

Hills police work fulfills his boyhood dream

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the job," Nebus said.

"In just 10 years, I've been involved in so many different areas — patrol, investigations, surveillance. Every day is the unexpected. Every day, there's something new — whether unexpected boredom or unexpected excitement. No two days are alike."

Two years after coming to Farmington Hills, Nebus attended the Michigan State Police Academy in Lansing, graduating as a patrolman.

After 1½ years on road patrol, Nebus worked four months as a youth section officer. He then spent 3½ years on the special patrol operations team doing undercover work — "drug buys, prostitution investigations, surveillance."

Later, Nebus briefly returned to road patrol before moving to the detective

section. Last September, the Farmington Hills resident was promoted to sergeant.

HIS BIGGEST thrill?

"My first big felony arrest," Nebus said. "I had been out of the academy just about a month when, while on patrol, I noticed the glass out of a door at a drugstore and found a burglar inside. He tried to leave with a pillowcase full of drugs. It's special when you find something like that, as opposed to being dispatched somewhere."

The capture of two men later convicted of robbing three people in Farmington Hills at gunpoint was his most gratifying experience. As Nebus put it: "It was an event that changed and touched so many lives."

The May 1985 robbery preceded a shootout that left one Livonia patrol-

man seriously wounded and a companion of the men dead. The two men who were convicted also were wounded in the shootout.

A third man is awaiting trial on a charge of conspiracy to commit armed robbery and two counts armed robbery. He was arrested in December.

NEBUS HEADED UP the eight-month-long investigation.

As he recounted: "I got a call at home in the middle of the night that a robbery had occurred involving a sexual assault on a female and that the persons who may have committed it may also have shot a policeman in Livonia."

His investigation began by going to the scene — taking pictures, looking for fingerprints, collecting evidence and interviewing the victims.

Stress is built into police work — no

doubt about that, Nebus said. "You expect it as part of the job. When threatened, you normally don't think about your life possibly being in danger until the incident is over."

Stress isn't just the fear of injury. "Sometimes, it's just the waiting or anticipation. It's facing the unexpected in a surveillance or a family dispute," Nebus said.

STRESS SOMETIMES comes from "the bad hours police work brings," Nebus added.

"Working in the detective section, you never know when the phone's going to ring in the middle of the night. Doing surveillance, you may follow around a known robber or car thief for hours, waiting for him to actually commit a robbery or steal a car."

"Sometimes, we've been involved in

20 to 24 hours of surveillance. You fight fatigue and sleep. So depending on the area you're working, there are different stress factors."

Nebus credits a supportive family — his wife, Roberta, and sons, Michael, 5, and Mark, 4 — with easing the pressures of the job.

Although never losing perspective of his family responsibilities or church activities, Nebus said he can't help but sometimes take his job home. "When you see a murdered child, or battered or neglected children, you don't forget. You can't forget."

IN HIS free time, Nebus enjoys playing hockey and basketball and bowling.

As criminals and laws become more sophisticated, so must police officers, said Nebus, who earned an Associate in Arts degree from Schoolcraft College

and a Bachelor of Science degree from Madonna College.

Nebus has attended narcotics schools offered by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and periodic law and training seminars offered at various colleges and academies.

In 1984, Nebus attended a weeklong seminar at Wayne State University on the medical and legal aspects of investigating deaths.

"Even though we don't have a high homicide rate in Farmington Hills, investigating deaths is not that uncommon — natural deaths, sudden deaths, suicides," he said.

In October, Nebus attended a two-week-long supervision and management school at Northwestern University.

"The schooling process," Nebus said, "never stops."

Hills man named Providence Hospital chief

Brian Connolly was appointed president and chief executive officer at Providence Hospital, Southfield, a 457-bed hospital sponsored by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul.

The appointment of the Farmington Hills resident will be effective in early April.

Connolly will succeed Sister Xavier Ballance who has served as president of Providence for 10 years. Sister Xavier will assume the post of president and chief executive officer of St. Mary's Medical Center in Evanston, Ind., also a Daughters of Charity-sponsored facility.

As executive vice president and chief operating officer for Providence Hospital since October 1984, Connolly has been responsible for the day-to-day operation of the hospital and its satellite



Brian Connolly

consulting firm with about 20 hospital clients throughout the state.

He holds a bachelor of business administration degree from Western Michigan University and a master of public health degree from the University of Michigan.

His professional affiliations include American College of Healthcare Executives, Michigan Hospital Association, Society for Hospital Planning, Greater Detroit Area Health Council, American Hospital Management Systems Society and Michigan Hospital Management Systems Society.

He also belongs to the Southeastern Michigan Hospital Council of the Michigan Hospital Association and currently serves as vice chairperson of the SEMHC-MHA committee on health facilities planning.

With his appointment, Connolly becomes the first lay administrator in Providence Hospital's history.

"His commitment and sensitivity to the Daughters of Charity Vincentian philosophy of service make him an excellent choice to lead Providence in its health care ministry in the years ahead," Sister Xavier said.

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