

ROCKLIN PD NEWS



Rocklin Police Department
Grand Opening June 8, 2005

Special Points of Interest

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Rocklin Police Department

Message from the Captain by Dan Ruden

On May 5th I had the honor of escorting the Redding Family to the California Peace Officers' Memorial in Sacramento. At a morning ceremony inside the Sate Capitol, Governor Schwarzenegger greeted the families of all of California's fallen officers from 2005. The Governor spent some private moments with the Reddings and with each of the survivor families who were present. Following the indoor ceremony, the family members made their way along the "Walk of Honor", a pathway through uniformed police officers standing at attention, from the Capitol Rotunda, down the West steps of the Capitol and across 10th Street to the Police Memorial. It was an incredible experience moving past the thousands of police officers, standing in absolute silence, saluting the families as they walked from the Capitol to their seats next to the Memorial.

The keynote speaker for the Memorial ceremony was Chief Mark Siemens. For those of you who attended, I think you'll agree that the Chief's words were very mov-

ing, from the heart, and provided a fitting tribute to the officers who were lost during 2005, especially to Matt Redding. Near the end of the ceremony, each of the fallen officers' names was called, and the families were called up one at a time to place two red roses at the base of the Memorial. With each name, a white dove was released from behind the bronze memorial statue. Members of the Rocklin PD Honor Guard were posted front and center during the ceremony and they participated in the ceremonial folding of the American Flag that Governor Schwarzenegger placed on the Memorial.

It was comforting to see that the families of California's fallen officers, including the Reddings, were honored with dignity, respect and care, while the ceremony was an appropriate and reverent tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. This year's California Police Memorial Ceremony was an experience I will never forget.

As I write this, Chief Siemens is in Washington D.C. with members of

our Honor Guard and the Redding Family at the *National Police Week* ceremonies. They represent us all as they enroll the name of Officer Matthew Redding on the Wall at Federal Plaza. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wall of Remembrance was authorized for construction by President Ronald Reagan on October 19, 1984. It bears the names of 17,535 law enforcement officers who gave their lives in the line of duty and in service to their communities. Sadly, Officer Redding is one of them.



Chief Siemens speaking at the California Peace Officers' Memorial.

Road Workers Safety Program by Lt. Steve Newman

In the past 5 years, more than 11,000 people have been injured nation-wide and more than 80 people have been killed in work zone crashes. Building on the CALTRANS sponsored "Slow for the Cone Zone" public awareness campaign, the traffic unit is partnering with the Public Works Department to change the attitudes and mindset of drivers who drive irresponsibly and recklessly in roadway construction/maintenance zones in Rocklin.

Increased traffic congestion, dis-

tracted drivers and an increase in near-misses reported by Public Works employees has prompted this campaign to inform motorists that their actions in work zones have serious personal consequences. According to Sgt Bob Martin, "It is a scientifically proven fact that an orange cone cannot stop a vehicle traveling at 60 miles an hour."

Traffic officers will closely monitor work zones during May and will enforce the traffic laws to help make these work zones safer.



Officers Jeff Amado and Casey Finney along with Public Works Employees Wil Lachapelle and Naz Lazar

High School Traffic Safety Awareness by Lt. Steve Newman

Getting a driver's license is a rite of passage for many teens. But unfortunately, this foray into freedom may come with a price tag. Based on national statistics, teenagers are involved in three times as many fatal crashes as are all other drivers.

The Traffic Unit and School Resource Officers implemented a program in May to shape the attitudes and habits of teen drivers, making them safer and more responsible operators, passengers and pedestrians.

To kick things off, School Resource Officer Brad Alford deliv-

ered a traffic safety announcement aired in Rocklin High School classrooms during the second week in May. Traffic officers were assigned to the high school during the end of the school day to observe students' driving habits as they left school and to be seen by the students as a reminder to drive safely.

Students responded positively to the campaign asking, "Are you here to look out for us?" Officer Casey Finney said, "the students really believe we are out here to help."

Next month, the traffic unit will move from the presence and education phase to the enforcement phase, citing drivers for vehicle violations.



Traffic Unit making presence felt outside Rocklin High School



Recognizing Our Volunteers by Mike Nottoli

On Friday evening, May 12, 2006, the Rocklin Police Department hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Awards Ceremony at the Rocklin Sunset Center. This event paid tribute to the 81 men and women who dedicate their time and energy as Rocklin Police Volunteers to serve the police department and the community.

There were 115 people at the event including volunteers, their spouses and/or significant others, as well as several police employees who work closely with volunteers on a regular basis. The event was catered by Randy Peters of Venita Rheas Restaurant and featured a delicious six course dinner, dessert, and beverages.

Each volunteer received an electronic desk calendar and a certificate of appreciation signed by Chief Mark Siemens and Mayor George Magnuson. The awards and certificates were presented by Councilman Peter Hill, Captain Dan Ruden,

Lt. Stuart Davis, and Police Community Programs Coordinator Mike Nottoli. More than forty volunteers also received awards for their accumulated hours of service including the following persons who have donated over 500 hours as of January 1, 2006:

- Dee Johnson - 500
- Rosemarie Lafferty - 525
- Frank Bruno - 537
- Bob Jordan - 582
- Robin Sisto - 622
- Quinn Koon - 649
- Kathy Smith - 728
- Rich Vallone - 893
- Jerry Van Wagner - 920
- Frank Yoschak - 978

In 2005, Rocklin Police Volunteers worked an amazing total of 9,665 hours, up from 5,028 hours in 2004, a 92% increase! According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, one hour of volunteer labor is worth

\$18.67. Therefore, the 9,665 volunteer work hours equates to \$180,445 worth of labor.

During the last four years, the Volunteer Program has grown from 4 volunteers to 81. Volunteers have become an integral part of the Rocklin Police Department and play an important role in the Department's overall efficiency and service delivery. Volunteers are now working in nearly every functional area of the Department performing a wide variety of valuable services such as patrolling the city during day and night hours, providing traffic control at accident scenes, conducting vacation checks and home security inspections, staffing the front counter and Records Department, analyzing crime statistics, canvassing neighborhoods after crimes have occurred, delivering crime prevention presentations, organizing neighborhood watch groups, fingerprinting and photographing children, staffing community events, and much more!

The Rocklin Police Department is currently recruiting to hire an additional 25 volunteers this summer. They will attend a 12-week academy beginning in September, and will graduate in late November. After graduation, Volunteers are expected to donate a minimum of 4-hours per week on a regular basis. If you know someone who may be interested in becoming a Rocklin Police Volunteer, please have them contact Mike Nottoli at (916) 625-5416.



Mike Nottoli, Police Community Programs Coordinator

Neighborhood Cleanup Campaign by Lt. Steve Newman

Community Policing Officer Natalie Constable, Police Volunteers and Public Works helped kick off the Rocklin Neighborhood Cleanup Campaign in the Pacific Grove neighborhood. On April 29th Public Works placed dumpsters in various locations allowing residents to get rid of their unwanted items and trash. Special attention was given to homes with unsightly trash that was visible from the street. Public Works employees assisted the elderly and disabled with

trash removal. "A neighborhood cleanup creates a sense of community and pride among the residents", Natalie Constable said. "It increases awareness and creates the groundwork to keep the community clean over a long period of time." A plan is underway in May to provide a large dumpster to the Pacific Grove neighborhood to help homeowners dispose of large items that were not included in the initial pickup.

Before the Cleanup



After the Cleanup



Rocklin Dispatchers Shine at Terrorism Drill by Jennifer Collins

Rocklin Police Dispatch, along with 38 other local agencies, participated in a large-scale Mass Casualty Incident drill hosted by Placer County OES on Wednesday, May 4th at the Auburn airport. A total of five activities occurred simultaneously adding to the complexity of the event. The first incident starting off the morning was a plane crash at the airport. Concurrently, two separate suicide

bombers were reported. One bomber was successful in detonating his device while the other bomber was taken into custody without incident. Adding to the stress, a nearby explosion injured 60 people. The responding firefighters were overcome by nerve gas, creating a hazardous material emergency. HAZMAT teams set up inflatable decontamination tents and donned chemi-

cal protection suits while carrying and dragging victims to safety. Lastly, an unoccupied vehicle was located that contained explosive devices.

Folsom Police and Placer County's communications trailers were utilized. Rocklin dispatch staff worked side by side with dispatch personnel from Placer County, City of Roseville, and the City of Folsom.

Jennifer Gilmore, Desiree Miller, Matt Diridoni, and Jennifer Collins participated at the Airport Incident Command dispatching and scribing for the Incident Commander. Communications,



Public Safety Dispatcher Jennifer Gilmore dispatches during the drill.



Public Safety Dispatcher Desiree Miller and Rocklin Fire Department Battalion Chief John Shelton monitor activity during exercise.