



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



Rocklin Police Department

Newsletter

August 2009



Rocklin Police Department

Vol 4 Issue 8

Message from the Chief **by Mark Siemens**

More Cuts?

The local economy continues to struggle and many of you have asked if there will be more cuts in our department. The short answer is: Yes. The better question is: how deep? All departments in the City are working proactively on ways to cut costs. Even though we have recently made significant cuts city-wide, our revenues continue to decline. When the FY 09/10 budget was passed in June, we knew that we still had a deficit situation and the bottom line would have to be revisited very soon. Our most recent estimates show the City still needs to close the revenue-spending gap by about \$1.5 million. That number assumes that the park tax passes in

the current election. Of course, if the ballot measure fails we will need to cut another \$500,000.

Department heads will meet with the City Council in a workshop forum on August 29th to talk about service levels and cost reductions. Every department is presenting programs and their costs within mission areas. At the end of our meeting, staff should have some direction in regard to the levels of service we will maintain and what we discontinue to survive this ongoing recession.

Meanwhile, our department continues to make efforts to find economies through regional cooperation. The work with Lincoln continues regarding cooperative dispatch plans and animal control services. Just last week, the City

Council approved a 30 day animal service test period where Rocklin will provide limited animal control services to Lincoln. This test period should give us a better idea about the staffing and equipment needed to serve both cities. Stay tuned, there should be plenty of news in September.



Captains Corner, by Ron Lawrence and Dan Ruden

Darn fine police-work! That's the best way to describe the events of Saturday, August 8th. On a quiet afternoon in Rocklin when many people were mowing their lawns or playing organized sports, three suspects were planning an armed take-over bank robbery at Wells Fargo Bank on Granite Drive. Two of the masked gunmen entered the bank a little after 1 PM and demanded money. They escaped in a vehicle with an undisclosed amount of cash, when Officers Constable and McCray, a two officer unit, arrived just as the suspects were fleeing the scene. Dispatchers Angela Diehl and Sandra Hopkins were answering numerous 9-1-1 calls and dispatching patrol units to handle the bank robbery. Officers Alway and Vance, also a two officer unit, heard the bank robbery broadcast over the radio and began their response. As Constable and McCray turned onto Sierra Meadows, a pedestrian

flagged them down and pointed to the bank robber's vehicle speeding away, with the officers quickly giving chase. As the bank robbers entered west bound Interstate 80, Officer Constable calmly and professionally broadcast the pursuit to the dispatchers, who were busily notifying CHP and broadcasting over "Law-Net" of the circumstances. As the bank robbers continued down I-80, reaching speeds of 115 MPH, they attempted to evade the officers by slowing at each off-ramp, then weaving in and out of traffic to trick the officers into believing they were exiting the freeway. Constable and McCray pursued the suspects until they were driving so erratically that the officers appropriately discontinued the pursuit for the safety of the general public. This is not an easy decision to make, and we commend Officer Constable for his decision to self-terminate

this dangerous pursuit. The officers ultimately lost sight of the suspects somewhere around Madison Avenue. Meanwhile, Dispatchers Diehl and Hopkins were handling the pursuit, communicating with CHP, calling in additional resources and in addition they were handling an unrelated emergency medical aid call all at the same time. Officers Alway and Vance who had responded behind the pursuit, exited Madison Avenue and began searching for the suspects. They found Sacramento County Deputy Duke Lewis in a church parking lot, shot once through his right shoulder, and quickly placed him in the back of their patrol vehicle rushing him to Mercy San Juan Hospital. It was later learned that the deputy had been shot by one of the robbery suspects. Deputy Lewis recovered and we're happy to report is in good health today. A perimeter was established and

all three suspects were ultimately taken into custody and booked on charges of bank robbery, conspiracy, felony evading and attempted murder of a peace officer. Lieutenant Roide also responded to the scene and later to the hospital to manage the field response, as well as Sergeant Knox, who responded to the Sacramento Sheriff's perimeter. Detectives Farrulla, Alford and Davis responded and processed the scene, assisted by FBI agents, CSI Regalia and CSI from Placer County Sheriff. Lieutenant Milka responded to handle the media, and Captain Ruden and I responded to observe the entire event of teamwork, professionalism and darn fine police-work! Here at Rocklin, we enjoy an unbelievable team of police professionals who know what teamwork is all about. When the call of duty is upon us, none of us fail to respond. Nice work Rocklin PD!

National Night Out 2009, by Mike Nottoli

On Tuesday, August 4th, hundreds of Rocklin Neighborhood Watch members participated in our annual National Night Out celebration. The evening went very well, and the weather cooperated with temperatures in the low 80's.

During the evening, 14 teams made up of City staff members, elected City officials, Police Volunteers and on-duty Police and Fire Department personnel visited 22 different Neighborhood Watch block parties. Special guests included Mayor Peter Hill, Vice Mayor Scott Yuill, Councilman George Magnuson, and Councilman

Brett Storey.

The parties included attractions like delicious barbeques, ice cream, cakes and cookies, snow cones, inflatable slides, swimming activities, and other games and events for the kids! The party locations were on Abby Road, Birdie Court, Cameo Drive, Chasen Court, Cleve-

land Court, Cobble Hills Court, Collet Quarry Drive, Denton Court, Ford Road, Hidden Court, Hillside Drive, Iroquois Road, Morning Dove Lane, Peninsula Drive, Plumago Place, Rocklin Mobile Home Park on South Grove Street, Rockmoor Drive, Silver Peak Lane, Snow Haven Court, Southwind Circle, Taft Drive, and Zion Court.



It was great to see such fantastic neighborhood spirit and camaraderie, and all of the residents extended a warm welcome to our elected officials, city employees and volunteers.

We are very fortunate to work in a community that supports its public safety personnel so enthusiastically. Thanks again to all of the Neighborhood Watch members, Police Officers, Fire Fighters, Police Volunteers, City Employees, and City Council representatives for making National Night Out 2009 a successful event.

Becoming an Exemplary Peace Officer, by Sgt Tom Dwyer

Recently I had the opportunity to read a publication called, "Becoming an Exemplary Peace Officer." It is available on the POST website. The information contained in the text was provided for the new academy graduate. There was also valuable information to enhance the professionalism of any peace officer. There was a poem written that I thought we could all live by. When you have an opportunity log on to POST and read the publication.

WHAT WILL MATTER

Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end.

There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours or days.
All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten
will pass to someone else.

Your wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.

It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed.

Your grudges, resentments, frustrations
and jealousies will finally disappear.

So too, your hopes, ambitions, plans and to-do lists will expire.
The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.

It won't matter where you came from
or what side of the tracks you lived on at the end.

It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant.
Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant.

So what will matter?

How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought
but what you built, not what you got but what you gave.

What will matter is not your success

but your significance.

What will matter is not what you learned
but what you taught.

What will matter is every act of integrity,
compassion, courage, or sacrifice
that enriched, empowered or encouraged others
to emulate your example.

What will matter is not your competence
but your character.

What will matter is not how many people you knew,
but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone.

What will matter are not your memories
but the memories that live in those who loved you.

What will matter is how long you will be remembered,
by whom and for what.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.
It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice.

Choose to live a life that matters.

By: Michael Josephson

Nimble-Newton Blazes Wine-Country! By Captain Ron Lawrence

So you think you workout and exercise regularly? Do you push yourself to the limit at the gym? Do you participate in outdoor sports to stay in shape? Well top this one: Our very own Officer Jay Newton participated in the "Vineman" Triathlon which is recognized as the oldest independent "ironman distance" race in the continental United States. Held on

August 1st, in beautiful Sonoma County wine country, the Vineman 140.6 mile Triathlon (yes, that's correct, 140.6 miles!) was a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride, and 26.2 mile run. The amazing part of this story is that not only did Jay participate in the Vineman, but he placed 26th out of 683 participants and 4th out of 99 in his age group, completing the swim in 1

hour, 10 minutes 9 seconds, the biking in an amazing 5 hours, 4 minutes and 46 seconds, and completing the run in 4 hours, 23 minutes and 17 seconds. He placed 4th fastest bike overall out of 683 people. When Jay talked to me about it, he was very humble, saying "it was no big deal," and telling me he didn't want an article written about him. Of course,

that only encouraged me more. Jay was mostly proud that he could actually walk the day after the Vineman (What age group were you in again Jay?) I guess he'll have no problem keeping up with the high-school kids in his role as a School Resource Officer this year. Great job Jay! Congratulations.



In House Training Video, Produced by RPD, By Sgt. Chad Butler



You may have seen all the filming going on a few weekends back in Dispatch and in our Shooting Range and wondered what was going on. Well, RPD Volunteers Denny Grayson and Greg Daley have volunteered to aid in the production of in house training videos for use by our Department in assisting with the continuous training of our employees.

Denny Grayson is no stranger to this assignment having spent 40 years as a Television Writer, Producer and Director. He has authored over 20 screenplays (three of which have been produced) and led four movies as the Unit Production Manager and three more as the Second Unit Director. Locally he has worked at KCRA-TV, KRBK-TV and KQCA-TV as

well as several other television markets across the country.

For over a decade Greg Daley has been serving the business and residential community in creating slide shows, video productions and streaming web videos.

Greg has had the opportunity to produce projects for the City of Rocklin, Building Industry Association for the Western United States, Rocklin Chamber of Commerce and individual venture capital companies utilizing current digital technologies.

Over the next several weeks employees may be asked to participate in some portion of these videos. The idea behind them is to produce continuity amongst department members in how we do our job as law enforcement personnel. These

videos are being compiled for exclusive in-house use and will not be made available to outside agencies. Each employee participating will be asked to sign a consent form authorizing the use of their image and voice.

The first training video being produced is "Perimeters" and should be completed in a few months. This video will be an overview on the fundamentals of setting up perimeters and is designed in segments to encourage discussion amongst team members.

Any employee who has other training video ideas is encouraged to contact Sgt. Richardson, Sgt. Knox or Sgt. Butler for submission.



I wondered when you were going to clean the refrigerator!



(artwork provided by local artist Bekah Robertson (Aaron and Ronee's daughter), age 14)

Barbeque Lizard Anyone? By Ron Lawrence



It was a hot, sweltering summer day on the streets of Rocklin. Plants were withering, neighborhood dogs clamoring for a piece of shade under an oak tree and children shoving one another to try and stay cool in a City waterpark. The heat created a mirage off of the asphalt so uninviting that even lizards shied away. People had a dismal outlook on the day and appeared tattered and worn out from the blistering sun beating down on their fore-

heads. Triple-digit weather had descended upon the Sacramento Valley with such fury that most would have mistaken it for a barren wasteland had it not been for the beleaguered people milling about. But inside the Police Department the atmosphere was quite different. Something was brewing in the air. In the midst of all this heated misery was a glimmer of hope for the day. People far and wide were beginning to gather in the Community Room and they were bringing food, all kinds of assorted food. Greek, macaroni and potato salads, chips, bread, cookies and cake, everyone brought something, there was so much food. They had smiles painted on their faces, laughing and joking with each other, they seemed excited. Where were they going? What

were these happy people doing mingling about? Had they not experienced how unpleasantly hot it was outside with sweat beads pouring down their face? Were they having a festival of some sort, or a barbecue perhaps? That's it, of course! A barbecue.

Sharon Whitaker, Tom Dwyer, Eric Dollar and Tracy Hedrick coordinated a pot-luck barbecue, complete with Tri-Tip steak, chicken and all the side dishes you could imagine. In the Community Room, about 50 bright-smiling people came together to eat, laugh and connect. An ease of tension fused through the air and people were feeling like a family of friends. Volunteers, CSO's, ACO's, police officers, dispatchers, all suddenly feel-

ing a sigh of relief. It may have been too hot for lizards outside, but in the Police Department that day the temperature felt perfect. The friendly energy made the unbearable weather seem like a faded memory. Captain Ruden and I hope we can have more days like that, days that we come together as police professionals and experience the connection of friendship. Thanks Sharon, Tom, Eric and Tracy. That was a job well done and we all look forward to the next pot-luck barbecue real soon.



Credit Cards now accepted at the Police Department, by Jennifer Collins

We are pleased to announce Rocklin Police Department has joined the ranks of Nordstrom's, Macy's, Cabelas, Target, and any other retail outlet! You can now pay for police related fees with your Visa or MasterCard at the front counter. We are very ex-



cited from a customer service perspective. Many thanks to Dayna Amboy, Genevieve Frederick, and Jennifer Eon for their planning and training. This is a wonderful service and convenience for our front counter customers.

- **Employee Commendations, by Sgt Jamie Knox**
 -
 - External Commendations
 -
 -
 -
 - On May 20, 2009, **Animal Control Officers Stephanie Mahlberg and Merae Riley**, received a positive comment card thanking them for their ability to give the citizen peace in her neighborhood after five years of living in Rocklin.
 -
 - On July 02, 2009, **Volunteer Rex Roney** received a positive comment card for his friendliness, timeliness, and efficiency while conducting fingerprint services.
 -
 -
 -
 - Internal Commendations
 -
 - On July 17, 2009, **Officer Joyce Metzger and Dispatch Supervisor Jennifer Gibson**, received praise from a co-worker who was appreciative of their willingness to help out when it was busy.