

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, October 30, 2015

## MPD STRESSES SAFETY, OFFERS ACTIVITIES AT DISTRICT STATIONS THIS HALLOWEEN

To help ensure that youngsters across DC have a safe and fun place to celebrate Halloween, many of the MPD police districts are holding special events to celebrate the spooky holiday. Festivities include parties, haunted houses and Halloween celebrations at each of the seven police stations. All of the events are free and designed to provide an opportunity for Halloween fun for young people and parents who might want an alternative to trick-or-treating in the community.



For those who will be out and about on Halloween, the MPD offers a number of common-sense safety tips to help keep young ghosts and goblins safe. For example, in selecting costumes, bright, reflective and flame-retardant materials are a must, as are comfortable, well-fitting shoes. Instead of masks, which can restrict vision, youngsters are encouraged to get creative with face paints. To promote their safety while walking, trick-or-treaters are reminded to stay on the sidewalk and to cross only at the corner (never between cars). Motorists need to slow down and be on the lookout for children. Homeowners are encouraged to turn on exterior lights and clean up any debris near their property that children could trip on. And, of course, youngsters should never go into peoples' homes, talk to or accept rides from strangers, or eat any goodies before adults have a chance to inspect them.

- » For a list of Halloween safety tips as well as details on the MPD-sponsored Halloween parties, go to: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/halloween>
- » Through SoberRide, adults who have done a little too much Halloween celebrating can get free cab rides home from 10 pm on Saturday, October 31 through 6 am on Sunday, November 1. Please call 1-800-200-TAXI or #TAXI on your AT&T wireless telephone. For further details, visit: <http://www.wrap.org/soberide/>

## DRIVERS AND WALKERS SHOULD REMEMBER PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AS DAYLIGHT HOURS GROW SHORTER

As the season changes and we lose an hour of daylight, the Metropolitan Police Department would like to remind everyone to be aware of their surroundings to ensure the safe travels of other drivers and pedestrians on our city streets. Many of us are now commuting home from work in the darkness. We all need to exercise extra caution and take responsibility for our personal safety and the safety of those around us.



Drivers are reminded to turn on vehicle headlights and be vigilant in looking out for pedestrians. As the weather gets colder, watch the road, as wet or icy spots are considerably harder to see in the dark.

When walking or exercising in the dusk or dark, keep the following tips in mind:

- » The MPD offers safety tips for walkers, runners and bikers online at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/sharetheroad>
- » For more safety tips for you and your children, call (202) 234-9404 or see the DC Action for Children website at: <http://www.dcactionforchildren.org/>
- » Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 am on Sunday, November 1, so remember to reset your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday night!

- Stay on the sidewalk, not in the street; only cross the street in crosswalks with traffic control devices.
- Look both ways before crossing the street
- Never run between cars into the street.
- Wear clothing that allows drivers and people to see you. That means no dark clothes after dark or early in the morning.
- Exercising outdoors at dusk or at night can be dangerous without some type of reflective device on your clothing. Many athletic shoes have reflective qualities built in, but also consider a vest complete with reflective tape.
- Keep alert! Dawn and dusk offer convenient shadows for muggers and other crooks.

Our officers will continue to enforce traffic safety laws and assist motorists and pedestrians in need. Your participation in ensuring traffic and public safety is critical, and we greatly appreciate your attention to this important matter.

## SIXTH DISTRICT, YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION HAVE MOVED

On Monday, October 19, 2015, the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Sixth District Headquarters relocated 5002 Hayes Street, NE, near the old Merritt Middle School. In February 2014, the DC Government began construction to transform the vacant Merritt Middle



School into the new headquarters for the Sixth District Headquarters and MPD's Youth and Family Services Division. The 38-year-old building was converted into an 80,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility. This new site provides MPD officers and area residents with a brand-new facility and a more pleasant work environment to complement modern police operations and our community-outreach programs. The Youth and Family Services Division moved into the new space earlier this year, and the Sixth District was completely moved into this modern, highly energy- and water-efficient building earlier this month.

As Sixth District Commander David Taylor said, "Our address may be changing, but our level of service will continue to meet the demands of our busy District. We look forward to continuing our work in this new, spacious location."

» The Sixth District covers portions of the Northeast (east of the Anacostia River) and Southeast quadrants of the city. Get more information about the Sixth District at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-sixth-district>

» Learn more about the Youth and Family Services Division at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/node/141422>

### NEWS & NOTES

#### Also Noteworthy

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

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

**Report Crimes Against Children**

**through the CyberTipline.** The CyberTipline is a Congressionally-mandated means for reporting crimes against children. Report crimes 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 1-800-843-5678 or reporting crimes online at <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

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

**Support the Washington DC Police**

**Foundation.** The Washington DC Police Foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization that brings together the business, civic, and other professional communities to promote public safety by providing financial and in-kind resources to the MPD, expanding public safety awareness, and advancing public safety policy and initiatives. Learn more about the extraordinary support the Washington DC Police Foundation provides to the MPD. Learn more about the Foundation at <http://www.dcpolicefoundation.org>.

Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at [kaylin.castelli@dc.gov](mailto:kaylin.castelli@dc.gov)

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