



# The Commissioner

The Newsletter of the Kansas City Metropolitan  
Crime Commission

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## MEET YOUR COMMISSIONERS



Charles "Chuck" Battey

Charles "Chuck" Battey is one of the longest serving members of the Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission. He has always seen its mission as one not only worth his volunteer time, but one that is vital to the community as well.

"Crime prevention and solution is of the highest importance to the business community," he said.

Mr. Battey first joined the Crime Commission in the 1970's and was president from 1994 through 1998. A native of Lincoln, Nebraska, he worked in Chicago for 16 years until being named president of Commerce Bank in Kansas City in 1970. From there he moved on to United Telecom and helped lay the ground work for that company to become Kansas City-based Sprint, a world leader in wireless telecommunications.

"I think I may be most proud of the success of our Crime Stoppers program and the many international awards it has received. The TIPS Hotline is the

foundation of our success," he said. "But I am also very proud of the way the Crime Commission has branched out to include SAFE, MCSP and Second Chance and though MCSP and Second Chance have seen challenges recently I am very confident of their success as well."

When asked what he would like to see in the Crime Commission's future he said, "I'd like to find a way for us to get more involved in fighting inner city crime and gang situations. The homicide rate for our area is very frustrating to me."

"I want to see us continue to develop our existing programs and make them even better," he added. "I could not be more pleased with the leadership of the Commission over the years and the professional way they have run our programs. That's why I stay involved."

We hope Chuck stays involved for many more years to come.

## CRIME STOPPERS IN THE NEWS

Thanks to everyone who made our April Shred-it Event a success. Shred-it provided two trucks, OP, KS PD provided the location and traffic cones and our volunteers included: Kory Frick, Steve DiGiacinto, Craig Sarver, Rick Cook, Linda Fisher, Jan and Britt Zimmerman, Tom Wehrle, Crystal Whitmore-Johnson, Patrick Underwood (Target) and Lance and Luke Boehm.

In all 123 vehicles came to the location donating an average of \$8.50 per load. Each attendee was asked how they were made aware of the event and those responses included: KC Star (34), Fox-4KC (15), KCTV-5 (4), KMBC TV-9 (27), KSHB 41 (3), Facebook (2), Shred-it (2), Unspecified News Outlet (12), Boyd McGathey (1), Google City (6), Internet (3), Friend (5), Neighborhood Flyer (5), and CS Board Members (4).

The total money raised that morning was \$1,046.16 with about half-a-dozen people not making a donation. Interestingly, one man came through twice and donated each time. When asked about his return trip he said, "My ex-wife said she couldn't find the place so I brought her stuff." Also, one attendee was asked and stated she saw the event on TV but was aware of other shred events that day as well but chose us because of our early start time.

The results from April's MillerCoors/QuikTrip fund raiser showed the receipt of a check for \$2,050.00 for the sale of approximately 8,000 cases of MillerCoors product in the KC Metro area.

In other Crime Stoppers news, board member Lt. Kelli Bailiff of the Wyandotte County Sheriff's



Volunteers help at the Shred-it event.

Department, was awarded the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award from the **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children** during a recognition ceremony on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. She was honored for her outstanding work and performing above and beyond the call of duty to recovery of missing children.

"Receiving this award was a very humbling and exciting experience. The true reward to me is reuniting a missing child with their parent," Bailiff said. "It was definitely a wonderful experience to be honored on Capitol Hill by such wonderful organizations - the National Center, John Walsh and the Department of Justice."

Our *Kansas City's Most Wanted* newspaper continued to be an effective crime fighting tool. As of this printing, tips from readers had led to the arrests of 346 wanted fugitive felons. Several new retail sales locations were developed this quarter and overall sales of the newspaper increased. Our thanks once again to Crime Commission and Crime Stoppers member Boyd McGathey for making available his creative marketing staff at FerrellGas for the graphic development of the newspaper.

Lastly, we want to remind everyone that the annual Crime Stoppers Bill Grigsby Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at the Lakewood Oaks Golf Club in Lee's Summit. Teams and sponsorships are still available. Call Jamie Hallam at 816-960-6800 for more information.



Lt. Kelli Bailiff and TV's John Walsh

## A "SAFE" GOLF OUTING

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, the Surviving Spouse and Family Endowment Fund (SAFE) held its annual Larry Stewart Memorial Gold Tournament at the Lakewood Golf Club in Lee's Summit. More than 40 teams were purchased and golfers enjoyed a beautiful day after a short rain early in play.

The event netted SAFE over \$29,000 for the fund that gives immediate cash assistance to the families of police, firefighters or emergency medical responders who are killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty. Volunteers from several area businesses and organizations helped make the day a success.

A silent auction and raffle helped boost revenue as well as several on-course games overseen by volunteers. FerrellGas subsidiary Blue Rhino contributed a "real" Blue Rhino who posed with teams as well as a giant inflatable Blue Rhino that welcomed golfers as they arrived.



A giant "Blue Rhino" greets golfers at the Annual Larry Stewart Memorial Classic.

After play, trophies and prizes were handed out during a buffet banquet.

One of the day's highlights was the awarding of the annual Ed Wynn/SAFE Scholarship to the writer of this year's winning essay. The contest is open to high school seniors who are children of emergency services workers in the metro area. The winner receives a \$2,500 scholarship paid to their account at the college or technical school of their choice. This year's winner was Madelyn Petree of St. Teresa's Academy. Congratulations to Madelyn and her family!

The next major fundraising event will be the annual Guns 'N Hoses police versus fire boxing match. It will be held November 2<sup>nd</sup> in Bartle Hall. There will be lots of room for tables and seating so be sure to book your spot soon for this fun evening. Call Jamie Hallam or Sonny Wilson at 816-960-6800 for more information.



2013 Ed Wynn/Safe Scholarship winner, Madelyn Petree, accepts her award from Sonny Wilson.

(See related story on page 7.)

## MCSP IS CLEANING UP THIS TOWN!



In April Crime Commission Vice President Barry Mayer, Metropolitan Community Service Program Supervisor Wendy Steinhaus and MCSP worksite coordinator, Frank Kaffenberger, who is also the Commission's IT specialist, ventured to Springfield, Missouri. The purpose of the trip was to examine the computer database of the area's Community Alternative Sentencing Program (CASP) with an eye toward using it as a model to update MCSP's existing database which is quickly becoming outdated and overfull.

The group was shown CASP's new building (above, left) which the program purchased and will have paid off within two years. They were also shown a home which CASP clients completely renovated (above, right) as part of their service. All involved called it a most informative and helpful trip.

During June MCSP participated in a city-wide clean-up effort in Kansas City. The program was

called ABOPT for anti-freeze, batteries, oil, paint and tires and was geared toward safely removing these pollutants from neighborhoods. On June 1<sup>st</sup> the event was centered at the Mohart Center at Linwood and Main. MCSP helped collect 660 used tires and at the June 15<sup>th</sup> session at the Metro North Mall 363 cars came through the line with 71 dropping off brush piles and 31 disposing of old tires. Much of this waste might have found its way onto city streets and vacant lots if not for this effort. More than 30 MCSP clients were on hand at each of these events.

In other MCSP news, at the May 16<sup>th</sup> MCSP board meeting, MCSP Advisory Board Chair, Merrell Bennekin (below, right) thanked the new Kansas City Municipal Court Administrator, Ms. Megan Pfannenstiel, (left), for a court overview presentation she made to attendees.



## SECOND CHANCE NEWS



Josh Aquino, left, and Ron Smith at the “Smart Justice” event.

The Second Chance program continues its efforts to help ease the adjustment back to “normal” life for offenders leaving correctional institutions. “In helping them find housing, jobs and educational or training opportunities we hope to reduce the recidivism rate and in doing so, reduce crime in our community as well,” said Program Director Ron Smith.

On April 27<sup>th</sup> Smith, along with Second Chance Housing Specialist Josh Aquino, manned an informational booth at the “Smart Justice: Creating Safer Communities” event in Johnson County. They passed out information and answered questions about the Second Chance program.

The purpose of the event was to display and explore the various strategies of many area organizations in reducing crime and addressing problems in offender reentry.

Second Chance was also happy to announce the addition of two new staff members.

Brittany Peterson took the post of Resource Specialist which was vacated by the promotion of Jamie Hallam to Crime Commission Office Manager (see story on page 6.) Brittany is a native of southern Iowa and graduated from Graceland University in Lamoni. She has an extensive background in service, having worked with troubled

youths in Kansas City’s Ozanam Pathways program and with Rural Family Therapy and Life-Line Resources in Iowa. She also attended the School of International Training in Nicaragua. In her spare time, Brittany volunteers as a mentor for the Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Agency.



Brittany Peterson

(Continued on page 6.)

**(Second Chance – continued from Pg. 5)**

Hardie Smith (no relation to Ron!) recently came on board to help with offender employment issues. Hardie retired as a sergeant with the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department. He began his own business of consulting with employers regarding hiring of offenders. He will serve as the



Hardie Smith

Mentoring Liaison Specialist and will both recruit and consult with business in the hiring of offenders exiting the correctional system.

Program Director Ron Smith also announced the addition of several new mentors who will work one-on-one with newly released offenders. They include Crime Commission President Rick Easley, Kansas City Police Chief Darryl Forte, former KCPD Deputy Chief Kevin Masters, Pat Kelley of the Grand Avenue Temple United Methodist Church, Lucille Autry, a Jackson County Juvenile Court retiree and member of the Community Christian Church and Lynn Moore, a former probation and parole officer and a member of the Paseo Baptist Church.

The mentoring allows the offenders to have someone they can trust for guidance and support as they reenter the community.

Welcome aboard to all!

## NEW OFFICE MANAGER NOT SO NEW

In May previous Office Manager Britt Zimmerman left the Crime Commission to take a position with a large area construction firm. The Commission didn't have to go far to fill that important slot.

Jamie Hallam, who was serving at the time as the Resource Specialist for Second Chance, was promoted to replace Britt. Jamie is a familiar face to anyone associated with the Crime Commission.

Jamie first came to us in 2000 as an MCSP case worker where she worked for seven years before accepting a job with the City of Raytown as Court Clerk. She held that position for over three years before she was lured back to the Crime Commission to work with Second Chance for the last two years.

Jamie is a graduate of Hickman Mills High School and is currently attending Longview Community College with a goal to eventually become a CPA. She enjoys reading and taking care of her daughter, 11 year old Lauren.

"I'm excited for this opportunity and look forward to the challenges," she said of her new title.

Best of luck Jamie!



## SAFE ASSISTS FAMILY OF FALLEN FIREFIGHTER

On April 8<sup>th</sup>, Fort Osage Fire Protection District Assistant Chief Harold Hollingsworth, 47, was gravely injured in an accident. He died of his injuries later that day. Hollingsworth was a 16 year veteran of the department.

The accident occurred when his fire vehicle left the roadway on Atherton Road and struck a tree while he was on his way to a call of a structure fire.

Soon thereafter Sonny Wilson, SAFE Program Director, and other SAFE board members went to the victim's house to present his family with a check to assist with expenses.

"This is the hardest part of this program," Wilson said, referring to meeting with the families in a time

of grief. "However, we know we are helping at a crucial time, so that makes it worthwhile for all of us."



Asst. Chief Harold Hollingsworth

## 2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- August 11-14:** Crime Stoppers U.S.A. National Conference – Grand Rapids, MI
- August 19:** Crime Stoppers Bill Grigsby Memorial Golf Classic – Lakewood Oaks, Lee's Summit, MO
- TBA:** Crime Stoppers Fall Shred-it Fundraiser – Independence, MO
- September 22:** Jeff Taylor/SAFE Run – Riverside, MO
- October 12:** Crime Stoppers Annual Arrowhead Event – Pavilion at Arrowhead
- October 17:** Crime Commission Annual Luncheon – Downtown Marriott Muehlbach
- November 2:** SAFE Guns 'N Hoses Boxing Event – Bartle Hall, Kansas City, MO
- December 2:** Crime Commission Annual Holiday Meeting – Westin Crown Center, K.C., MO