Sunshine Division continues during pandemic

A few years after the last global pandemic in 1922 and later in 1923, Portland police officers began to gather to give out Christmas food baskets to those in need. The Sunshine Division was soon created and now, 98 years later, Portland Police Officers continue in what is now called the first community policing effort. The Sunshine Division is a separate independent charity now, but during this year, Portland police officers have delivered more food boxes than ever before in its history. Early on in the pandemic, Sunshine re-imagined how they currently serve their clients in order to continue to do so safely and effectively. They leased a former grocery store and were able to properly space out volunteers to load boxes.

View KPTV's story on this Cold Case.

On May 29, 1994, at approximately 4 a.m., Eddie Morgan was shot to death on the corner of NE 42nd and Alberta. A neighbor heard numerous gunshots and looked outside to see Eddie standing by the bus bench with both hands clutching the bench. The neighbor watched as one hand then the other let go of the bench and Eddie collapsed onto the sidewalk. Another neighbor rushed to help Eddie. This neighbor attempted CPR but gave up because it was apparent that Eddie was dead. Eddie was a 46-year-old white male who was mildly mentally challenged. He had been disabled from birth. He frequently walked around the neighborhood greeting people and often did it overnight and at odd hours. Area residents said that he was never violent and was deemed harmless by the neighbors. He had no record of drug or alcohol abuse and had no criminal history. He was affectionately known as the Mayor of 42nd Avenue.

There is no apparent motive for this murder. A dark-colored vehicle was seen leaving the area with more than one person inside shortly after the shooting. Investigators believe that numerous persons have knowledge of this crime but have not come forward. This case is particularly compelling because it seems apparent that Eddie Morgan did nothing that would have caused someone to kill him. Given his mental capacity and how he acted around everyone, it is likely that he only greeted the person who killed him and had not had any contact with that person before.

Witnesses may contact Cold Case Homicide Unit investigators directly at (503) 823-0400. To remain anonymous, witnesses.
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may provide information through Crime Stoppers of Oregon.
Crime Stoppers of Oregon offers cash rewards of up to $2,500 cash for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in any unsolved felony crime and tipsters can remain anonymous.
Anyone wishing to submit an a secure and anonymous tip regarding any unsolved felony crime should visit www.crimestoppersoforegon.com, or visit the App Store and download P3 Tips for your smartphone or tablet.
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to be delivered or for pick up. PPB personnel delivered many boxes, including newly hired officers who could not yet attend the state’s Basic Academy due to COVID.
This year, the agency will deliver holiday food boxes as they have for 98 years.
More importantly, though, is the year-round assistance they are providing to Portlanders.
Since launching their expanded emergency food delivery program in April, with the help of the Portland Police Bureau and numerous local supporters, Sunshine Division has provided more than 4 MILLION meals to over 150,000 households through their two food pantries, home deliveries, and bulk food distribution network.
For more information or if you need an emergency food box, please visit: sunshinedivision.org/