

# 114th Precinct Lieutenant Attacked As He Arrests Man

BY LINDA J. WILSON

Lieutenant Wade Kern, a 23-year veteran of the New York City Police Department, has been hospitalized with multiple facial fractures sustained when he was attacked by several men as he and Police Officer Joseph Morabito from the 114th Precinct tried to handcuff Edison Vera of Ridgewood early last Saturday.

At approximately 4:16 a.m., Kern and Morabito saw Vera drinking an alcoholic beverage outside the Astoria Sports Complex, 34-38 38th St. When Kern approached, Vera ran from him and tried to hide under a parked vehicle. Kern tried to pull Vera from under the vehicle and Vera fiercely resisted. As Kern and Morabito tried to get handcuffs on Vera, a lifetime parolee, several of Vera's friends attacked Kern from behind and punched and kicked the lieutenant in the face.

Anyone with information can call the 114th Detective Squad at 718-626-9334 or Crimestoppers at 646-610-6806. All information will be kept confidential, and anyone who calls Crimestoppers may be eligible for a monetary award.

"Lieutenant Kern was displaying initiative and leadership characteristics by enforcing quality of life violations in the middle of the night," 114th Precinct Commanding Officer Inspector Brian McCarthy said. "He has the respect and love of all his peers and is the type of supervisor who makes Astoria a wonderful community."

The first three search warrants executed in 2007 by police of the 114th Precinct resulted in arrests for illegal gambling, trademark counterfeiting and graffiti. Two other operations brought about arrests for fortunetelling and prostitution as well.

On Tuesday, January 9 at approximately noon, a search warrant, the first of 2007, was executed at 38-76 10th St., targeting illegal gambling. Investigative information and evidence gathered resulted in the probable cause needed for the issuance of the search warrant. As a result, one individual a 59-year-old black male, was charged with promoting gambling, possession of gambling records, possession of a gambling device and criminal possession of stolen property. In addition, evidence was confiscated including, but not limited to, gambling records, telecommunication devices and an unspecified amount of currency.

The second search warrant of 2007 was executed Friday, January 12 at approximately 5 p.m at 25-15 Broadway, targeting trademark counterfeiting. After illegally reproduced products were purchased at the location on two separate occasions, probable cause was established and Judge Fernando Camacho issued a search warrant. A 34-year-old Hispanic male and two Hispanic females 30 and 39 years old were arrested and charged with trademark counterfeiting and a number of illegally reproduced compact discs confiscated.

On Sunday, January 14 the third search warrant of 2007 was executed, this one for the cellphone of a known graffiti vandal. Five individuals were apprehended for graffiti, with two individuals having witnessed the act. One of the perpetrators admitted having graffiti information on his cellphone. Additional intelligence resulting from execution of this search warrant will lead to additional arrests.

Four more search warrants, the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th of 2007, were executed on Thursday, January 18, commencing at approximately 4 p.m.

The first search warrant was conducted at 30-23 30th Ave. for the sale of untaxed cigarettes. Two people were arrested and evidence confiscated that included cigarettes and \$6,941 in U.S. currency was forfeited.

The next three search warrants were conducted at locations where stolen property was purchased for the purpose of resale. The first of the three locations was 45-07 30th Ave., where three individuals were arrested and narcotics were confiscated from the location as well. The second location was at 33-18 31st Ave., where two individuals were arrested. The third location was 26-02 Ditmars Blvd.; two individuals were arrested as well.

After the search warrants had been executed, an additional operation was conducted targeting locations suspected of serving alcohol to underage individuals. Nine locations that had had prior incidents were tested and all failed, resulting in nine arrests. The second portion of the operation prioritized protecting and guiding the youth of Astoria, as 62 percent of the persons arrested for robbery in 2006 were under 21 years of age. The operation was intended to deliver an emphatic message to businesses that engage in illicit activity.

The 114th Precinct is making a conscious effort to fight graffiti in hopes of reducing the quality-of-life issues in the Astoria community.

On Friday, January 5 in a proactive effort to eradicate deception crimes being carried out by individuals engaging in the fortunetelling trade within the confines of the 114th Precinct, a 25-year-old white female was apprehended and charged with scheming to defraud and fortunetelling. Prostitution-prone areas of the 114th Precinct were targeted on the following day,

Saturday, January 6, and five individuals were apprehended for soliciting a prostitute. The 114th Precinct will continue to make an effort to reduce this quality-of-life issue.

The operations and all seven search warrants were executed under McCarthy's direct supervision.

## 114th Police Precinct Blotter

### Friday, January 12:

- A 20-year-old Hispanic male was observed turning without signaling. When he was stopped at 21st Street and 29th Avenue, he was found to have a forged international license purchased in New Jersey. He was charged with forgery, possession of a forged instrument, unlicensed operator and illegal signal.

- A 35-year-old Hispanic male was observed operating a vehicle without wearing a seatbelt. When he was stopped at 36th Avenue and 32nd Street, he was found to have a suspended license. He was charged with aggravated unlicensed operator, unlicensed operator and driving without a seatbelt.

- A 21-year-old white male was observed passing a vehicle on the right. When he was stopped at 21st Street and 26th Road, he was found to have a suspended license. He was charged with aggravated unlicensed operator and passing a vehicle on the right.

- A 17-year-old Hispanic male was observed lingering at 31st Avenue and 49th Street for an extended period of time for no reason and was found to have a warrant out for his arrest. He was charged with bail jumping and loitering.

- An 18-year-old male was observed swinging a broom at a victim at Ditmars Boulevard and 31st Street. He was charged with reckless endangerment, criminal possession of a weapon and resisting arrest.

- A 21-year-old male attempted to prevent the arrest of another person at Ditmars Boulevard and 31st Street. He was charged with obstructing gov-

ernmental administration and disorderly conduct.

- A 28-year-old Hispanic female was charged with criminal possession of stolen property and petit larceny after she was observed stealing merchandise from 40-02 Broadway.

- A 35-year-old white female and a 22-year-old Hispanic male were seen with an open beer in a park without permission. The female also had an active warrant out for her arrest. The two were charged with bail jumping, criminal trespass and having an open container of an alcoholic beverage in public.

### Saturday, January 13:

- An 18-year-old Hispanic male was observed swinging a metal scooter at a crowd of people at 30th Avenue and 41st Street. He was charged with reckless endangerment, criminal mischief, criminal possession of a weapon, menacing and disorderly conduct.

- A 40-year-old white male was charged with running an unlicensed bottle club, unlicensed warehouse liquor storage, after-hours sale of alcoholic beverages, criminal nuisance and sale of alcohol without a license after he was found to be in charge of an establishment at 31-17 Ditmars Blvd. where alcohol was being sold after 4 a.m. without a license.

- A 23-year-old male was charged with assault and menacing after he punched a victim at 40th Avenue and 11th Street.

- A 25-year-old Hispanic was observed operating a vehicle without a seat belt on. When he was stopped at 36th Avenue and Crescent Street, he was found to have a suspended license.

- A 45-year-old Asian male was observed traveling in an improper lane. When he was stopped at 21st Street and 30th Road, he was found to have a suspended license. He was charged with aggravated unlicensed operator, unlicensed operator and

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## Neighborhood News

BY LIZ GOFF

### Bayside

#### FDNY Instructors Are Heroes

Instructors at the New York City Fire Department's Fort Totten Training Facility are being hailed as heroes after they saved the life of a recruit who went into cardiac arrest during routine exercises.

The 37-year-old paramedic recruit was involved in routine training with other recruits when he "just fell to the ground" at about noon on Friday, January 19, FDNY officials said.

"All of a sudden he dropped," said EMS Lieutenant Arthur Lester. "We checked his pulse and breathing and realized he was in cardiac arrest."

Fire officials said Lester and several other instructors grabbed a defibrillator and applied several shocks to the recruit's chest.

"They checked him again for a pulse, and began CPR on the recruit," the officials said. "It took about a minute for him to begin breathing on his own."

The recruit was taken to Long Island Jewish Medical Center, where he is listed in stable condition.

#### PBA Chief Nabs Burglar

A career criminal with a history of 50 arrests made the worst choice of his life on January 16 when he knocked on the door of Patrick Lynch's Bayside home to pull a scam.

Lynch, president of the Patrolmen's

Benevolent Association (PBA), said he was headed to the police union's Manhattan headquarters at about 8 a.m. when his cellphone rang.

Lynch said the call was from his wife, who said there was a man at the door of their house delivering a sob story and begging for cash.

Police said the man was Anthony Genovese, 40, who told Lynch's wife he had just lost his car keys in a sewer, his wife was pregnant and they needed cash to pay their rent.

After hearing Genovese's story, Lynch's wife shut and locked the door, and called her husband, police said.

Lynch said he immediately turned his car around and headed home. When he got there, he spotted a strange man getting into a Volvo with a woman waiting inside, Lynch said. He called his wife to make sure her description of the man at the door matched that of the man in the car. Lynch said he then called police at the 111th Precinct for backup, and held the man until the cops arrived.

Genovese was charged with grand larceny auto, driving with a suspended license and possession of burglary tools.

Investigators said Genovese has a long history of arrests, most for burglaries and drug charges. Police are currently investigating to determine if Genovese was behind a recent rash of burglaries in the Bayside area.

Police sources said Genovese initially told investigators he knew the man who lives in the house. "He said he knew the man had left for

work, and he just wanted to ask the wife for some money," the sources said. "He said he needed the money for his pregnant wife."

This was the second bust Lynch made since he was elected president of the city police union seven years ago. A few years back, he busted a car thief who was running from cops at the Queens Midtown Tunnel, an NYPD spokesperson said.

### Flushing

#### Flushing Students Get First Aid

City Councilmember John Liu last week brought some lifesaving techniques to his young constituents at P.S. 22 in Flushing.

Liu, a graduate of P.S. 22, arranged for a team of Red Cross instructors to visit with fourth- and fifth-graders at the school to offer them some basic lifesaving tips.

Red Cross workers Lindsay Linebarger and Mary Gonzales opened their visit with a short lecture, then showed the students how to determine if a person is conscious, how to perform the Heimlich maneuver, how to dial 911 for help—and how to stay calm while giving police operators information they need to send help.

Students were invited on stage during the discussions to participate in mock incidents that required first aid for at least one injured person. Linebarger and Gonzales walked the students through basic steps they might use to help comfort and stabilize an injured person while waiting for emergency personnel to arrive.

"A lot of kids hear medical terms on TV shows and mimic them, but few know what they mean and how techniques can be applied in life-

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