

A Publication of the Moorhead Police Department to help promote and sustain citizen/police partnerships.

# Moorhead Beat

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Don't miss out - register your party now!



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## Minnesota's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Night to Unite is Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

Night to Unite is an event that brings neighborhoods closer together. It's a chance for existing neighbors to reconnect and for newcomers to get to know their neighbors. There is no better defense against crime than a connected neighborhood keeping a watchful eye out for one another.

Register your neighborhood gathering at [www.moorheadpolice.com](http://www.moorheadpolice.com) (type "Night to Unite" in the search box) or call Leann at 218.299.5143 to assist you with your registration. Registered neighborhoods will receive a free gift bag of items to help with your party. These bags will contain 100 paper plates, napkins, forks, two Night to Unite t-shirts and some additional give away items. The bags can be picked up at the Law Enforcement Center (911 11 St. N.) on Friday, August 2, or Monday, August 5, from noon to 4:30 pm.

The Moorhead Police Department is asking for the help of our citizens to watch out for each other. Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility! Please do your part to keep yourself from becoming a victim of a crime. Make sure you are keeping your cars locked even while in your own driveway. Keep your garage doors closed overnight. Lock your house and garage entry doors even when you are home. Do not leave windows open when you are gone. Call in suspicious activity and be sure to provide officers with any footage from your home surveillance cameras.

**It takes all of us to keep our community safe!**

## Meet our newest K-9 Dex and his handler Officer Brett Musich



I began my law enforcement career in 2016, in my hometown of International Falls, MN. I knew I wanted to work for a department with more career opportunities, which led me to Moorhead in 2017. I have been a field training officer, emergency vehicle operations instructor, and part of the departments bike patrol team prior to becoming a K-9 handler. In February of 2021 I was paired with my first K-9 Partner, Zeke. Zeke and I worked together for nearly three years before his unexpected passing in December of 2023. In March of 2024 I was able to select my new K-9 partner, Dex. Dex is a two-year-old German Shepherd/Belgian Malinois that was imported from Slovakia. We attended 10 weeks of initial training together before graduating in May. Dex is trained in narcotics detection, tracking, building and area searches, evidence recovery, and criminal apprehension. When we aren't working, Dex enjoys playing in the backyard at home with his fur sister "Mala". Dex and I look forward to serving the citizens of Moorhead and the entire metro region in the coming years!

## MPD Welcomes Megan Lundborg, Community Resource Navigator

"We began focusing on the reduction of repeat calls for service by correcting the source of the problem. We have lowered calls for service by over 6,000 and maintained that level since the peak at over 40,000 calls annually, during a time of an 18% population growth. The next obvious step was to do more in our response to calls involving mental health where we also see many repeat calls. We have now added a social worker trained 'Navigator' to help connect people to existing programs and support" Police Chief Shannon Monroe said about the hiring of MPD's first Community Resource Navigator.

Megan Lundborg is a Licensed Graduate Social Worker in the state of Minnesota. Megan graduated from the University of Denver with a Master of Social Work with a concentration on mental health and trauma in 2023. Prior to graduate school, Megan received her Bachelor of Social Work and Minor in Psychology from Minnesota State University Moorhead in 2015.

Megan has experience with direct service, advocacy work, providing education and training, policy and protocol development, crisis interventions, technical assistance, and multidisciplinary team work. This is a new position with the objective being to reduce calls for service related to mental health. "My hope for this position is to "navigate" a response to mental health in the community that is reflective of the needs of first responders, providers, and individuals experiencing mental health crises. Collaboration is going to be a key component and it is fortunate to have a community interested in the well-being of its citizens" Lundborg commented.



## Minnesota State Legislature Allocates Funding for New Recruitment Program: Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training (ICPOET)

The Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training (ICPOET) Program is a legislatively created grant-funded program to assist Minnesota law enforcement agencies with hiring. The state allocated 2.5 million dollars for the initial grant period, which equals out to 50 candidates. Each candidate will be funded up to \$50,000 for the education and training. ICPOET allows non-traditional or career transition candidates to serve their communities in a new way. These people may have only previously imagined becoming a peace officer, due to current challenges with getting the required education and training. Candidates are required to hold an accredited 2- or 4-year degree to be eligible for the grant.

The Moorhead Police Department applied for and received 3 candidate positions. Candidates will attend an intensive, comprehensive training program at Alexandria Technical & Community College from October 1 through February 2025. During this time, candidates will go through the same training that a traditional peace officer student completes.

Applicants meeting the minimum requirements will go on to conduct an interview. The top scoring candidates will be moved on to a preemployment background investigation. Once a background investigation is completed and accepted a candidate will undergo additional preemployment testing, such as a psychological evaluation and medical/fit testing.

The department is continuing to receive applications until July 22, 2024. The next date for applicant interviews is July 22, 2024. These candidates will remain on an eligibility list for potential future positions or opportunities ICPOET creates. This program is vital to our recruiting efforts in a very competitive job market.

If you know someone looking to change career paths and get into the field of law enforcement, please have them contact Sergeant Joe Brannan at 218.299.5233 or email at [joseph.brannan@moorheadmn.gov](mailto:joseph.brannan@moorheadmn.gov).

Scan this QR code developed by Arvig Media to easily access our recruitment material including a promotional video, current incentives including a hiring bonus, pay and benefit information, department opportunities, pension comparison as well as some FAQs. Help us spread the word that Moorhead is a great place to live and work!



## MPD Gets UTV

The Moorhead Police Department purchased the Polaris Ranger UTV with seizure funds and took delivery in the fall of 2023. The UTV has been used for a variety of different missions. Our civilian Cadet program uses the UTV frequently to patrol the city's ever-growing bike trail network. The UTV is used during special events including parades, the marathon, search/rescue, and concerts at Bluestem. It's size and off-road capabilities have proved to be an asset when working through crowds or searching rough terrain. The UTV was purchased with snow tracks for the winter months. These will prove valuable for bike trail patrols and search/rescue efforts in snowy conditions.



## Moorhead Police Department's Citizens Police Academy

The Moorhead Police Department will be offering a Citizens Police Academy this fall. This academy allows participants a view from inside our department with hands-on experiences to gain a better understanding of what it's like to be a police officer. This program meets Thursday evenings from 6-9 pm, for 10 weeks beginning September 12 and ending November 21 (no academy on Halloween). It's one thing for me to tell you what a great program this is, but why take my word for it? Here's how some of the 2023 participants expressed their experience:

*"Every aspect of CPA was very informative and enjoyable. Meticulously laid out program that jam packs a fun experience while learning about the realities of law enforcement."*

*"What an awesome program! I'm so glad this exists, and that the community is growing their understanding of the MPD! It was eye-opening for me and the amount of hands-on activities kept the learning experience engaging – I loved it!"*

*"The information in this class was so amazing and informative. I have learned so much and have a whole different understanding of law enforcement."*

*"The CPA was a highlight of my year! I am deeply grateful that I live in a community that puts on programming such as this."*

If you are interested in attending the Citizens Police Academy, apply online now at [www.moorheadpolice.com](http://www.moorheadpolice.com) (type "Citizens Police Academy" in the search box) or call Leann at 218.299.5143. **Don't delay, there are a limited amount of spots available!**

# Free events for the entire family:

## SAFE CITY NIGHTS



**JULY 17TH**

**5:30-7:30 PM**

### Ellen Hopkins Elementary School

2020 11TH STREET SOUTH

**PIZZA & ICE CREAM PROVIDED!**  
TOUR PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLES, BRING YOUR BIKE FOR REPAIRS & TO TEST YOUR SKILLS AT THE BIKE RODEO, COMPETE IN THE COLORING CONTEST, WIN DOOR PRIZES & MORE!

SPONSORED BY THE MOORHEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT, MOORHEAD POLICE ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES LEAGUE, GATE CITY BANK, OERTLI STATE FARM INSURANCE, SCHEELS, MOORHEAD FIRE DEPARTMENT, IAFF LOCAL 1323 AND CITY OF MOORHEAD.

## SAFE CITY NIGHTS



**JULY 31ST**

**5:30-7:30 PM**

### Queens Park

3201 20TH STREET SOUTH

**PIZZA & ICE CREAM PROVIDED!**  
TOUR PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLES, BRING YOUR BIKE FOR REPAIRS, COMPETE IN THE COLORING CONTEST, WIN DOOR PRIZES & MORE!

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