



ANNUAL REPORT

A Progress Update for Members of Our Community



From the Chief:

Edgardo A. Colón
Chief of Police
Upper Macungie Township
Police Department

On behalf of Upper Macungie Township, it is my privilege to present the Upper Macungie Township Police Department – first Annual Report.

In 2012, the Upper Macungie Township Board of Supervisors determined that the township would best be served by a police department focused solely on keeping the residents of Upper Macungie Township safe. This included a police station headquartered within the township's boundaries, so that residents could expect quick responses to emergencies and easy access to the officers that serve them. To say that I was honored when I was selected to command this new police department would be an understatement.

In 2013, Upper Macungie Township Police Department officers immediately took to the streets and neighborhoods and made a notable impact on crime and traffic-related issues within the township. In addition, officers embraced the community with such events as National Night Out and the Citizens Police Academy.

Please take the time to review the next few pages and familiarize yourself with what your police department accomplished in 2013. I encourage all residents to get involved with our community related events in 2014 and get to know the officers who work here on a daily basis. Take pride in your police department, just as I do.

In 2014, we look to expand upon the success we experienced in 2013. Our officers will work tirelessly not only to arrest offenders, but to think of new, creative and innovative ways to prevent crimes from occurring in the first place. We thank you, the residents, for enabling us to protect and serve you and your family.

Committed to Service,

Edgardo A. Colón, Chief of Police

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Upper Macungie Township Police Department is to enhance the quality of life and serve the citizens of Upper Macungie Township by providing quality and professional police services. The broad philosophy of the Department will embrace a wholehearted determination to protect and support individual rights while providing for the security of persons and property in the community. In meeting this objective, it is the responsibility of the Department to function as a public service organization and to [at all times] work in cooperation with community agencies and groups to promote understanding of and competence in our law enforcement efforts. A founding principle will mandate all officers to fully and continuously demonstrate the Department's mission to be...**Committed to Service.**



COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Because Crime Prevention Starts at the Community Level

The Upper Macungie Township Police Department's Community Services Division consists of three officers who specialize in crime prevention and community relations.

Lieutenant Peter Nickischer, who commands the unit, has served residents of Upper Macungie for over ten years. In 2007, Nickischer created the Upper Macungie Township Crime Watch Association, which brought residents together to help police fight crime and help strengthen the bond between the community and the police department. In addition, Nickischer played a crucial role in the success of **Nixle**, an emergency alert system designed to keep residents aware of crime in the neighborhoods.



Lt. Nickischer, Detective Miller and Officer Mathias shown with UMT youngsters during Community Bicycle Registration event.

Detective Adam Miller came to Upper Macungie Township Police well-prepared for community service. As a sergeant with the Lehigh University Police Department, Miller worked hard developing programs to decrease alcohol consumption among college students, as well as combating on-campus crime. In Upper Macungie, Miller enjoys teaching crime prevention and making a difference in the lives of children.

>> Continued on the next page



COMMUNITY SERVICES >> Continued from the previous page

Officer William Rohrbach (*left*) has assumed the responsibilities of Community Services Officer following the departure of Officer Pamela Mathias who will follow career pursuits in another locale. Her passion for community service will be missed. We welcome the energy and experience that Officer Rohrbach brings to the post and look forward to a future of successful community engagement and events like Upper Macungie's National Night Out.

Community Connection HIGHLIGHTS

National Night Out

A celebration of "America's Night Out Against Crime"—this community event was enjoyed by young and old, large and small. A large turnout of residents was on-hand to see K-9 demonstrations, a cupcake contest, and even a first responders softball game. In addition, police proudly held a blood drive with the help of Miller-Keystone Blood Bank. The event received much praise from the residents who attended, and we are looking forward to 2014's celebration on **August 5th, 5:00-8:30 p.m. at Lone Lane Park.**



Junior Emergency Services Academy

Do you have a son or daughter considering a career in law enforcement or firefighting? 2013 showcased a new and revamped emergency services academy that

taught children the latest in police forensics and tactics, as well as firefighting technology and fire prevention. This program is so popular that we often have attendees return for their second and even third year.

Citizens Police Academy

Many people are simply fascinated by police work and the tactics used by police to bring offenders to justice. Held at police headquarters, this exciting course allowed members of the public to learn from the officers that perform this function on a daily basis. Courses covered included SWAT and hostage negotiations, prison systems, death investigations, and more. We look forward to a new class in 2014, but be warned—register early! 2013's class demand was large enough that some applicants had to be turned away.

Enforcing Truck Safety

To ensure the safety and compliance of tractor trailers and other large commercial vehicles traveling in our community, UMTPD is engaged in the U.S. Dept. of Transportation's **Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP)**. This is a joint effort with the Pennsylvania State Police and the police departments of South Whitehall and Emmaus. 2013 performance highlights include:

- 3 UMTPD officers trained to MCSAP standards
- 188 motor carrier inspections conducted
- 121 violations observed; majority issued warnings
- 38 traffic citations for violations issued
- 23 "out of service" orders enforced on-site for vehicles/drivers not fit to be on roadways



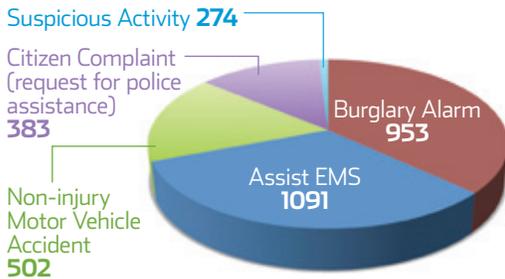
2013 UMTPD Community Events

- National Drug Take Back Initiatives
- Child Safety Seat Installations/Inspections
- Station Tours
- Student Interview and Job Shadowing
- DARE
- Senior Safety
- Students/Mothers Against Drunk Driving
- Halloween Safety
- Motorcycle Safety
- Bicycle Registrations
- Emergency Preparedness Day
- Parkland School District PALS Program

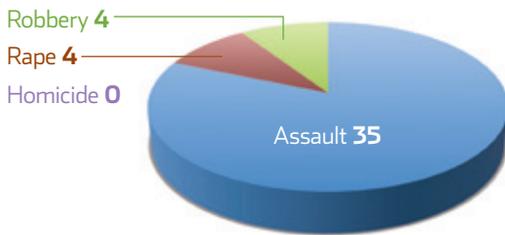
Notable Arrests, Incidents & Recognition

- **Arrest of Kevin Drake**, contractor who defrauded multiple Upper Macungie victims out of \$125,000 and never completed the contracted work.
- **Recognition of Officer Bravery:** Officer Steven Kress recognized by Lehigh Valley Crime Stoppers for efforts in January after chasing a theft suspect from Redner's Warehouse Markets and taking him into custody.
- **ARIDE:** 16 UMTPD officers received certification in Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, to assist in stopping and arresting impaired drivers.
- **Arrest of Demar Campbell:** During an argument in his vehicle with his female passenger, Campbell stabbed the victim in her abdomen. Campbell was arrested for numerous crimes including Aggravated Assault.
- **DRE Certification:** Sergeant Cory Reader, Traffic Unit Supervisor, successfully completed Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training. This extensive training puts him in a lead role to reduce the number of impaired drivers on UMT Roads.
- **Fatal Motorcycle Accident:** A male was killed when the motorcycle he was sitting on accidentally went into gear and struck a brick wall. There were also two other fatal crashes in 2013, including one on Rt. 100 and one at Rt. 222 and Weilers Rd.
- **Bank Robberies:** In November the Bank of America was robbed by a male who threatened to shoot tellers. The same suspect is responsible for two other bank robberies in Upper Macungie in late 2013 and early 2014. These incidents are still under investigation.

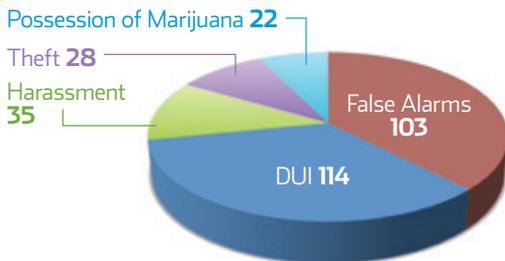
2013 TOP CALLS FOR SERVICE



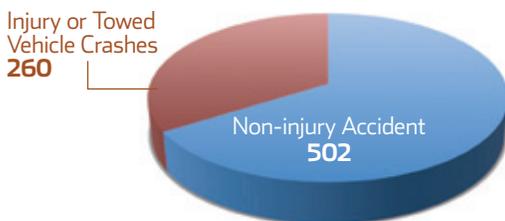
2013 PART I VIOLENT CRIMES



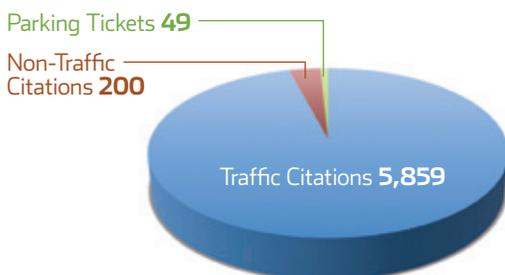
2013 TOP ARREST TYPES



2013 MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS



2013 CITATIONS



THE HEROIN EPIDEMIC: Use On the Rise in All Communities

“Unlike the heroin scourge of the late 1960s to early 1980s which was concentrated in urban centers, today’s epidemic is ravaging suburbs and rural areas as well.”

— Wall Street Journal, February 3, 2014



With increasing volume and cheaper prices for heroin, the number of users in the U.S. has jumped almost 80% from 2007 to 2012, according to research from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. Overdose deaths are also rising at an alarming rate. Undeniable fact: the heroin scourge sweeping America is a very real threat to all communities, including Upper Macungie Township. The population segment with the fastest rising rates of heroin abuse is young adults, ages 18 to 25.

At a National Institute on Drug Abuse meeting held in early 2014, 17 of 20 researchers from across the country reported that heroin was their top emerging issue. “Heroin doesn’t have any sort of geographic or demographic boundaries,” said Rusty Payne, a spokesman for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency in Washington. “It pretty much touches every segment of society.”

“According to the DEA, about 80% of people trying heroin for the first time previously used prescription pain drugs,” said Sergeant Cory Reader of the Upper Macungie Township Police Department, a certified Drug Recognition Expert (DRE).

“As law enforcement has cracked down on illegal use of prescription drugs like oxycodone, these pills become inaccessible or too expensive. Heroin is comparatively cheaper because Mexican heroin production has increased significantly. But potency and additives are unpredictable, and the potential for accidental overdose is high. Several deaths from the current heroin wave have occurred here in Pennsylvania,” Sergeant Reader said.

Upper Macungie Township Police urge residents to stay vigilant about suspected heroin abuse in our neighborhoods and especially among loved ones and co-workers. When looking for signs of heroin use in a loved one, it is important to look at all the different angles of the person’s life. But noticing the signs of heroin use in a loved one early on can save his or her life.

Some Warning Signs of Heroin Use:

- Constricted (small) eye pupils
- Chronic lying or other deceptive behavior
- Avoiding eye contact
- Sudden changes in behavior or actions
- Sudden worsening of performance in school or work, including expulsion or loss of jobs
- Substantial increase in time spent sleeping
- Decreasing attention to hygiene and personal appearance
- Cycles of hyper alertness followed by sudden nodding off
- Droopy appearance, as if extremities are heavy
- Withdrawal from friends or family; spending time with new friends with no apparent natural tie
- Repeatedly stealing or borrowing money from loved ones
- Unexplained absence of valuables
- Wearing long sleeves or long pants, even in very warm weather
- Runny nose (not explained by other illness or medical condition)
- Weight loss
- Cuts, bruises or scabs from skin picking

Should you or a family member or friend need assistance, here are a few steps/resources the UMPD recommends for prevention and intervention:

- Go to a **hospital emergency room**
- Call the **Lehigh County Drug and Alcohol Program** at **610-782-3555**
- Call the **PA Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Programs** at **717-783-8200** or visit their website at **www.ddap.pa.gov**
- Call the **Lehigh County Center for Humanistic Change** at **610-443-1595**

Program Enforcing Driver Safety

In 2013 The Upper Macungie Township Police Department participated in funded programs such as **PA Aggressive Driving Enforcement and Education Program (PAADEEP)** and **Buckle Up PA**. During these programs the police department ran 33 enforcement details in the township. These programs allow for the police department to put more officers on the roadway during targeted times for enforcement. During these details, citations were issued for violations such as speeding, careless driving, traffic control signals, driving with a suspended license, and seatbelt violations. The police department also participated with the Lehigh County DUI Task Force and hosted two DUI checkpoints in the township during the 2013 calendar year. A primary goal and focus of these programs is to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities, and to create the safest environment possible for all citizens traversing throughout Upper Macungie Township.

CRIME CORNER

LOCK INTO SAFETY: Lieutenant Peter Nickischer, Criminal Investigations Commander



We all have routines. Perhaps it's reading the newspaper immediately after you finish your first cup of coffee, or always tucking your little ones in bed before you watch your favorite television show. Today I ask you to start a new routine- one that may help prevent you from becoming a victim of a crime. Did you know that there were 86 thefts from vehicles in Upper Macungie Township in 2013? Did you know that a large percentage of these thefts were from unlocked vehicles? Yes, these thefts could have been prevented. So, in addition to doing simple things like removing GPS units from your windshield or dash, and taking valuables like wallets, purses, and electronics inside instead of leaving them in your vehicle, I ask you to start a new routine — a new habit. Every night, before you retire to bed, double check the doors in your residence to make sure they are locked. When you do this, grab your vehicle's key fob and ensure that each vehicle you own is locked and secured. Park your cars in a garage? Take the time to check those garage doors and make sure they are LOCKED. By following this simple routine, you can help us help you. Don't be a victim of crime — lock those car doors!

K-9 Program a Howling Success

Talk about taking a bite out of crime. The Upper Macungie Township Police Department's K-9 program is proving to be one of the most effective in the region. The stars of this success story are patrol dogs Pako and Hassan. Along with their considerable apprehension and protective skills, each is trained with specialized capabilities. Pako is a drug detection expert; Hassan is a bomb detection specialist.



Pako

While their daily beat is UMT, this dynamic duo is occasionally called upon for crime fighting in neighboring communities as well. High on their list of heroics are two episodes in 2013. Led by Officer Ryan Rhoads, K-9 Pako assisted Jim Thorpe Borough Police after a request for narcotics detection was made. Pako sniffed out a major drug dealer and kept 1,100 bags of high-grade heroin off the streets. With Officer Matthew Gardner, K-9 Hassan assisted the South Whitehall Township Police during a vehicle theft and pursuit that entered Upper Macungie Township. The car thief crashed the vehicle and fled on foot into a maze of dense shrubbery. K-9 Hassan apprehended the suspect who was found to be DUI and in possession of illegal narcotics.



Hassan

Apparently no one told either of the offenders that these K-9 officers have a sense of smell that's up to 100,000 more acute than humans. A special salute goes out to these crime fighting canines of the UMTPD and their partner officers.

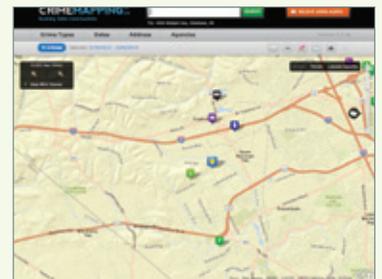
Coffee with a Cop

UMTPD recently held our fourth "Coffee with a Cop" program and it was a huge success. The goal of the program is to break down barriers, build lasting relationships, and familiarize the public with officers who are there to protect and serve in the community. Effective communication between citizens and police is a necessary component to better service the community. More "Coffee with a Cop" events will be planned in 2014. We encourage residents to check our Facebook page for future events and we hope to see you there. www.facebook.com/UMTPD.



Crime Mapping

Have you heard about Upper Macungie Township's new crime mapping software? Now LIVE, this amazing program allows the user to point to a direction location on a map, pick a date range, and view crime stats and locations instantly!



Any resident with access to the internet can map out and analyze recent crime activity in their neighborhood. Crimemapping.com also offers free Crime Alerts and simple trend alerts which help keep the community well-informed. Simply log onto www.crimemapping.com and select the "Upper Macungie Twp. Police, PA" from the "Choose an Agency" dropdown menu.



Contact Us

Upper Macungie Township Police Department
37 Grim Road, Breinigsville, PA 18031

Emergency **911**
Non-Emergency: Lehigh County . . . **610-437-5252**
Administration . . . **484-661-5911**
Fax. **610-841-4922**