136 federal, state, county, municipal, military, tribal, and campus officers have died in the line of duty in 2023, representing a 39 percent decrease compared to the 224 officers who died in the line of duty in 2022.

"There is no such thing as 'good news' when reporting even a single of-

*Continued on Page 7*

POSTAL SERVICE: BUNDLED PAPERS MUST BE SEPARATED

### ATTENTION MEMBERS:

The next General Membership Meeting is March 12

**PLEASE JOIN US! 5 P.M., SACRED HEART CHURCH ACTIVITIES CENTER, 3451 RIVARD**

Get important updates from your union leadership and a chance to meet with various financial services vendors who can help you plan for your future.

**DINNER • PRIZE DRAWINGS • COMRADARY**

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

**OFFICERS' REPORTS** — Pages 2, 4 and 5

**REMEMBERING THE FALLEN** — Page 18

**IN MEMORIAM** — Page 20

**RETIREES & ASSOCIATES NEWS** — Page 22

**TRADING POST** — Page 23

**Plus, officer articles, more news inside!**

**Tuebor is online! Find the digital edition on the DPOA website!**

[www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com)

# Union making process on financial disputes

It's time once again to update you on ongoing legal disputes between our union and the City of Detroit regarding various pay incentives and bonuses that the City previously agreed to but has not paid.

The saga began Tuesday, March 28, 2023, when the Detroit Police Officers Association filed a complaint against the city with Michigan Employment Relations Commission.

Among the key items of our complaint:

- The family members of officers who died in the line of duty continue being denied benefits that the Department does not dispute they are entitled to. **Settled.**
- Refusal to honor and pay the Retention Bonus due and owing unit members pursuant to a memorandum of understanding originally entered into on or about Feb. 21, 2022. In a letter to the Department dated Sept. 26, 2022, the DPOA identified 15 officers who are entitled to the \$2,000 Bonus payment. **Settled.**
- Refusal to honor and implement the provisions of a MOU, originally entered into 2018, pursuant to which officers with five years of service are entitled to a patrol incentive pay — a 2.5 percent special pay adjustment. **The Department has done an audit and provided to the DPOA 300 members to be paid.**
- Refusal to compensate unit members who by reason of 15 years of service are entitled to police corporal pay — a 2.5 percent increase over base rate. **Settled.**
- Refusal to honor and implement an agreement reached on or about April 12, 2022, to restore the sick and Bonus Vacation Day (“BVD”) banks of an undetermined number of officers who were improperly required to use their sick time for a duty-related exposure to the COVID-19 virus. **Still waiting on members to be paid.**
- Refusal to honor and implement the “final and binding” arbitration opinion and award dated June 6, 2022, pursuant to which the officer termination was



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Craig Miller

reversed, and she was reinstated with a disciplinary suspension. The opinion and award was ordered enforced by Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Dana Margaret Hathaway in an order dated Jan. 23, 2023. **Settled.**

- Refusal to provide information, requested in a letter dated March 8, 2023, concerning the Department's unilateral decision to civilianize and restructure security at Department facilities where unit members work. **Settled.**

- Refusal to restore to the payroll officers who were initially suspended without pay due to pending criminal proceedings, despite notification that the related criminal charges have been dismissed or otherwise resolved. **Settled.**

- In response to periodic requests by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office for the names of officers who have disciplinary records that include misconduct that, pursuant to the Brady and Giglio cases, may require disclosure to criminal defense attorneys, the Department has included the names of officers who were exonerated of any misconduct and whose written reprimand, per the CBA, was allowed to remain in his personnel file for no more than two years; its disclosure to the ACPO occurred many years later, after it should have been

removed from officer's file. **Settled.**

- In a number of cases, and continuing, the Department has arbitrarily refused to honor the CBA's 84-day limitation on assigning out officers from their seniority-based positions by continuing to deny their return to their seniority-based parent commands. **Settled.**

The DPOA office phone system includes an after-hours answering service to provide better service for our membership.

If at any time an officer is involved in a shooting, injured, arrested, or detained within the City of Detroit, call dispatch for a union steward first, then contact the DPOA office at (313) 567-8770. There is an executive board member on call after hours.

When an officer is served a notice of Garrity from the supervisor, contact the office at (313) 567-8770 so

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# Vested members who leave need to fill out the sick/payout sheets

Condolences to Officer Amber Cogborn on the loss of her father; Lt. Stephanie Smith on the loss of her brother-in-law; friends and family of retired Civilian Detention Officer Johnny Allen; friends and family of retired Sergeant Alfreda Banks; friends and family of retired Corporal Marbin Clark; friends and family of retired Sergeant Roy Edwards; Deputy Chief Jaqueline Pritchett on the loss of her father; friends and family of retired Sergeant Aaron Williams Jr; retired Sergeant Gwayne Hughes on the loss of his brother; friends and family of retired Officer Clarence “Buster” Bennett; and friends and family of retired Sergeant Laverne “Motown Skip” Gallant.

Also, Assistant Chief Charles Fitzgerald on the loss of his mother, grandmother to Officer Gavin Fitzgerald; Lt. Ransom Williams on the loss of his mother; Sergeant Cornelius Oleary on the loss of his father; Corporal Tyrone Gray on the loss of his wife, active Corporal Bikira Riley; Corporal Kenneth Downer on the loss of his sister; friends and family of retired Officer Tallen Fleming Sr.; friends and family of retired Sergeant Joanne Kinney Williams; Sergeant Michael Jackson on the loss of his cousin, retired Sergeant Devon Jackson; Sergeant Antonio Allen on the loss of his father; friends and family of retired Officer Raymond Hornbuckle; Corporal Carlston Tomlinson on the loss of his brother, retired Officer Melvin Tomlinson.

Reminder to members injured in the line of duty: When being admitted or treated at a hospital, give the hospital the below listed information for the billing par-



## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ron Thomas

ty. It is imperative that you do this to avoid being billed by the hospitals directly. Any officers receiving bills from a duty-related injury are encouraged to contact the Association immediately.

City of Detroit Police Department  
1301 S Third/6th floor  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Attention: Medical Section

Members leaving the department under a vested pension should be reminded to fill out the sick/pay out sheets prior to separation. The sick/pay out sheets to redeem 85 percent of your sick time upon separation are located at the Association Office. Vesting occurs after 10 years of completed service. This only applies to members leaving under a vested pension. Members leaving under a Duty Disability Retirement must wait until their 25th year and send a letter to the Chief of Police to be paid

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# TUEBOR

(USPS-643-560)



Official Voice of the Detroit Police Officers Association. DPOA Office Hours: Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays. After hours, weekends and holidays, a designated on-call Executive Board member or Chief Steward is available by calling (313) 567-8770. The DPOA is the sole certified bargaining agent for all members of

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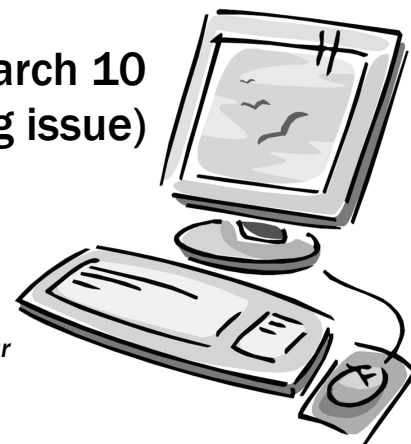
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Send label from Page 1 or old address plus new address to: DPOA, 1938 E. Jefferson, Detroit, MI 48207

**POSTMASTER:** Return forms to  
Detroit Police Officers Association  
1938 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, MI 48207

## Writers' deadline for the next issue:

March 10  
(Spring issue)

**Writers needed!**  
Check with your chief steward if you would like to represent your command area with an article in Tuebor.



# Union adds new staff attorney

By Zouhra Saab  
DPOA ATTORNEY

Hi everyone. My name is Zouhra Saab, and I recently joined the wonderful team of attorneys at the Detroit Police Officers Association. Born and raised in Dearborn, I come from a Lebanese immigrant background and grew up in a household with five sisters.

I received my education stripes from the University of Michigan- Dearborn, majoring in

political science and public health, and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Currently, I am completing a master's of public health degree at the University of Toledo. My legal journey has been a dance between plaintiff and defense in municipal law, catastrophic personal injury, contracts, and the intricate world of public health regulations.

What keeps me engaged in this legal realm is

the dynamic interplay of advocacy and the ever-evolving landscape of law and policy. I'm really big on aesthetic settings and enjoy exploring diverse cities, states, and cultures; moreover, I am a passionate cat enthusiast.

The DPOA has given me the chance to be more than just a legal expert, but an advocate in the real world. It's a departure from the typical firm setting, a chance to connect beyond just the pa-

perwork. My respect for police officers and their community ties drew me in – it's a unique opportunity to be part of that connection.

The leadership at the DPOA brings the perfect mix of kindness, humor, and serious dedication to the job. The support I've received so far at the DPOA has been a safety net, and I am truly appreciative to be part of such a great team. I'm very excited to work with you all!



Zouhra Saab



Photo: Detroit Public Safety Foundation

Officers Paul Sweppy (left), Christina Messina and Joseph Haggard were among those honored at the Detroit Public Safety Foundation's fall recognition ceremony.

## Officer of the Year nominees needed

### Awards banquet set for earlier than normal due to NFL draft timing

This year's District Officers of the Year Banquet will be here before you know it — quite literally.

The banquet, which will be the 39<sup>th</sup> annual staged by the Detroit Police Officers Association, will be held a full two weeks earlier than normal — mainly because the usual date was in conflict with the activities surrounding this year's NFL Draft, which will come to Detroit for the first time ever April 25-27.

Consequently, the nomination and selection period has been accelerated in a corresponding fashion, and President Craig Miller is asking stewards to check the scheduled dates carefully so all submittals are received in time.

As always, the banquet is intended to honor outstanding efforts by our members during the prior calendar year. All nominations will need to be delivered to Miller by Feb. 2. The entire effort will culminate at the prestigious banquet, where the honors will be presented. The banquet is scheduled for 6 p.m. Friday, April 12, at Motor City Sound Board.

**For the full timeline of deadlines and activities, see the related information box at the**

**bottom of Page 6.**

This longstanding union tradition serves as an important way to recognize and honor the actions and efforts of the Detroit Police Department's best officers each year, Miller said.

Nominees are being sought from all 10 department districts for on-the-job performance between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2023.

Each recipient's photo along with a written account of their accomplishments will be printed on its own page in the District Officers of the Year keepsake program. These profiles and photos also will be published in a special commemorative section that will appear in the Spring 2024 issue of Tuebor.

The awards for being chosen as one of the DPOA District Officers of the Year include a monetary certificate, a department-approved DPOA service ribbon to be worn on the recipient's uniform, a framed reproduction of the recipient's page in the keepsake program and a certificate from the Union, along with the yearbook commemorating this year's event.

Motor City Casino is located at 2901 Grand River Ave.

Numerous Detroit Police Department officers were honored in early November at the Above & Beyond Awards Ceremony, an event organized yearly by the Detroit Public Safety Foundation to provide special recognition for the brave efforts of Detroit Police, Fire and EMS personnel.

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual event took place at the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center, where Detroit first-responders were lauded for going "Above & Beyond" the call of duty.

Recipients receive the Medal of Valor for their bravery and service in the face of great danger. The Purple Heart Award is given to those who were injured or killed in the line of duty, making at times the greatest sacrifice in service for others. The Emergency Medical Merit Award is for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division to honor members for exceptional service.

The event was emceed by the ever personable Charlie Langton of Fox 2 Detroit.

Fifteen DPD officers — Naveed Bajpai, Kevin Briggs, Joseph Ceravolo, Joshua Dennard, Jacob Goodman, Joseph Haggard, Joshua Holder, Paul Knapp, Raul Martinez, Christina Messina, Brandyn Patton, Scott Povish, Ryan Ruloff, Robery Stankiewicz and Juan Vargas — received the Medal of Valor.

Two officers — Sara Kalicki and Angelina Tius — earned Purple Hearts. One officer — Paul Sweppy — was recognized with both a Medal of Valor and Purple Heart.

Medal of Valor recipients Naveed Bajpai and Ryan Ruloff responded to a police call March 31 where they

were told a suspect was pointing a gun at people. The officers saw the suspect and slowed down to investigate. The suspect produced a concealed handgun and began firing at the officers.

As the officers tried to exit their car to take cover, a round went through the windshield of the car and both officers were hit with glass. The officers remained calm, taking cover in the back of the scout car and returning fire at the suspect who was now running between houses.

They called for backup and using their knowledge of the area, they were able to predict the suspect's movements and regain sight of him as he tried to flee on foot. As he was running, he continued to shoot at Officer Bajpai. The suspect was tracked down with the help of additional units and a Michigan State Police K9. He was taken into custody without further incident.

Police Officers Juan Vargas and Raul Martinez on Aug. 11, 2022 attempted to make a traffic stop on a vehicle with multiple violations. The vehicle fled and the occupants started firing at the officers. Multiple shots were fired at Officers Vargas and Martinez.

Another vehicle with Sergeant Kevin Briggs was also shot at by the suspects. Many officers responded, attempting to stop the threat. The pursuit continued through multiple jurisdictions with Michigan State Police Trooper 3 supporting the pursuit from the air. MSP Troopers helped execute multiple pit maneuvers.

When the vehicle was finally stopped, a foot pursuit

*Continued on Page 19*

# Now might be a good time to review your investments

Happy New Year everyone, and welcome to 2024!

I hope everyone had time to spend with friends and family over the holidays. Over the past year, there were an amazing number of opportunities to make extra money with, basically unlimited overtime. I hope 2024 will afford you the same opportunities if you would like to take advantage of them.

All participants in the 457(b) deferred compensation program should have received communications from their respective providers, either by email or U.S. mail, announcing changes to their plans, effective Jan. 1, 2024. Every provider, Empower, Vanguard, Voya and Equitable, have different fund lineups and fees. All of them have lower expense ratios and fees.

There is nothing required on the participant side because of these changes. Although, it may be a good time to review your investments to be sure they are in line with your retirement goals.

Keep in mind that ALL providers have advisors who work directly, and have accountability to their respective companies. There are no longer authorized third-party advisors. Be sure to check with your provider directly to see who the contact is.

Let's talk about investing in yourself once again for 2024. The IRS has set the dollar limitations for retirement



## SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Kenneth  
Eppenbrock

plans for the 2024 tax year. The maximum amounts have increased. The 457(b) (Deferred Compensation) maximum for members under age 50 is \$23,000; members 50 or over can contribute a maximum of \$30,500.

And for you over achievers who make crazy amounts of money, you can take advantage of the pre-retirement catch up program and contribute a maximum of \$46,000.

Remember that you also can choose to invest in a Roth IRA. You can contribute a maximum of \$7,000 if you are under age 50. If you are over age 50, you can contribute \$8,000. These contributions are after-tax money and are in addition to the maximums for the 457(b) plan.

As I repeatedly say, if you want to enjoy life in your golden years, do the best you can to start investing today.

As one year ends and a new one starts, best wishes to you and your loved ones. Have a fantastic year ahead full of happiness, success, and most of all, be careful and safe out there!

## Upcoming or recent separations from the Department are as follows:

Name	Command area	Status	Last Duty Date
PO Lacle Woods	8th Pct.	Dismissed	10/5
PO Brandon Smith	11th Pct.	Retired	10/11
PO Amy Szarafinski	Tactical Operations	Retired	10/11
PO Haris Rizvanovic	8th Pct.	Resigned	10/15
PO Cory Yankey	8th Pct.	Resigned	10/19
PO Clarence King	12th Pct.	Resigned	10/22
PO Celeste Verellen	12th Pct.	Resigned	10/30
PO Justin Elliott	9th Pct.	Duty Disability	10/30
PO Roshawn Thomas	Academy	Resigned	11/8
PO Jason Howard	Academy	Resigned	11/20
PO Francesco Badali	9th Pct.	Resigned	11/20
PO Robert Gadwell	Mounted	Retired	11/21
PO Alyssa Joaquin	10th Pct.	Resigned	11/21
PO Maria Almanza-Martinez	Academy	Resigned	12/1
PO Bikira Riley	Fiscal Operations	Died Active	12/9
PO Deandre Smith	12th Pct.	Resigned	12/12
PO Dillon Kenny	Tactical Mobile	Resigned	12/15
PO Dametri Wade	9th Pct.	Resigned	12/19
PO Lorenzo Smith	5th Pct.	Dismissed	12/19
PO Randy Randolph	Downtown Services	Retired	12/21
PO Brenton Watters	6th Pct.	Resigned	12/21
Det. Carl Chuney	5th Pct. PDU	Retired	11/22
Sgt. Joseph Smith	2nd Pct.	Retired	10/20
Comm. Kimberly Blackwell	Major Crimes	Retired	12/1
Comm. Brian Harris	5th Pct.	Retired	12/31
DC Melissa Gardner	Eastern Ops	Retired	11/7

## Manpower as of December 26, 2023

RANK	BUDGETED	FTEs FILLED THIS MONTH	OVER/UNDER BUDGET
Chief of Police	1	1	0
Assistant Chief	3	3	0
Deputy Chief	6	6	0
Commander	18	19	1
Captains	27	26	-1
Lieutenant	108	119	11
Sergeant	375	377	2
Investigator	13	11	-2
Detective	187	171	-16
Police Officer	1852	1762	-90
Police Assistants	54	34	-20
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2644</b>	<b>2529</b>	<b>-115</b>

## ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

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- Be aware of coverage changes at age 65 — Page 22



## Lucky night

Cpl. Christopher Gibson (right) of Special Operations was the happy winner of a \$250 gift card in a special drawing held during the November General Membership Meeting at the Sacred Heart Activities Center. The gift card was donated by Spectrum Advisory Group. Company President and CEO Alex Perez Jr. (left) was on hand to make the presentation.

**Editor's Note:** The article deadline for the next issue of the Tuebor is March 10. Please email articles and other info for publication to Editor Joe Hoshaw Jr. at [tuebordetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:tuebordetroit@yahoo.com). He can also be reached at (734) 558-6955. For more details on being a contributor to Tuebor, please see Page 6.

# Scholarship fund a great DPOA tradition

The Detroit Police Officers Association Scholarship Fund was the brainchild of retired Detroit Police Officer Cheryl Smith. At the time, Officer Smith was a member of the DPOA Grievance Committee. She held the office of Sergeant-at-Arms and was later elected as the DPOA vice president. Officer Smith retired from the Detroit Police Department in January 2012.

The idea that inspired the scholarship fund was to provide aid to police officers' children without the debt attached to student loans.

The Fund was initially incorporated in 1997 and is an entity separate from the DPOA, as required by tax regulations. After countless hours of exhaustive efforts behind the scenes, it was in October of 1998 that as president of the DPOA Scholarship Fund, Officer Smith was pleased to announce the IRS approval of the fund section 501(c)3 permits donors to enjoy tax benefits on contributions made to the fund.

The first scholarship was awarded for the 1999-2000 academic year. Since then and continuing, numerous scholarships totaling several thousands of dollars have been awarded to children of Detroit Police Department members.



**SERGEANT AT ARMS REPORT**  
Linda Broden

Eligible recipients must have a parent or step-parents employed by the Detroit Police Department. Awards are not limited solely to DPOA members. Police officers that have advanced their own career through promotions and relinquished their membership in the DPOA is a terrible reason to deny a child of that parent this award.

Recipients must possess a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma and be enrolled in an accredited institution of higher learning or trade school. Applicants must write an essay. The topic varies from year to year and is determined by the fund directors. The scholarships are normally pre-

sented in mid-summer. Department members may make tax-exempt contributions to the fund through payroll deductions.

The DPOA Scholarship Committee would like to thank everyone that supported this organization this past year. If it wasn't for your participation with our events and donations, we would not be able to meet our goal in providing scholarships to active police officers' children. Thank you for your continued support and contributions to this worthy cause. Together we all can make a difference.

Scholarship packages for the 2023-2024 school year will be available for pickup in the Association office on Feb. 10, 2024.

HOPE EVERYONE HAD A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:** "Great things in business are never done by one person. They're done by a team of people." — Steve Jobs

## Welcome aboard!



**New stewards and alternates joining the Board of the Directors and receiving the oath of office from Sergeant-at-Arms Linda Broden include November inductee Lamont Nelson (top, left), sworn in to serve as an alternate for the Major Violators Unit; Matthew Miller (above), inducted in December as the new steward for Mounted; and Gerardo Arzate-Gonzalez (center, in the photo at left), Fourth Precinct, alternate; and Thomas Deloof, 11<sup>th</sup> Precinct, steward, sworn in at the January meeting.**

## Always be aware of your Miranda and Garrity rights

Regarding your rights under Garrity and Miranda, please refer to Section 16 page 41, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, entitled "Members' Rights - Investigative Procedures."

This section details your rights in any and all investigative procedures. I would also like to emphasize that it is each individual Officer's responsibility to be aware of these rights and to fully exercise them. These rights apply whether the interview is conducted at the Offices of the Internal Affairs Section, Office of the Chief Investigator or any other location.

In addition to this information, be aware that members have a right to 72 hours notice of a Garrity interview and the right to have an attorney present at that interview. In order to ensure the presence of an attorney, it is each officer's responsibility to notify their union steward and/or the

DPOA of the date, time and place of the interview. In turn, it is the DPOA's or the steward's responsibility to notify this office of same. It should not be "assumed" that an attorney will be present if this office is not notified.

It has recently become the practice of some Investigators and Sergeants to attempt to convince officers that they should waive their right to an attorney, telling them that they are not the focus and "do not need an attorney."

The Collective Bargaining Agreement in Article 16 addresses this issue. It specifically states that members have a right to have both legal counsel and a representative of the union present during an interview. Officers should never waive their constitutional or contractual right to an attorney or any other right that the DPOA has fought hard to obtain for you.

## ABOUT TUEBOR:

The official publication of the Detroit Police Officers Association, Tuebor is published quarterly. Our next issue will be published in April both in the print edition and a PDF version posted to the union's website, [www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com). Recent back issues also are available on the website. Several writer positions are currently open. If you see that your command area doesn't have a writer and you are interested in serving in that role, please see your steward. Do you have DPOA-related news you'd like to share? Letters, photos and other information pertinent to the DPOA membership can be emailed to [tuebor@detroitpoa.com](mailto:tuebor@detroitpoa.com). Items may be submitted anytime between now and March 10 to be considered for publication in the next issue.

Read Tuebor on your phone or tablet! Visit [www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com)

## YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Miller  
President

Ron Thomas  
Vice President

Ken Eppenbrock  
Secretary-Treasurer

Linda Broden  
Sergeant-at-Arms

Calvin Adkins  
Keith Baker  
Michael Fountain  
Royce Hill  
Brett Letwin  
Lashun O'Rear  
Charles Roland  
Christine Rozier  
Sean Wayrynen

# Craig Miller: Union makes headway on pay disputes

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information can be recorded in the Garrity Book. In addition, take a clear picture of the Garrity request and email it to [legal@detroitpoa.com](mailto:legal@detroitpoa.com); include a cell phone number as well.

At no time should you ever think you are not the focus of an investigation. Always request a union steward, either by radio or call the DPOA office. We do not do interviews with our supervisors, internal or anyone else that can provide you with written statements "questions" on a 568 and the officers will schedule an appointment with the DPOA office to have questions answered. Do not answer them yourself.

### Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) Plan

The CDPSU HRA Plan provides eligible retired City of Detroit Police and Fire Fighter employees with reimbursement of covered out-of-pocket medical care expenses on a non-taxable basis.

Eligible participants include City public safety employees who have retired after January 1, 2015, while covered under a collective bargaining agreement between the City and the following Unions:

1) DPOA; 2) DPLSA; 3) DPCOA; and 4) DFFA.

The current HRA monthly stipend for DPOA is \$125 per month. To apply for your monthly benefits, contact CDPSU's claims administrator, Automated Benefit Services, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at (877) 456-4306 or for more information about the CDPSU HRA Plan, visit [CDPSUTrust.com](http://CDPSUTrust.com).

Members, it is very important you know your beneficiaries on your life insurance policies. During the COVID pandemic, we found that our members have not updated their beneficiaries in years and are surprised at who the beneficiaries are. To manage, change, or check on your benefits, come into the DPOA office located at 1938 East Jefferson Ave. Members, it is also

very important we have your current address and cell phone number with the DPOA.

DPOA also has a new text messaging system so we can notify the membership of important information. We are currently using the same system to notify the union stewards. When you receive a text from the (313) 567-8770 DPOA office number, you must opt in to receive information.

# Ron Thomas: Fill out sick/payout sheets

Continued from Page 2

from their sick banks.

A recent issue which has resurfaced involves "Public Safety Statements" made after an officer involved shooting. There is NO case law

which supports your reservation of Miranda rights regarding these statements. Officers involved in shootings shall demand that they are ordered to give these statements so they can

preserve their rights under *Garrity v. New Jersey*. Officers should be mindful that any statement made when not ordered can be used against you criminally. Remember to trust

your instincts. If something does not seem right — it is because it isn't. Back each other up always and stay safe.

## 2023 District Officers of the Year Guidelines for Selection of Award Recipients

1. One officer will be chosen from each District of the Detroit Police Department.
2. The recipient must have been an active member of the bargaining unit during the time events occurred for which he or she is going to receive the award. The recipient's parent command during such time must have been within the district from which the award emanates.
3. Recipients shall be selected in recognition of their outstanding police work, community service or their efforts on behalf of various charitable organizations. It is the DPOA's desire to emphasize the performance of outstanding police work.
4. The Chief Stewards, Stewards and Alternate Stewards shall keep in mind that the awards represent the highest recognition possible from the officer's peers.
  - FRIDAY, FEB. 2 — Deadline for submitting candidates
  - TBD — Submitted candidates will be reviewed by the District Officers of the Year Committee.
  - TUESDAY, FEB. 13 — Recipients will be announced at the Board of Directors Meeting.
  - THURSDAY, FEB. 22 — Deadline for turning in recipient's biographical sheet and supporting paper-work to Craig Miller at the DPOA office.
  - THURSDAY, FEB. 22 or THURSDAY, FEB. 29 (TBD) — Awardees' photo shoot, 9-11 a.m. at the DPOA office (in the first floor board room).
  - FRIDAY, APRIL 12 — 39th Annual District Officers of the Year Awards Banquet at Sound Board, Motor City Casino, 2901 Grand River Ave.

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# Practicing self-care

Remember that life isn't solely about sacrifice

By The Rev. Peter Latouf

The amount of personal sacrifice police officers make on a daily basis is very often overlooked. Growing up in a home with Detroit police officers has taught me the difficulties of being on call, of long, late night shifts, and of unexpected overtime.

Officers often sacrifice family time and even personal recreation time because of the demands of work. When a long shift is over, the last thing many want to do is take



care of problems at home or force themselves to have to interact with others. The only thing many want to do is take a well-deserved rest!

The challenge for those of us in public service is our tendency to continually give without taking essential time for ourselves. There's an ingrained notion that being a public servant means dedicating our lives entirely to others, a mindset drilled during

the academy and obvious in the motto "protect and serve." Breaking free from this mindset after the shift ends and returning home becomes a challenge. As protectors and servers, our duty doesn't stop with the end of the shift; officers are never truly "off duty," right?

There is some truth to that. Those in the community who appreciate and understand your sacrifices – and there are certainly many who do, even if you may not realize it – still view you as their helpers, whether you are on or off duty. This expectation, while an honor and a responsibility, can be overwhelming. It's no surprise that the National Institute of Health reports that nearly 40 percent of police officers in the country are grappling with mental health issues (NIH, 2023), with depression, anxiety, PTSD, and high stress levels being the most prevalent.

The pressure faced by officers may be a contributing factor to these issues. The constant belief that there's

## THE BIGGER PICTURE

never enough time to rest can induce heightened states of worry and anxiety.

This underscores the absolute necessity of practicing self-care. Without engaging in self-care, we perpetuate the idea that our lives are solely about "giving." A well-

known minister and priest referred to this idea as the "myth of heroic sacrifice." This "myth" suggests that unless we are actively doing something for others, our lives lack value. Naturally, those of us who have this mindset often find themselves drawn to jobs in public service.

However, life isn't solely about sacrifice. The most effective way to care for others is to care for yourself first. When heading to work, being as refreshed, healthy, and prepared as possible is essential. Do not hesitate to take time to rest and relax. Seek support from fellow officers if you need a break and prioritize the most important aspects of your life – your health, your family's well-being, and your ability to be your best self.

These things are more important than any overtime or work shift. As we start this new year, I hope you find the grace to spend more time with family, friends and with yourself in rest and self-care. May God bless the men and women of the DPOA!

*Father Peter Latouf recently completed his missionary assignment in Taiwan and Hong Kong and is now assigned to serve as parochial vicar at Holy Family Catholic Church in Orlando, Fla. The Detroit-area native is the son of retired Police Officer Donna Latouf, the former secretary-treasurer for the Detroit Police Officers Association, and also the brother of Police Officer Lisa Latouf of the 11th Precinct.*

## EDITOR'S CORNER

### Input is always needed

By Joe Hoshaw Jr.

Throughout my career I've been involved in the creation and/or production of numerous publications as a writer, an editor and as a publisher. Of all the various newspapers, newsletters and magazines I've participated in, none has been more special to me than working with the great people of the Detroit Police Officers Association as your Tuebor editor.

I have endless appreciation and respect for what you do and am very grateful for how accepting and supportive you all have been in my efforts to make the Tuebor the quality publication you deserve.

That effort continues into the New Year, and I am welcoming and encouraging input and support from officers through all sectors of the department.

Over the past two years, the Editorial Committee has been working to make Tue-

bor more accessible in its electronic format. If you go on the website, [www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com), you will find that all editions going back to Winter 2022 are available for reading and downloading there.

While we are continuing to publish Tuebor in both print and online format, we are working on ways to make the online version even more accessible. With this issue we will be testing out the DPOA group texting system as a way of sharing Tuebor, in hopes of making it easy to open and view on your phone or tablet.

This is how it will work: The text will deliver you the specific link, or "URL," which, when clicked on, will open the edition right on your screen. You can read it right then, or save it to view on another device, such as your iPad or laptop

*Continued on Page 17*

# Fatalities take sharp decline

Continued from Page 1

Officer being killed in the line-of-duty," said National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund CEO Bill Alexander. "Yet we are encouraged to see fewer overall officer deaths across all major categories in 2023. Using and reporting on this data allows us to highlight the continuing dangers faced by our law enforcement professionals, particularly the number of officers who are shot and killed each year."

**Firearms-Related Fatalities:** Firearms-related fatalities have claimed the lives of 47 officers in 2023, which represents a 25 percent decrease from the 63 officers killed by gunfire in 2022, yet was the leading cause of death.

Of the 47 firearms fatalities: Nine were attempting to make an arrest; seven were handling domestic disturbance calls; six were investigating suspicious persons or circumstances; five were ambushed; five were responding to robbery/burglary in-progress calls; five were killed during traffic enforcement; two were killed serving warrants; two were investigating disturbance calls; two were killed during tactical encounters; two were killed in other circumstances; one was a training accident; and one off-duty officer intervened in a crime in progress.

**Traffic-Related Fatalities:** Traffic-related fatalities decreased 27 percent with 37 deaths in 2023, compared to 51 deaths in

2022. The 27 fatal crashes in 2023 (automobile/motorcycle) represents a decrease of 25 percent compared to the 36 fatal crashes in 2022. "Struck-by" fatalities, defined as an officer struck outside of their patrol vehicle, dropped 33 percent from 15 in 2022 to 10 in 2023.

Of the 37 traffic-related deaths: 23 were automobile crashes; four were motorcycle crashes; and 10 were struck-by fatalities.

**Other Causes and Fatalities:** The "other" category continues to represent the largest group of officers who died in the line of duty in 2023. Beyond Covid-19-related deaths, this category includes long-term illnesses

*Continued on Page 8*



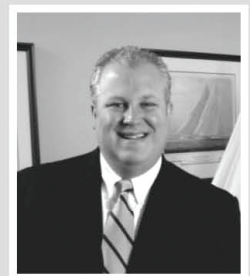
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# Homicide rate dips to nearly six decade low

Continued from Page 1

232 homicides in 1966.

“We laid out a clear strategy at the start of 2023 to drive down gun crimes in Detroit, focusing on homicides, non-fatal shootings, and carjackings,” said Chief James White. “When federal, state, county, city, judicial, and community partners all work together, we showed in 2023 that Detroit can become a much safer community.”

Overall, violent crime in Detroit fell 1.6 percent from 2022-23. Carjackings dropped to the lowest level since 1991, from 251 to 167. Property crime, however, rose 1.7 percent from 2022, with an 8 percent increase in larcenies one of the main causes. Car thefts dropped 4 percent.

The city pointed to a number of factors that led to the lower crime levels.

- The Detroit Police contract settled with its unions in November 2022 gave officers a \$10,000 raise, which allowed DPD to place 200 additional officers on the street in 2023. The additional police resources were used in a targeted strategy to reduce gun violence in 2023 through the following measures:

- Neighborhood violence prevention. Beginning in the spring, DPD said it identified and targeted likely locations of crowd gathering and potential neighborhood violence, including parks, block parties, community events, and potential hot spots. DPD actively monitored and deployed officers at all of these locations, strategically deployed EVOLV weapons detectors, and adopted a strategy of preventing gun violence, instead of waiting for a 911 call reporting a shooting.

- Crackdown on neighborhood drag racing and drifting. The crowds forming at neighborhood drag racing and drifting events have historically been a source of fights and gun violence. DPD used active crime intelligence a rapidly deployed drag

racing team to break up events before they could get started.

- ShotSpotter was expanded to 39 square miles of the city, giving DPD immediate notice of gunfire and allowing a rapid response to cases that otherwise may have gone unreported.

- The Downtown “Summer Crowd Surge” plan. DPD’s downtown 12 point “Summer Surge” plan implemented in April, virtually eliminated downtown gun violence for the rest of 2023. Hundreds of thousands of visitors attending events like the Grand Prix, Jazz Fest, Taylor Swift concert and others enjoyed a safe family atmosphere. Detroit received extensive national attention throughout 2023 for the success of these events.

U.S. Attorney Dawn Ison has led the One Detroit summer crime reduction strategy in the 8th and 9th precincts, which had been experiencing the highest rate of gun crimes. One Detroit combined increased federal prosecution for gun crimes and gang activities, combined with active prevention outreach efforts, including highly attended community “Peacemics.”

“One Detroit Partners came together to address crime in a new way. We committed to balancing enforcement work with work in the community to prevent crime from happening and work with men and women returning from prison to ensure they don’t return to crime,” Ison said. “The report on the results of those efforts is promising, but we are just getting started. I commend Chief White and the hard-working men and women of the Detroit Police Department for their work to reduce violence in Detroit this year. Violent crime is down significantly, but we are not satisfied. We will take what we have learned and work even harder to improve what we are doing.”

# Fatality take sharp decline

Continued from Page 7

related to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, acute medical events brought on by extreme and/or stressful events experienced on-duty, and a variety of rare yet significant fatal incidents. Covid-19 related deaths also fall into the ‘Other’ category. The trend of significant reductions in Covid-19 related deaths continued in 2023, as only five such deaths were reported.

Of the 52 “Other Causes” deaths in 2023: 35 were fatal medical events; five were related to Covid-19; three officers fell to their death; two were due to aircraft crashes; one was due to a falling object; one officer died assisting in a fire incident; one officer

drowned; one officer was beaten to death; one officer was stabbed to death; one officer was struck by a train; and one officer was strangled to death.

Among U.S. state, New York experienced the largest number of law enforcement fatalities of all U.S. states in 2023, with 13 line-of-duty deaths; Texas has the second highest number with 11 officer deaths; Louisiana had the third highest number with eight officer deaths; California had the fourth highest number with seven officer deaths; Indiana, and Tennessee had the fifth-highest number with six officer deaths each

In addition, seven federal officers, three officers

serving U.S. Territories, one military officer, and one tribal officer died in 2023. Ten states did not lose an officer in 2023.

**Additional Demographics:** There were 126 male officers killed in the line of duty, and 10 female officers. The average age of the fallen officers is 45, with an average of 15 years of service. On average, officers left behind two children.

The statistics released in the annual report are based on preliminary data compiled by the NLEOMF and may not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. in 2024.

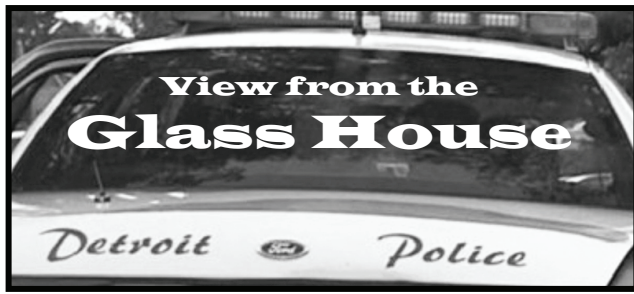
# Board of Directors Attendance Record

## January-December 2023

M-Meetings/P-Present/E-Excused/A-Absent  
(C) Chief Steward / (A) Alternate / \* Executive Board  
(T) Transferred / (P) Promoted / (R) Retired / \*\* Died Active

DIST	Pit/Sec	Name	M	P	E	A
1	Downtown SVS-2	Julius Price	12	10	2	0
	Downtown SVS-3	Dale Hopkins	12	11	1	0
	3rd Precinct-1	Darryl Johnson (C)	12	11	1	0
	3rd Precinct-2	James Bradford	12	11	1	0
	3rd Precinct-3	Marsallis Turner (T)	3	1	2	0
	3rd Precinct-3	Mario Esselman	9	8	1	0
	Gaming-1	Anthony Avecilla	12	11	1	0
	Gaming-2	Christopher Hicks	12	12	0	0
	Gaming-3	Calvin Adkins*	12	11	1	0
	2	2nd Precinct-1	Tristen Wagner (T)	8	6	2
2nd Precinct-1		Daryl Lever	4	4	0	0
2nd Precinct-2		Keith Baker*	12	12	0	0
2nd Precinct-3		Anthony Porcalla	12	11	1	0
4th Precinct-1		Aylssa Vogel (P)	8	6	2	0
4th Precinct-1		Sarah Kimberlin	4	4	0	0
4th Precinct-2		Brian Gadwell (P)	3	2	1	0
4th Precinct-2		Nicholas Medrano	9	8	1	0
4th Precinct-3		John Furmanski (C)	12	11	1	0
3		6th Precinct-1	Christopher Smith	12	10	2
	6th Precinct-2	Rosemary Coleman (C)	12	11	1	0
	6th Precinct-3	Wade Rayford	12	12	0	0
	8th Precinct-1	Kenneth Hampton Jr.	12	12	0	0
	8th Precinct-2	James Pierce	12	7	5	0
	8th Precinct-3	Cory Yankey (R)	10	9	1	0
	8th Precinct-3	Thomas Peterson	2	2	0	0
	4	10th Precinct-1	Jujuan Sandifer (C)	12	12	0
10th Precinct-2		Cyprian Freeman	12	12	0	0
10th Precinct-3		Justin Bartaway (R)	4	1	3	0
10th Precinct-3		Steve Rempe (T)	2	2	2	0
10th Precinct-3		Stephen Gaynor 3	4	4	0	0
12th Precinct-1		Stephen Merritt	12	6	6	0
12th Precinct-2		Ladawn Russell (P)	8	6	2	0
12th Precinct-2		Raymond Chesney	3	2	1	0
12th Precinct-3		Cortez Williams	12	9	3	0
5		5th Precinct-1	Glenn Bines	12	10	2
	5th Precinct-2	Brett Letwin*	12	12	0	0
	5th Precinct-3	Anthony Murray	12	11	1	0
	9th Precinct-1	Scott Kolesar (C)	12	12	0	0
	9th Precinct-2	Lashun O’Rear*	12	12	0	0
	9th Precinct-3	Alex Rebecca	12	9	3	0
6	7th Precinct-1	Christopher Masalskis (T)	3	2	1	0
	7th Precinct-1	Mina Baxter	9	5	4	0
	7th Precinct-2	Nathan Readous	12	9	3	0
	7th Precinct-3	Frederick Williams (C)	12	12	0	0
	11th Precinct-1	Kevin Smith	12	9	3	0
	11th Precinct-2	Douglas Nichols	12	12	0	0
	11th Precinct-3	Eric Hill (T)	2	1	1	0
	11th Precinct-3	Jovaraka Tyus (T)	3	1	1	1
	11th Precinct-3	Ricardo Sanchez	6	6	0	0
	Harbor Master	Marcel Clark	12	12	0	0
Mound Road Detention Center	Marcus Harris	12	12	0	0	
7	Cos/Tech Support-1	Raphael Clements	12	11	1	0
	Cos/Tech Support-2	Charles Roland*	12	11	1	0
	Cos/Tech Support-3	Michael Fountain*	12	12	0	0
	Narcotics/Firearms Inv.	Lavondria Herbert	12	11	1	0
	Forfeiture/Magnet/Auction Detail	Carlton Williams (C)	12	6	6	0
DPSH, 1301 Third, 5th Floor	Walter Brent	12	12	0	0	
DPSH, 1301 Third, 6th Floor	Lucretia Wright (C)	12	12	0	0	
DPSH, 1301 Third, 7th Floor	Royce Hill*	12	12	0	0	
9	Law Dept/OCI/EPU/Council	Christine Rozier*	12	11	1	0
	DMPA/Range	Sean Wayrynen*	12	12	0	0
10	TAC Response Unit - 1	Darius Shepherd	12	6	6	0
	TAC Response Unit - 3	Jessica Townsville	12	6	6	0
	SRT/Bomb Squad	David Shaw	12	9	3	0
	TEU/TSU	Loranzo Jones	12	12	0	0
	K-9/Mounted/Aviation	Robert Gadwell (C) (R)	11	11	0	0
	K-9/Mounted/Aviation	Matt Miller	1	1	0	0





Lashun O'Rear

# Appearance matters, so look sharp out there

Hello from the Glass House. I want to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas and time with their families.

Word is the powers that be will be cracking down on uniforms and appearance, so let's make sure we are within regulation with both.

Sick time counseling has begun, so if you're given an initial counseling or placed on DPD-350 for notice of regularity in the use of sick time, please see your steward or call the DPOA office so we can investigate it.

We are given five Emergency/Excused leave days (E-days) in a fiscal year, only five! If you're on DPD-350 you cannot use E-days. Summer furlough draw is Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024. Remember, you have the option to sell one week of furlough (five consecutive days). If you choose to sell a week of furlough, it must be done the day of the furlough draw.

The city will be hosting the 2024 NFL Draft this April, so we all know what that means. People will be assigned out downtown, mandatory overtime, and major inconvenience. So, let's start preparing ourselves for the inevitable because it's coming and it'll be here before you know it.

I want to give a special thank you and congratulations for all his years of service to the city of Detroit and to the Detroit Police Department. Adlone Morris is retiring after 23

years of service with numerous awards and citations, including District 5 Officer of the Year in 2017. I and many others think that Officer Morris never got the true credit he deserved for keeping the criminal element at bay in the Ninth Precinct. Officer Morris' knowledge and professionalism made the neighborhoods of the ninth precinct safer for the citizens of Detroit. Thank you for setting the standard for the Detroit



Adlone Morris

Police Department. Your work, dedication, and achievements may never be matched. You're a true professional who's shown by example that excellence is something to aim for daily. You inspire everyone around you to be more, and I

know that you will continue this standard in whatever path you choose after you leave here. Thanks to your wife, Leslie Morris; your daughters Tanisha, Zoe, Zion, Lauren, Lauryel and Leyah; and your sons, Deonte, Delmery and Maurice, for their sacrifice to the city.

We sometimes forget what the family goes through when you risk your life for strangers every day. One of Officer Morris' greatest compliments came from one of his sons who told him, "I've never been so proud as when guys I grew up with came to me and said, your dad has stopped more shootings and murders on the east side than anyone will ever know. He has initiated gang truce

by just talking; everyone respects him."

So, God bless, and know that you will be missed.



Abdul Shabazz

# Court mandates coming to end

Happy New Year to all! As we start off 2024, I would first like to hope and pray for a speedy recovery for P.O. Charo Turner as he recuperates from his recent hospitalization. We miss you!

The New Year also brings us to the City of Detroit to exit out of its court mandates. It's very

important, especially since many are reaching that time in our life when having medical insurance is vital.

What's up with manpower at Traffic Enforcement? Is the department giving us a slow death waiting for us to close our ranks by attrition? How many are on the transfer list? It remains to be seen if we'll

survive as a unit. Possibly by the next press release I can give you more insight. Of course, nothing is being mentioned and I could be just ranting about nothing.

Well, I'm sorry for such a brief article, but no one here is giving me any ideas and I definitely don't want to get personal.

Stay safe!

**5 P.M. TUESDAY,  
MARCH 12, 2024**  
(DOORS OPEN AT 4 P.M.)

# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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# Slam dunk.

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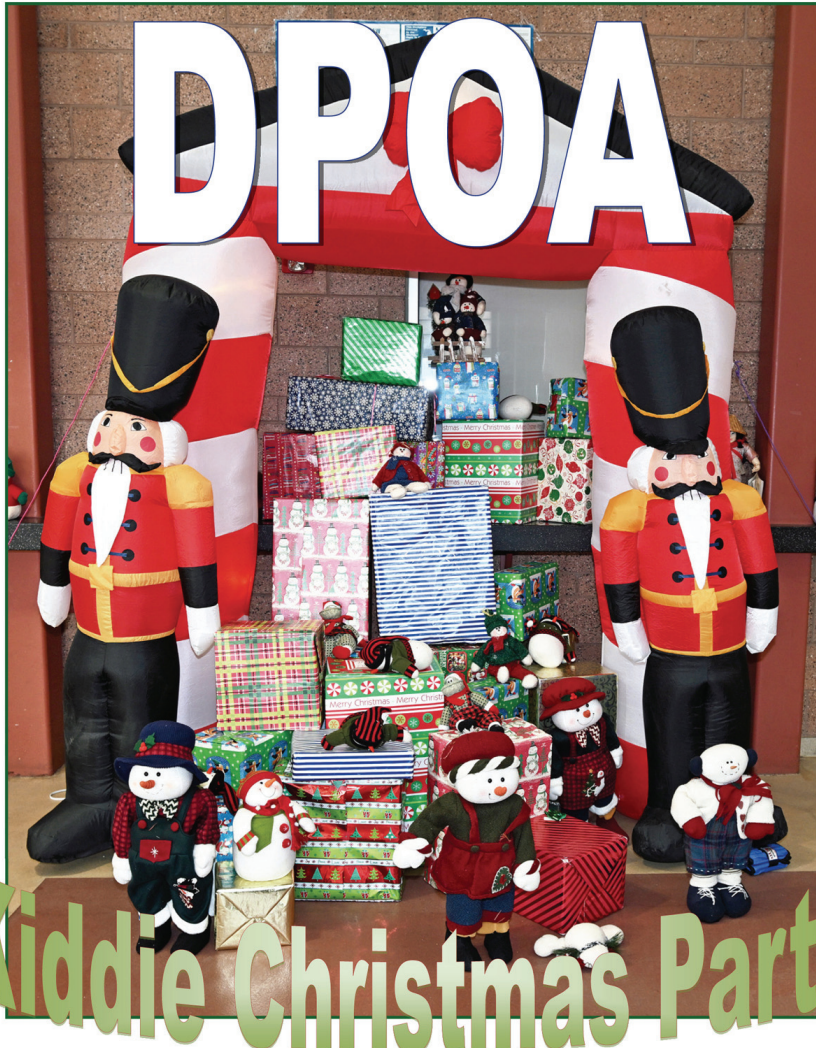
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(Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from an article that appeared in the Telegram Newspapers in December. It was written by Clifton R. Kirkman II, who is a nephew of DPOA Entertainment Committee Chairman Royce Hill).

More than 140 children were met with holiday cheer and toy giveaways at the annual Detroit Police Officers Association Kiddie Christmas Party. Located on Detroit's eastside at Farwell Recreation Center, upon entering the building families could hear Christmas music playing in the background, as they were greeted by Santa's Helpers.

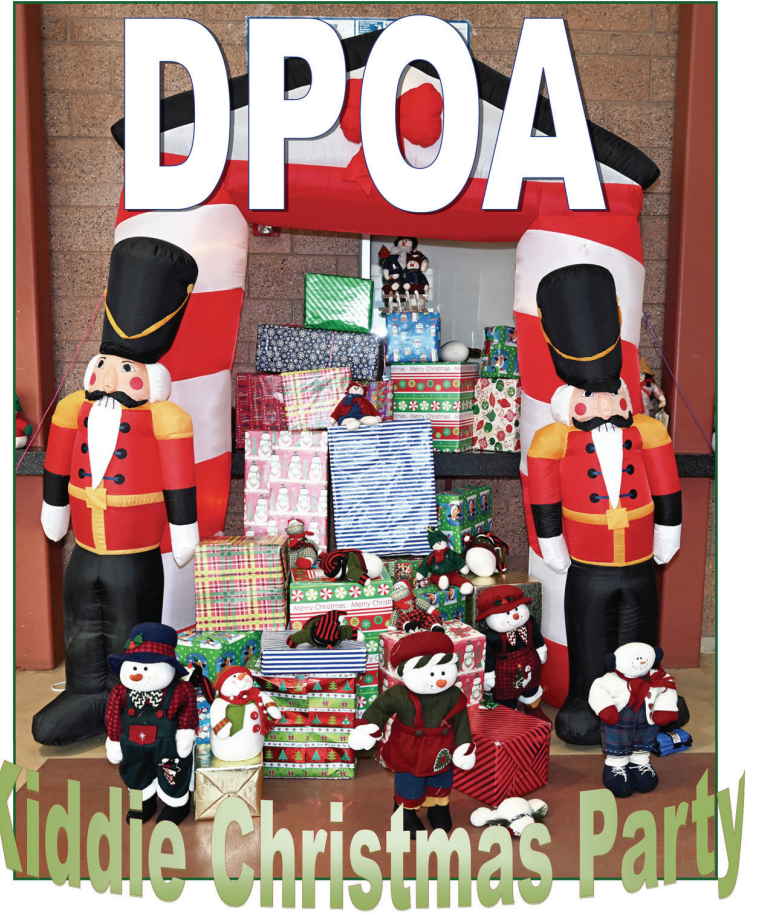
Music lovers, you know that Detroit's Famous Motown Christmas was played, as well as songs by The Jackson 5, The Temptations and more! Here in our area, there's something about Motown's Christmas that puts everyone in the holiday spirit.

As the day continued, lunch was provided with an assortment of options, including dessert, pizza, nachos with cheese and chili – to a full-stationed hot dog bar with all the sides was available without

Continued on Page 19

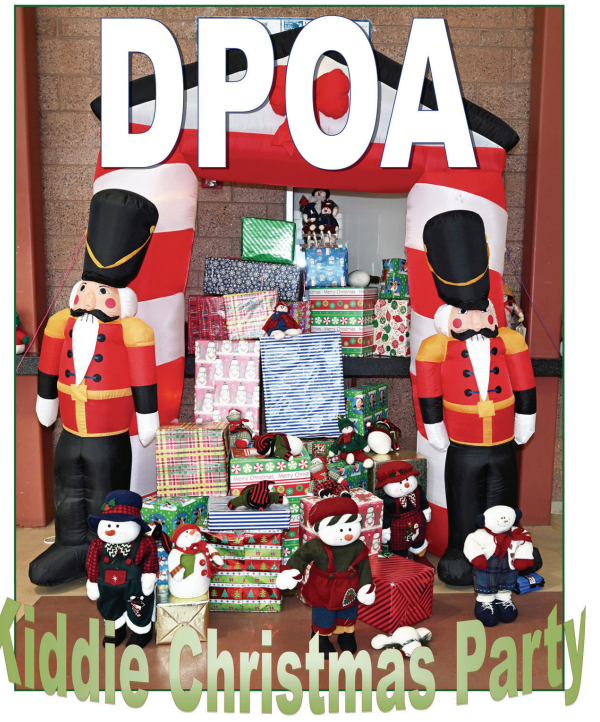


Photos: David L. Chapman



Photos: David L. Chapman





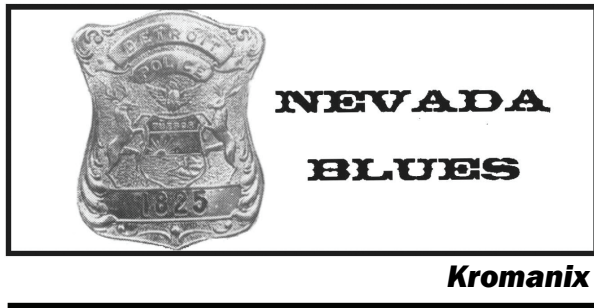
Digital copies of photos are available to members by emailing me at [tuebordetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:tuebordetroit@yahoo.com). Be sure to include the page number and a description of the photo you would like — JH



# Your hard work is making city a safer place

As we welcome in a brand new year, I want to say happy New Year to all. The men and women in blue have been working hard during the course of 2023. It is reported that violent crimes are down in the City. This is attributed to your hard work, day in and day out. Thank you for all you do to make the City safe.

I also want to thank our Detroit Police Officers Association leadership for their efforts in getting us a new contract with better incentives. Our thank you goes out to the Recruiting Section and Training Center, for re-



cruiting and training new officers, to increase our manpower. We also cannot forget our range staff, who are stepping up to make sure everyone gets in for their bi-annual qualifications. Thank you.

At the Precinct, our top brass were affected by peri-

odic reshuffle. Commander Pritcher was promoted to the rank of deputy chief, while Captain Johnson was also promoted to the rank of commander and assigned to the Fifth Precinct. Congratulations! We welcome Commander Mackay and Captain Griffin to the precinct. We also welcome sergeants David Hornshaw and Ryan Pejakowski.

Sadly, we mourned the loss of a few active members during the course of the year. Our thoughts and prayers go to their loved ones and pray that they garner strength to overcome their irreparable losses. We deeply sympathized with our Senior Corporal Tyrone Gray, who lost his wife, who was also a Department member. They will be missed but never forgotten. Rest in peace, comrades!

Last, but not least, we want to congratulate all members who were promoted to the ranks of sergeant and

lieutenant department-wide. In our Inn, officers Heather Fitzpatrick and Christopher Sanchez were promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Congratulations!

Until next time, stay tuned and back each other up.

— M. Mustapha Kroma

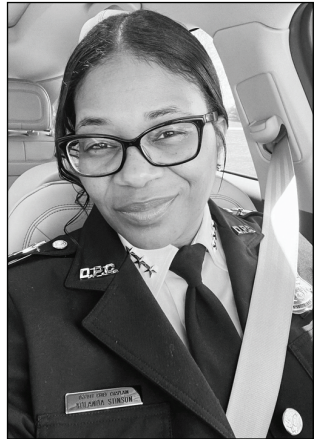
## A new start

### Let's keep getting better

By Yolanda Stinson

Let's make a new start.

Wow! What an amazing, eventful, funny, hurtful, different, lovely 2023 we just walked out of.



We laughed, we cried, we gained, we lost, we broke, we learned, we grew, we became and here we are in 2024 looking back over all that was. Through all of that, we're still here together. The job was done and done well.

In 2023, we were able to help put smiles on some faces and enjoy some laughter of our own as well. As we reflect on things from this past year, let us also remember to be grateful that we're in a position to keep getting better.

Let's laugh more, let's serve better, let's give more, let's extend more grace, let's dance like it's the last time and let's love more genuinely today, in case tomorrow never comes.

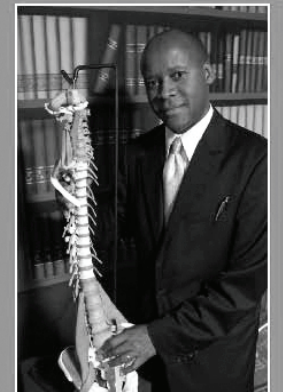
Here's to making a new start in 2024. Let's change the world together, stay safe, and remember to take a little time to enjoy the view.

Contributing writer Yolanda Stinson is commander chaplain for the Detroit Police Department.



The holiday season included a special get-together to honor the memory of our late Sgt. Shannon Wright (top), the DPOA Kiddie Christmas Party (left), the Chaplains Corps' Christmas dinner at headquarters and the DPOA Executive Board Christmas Luncheon (above).

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# A little quality time



A great turn out of both active and retired Detroit Police Officers Association members gathered for the final General Membership Meeting of 2023, held at the Sacred Heart Church Activity Center Nov. 14. Meeting attendance has been steadily climbing since the meetings were moved to this location, conveniently located near Mack and I375 on the fringe of downtown.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Our next General Membership Meeting is March 12. Please join us!



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# Officer's appearance makes a big difference

On patrol officers use force every day in every encounter. The force may not be physical; the mere presence of a law enforcement officer works to deter crime and de-escalate situations.



**Larry Jenkins**

most often used in developing a first impression. Michigan State Police is a great example of public

An officer's presence is the first step in the use-of-force continuum. It is highly successful and based on the officer's appearance to include his or her shiny patent leather boots, razor sharp creases and their uniformity.

The Detroit Police Department's Special Order No. 22-44 Uniform and Appearance Policy sets the guidelines needed on scene to grab individuals attention, command respect, demonstrate consistency, strength and competency.

In early social interactions studies have shown that physical appearance including clothing is the factor

officials making a first impression based on their uniform.

On numerous occasions I have worn my Class A uniform on details and even patrol. During my encounters with citizens you can notice the difference on how they treat you versus the officer in a regular Class B uniform. Even though allowed, the Class A uniform is uncomfortable to wear on patrol but the Class B uniform could look just as good.

The public takes notice when officers wear a mixture of nylon and basket weave duty gear, the different colored pants from the uniform shirt, and the lack of uniformity among officers

**Central district thanks the below members for organizing the Christmas party.**  
 P.O Eric Jones  
 P.O India Gooch  
 P.O Jill Browning  
 Cpl. Lamont Williams

# New Year includes some new faces

Happy New Year! Yes, another year has passed. It has been a busy year in the Fifth Precinct and a busy year covering the Ninth Precinct. Keep up the good work; I know it can be trying at times.



**Brett Letwin**

I would like to say farewell and happy retirement to Commander Harris. Thank you for dedicating 25 years to the DPD and being a great leader. We pray your new endeavor is a great one. Good luck and God bless. We also lost our Captain to another bureau. Hope your assignment is as fun as it was at the Fifth; good luck and keep in touch. Remember, keep paying those union dues.

In losing our commander and Captain, it means we need to get replacements. Let us welcome Commander Johnson and Captain Widmer to the Fifth Precinct. Hope your stay is enjoyable and all goes well. Five is the place to be, you will see.

I would also like to welcome P.O. Jones, who transferred to the Fifth Precinct. Welcome back! Also returning to the Fifth from leadership training is P.O. Burks, but as a Detective. Congratulations on your promotion and keep up the

good work. Also, welcome our newly promoted sergeants and our newly assigned officers: Sgt. McIntire, P.O. Bell, P.O. Robertson-Mason, P.O. Livermore, P.O. Bellamy, P.O. Moris, P.O. Purcell, and P.O. Shields. Hope you have a safe and enjoyable assignment here at the Fifth. Also, welcome the return of Sgt. Roberts-Snyder; thanks for returning. If I missed anyone, please let me know and I will fix it.

Keep in mind, the summer Furlough draw is approaching on Thursday, Feb. 15. When taking your furlough, you have the following options depending when your furlough is: five (5) leave days attached at the end and up to three (3) BV days, or one (1) leave day at the beginning, four (4) on end with up to three (3) BV days. If you are not sure, please ask or check your contract book on page 36, section 21. Also keep in mind that you are entitled to five circled

leave days on periods 2, 6, 10, and 13. I know this is a stressful job for everyone, and we may feel mistreated at times, but always remember to do your job the way you are required and trained to do. Do not let anyone tell you not to do what you are supposed to do or not to do it at all. This will only bring trouble and discipline. Back each other up, pay attention, and stay safe.

and get some tips on how to make your writing efforts for Tuebor very stress free. I am also always looking for feature story ideas. If you or someone you know, either active or retired, has a story you think our members would find interesting, please get in touch with me either by phone at (734) 558-6955, or at the Tuebor email address, tuebor@detroit@yahoo.com.

# Tuebor is looking for your input

*Continued from Page 7*  
 — or even the PC at home. Once you've had a chance to try out reading Tuebor in this manner, we'd love to hear your feedback. Tuebor also counts on the participation of officers as contributing writers, and we need writers for several command areas at present. If you don't see your area represented in these pages, please consider joining our writer team.

The job basically entails providing an update on what's going on in your command area four times a year — January, April, July and October. Now would be a good time to join on because we have our next Writers Workshop scheduled for March 20, which would be a great opportunity to meet our current writers and Editorial Committee members, enjoy dinner

on scene. A research study conducted in multiple states including Michigan concluded that citizens respect the police more when wearing a hat. Yes a hat they prefer the bus driver hat aka the garrison or the Smokey Bear campaign cover.

The traditional style uniform worn by law enforcement may be uncomfortable when performing certain tasks versus an external carrier with your gear attached. Studies have shown that officers are more approachable and give more of a sense safety to citizens when wearing a traditional uniform, especially toward the youth. This is very important and helps build the trust of the public and prepares our department for 21st Century policing.

**H**appy Holidays and a Happy New Year from the Chief Union Steward of the Third Precinct, Officer Darryl Johnson.

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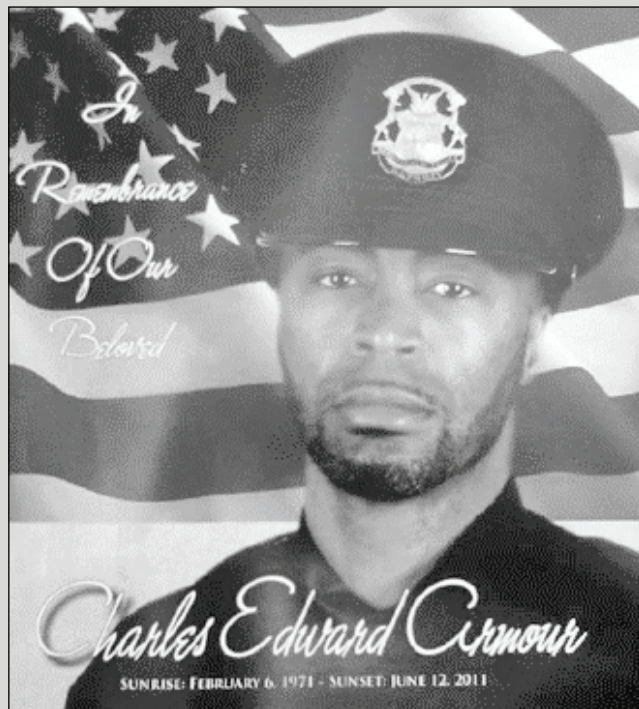
# REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

In the early morning hours of June 5, 2011, Police Officer Charles Edward "Chuck" Armour was working his regular shift on foot patrol in Greektown when he spotted something strange. A deranged man was driving the wrong way on the road. Stranger still, the man stopped in the middle of an intersection, set money on the roof of his car, and began making shooting motions with his hands. Officer Armour, as always, was going to do his job and began to approach the man, who had now climbed back into his vehicle.

It was at that moment that the perpetrator accelerated, hitting Officer Armour and crushing his legs with the vehicle. He continued down the road, again in the wrong direction, until he ran into another vehicle. He was then apprehended by witnesses, who held him until another officer arriving on the scene could arrest him. After surviving through emergency surgery, Officer Armour developed complications from the surgery and died June 11, 2011, six days after being run down. In January 2012 the suspect pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and was sentenced to 18 to 35 years prison.

Officer Armour was a man who was proud and respectful of his job, and proud of the city he had served for 17 years. Before joining the Detroit Police Department, he served the country with the U.S. Navy.

He had several assignments during his time at the department, starting in the 11th Precinct before moving to his longtime assignment in the 1st. During this time he also served on the Special Response Team. He was a decorated, respected man of the law, three times earn-



ing Perfect Attendance Awards, a Citation, and ribbons for the Super Bowl, the MLB All-Star Game and the Rosa Parks funeral.

When he was not pouring his passion into his work, he

## Charles Edward Armour

**END OF WATCH:**  
June 11, 2011

was pouring it into the children in his life. He assisted his mother, Joyce, as she raised his nieces and nephews from the time they were 1-year-olds. As an uncle, he saw Dominique go through high school, and after graduating he enlisted in the Army Reserve, and helped raise Tiara and Candace. By the time his own daughter, Kennedy, was born, he was well-versed in the methods of diapers and bottles.

"Thank God for giving Chuck to me and his father," his mother, Joyce Armour, said shortly after his death. "Great man, son, brother, uncle and father."

Sentiment for Armour among his fellow officers was strong as well, as demonstrated by this June 2011 post on the Officer Down Memorial Page: "Chuck Armour, this man was cooler than the other side of the pillow as a person and one hell of a police officer. He loved to have a good time and took his job very seriously. He was one of 'Detroit's Finest' for sure. Taken way too soon."

## Robert T. Moore

**END OF WATCH:**  
Nov. 8, 1973

Detroit Police Officer Robert Moore, a 24-year-old with 3 ½ years on the job, was shot and killed by one of three suspects involved in an attempted robbery.

After the attempted robbery was foiled, the three suspects fled in a stolen car with the officers in close pursuit. The suspects quickly abandoned their vehicle and fled on foot. Officer Moore gave chase. One of the suspects laid in wait and attacked Officer Moore at the rear of 20060 Carol St. He surprised him and struck Moore in the head. Moore was knocked to the ground and his service revolver was taken from him. He died from a shot to the chest.

Police dogs tracked the suspect to a residence at 3797 Waverly where the suspect rented a flat. They found him hiding under blankets in a large bureau drawer in the basement of the Waverly address. Officer Moore's revolver was found in the basement and a fingerprint was lifted matching the suspect. The suspect, 22, was convicted in March 1974 and sentenced to life in prison. He had previously been released from prison just months before Officer Moore's murder. As of Oct. 17, 2022, he was in prison, where he will stay for life.

Officer Moore, who was assigned to the 12th Precinct, was survived by his wife, a cadet, who had recently graduated from the police academy.

"I was in the Academy at the time of Officer Moore's death," wrote retired Miami-Dade Sgt. Bill Turner in a personal reflection on the Officer Down Memorial Page web-



site. "Our class was the first that had women attendees. We were split into two sections, men and women. Off. Moore's wife was in our class. It was the first funeral of a police officer I had attended, and unfortunately wasn't the last. I left the DPD after two years and spent my career with Miami-Dade PD in Dade County, Fla. However, I never forgot that first funeral and the impact it had on me. May you continue to rest in peace, Officer Moore."

Lenny Plonka, who described himself as Moore's "best friend/best man" on ODMP, wrote in 2013 that not a day had gone by when he had not thought about his friend. "You were a great friend and have been missed in my life more than any words could ever explain."



## Raymond Mundy

**END OF WATCH:**  
Oct. 14, 1930

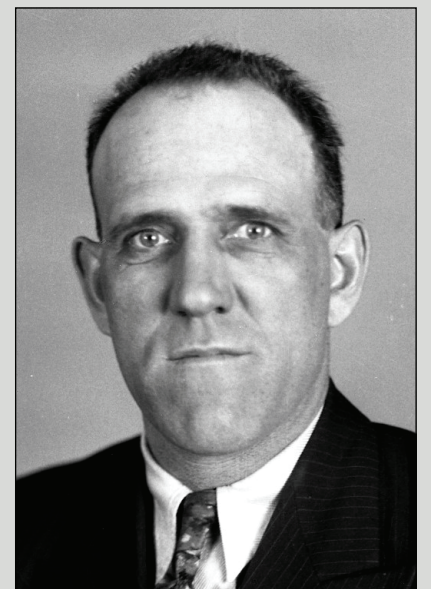
Fall turned tragic for the Detroit Police Department in 1930, due to the deaths of Detective Peter Sprott and Detective Raymond Mundy in separate on-duty accidents just six days apart in October.

Sprott, 36, died Oct. 10, two days after sustaining a major head injury in an airplane crash. Mundy died Oct. 14 after crashing his police motorcycle during a pursuit.

Sprott was a passenger on a recovered stolen plane that was being moved to a different airport when it crashed. The pilot was pronounced dead at the crash scene.

Detective Sprott served with the DPD for seven years. He was survived by his wife and daughter. His uncle was a former police superintendent.

Detective Mundy, only 27, had been with the department for three years.



## Peter J. Sprott

**END OF WATCH:**  
Oct. 10, 1930

# DPSF honors officers for going 'Above and Beyond'

*Continued from Page 3*

occurred through the woods and to a pond where all three offenders were apprehended. Three firearms were recovered along with multiple rounds of ammunition in the stolen vehicle.

The offenders fired more than 20 shots at the officers, but the officers did not back down. They continued to pursue the vehicle, then chased the offenders on foot, ending in what could only be described as a swamp to make the arrest. Vargas, Martinez and Briggs all received the DPSF's Medal of Valor for their bravery that night.

Officers Joseph Haggard, Christina Messina and Paul Sweppy received the Medal of Valor, and Sweppy also received the Purple Heart for an incident that occurred Aug. 11.

Haggard, Sweppy and Messina responded to the report of a single gunshot. They arrived at the scene and realized they were witnessing a burglary in progress. One of the suspects fired a handgun at the officers, striking Sweppy in the leg. Fearing for their lives, Officers Haggard and Messina returned fire. Sweppy received a massive injury to his leg, causing severe pain and immobilization. Messina and Sweppy scanned for threats, while Haggard applied a tourniquet to the wound. Once the tourniquet was secured, the officers quickly transported Sweppy to Ascension St. John Hospital. Doctors said if not for the decisive actions of the officers to treat the wound, there may have been permanent damage to Officer Sweppy's leg.

Members of the Homicide Task Force responded to the scene that night and conducted an exhaustive operation, eventually bringing the suspects into custody. For their bravery, all three members are receiving the Medal of Valor. Officer Paul Sweppy is also receiving the Purple Heart Award for the gunshot injuries he sustained.

Sergeants Robert Stankiewicz and Paul Knapp were awarded the Medal of Valor for an

armed robbery they responded to on April 14. The victim in the incident had been assaulted and carjacked. However, prior to the carjacking, the victim had installed a GPS tracking device in the vehicle. Stankiewicz and Knapp obtained the information and tracked down the vehicle. When they got to the location, the scene turned into a barricaded gunman situation with the suspects firing shots at the officers.

Eventually, two juveniles and three adult males were taken into custody. Sergeants Robert Stankiewicz and Paul Knapp knew the suspect they were tracking down was dangerous; however, they still led the charge to get this individual, and others, off the streets. Despite having shots fired at them, they were ultimately able to arrest five individuals with felony charges.

Officer Joshua Dennard was recognized with the Medal of Valor for an incident that occurred June 12, 2022, as he was driving to work in his personal vehicle. He was fully dressed in uniform and had his work equipment readily available.

While driving, he saw a man in a vehicle pointing an AR-15 style rifle out the driver side window at passing motorists. Dennard was behind the suspect vehicle as the rifle was being pointed at various vehicles.

Although off-duty, he knew he had to take action. Officer Dennard notified Michigan State Police and continued following the driver. The driver realized the officer was following him and began to taunt him by holding his rifle out the window making a "come here" gesture. The suspect exited the freeway and pulled into a gas station where Dennard strategically positioned himself to observe the suspect without being seen. He watched as he re-entered the freeway, where MSP was able to conduct a felony stop, taking the suspect into custody before he could injure passing motorists. Officer Dennard put himself at risk to ensure the suspect was safely taken into cus-

tody, earning him DPSF's recognition.

Medal of Valor recipients Scott Povish and Brandyn Patton on Sept. 4, 2022, were assisting officers from the Commercial Auto Theft Unit in surveillance of a vehicle that was part of a carjacking earlier in the day.

The officers executed a traffic stop on the vehicle. The suspect got in his vehicle and slammed into a marked scout car helping in the operation. He then drove straight for Officer Povish and Patton's car, barreling toward them. The suspect drove up the front of the police car, sending the perpetrator's vehicle into the air.

Officer Povish was in the direct line of the vehicle and jumped backward, doing a combat roll to escape. He was under the Yukon as it went in the air directly over him. Officer Patton got out of the car and watched as the vehicle was heading right for his partner. Fearing for his partner's life, he shot at the driver of the Yukon.

The suspect was able to get out of the Yukon and take off on foot. Povish and Patton then helped chase the suspect, but he managed to escape. He was later tracked down in a follow up investigation and taken into custody without incident.

On June 15, 2023, the Detroit Police Major Violators Unit was executing a narcotics search warrant and Police Officer Jacob Goodman was the lead officer. As the crew approached the location on foot, rounding a blind corner, Officer Goodman saw two "customers" entering the location in question. Officer Goodman followed behind, announcing "Detroit Police - Search Warrant!"

As this was happening, a man inside the building pulled a handgun from his waist and fired directly at Officer Goodman. Thankfully, the round did not strike him. He addressed the suspect with his department issued gun, causing the suspect to drop his gun and fall to the ground. The scene was secured without further incident.

The suspect was arrested and charged with

multiple felonies and large quantities of drugs and currency were collected. Officer Goodman showed bravery and tremendous restraint after being shot at to remain calm. When he realized the suspect dropped the handgun after firing it, and no longer posed a threat, Officer Goodman did not return fire. All this happened within a matter of seconds. For his bravery, Officer Goodman received the Medal of Valor.

Police Officers Sara Kalicki and Angelina Tius were honored with the Purple Heart Award as the result of the outcome of a June 18, 2022, incident when they responded to a critical motorcycle crash. The officers secured the scene and diligently performed their task. The fatal squad arrived and began their investigation.

While Kalicki and Tius were in their scout car, a vehicle violently collided with their car. Officer Tius was able to get out of the car and collapsed on the sidewalk. Officer Kalicki was trapped inside the car and barely conscious.

The Detroit Fire Department used Jaws of Life to extract Officer Kalicki from the vehicle. Both officers were taken to De-

troit Receiving Hospital and sustained serious injuries from the accident. They faced months of intense therapy to regain their health.

Officer Tius was able to return to the Detroit Police Department's Seventh Precinct. She is currently a valuable member of the Seventh Precinct's Ceasefire Team. Unfortunately, Officer Kalicki suffered major injuries and was not able to return to her work as a Detroit Police Officer. On Aug. 1, 2023, Officer Kalicki retired from the department with a Duty Disability.

On Oct. 23, 2022, officers, including Corporal Joseph Ceravolo, responded to a barricaded gunman situation with a domestic assault involving a weapon. One shot had been fired inside the house and the suspect was shot in the upper leg during a struggle with another man.

After the shot was fired, several occupants left the home, but the suspect would not let his girlfriend leave, threatening to shoot her if she tried to leave. Once the dwelling was locked down on all four sides by the Special Response Team and the Counter Sniper Team,

members of the Crisis Negotiation Team began to negotiate with the suspect and victim.

This continued for several hours without much change in the suspect's demeanor. He was agitated and complained to the negotiators about the pain from his gunshot wound. He made it clear that he would not go back to prison and would shoot the police.

References were also made to killing the victim who had already been assaulted and did not speak to negotiators on the phone. After negotiating through the night, the suspect agreed to release the victim to police. However, he still refused to leave, saying he would shoot the police.

With no progress being made, the Special Response Team was authorized to deploy "ferret rounds" which are chemical irritants designed to get people out of a barricaded situation. The suspect eventually fled out a side door with his gun in his hand. He extended his hand with the gun toward officers and then directly at Corporal Joseph Ceravolo. Corporal Ceravolo engaged the

*Continued on Page 21*

## Christmas party a big hit

*Continued from Page 11*

having a limit. The children went wild as they began to enjoy their food and eating the cupcakes seemed to be an all-time favorite. Parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents had an enjoyable time as well, simply because they were celebrated. It was quite obvious that the children did, too!

Santa Claus was taking pictures, while others stood patiently in line waiting to have their faces painted. Smiley the Hip Hop Clown showed up and the kids' excitement levels went through the roof. Smiley had captivated the attention from the oldest person in the room to the youngest toddlers. Everyone was laughing because Smiley the Hip Hop clown had the children competing with each other in a few rounds of a dance contest. The adults were called out as well to showcase themselves as singers, rappers and runway models. All in all, it was a great time!

The Detroit Police Officers Association really provided an amazing event for all who attended. Detroit Police Corporal Royce Hill, chairman of the DPOA Entertainment Committee, said: "Anytime that we as officers, are able to lend a helping

hand to our own Detroit Police family, it's an honor and it brings me great joy. In life, everyone likes to be celebrated and made to feel special — at least once in their lifetime. During the holiday season, this is a way, for us to make an impact to our own, especially to the children."

Corporal Hill continues to tell the Telegram News that, "I couldn't do this alone without my entire committee and its members who chip in to help make this day complete!"

DPD Officer Chad Ossman was there enjoying the festivities with his wife and younger children. Having been his first time participating, this is how he felt:

"It's been great! It's family friendly and they do a lot for the kids. Kids have to be 12 and under and gifts are all sorted out by age groups."

As the Holiday season began, this was a great way to begin the celebration — as the Detroit Police Department and its officers did. How will you celebrate this year? Are you planning to give back to others by participating in charitable giving? Will you choose to give back and support in another way? Either way, giving back is best, when you show love and give back from your heart!

# In Memoriam

**AUSTGEN** — Retired Police Officer John Austgen, 77, died Dec. 27, 2023. Officer Austgen was appointed to the Department on May 26, 1969, and retired May 27, 1994.

**BANKS** — Retired Sergeant Alfreda Banks, 71, died Oct. 11, 2023. Sergeant Banks was appointed to the Department on Jan. 13, 1986, and retired Feb. 7, 2015. Funeral services were held at James H. Cole Funeral Home in Detroit.

**BENNETT** — Retired Police Officer Clarence Bennett, 71, died Nov. 7, 2023. Officer Bennett was appointed to the Department on March 18, 1974, and retired July 22, 2002.

**BOLONE** — Retired Police Officer Vincent Bolone Jr., 74, died Oct. 27, 2023. Officer Bolone was appointed to the Department on May 3, 1971, and retired Sept. 18, 1987. Funeral services were held at Evans Funeral Home in Russell, Ky. Interment was at Bellefonte Memorial Gardens in Flatwoods, Ky.

**BOWEN** — Retired Police Officer Jack Bowen, 86, died Oct. 25, 2023. Officer Bowen was appointed to the Department on May 16, 1966, and retired June 27, 1992. Interment was at Frazer Cremations and Funerals in South Lyon.

**BUDZINSKI** — Retired Sergeant Lorin Budzinski, 75, died Nov. 13, 2023. Sergeant Budzinski was appointed to the Department on Dec. 15, 1969, and retired May 9, 1998. Funeral services were held at Capaul Funeral Home in Ida. Interment was at Lulu Cemetery in Ida.

**CHRISTOPHER** — Retired Sergeant Wilbur Christopher, 87, died Oct. 1, 2023. Sergeant Christopher was appointed to the Department on Feb. 11, 1963, and retired July 11, 1990. Funeral services were held at Sharp Funeral Home in Fenton. Interment was at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

**CLARK** — Retired Police Officer Marvin Clark, 65, died Oct. 19, 2023. Officer Clark was appointed to the Department on Jan. 13, 1986, and retired Feb. 1, 2016.

**CUNNINGHAM** — Retired Police Officer Sondra Cunningham, 77, died Oct. 20, 2023. Officer Cunningham was appointed to the Department on Dec. 2, 1974, and retired March 8, 1986. Interment was at Bonney Watson Funeral Home.

**CYLKOWSKI** — Retired Police Officer Neil Cylkowski, 79, died Jan. 4, 2024. Officer Cylkowski was appointed to the Department on May 27, 1968, and retired July 9, 1996. Funeral services were held at Elton Black & Son Funeral Home in Highland Charter Township. Interment was at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.



**DAVENPORT** — Retired Sergeant Frank Davenport, 98, died Nov. 6, 2023. Sergeant Davenport was appointed to the Department on Jan. 7, 1952, and retired Jan. 10, 1977. Funeral services were held at Victoria Greenlawn Funeral Home in Oldcastle, Ontario. Interment was at Victoria Greenlawn Cemetery in Oldcastle, Ontario.

**DODSON** — Retired Police Officer Norman Dodson, 88, died Dec. 3, 2023. Officer Dodson was appointed to the Department on July 10, 1961, and retired May 28, 1977.

**EDWARDS** — Retired Sergeant Roy Edwards, 77, died Oct. 22, 2023. Sergeant Edwards was appointed to the Department on Oct. 18, 1971, and retired Jan. 6, 2001. Funeral services were held at O.H. Pye III Funeral Home in Detroit. Interment was at Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit.

**FLEMING** — Retired Police Officer Tallen Fleming, 64, died Dec. 10, 2023. Officer Fleming was appointed to the Department on Nov. 4, 1985, and retired Jan. 3, 2008. Funeral services were held at Hutchison Funeral Home in Detroit.

**FRYC** — Retired Police Officer Robert Fryc, 79, died Dec. 18, 2023. Officer Fryc was appointed to the Department on May 27, 1968, and retired May 22, 1995. Funeral services were held at A.J. Desmond and Sons Funeral Home in Troy.

**GALLANT** — Retired Sergeant Laverne Gallant Jr., 74, died Nov. 11, 2023. Sergeant Gallant was appointed to the Department on Dec. 4, 1972, and retired Jan. 6, 1998. Funeral services were held at James H. Cole Funeral Home in Detroit.

**GORDERT** — Retired Police Officer Robert Gordert, 84, died Oct. 10, 2023. Officer Gordert was appointed to the Department on July 10, 1961, and retired Sept. 8, 1971. Funeral services were held at Lashley Funeral Home in Mio.

**HORNBUCKLE** — Retired Police Officer Raymond Hornbuckle, 75, died Dec. 20, 2023. Officer Hornbuckle was appointed to the Department on Feb. 20, 1978, and retired May 28, 2013.

**JACKSON** — Retired Sergeant Devon Jackson, 49, died Dec. 16, 2023. Sergeant Jackson was appointed to the Department on Aug. 2, 1999, and retired April 19, 2010. Funeral services were held at Tyrus Fields Funeral Home in Detroit. Interment was at Detroit Memorial Park West in Detroit.

**JOHNSON** — Retired Police Officer Ronald Johnson, 80, died Dec. 23, 2023. Officer Johnson was appointed to the Department on March 1, 1971, and retired Oct. 22, 1993. Funeral services were held at Heard Family Funeral Home in Detroit.

**KINNEY** — Retired Sergeant Joanne Kinney, 73, died Dec. 16, 2023. Sergeant Kinney was appointed to the Department on May 19, 1977, and retired Jan. 31, 2006. Funeral services were held at Kemp Funeral Home in Southfield. Interment was at Trinity Cemetery in Detroit.

**KOPP** — Retired Police Officer Kenneth Kopp, 81, died Oct. 29, 2023. Officer Kopp was appointed to the Department on Sept. 6, 1966, and retired Sept. 8, 1993. Funeral services were held at Temrowski Funeral Home in Warren. Interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit.

**KOWALSKI** — Retired Police Officer Richard Kowalski, 77, died Dec. 22, 2023. Officer Kowalski was appointed to the Department on June 17, 1968, and retired June 25, 1987. Funeral services were held at Young Funeral Home in East China.

**LAPERRE** — Retired Police Officer William Lapere, 79, died Nov. 30, 2023. Officer Lapere was appointed to the Department on Dec. 4, 1972, and retired July 19, 2003. Funeral services were held at Mandziuk & Son Funeral Home in Sterling Heights. Interment was at Christian Memorial Cemetery in Rochester Hills.

**LEWIS** — Retired Corporal Calvin Lewis, 54, died Oct. 2, 2023. Corporal Lewis was appointed to the Department on March 26, 2001, and retired July 23, 2021.

**LEWIS** — Retired Lieutenant Stephen Lewis, 77, died Nov. 15, 2023. Lieutenant Lewis was appointed to the Department on Oct. 21, 1968, and retired June 15, 1982. Funeral services were held at Young Gilbert Funeral Home in Algonac.

**LOEFFLER** — Retired Sergeant Robert Loeffler, 96, died Oct. 9, 2023. Sergeant Loeffler was appointed to the Department on July 21, 1948, and retired Aug. 21, 1973. Funeral services were held at Best Funeral Services.

*Continued on Page 21*

# In Memoriam

Continued from Page 20

**MCFADDEN** — Retired Police Officer Elmer McFadden, 80, died Oct. 20, 2023. Officer McFadden was appointed to the Department on July 5, 1977, and retired Dec. 21, 2006.

**MELASI** — Retired Sergeant Goffredo Melasi, 94, died Nov. 13, 2023. Sergeant Melasi was appointed to the Department on March 10, 1952, and retired May 19, 1977. Funeral services were held at Lee-Elena Funeral Home in Macomb. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery in Clinton Township.

**MOZELLE-WASHINGTON** — Retired Police Officer Vanessa Mozelle-Washington, 67, died Nov. 10, 2023. Officer Mozelle-Washington was appointed to the Department on May 26, 1977, and retired May 13, 1988. Funeral services were held at James H. Cole Funeral Home in Detroit.

**NUNN** — Retired Police Officer Clarence Nunn, 74, died Oct. 18, 2023. Officer Nunn was appointed to the Department on Sept. 20, 1971, and retired Oct. 26, 1996. Funeral services were held at Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in Paducah, Ky. Interment was at Maplelawn Park Cemetery in Paducah, Ky.

**OLIVERI** — Retired Police Officer Phillip Oliveri, 71, died Jan. 5, 2024. Officer Oliveri was appointed to the Department June 24, 1975, and retired July 15, 2000. Funeral services were held at Buresh Funeral Home in Oscoda.

**PHELPS** — Retired Police Officer Mary Phelps, 77, died Nov. 16, 2023. Officer Phelps was appointed to the Department on July 15, 1975, and retired April 1, 1988. Funeral services were held at Ellis Funeral Home in Detroit.

**PRUITT** — Retired Police Officer Donald Pruitt, 79, died Oct. 25, 2023. Officer Pruitt was appointed to the Department on May 19, 1977, and retired May 19, 1995. Funeral services were held at James H. Cole Funeral Home in Detroit.

**RILEY** — Police Officer Bikira Riley, 53, died Dec. 9, 2023. Officer Riley was appointed to the Department on Nov. 30, 2000, and died active.

**SKIKUN** — Retired Police Officer Peter Skikun, 95, died Oct. 2, 2023. Officer Skikun was appointed to the Department on Sept. 7, 1954, and retired Feb. 15, 1993. Funeral services were held at E.J. Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. in Sterling Heights. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

**SOWELL** — Retired Police Officer Thomas Sowell, 87, died Nov. 27, 2023. Officer Sowell was appointed to the Department on July 8, 1957, and retired Oct. 5, 1983. Funeral services were held at Hargrove-Marker Funeral Home in Jenks, Ok.

**TALIK** — Retired Sergeant Edward Talik, 77, died Dec. 12, 2023. Sergeant Talik was appointed to the Department on April 3, 1967, and retired April 24, 1992. Funeral services were held at Gaylord Community Funeral Home in Gaylord.

**THOMAS** — Retired Sergeant Gregory Thomas, 72, died Sept. 27, 2023. Sergeant Thomas was appointed to the Department on Sept. 12, 1974, and retired Oct. 20, 1999.

**TIBALDI** — Retired Sergeant Gerald Tibaldi, 77, died Oct. 6, 2023. Sergeant Tibaldi was appointed to the Department on Sept. 25, 1967, and retired Sept. 29, 1991. Funeral services were held at Stackus Funeral Home in Boyne City.

**TOMASZEWSKI** — Retired Police Officer Edward Tomaszewski, 81, died Dec. 26, 2023. Officer Tomaszewski was appointed to the Department on Oct. 26, 1964, and retired Oct. 31, 1989. Funeral services were held at Sullivan and Son Funeral Home in Royal Oak.

**TOMLINSON** — Retired Police Officer Melvin Tomlinson, 69, died Dec. 22, 2023. Officer Tomlinson was appointed to the Department on April 6, 1987, and retired June 2, 2020. Funeral services were held at O.H. Pye Funeral Home in Detroit. Interment was at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

**TURKALY** — Retired Sergeant Thomas Turkaly, Jr., 80, died Oct. 10, 2023. Sergeant Turkaly was appointed to the Department on Oct. 26, 1964, and retired Sept. 23, 1991. Funeral services were held at Verheyden Funeral Home in Warren. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery in Clinton Township.

**WILLIAMS** — Retired Sergeant Aaron Williams Jr., 75, died Oct. 27, 2023. Sergeant Williams was appointed to the Department on March 24, 1977, and retired Dec. 27, 2002. Interment was at St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church.

**WILLIAMSON** — Retired Police Officer Robert Williamson, 77, died Dec. 25, 2023. Officer Williamson was appointed to the Department on Nov. 30, 1970, and retired July 3, 1996. Funeral services were held at Temrowski & Sons Funeral Home in Warren.

## Officers honored by DPSF

Continued from Page 19

suspect with one shot to stop the threat at himself and the officers around him. The suspect collapsed and the SRT and EMS members immediately followed to render aid.

Corporal Ceravolo remained calm despite an immediate threat to himself and those around him. For his actions, he received the Medal of Valor.

On Jan. 16, 2023, Police Officer Joshua Holder and his partner Officer Taylor Mitchell, were dispatched to a call of a person with a weapon at a gas station. The officers were told the suspect had locked the door to the gas station and was pointing the gun at the clerk, creating a hostage situation.

Officer Holder and Mitchell approached the gas station tactically, from the side. Officer Holder saw the suspect near the front door and armed with a handgun. He gave multiple orders to drop the weapon which the suspect disregarded. The suspect then raised the firearm in Officer Holder's direction.

Fearing for his life, his partner and those inside the gas station, Holder

discharged his firearm, through the glass, striking the suspect and causing him to fall to the ground. Unable to gain access through the front door, Officer Holder directed the clerk to go to the back of the building and let him inside. Once inside, the officer discovered that two small children were also inside the gas station. Officer Holder escorted the clerk to the back door. Once all occupants were safe, Officer Holder directed his attention back to the suspect who was still on the ground, holding his handgun.

The suspect was given additional orders to drop the weapon and complied. Holder recovered the handgun while other officers placed the suspect under arrest. His heroic actions saved many lives that day, including two small children, from an armed suspect. For his actions, he received the Medal of Valor.

*These incident summaries were compiled from posts on the Detroit Public Safety Foundation's Facebook page.*

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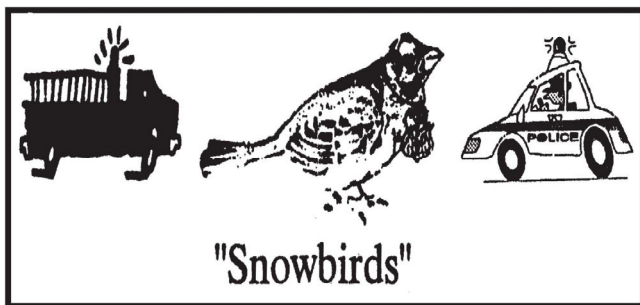
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## RETIREE & ASSOCIATE NEWS



# Members show strong spirit of the season

By Dan Zemaitis

Greetings from sunny Florida! Not much going on down here except for day after day of sunshine.

However, the Christmas enthusiasm, spirit, donations and friendliness continue.

At our last 2023 meeting we had some big money winners in the drawings. They were: Carolyn Wood, Mike Kniaz, Dan Zemaitis and Sue Kniaz. Yay!

**December birthdays:** Ted Ponik, Dennis Flanagan and Bob Rentz.

**January birthdays:** Dan

Zemaitis, Jerry Chesinski and Bernie Mueller.

**February birthdays:** Diana Kapagian and Gene Karvonen.

I'm trying to put together a luncheon down here for sometime in January. If anyone is interested, give me a call so I can get back to you.

This article won't be out until after Christmas, so our "Snowbird" officers would like to wish all of our fellow police and fire families a happy, healthy and blessed New Year.

My Florida phone number is (727) 397-6226.

# Be aware of insurance coverage changes if you are approaching 65

If you are approaching your 65th birthday and paying for life insurance, this information is for you.

If you are retired, your pension check shows deductions for Code 40610, 40620, 40640 or 40650.

If you are active, your pay stub shows deductions for Code 40650 or 40652.

According to the

terms of the plan, your benefits and premiums will be reduced by 50 percent when you reach age 65. However, the benefits are not reduced for your spouse or dependents.

To make the change in your deduction, contact Benefits Coordinator Katie Fuquay Murphy at the DPOA office at least 30 days prior to your 65th birthday.

Have your pay stub handy so you can tell her what deduction code you're referring to. Call her at (313) 567-8770 or write her at the DPOA office, 1938 E. Jefferson, Detroit MI 48207.

You must also contact the pension board. Write them at Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Room 908, Detroit MI 48226 or call (313) 224-3362.

Send your retiree news items to [tuebordetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:tuebordetroit@yahoo.com)

Planning a move? Don't forget to update your address at the office.



### Writers needed!

Don't see your command area represented with an article in Tuebor? You are welcome to help us change that. If you are interested in being the writer and are willing and able to provide a quarterly article, please contact your chief steward or email [tuebordetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:tuebordetroit@yahoo.com)

# What's COOKING?

## with mary moss

Hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your family and friends and WELCOME TO 2024!

The days, bit by bit, are getting longer with daylight, and we have been so lucky to not get snow (hopefully I have not jinxed us). This issue is breakfast; enjoy these meals in the morning, or in the evening. Nothing wrong with having breakfast for dinner.

Keep warm my friends, and GO LIONS!



## Breakfast casserole

### Ingredients:

- 1 (2 pound) package frozen hash brown potatoes, thawed
- 1 pound pork sausage
- 5 eggs
- ½ cup milk
- ½ teaspoon onion powder
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 12 ounces shredded Cheddar cheese

### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease an 8-inch square pan; add hash brown potatoes and arrange in an even layer.

Place sausage in a large skillet over medium heat. Cook and stir until the sausage is browned and crumbled, about 10 minutes; drain.

Meanwhile, whisk eggs, milk, onion powder, garlic powder, salt, and pepper together in a large bowl until well combined; pour over the potatoes and sprinkle with 1/2 of the cheddar cheese. Add sausage mixture on top and sprinkle with remaining cheddar. Cover with aluminum foil.

Bake in the preheated oven for 1 hour. Remove foil; return casserole to the oven and bake until a knife inserted into the center comes out clean.



## Cinnamon Roll Casserole

### Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp. salted butter, for the baking dish
- 3 -12.4-ounce tubes refrigerated cinnamon roll dough (with frosting)
- 4 large eggs
- 1/2 c. half-and-half
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/3 c. packed dark brown sugar
- 1/3 c. pecans, chopped
- 1/3 c. sour cream

### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350°. Generously butter a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Cut each round of cinnamon roll dough into 4 pieces. Reserve the frosting packets.

Whisk together the eggs, half-and-half, cinnamon and salt in a large bowl. Add the cinnamon roll dough and toss lightly to coat. Pour into the baking dish.

Mix the brown sugar and pecans in a small bowl. Sprinkle on top of the casserole and bake until puffed, golden brown and cooked through, about 35 minutes.

Meanwhile, whisk together the contents of the frosting packets and the sour cream in a medium bowl until smooth. Let the casserole cool for 10 minutes, then drizzle with the frosting.



# THE TRADING POST

## FOR SALE

**DEPARTMENT-ISSUED FIREARMS** 40-caliber Smith & Wesson with box. \$400; Smith & Wesson 38 Model 60; Contact Annie, 586-873-3184.

**CHALLENGE COINS** — 2 inch Detroit Police Mobile Field Force Challenge Coin for sale; \$15.00 per coin plus \$3.50 shipping per coin unless picked up in person; see Maureen Whitten at DDC Platoon 2 or call 313-445-3593.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS WANTED

**WANTED WWII stuff** — Retired DPD officer buying headgear, weapons, uniforms, insignia, photos. **DON'T THROW IT AWAY. SELL IT TO ME.** Call Mark at 313-319-1604.

**WANTED** — Police call boxes, parts, phones, locks and street posts; Detroit Police memorabilia. Email roccoc@juno.com or call 313-839-9042.

**DETROIT POLICE FIREARMS** wanted. Any make, model or caliber firearms or long guns marked DPD or Detroit Police. Please contact Sgt. Corsetti at roccoc5255@gmail.com or call 313-410-3197.

**WANTED** — Old coins, post-cards, photographs, comic books. Call 313-580-2393.

**AMERICAN RIFLEMAN** magazines wanted for the following years: 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1979, 1965 and 1998. Contact ret. Lt. Ralph Palmer at email address palmerlas@aol.com.

**DETROIT POLICE PATCHES** wanted. Will trade or buy. Call PO at 313-995-0966.

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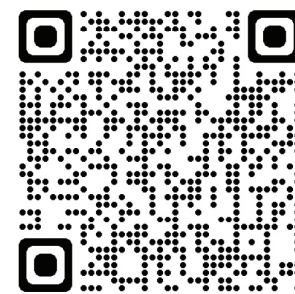
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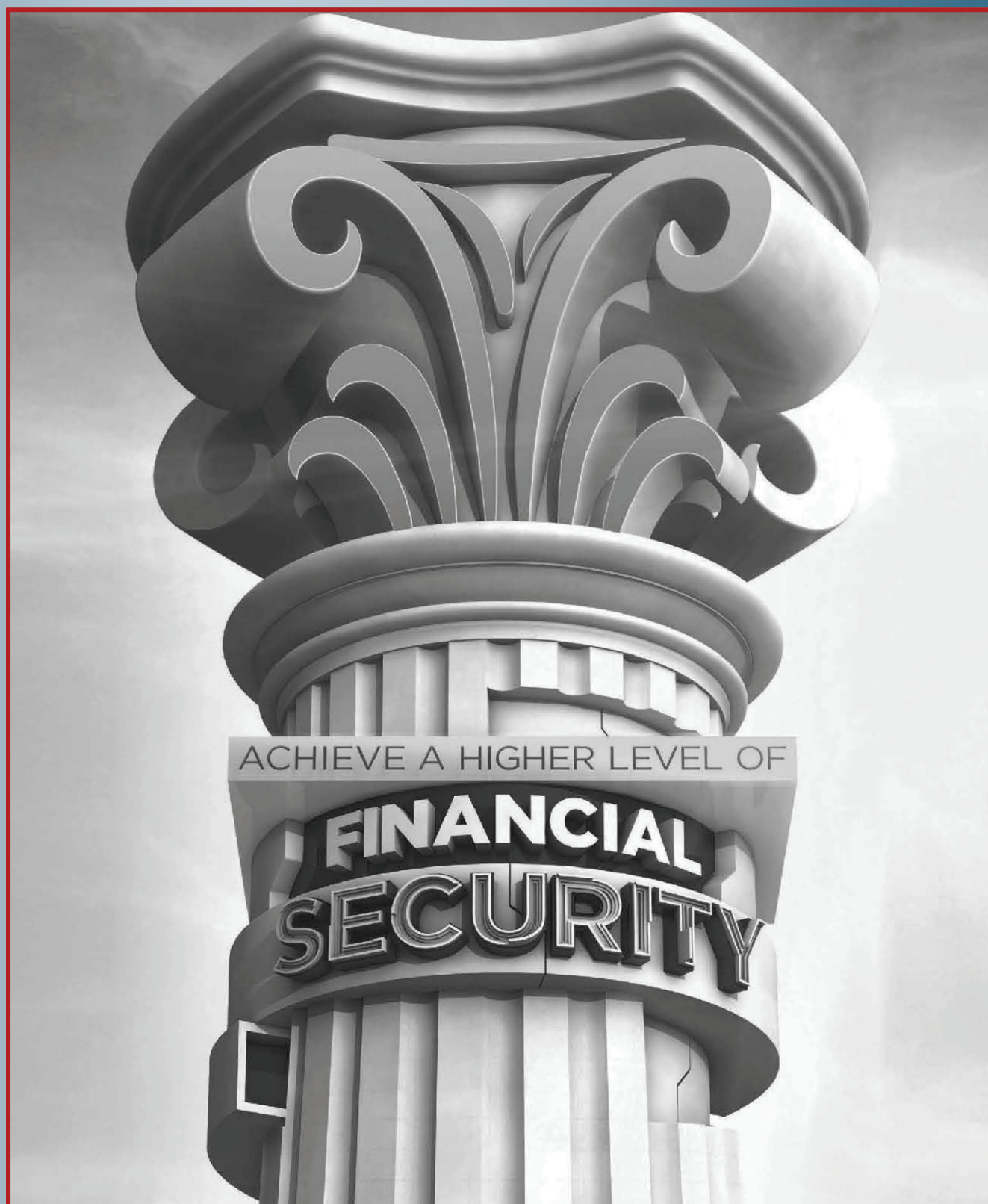


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