

# ROCKLIN PD NEWS



*"It is the Mission of the Rocklin Police Department to Serve, Protect and Promote a Safe Community."*



## Rocklin Police Department

### Message from the Chief by Ron Lawrence

"The toughest job you'll ever love" is a tagline used to describe the Peace Corp, and I find it to be an applicable description for police work as well, except I would not refer to our profession as a "job," but rather a way of life. We employ people who agree to live their lives by a strict set of standards, policies & procedures, affecting their on & off-duty behavior. Working in an often adversarial profession, police professionals are charged with finding the proper societal balance between maintaining peace & order, while simultaneously ensuring that individual constitutional rights are ardently protected. No one ever promised this career would be easy, as we are often thrust into controversy trying to keep the peace while keeping ourselves safe from danger. One of few professions empowered to restrict peoples personal freedoms to include use of lawful deadly force, we more often find ourselves intervening in chaotic situations, enforcing the law, making arrests and dealing with individuals who are not at their best, than we

do anything else. Not a career for the squeamish or the faint-hearted, as police professionals lay witness to graphic crime-scenes, assist terrified victims and deal with some of the worst behaviors imaginable. Our rewards are far more than a paycheck or a pension, our real rewards lay in helping to shape this world into a better place. Here in Rocklin, we are fortunate to work in a community which strongly supports public safety and who by-in-large are law abiding citizens. It's certainly the people who make Rocklin a special place, and I am proud of the citizens we serve as well as those public safety professionals who serve them. But we are not immune to the criminal element that plagues society. There are certainly those who would just as soon do harm to the good citizens of Rocklin to sustain their criminal way of life, than they would take their criminal enterprise someplace else. We must continuously strive to keep our community safe and educate the public on ways to prevent them from being victimized. As we work hard to maintain public safety in Rocklin, especially with diminished resources, it's all

the more important to celebrate the positive aspects of our career and applaud the great work we do.

To that end, while I know there is great police work that occurs in Rocklin on a daily basis, I want to again congratulate Corporal Jason Westgate & Officer Greg Jensen for being awarded a Bronze Medal of Honor, and CSO Tracy Hedrick for being awarded a Life-Saving Award from the Placer County Law Enforcement Agencies (PLEA) at our annual awards banquet on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. Please read their stories on the back page describing their efforts which earned them this special recognition for going above and beyond the call of duty in "The toughest job you'll ever love!"



Chief Ron Lawrence

## New for 2012 by Deputy Chief Dan Ruden



Dep. Chief Ruden

Sgt. Trent Jewell, Officer Mike Gandy and Lt. Chad Butler, refined and improved our uniform policy to include a new patrol utility configuration, and a more standardized appearance for all our uniforms. Changes will be implemented over the next 13 months.

The final run of Ford Crown Victoria's rolled off the assembly line this year. This workhorse we've relied on for over a decade is now officially out of production. With the

help of Sgt. Eric Dollar, we are carefully evaluating which platform to select for future our mobile police unit (police car). Sergeant Dollar accompanied Fleet Supervisor Russ French to Ontario, California to view the MPU offerings from Dodge, Chevrolet and Ford. At that time, there was no Ford prototype available for testing, so we're still working on a local test opportunity. The marked police car is your lifeline and your "mobile office" so we want to make sure the final selection meets your needs for safety, performance, equipment and reliability. The final selection will likely be with us for some time, so please provide any input you might have to Sergeant Dollar.

The scheduling software we have used for the last 10 years in most of the Police Department's units has come to the end of its useful life, and soon will not be supported by the manufacturer. In early 2012 we will be replacing it with a more modern Web-based solution that will include online features for checking schedules, requesting time off and viewing shift and special event overtime needs. Schedules and features web viewable from any internet enabled PC. If you have questions about any of these changes, please ask! In the meantime, be safe and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Police Services Aid Program by Sergeant Forrest Richardson



Sgt. Richardson

If you have ever wondered who the individuals at Sierra College and the Rocklin Police Department who are wearing “PSA” shirts are, you are not alone. This program, which started in 2011, is designed to provide selected Administration of Justice students at Sierra College with a chance to provide community service through a cooperative Intern Program run by both Sierra College and the Rocklin PD Youth Services Division. Participants in the program gain experience and earn college credit(s) in the process.

The program currently consists of ap-

proximately 15 Sierra College students. To be accepted into the program, all applicants must pass an oral interview and a background. If selected, all interns must then complete a short training program hosted by Officer(s) Alway and Metzger. Once their initial training is complete, interns work directly with Youth Services Officer(s) Alway and Metzger.

Under general direction of the RPD Youth Services Sergeant and Sierra College Security Manager, student interns are then able to provide a variety of services at Sierra College that include but are not limited to parking enforcement, security checks and safety escorts. The PSA's also act as additional

“eyes and ears” to supplement current security and police personnel at Sierra College.

Certain members of the program who show an interest and aptitude for additional duties may be assigned to the Rocklin Police Department Investigation's Bureau. The PSA's assigned to the Investigation's Bureau perform tasks ranging from retrieving video evidence to contacting crime victims and performing investigative follow up.

If any employee knows of an Administration of Justice student at Sierra College that would benefit from and is interested in this program in the future, please have them contact Sgt. Richardson at the Rocklin Police Department for further information.

## Property Crime on the Rise by Lieutenant Jamie Knox



Lieutenant Jamie Knox

The City of Rocklin has seen an increase in property crimes over the past several months. In October of 2011, property crime overall was up 3% from the previous year. The crime of burglary was up 37%. Thefts from locked vehicle, commercial burglaries, retail burglaries (shoplifting with intent), and residential burglaries all fall within this category. We are seeing a continuing trend

around the holiday season and urge the public to be vigilant.

There are many preventative measures citizens can take to safeguard their homes, vehicles, and property. Here are some helpful tips:

### ○ Safeguarding the Home

- ✦ Install outside lighting that is activated by a motion detector
- ✦ Install locks on your gates
- ✦ Trim bushes and trees to keep your home visible
- ✦ Burglars can easily hide behind overgrown shrubbery while gaining access to your home
- ✦ Install a reliable residential alarm system
- ✦ Get to know your neighbors and get involved in neighborhood watch
- ✦ Do not post when you will be out of town on social media networks
- ✦ Install aftermarket window locks on all your windows.
- ✦ Secure small valuables in a safe

### ○ Safeguarding your Vehicle

- ✦ Always lock your vehicle
- ✦ Do not leave valuables in your vehicle
- ✦ If you must leave valuables in your vehicle, secure them in the trunk or keep them out of view
- ✦ Park in well lit areas
- ✦ Do not leave identification, vehicle title, or a second set of keys in your vehicle
- ✦ Lock your registration and garage door opener in a locking glove compartment
- ✦ Never leave a backpack, purse, or pocketbook in your vehicle. Even if you think it is hidden (under the seat etc.), a clever thief will be able to spot it

### ○ Safeguarding your Personal Property

- ✦ Do not leave your purse unattended in a shopping cart
- ✦ Do not leave valuables in your gym locker
- ✦ Record all of your serial numbers in a safe location
- ✦ There's an app for that!
- ✦ Use your driver license number to inscribe your own serial number on items without one Police will be able to quickly identify something that belongs to you

These are just a few suggestions to help keep your home, vehicle, and personal property safe from thieves. Remember to report any suspicious activity to your local law enforcement authorities.

## New Police & Fire Volunteers by Mike Nottoli



Mgr., Mike Nottoli

I am pleased to announce the graduation of 19 new Rocklin Police and Fire Department Volunteers. On November 22, 2011, the new graduates and their families attended the graduation ceremony in the Emergency Operations Center at the Rocklin Police Department. Also in attendance were Councilmembers Scott Yuill and Diana Ruslin, Police Chief Ron Lawrence, Fire Chief Bill Mikesell, and Fire Battalion Chiefs John Shelton and Jason Shearer. The ceremony also included a great tour of Fire Station # 1, an up close and personal look at the Fire Department's equipment and specialized vehicles, and two Police Department canine demonstrations conducted by Corporal Jason Westgate, Officer Zach Lewis, and their canines "Diva" and "Immo".

The graduation ceremony marked the final of 15 sessions of the Volunteer Academy that started back in August. The new graduates are the first Volunteers to be part of the newly created Police and Fire Volunteer Program. The 19 new members raise the total of Police and Fire Volunteers to 121. The new graduates have all completed their post academy placement interviews and will soon be working in the Police and Fire Depart-

ments. Please welcome them into our Police and Fire family.



## Congratulations Rocklin Police and Fire Volunteers! Class of 2011



- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Lee Browning</i>      | <i>Diane Crockett</i> |
| <i>Eric Ellis</i>        | <i>Jon Farren</i>     |
| <i>Lucille Lemasters</i> | <i>David Magoffin</i> |
| <i>Kaela Mannan</i>      | <i>Bill Marble</i>    |
| <i>Melody Martinez</i>   | <i>DeeAnn Mendoza</i> |
| <i>Kristie Mirich</i>    | <i>Josh Paul</i>      |
| <i>Roland Phillips</i>   | <i>Joe Radcliffe</i>  |
| <i>Barbara Soto</i>      | <i>Gary Throm</i>     |
| <i>David Tietz</i>       | <i>Phyllis Tietz</i>  |
| <i>Trevor West</i>       |                       |

## Rocklin Community Funds New Police Canine by Mike Nottoli and Volunteer Becky Kanowsky



Manager Mike Nottoli

Springfield at Whitney Oaks is a Rocklin retirement community that truly cares about public safety.

On June 4, 2011, Springfield held a special dinner event titled "A Doggone Good Time" to raise money to replace Rocklin's retiring police dog, Zeus. Zeus retired on July 1, 2011, and is enjoying his leisure time at the home of his police partner Officer Jeff Kolaskey and his family.



Becky Kanowsky

With the City's budget in lean times, Springfield took it upon itself to make sure Rocklin would have a new police dog and vital public servant. A committee of 20 Springfield residents (many of whom are also Rocklin Police and Fire Volunteers) planned and carried out a very successful fundraising event that featured a live auction, silent auction and raffle. The committee asked local retailers and residents for donations to auction and received merchandise and money from 192 merchants and citizens. It's

amazing – no one said "no" to the tenacious fundraisers. The live auction included quite a variety: drive a Porsche to dinner at Hawk's Restaurant; a weekend at a condo in Lake Tahoe; golf and lunch for three at Catta Verdera Country Club; seven days at a condo in Hawaii for six people. Items auctioned from the PD were: Aerial sightseeing for two with former Police Chief Mark Siemens; special tour of the Police Department; an executive ride-along and lunch for six people with Chief Ron Lawrence and Deputy Chief Dan Ruden.

This amazing event raised over \$24,000! Our new police dog, Immo, arrived in September and is now training with his handler, Officer Zack Lewis. There's money to feed Immo, purchase equipment, pay vet bills, and provide for ongoing training.

We are fortunate to serve a very supportive community. A special thanks to all who donated their time, effort, and money to make this happen.



### Records, Communication & Technology, Did You Know? by Manager, Sandi Bumpus



Sandi Bumpus, Mgr

The Records and Communications units have recently gained a new staff member. Intern Sean Horst began working in early December on several critical projects managed by Supervisors Sara Boccoleri and Kathy Adelman. Sean currently works for the City of Roseville during the day, and volunteers his time in the evenings to us.



Intern, Sean Horst

Sean is a relatively new Rocklin resident, but takes his commitment to his newly adopted community as well his belief in volunteerism very seriously. Sean's efforts have allowed our units the ability to undertake quality assurance and quality control projects that contribute to our overall success in enhanced customer service.

### Department Commendations by Lieutenant Lon Milka



On November 14<sup>th</sup>, the wife of an elderly man called the police department and wanted to let Officer Randy Law's supervisor know that she felt, "Officer Law went beyond the call of duty assisting her lost husband."

Officer Randy Law was dispatched to the area of Sunset Bl. between Fairway and Topaz at the request of AMR personnel. They had been waved down by a male citizen who was lost and trying to get home. Officer Law arrived on the scene and provided assistance in aiding the elderly male citizen. Officer Law was able to gather enough information to get in contact with the wife of the lost man and get him reunited with his wife.



On November 14<sup>th</sup>, a thank you letter was sent to ACO Stephanie Mahlberg for her nice work of locating a 15 year old dog and returning it to the sitter.



Chief Lawrence continues to be impressed by the positive image and professionalism displayed by Officer Natalie Constable.

Chief Lawrence commended Natalie because he overheard two men talking about an incident. One was explaining to the other that he was contacted by Officer Natalie Constable about a complaint regarding his construction mess in a parking lot. He expressed that he had an employee who left behind what was perceived to be a littered mess, and he admitted that the issues was completely his responsibility and "could" have received a citation. Yet, he said Officer Natalie Constable was professional and nice. He expressed how she spoke to him like "a normal person and was very down to earth." He went on and on about how "great" the Rocklin police are and praised Officer Constable without knowing who Chief Lawrence was or that he was listening.

Chief Lawrence also commended Natalie on a second occasion, as well. Early one morning while driving to work, he observed Officer Natalie Constable while on patrol stopped on the side of the Road on Clover Valley talking with two young children waiting for the school bus. It was clear that she was building positive relationships and conducting excellent Community Oriented Policing.



Sgt. Tom Dwyer, Sgt Trent Jewell, Corporal Gil Farrulla and Officer Zach Krempin were given a "Meritorious Unit Citation" by the City of Colfax for there assistance with the September 11th, Memorial Service "Reading of the Names."



On November 10<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Gil Farrulla received a thank you card from the Placer MDIC coordinator. The card indicated the Center's appreciation of Gil dedication and support to the Placer MDIC.



### Out With the Old and In With the Old *by Sergeant Tom Dwyer*



Sgt. Tom Dwyer

Last year the Rocklin Police Dept. received several rifles from the Local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) post. If you are not familiar with the M1903 bolt action rifle here is a little history.

The M1903 Springfield, formally the United States Rifle, Caliber .30-06, Model 1903, is an American clip fed, 5-shot, bolt action service rifle used primarily during the first half of the 20th century.

It was officially adopted as a United States military bolt-action rifle on June 21, 1905, and saw service in World War I. It was officially replaced as the standard infantry rifle by the faster-firing, semi-automatic 8 round M1 Garand, starting in 1937. However, the M1903 Springfield remained in service as a standard issue infantry rifle during World War II, since the U.S. entered the war without sufficient M1 rifles to arm all troops. It also remained in

service as a sniper rifle during World War II, the Korean War and even in the early stages of the Vietnam War. It remains popular as a civilian firearm, historical collector's piece and as a military/police and collage/high school ROTC drill rifle.

The Rocklin Police Dept. Honor Guard has been in the process of restoring these weapons to there former glory for use as an Honor Guard drill rifle to be used at various Honor Guard activities.



### COPLINK already assists Rocklin PD *by Lieutenant Terry Roide*



Lieutenant Terry Roide

The Rocklin Police Department has recently added a new database system, Central Valley Information Sharing System (COPLINK) as a tool to assist of Officers with solving cases. Multiple agencies across 20 states have realized the value of COPLINK. This database can be accessed on desktop or laptops in the Police Station or because of a recent software upgrade, on the computers in all of the Patrol vehicles also.

COPLINK generates intelligence analysis results from multiple data sources, including identification of previously unknown relationships between people, vehicles, and crimes that are electronically added to the database

from local and statewide jurisdictions. Basically, it is data sharing between agencies, which allows searches for things as simple as a specific tattoo or a nickname. From that information we can identify people and see known associates, residences, or vehicles.

The Investigations Unit went through their training on Thursday October 13<sup>th</sup> 2011. While in training, one of the Rocklin PD Detectives entered some information on an active check fraud case and COPLINK returned enough information for a suspect to be identified. Thanks to COPLINK we anticipate an arrest in a case where we had no other leads.

### New Faces and Farewells *at the Rocklin Police Department*



Officer Brian McGlinchey joins us from the Sacramento Police Department. He comes to Rocklin with more than 5 years of law enforcement experience. Along with his wife Melissa and his sons Brendan and Declan we are happy to have them as part of our Rocklin PD Family. Welcome Brian!



Part-time Code Enforcement Officer Rick Southern has finally decided to ride into the sunset and enjoy his full retirement. Thank you Rick for all of your hard work, you will be missed!



Officer Jason Maschmeyer joins us from our neighbors in Lincoln with over 12 years of overall law enforcement experience. He and his wife Lisa reside here in Placer County and are also a welcome addition to the Rocklin PD family. Welcome Jason!



### Placer Law Enforcement Agencies - Awards



Officer Jason Westgate

On 03/04/11 at about 2002 hours, Corporal Jason Westgate was the first officer to arrive at the scene of a single car collision with a tree. Corporal Westgate reacted without hesitation and broadcasted that the car was engulfed in flames. He rushed to the vehicle and tried to extinguish the flames, but the fire extinguisher was not effective. He then put himself in harm's way when he tried to remove the solo occupant from the driver's seat of the vehicle. The flames were beginning to overtake the passenger compartment as Corporal Westgate worked tirelessly to free the driver. Officer Greg Jensen arrived on scene and jumped right in to help Corporal Westgate. They both tried to free the driver from the vehicle while putting their own lives in danger. Despite their efforts, they were unable to free the 17 year old driver, and he succumbed to his injuries at the scene.



Officer Greg Jensen

In this incident and by all accounts, Corporal Westgate and Officer Jensen went above and beyond the call of duty. They risked being overtaken by the flames themselves in an attempt to free the young man from his badly damaged car. Due to these efforts, Corporal Westgate and Officer Jensen were awarded the PLEA Bronze Medal of Honor.



CSO Tracy Hedrick

On this date it was reported via 911 that an elderly male had fallen on the floor inside the McDonalds restaurant on Sierra College Bl. in Rocklin. He was said to have a head injury and was gasping for air. CSO Officer Tracy Hedrick had gone off duty from her day shift at 1600 hours and was later entering the McDonalds to purchase a drink. When she entered the business she saw an elderly man on the floor and he was bleeding from the head and not moving. Several customers in the business were walking by or standing near looking at the man on the floor and not assisting. Tracy recognized immediately that the elderly man was having a medical problem and called out for someone to call 911 and began to provide first aid. Right away Tracy discovered the man was not breathing and had no pulse. Tracy placed the man in a position on his back and began and continued chest compressions while a citizen called 911.

Five minutes later Fire and then AMR arrived on the scene, continued CPR, and took over the first aid responsibilities including AED shocks. The man was transported to the hospital and recovered from his heart attack.

Due to her compassion, concern and effort in saving the life of a stranger in dire need of life saving first aid, CSO Tracy Hedrick was awarded the PLEA Life Saving Award.



Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for a Happy Healthy New Year