

# ROCKLIN PD NEWS



## Special Points of Interest

- Message from the Chief
- Every 15 minutes
- Welcome New employees
- Traffic Officers return to school
- 2006 Peace Officers Memorial

## Rocklin Police Department

### Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

Last week nearly all of the supervisors and managers attended a workshop with training consultant Dot Beineix. The workshop, built around the book Brief Coaching for Lasting Solutions, helped to sharpen and hone the coaching and mentoring skills of our leadership team. Emphasizing "coaching conversations," the team practiced different tools and techniques to help employees achieve their goals within a brief period of time. The techniques themselves, when used properly, require the supervisor (coach) to approach task and performance issues from a perspective of a mentor who works collaboratively with others to reach goals. During the two days, most of us pulled a brain muscle or two just trying to get our minds around the coaching perspective.

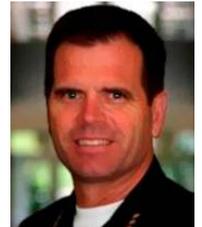
Just for a moment, imagine work-

ing in a culture that is forward thinking, focused on a vision for improvement, instead of the past, blame and excuses. Imagine working in a culture that empowered everyone to think and make choices, instead of just telling and directing. What would that look like? We envision that through a change in mindset and the use of coaching techniques, first by RPD leadership, and then by everyone, we can make that picture appear.

Coaching takes longer than directing and requires time for coaches to listen and understand employee concerns. Employees need time to imagine their own options and assess the benefits and risks of each option. Therefore, coaching techniques are most appropriate in non-critical events when time is available for thought, reflection and decision.

Using a football analogy, coaching happens before and after the game, not while calling a play.

So why am I writing this? This is just a bit of a warning that those guys with stripes and bars will be trying some new ways of leading. Our first attempts may seem awkward, but with your patience, these new coaching skills should lead to increased independent thinking, innovative ideas and solutions, and enhanced service to the community, all of which help to sustain the excellence for which we are known.



## Captains' Corner by Dan Ruden and Ron Lawrence

May 15 has been National Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the week containing May 15 has been National Police Week, since President John F. Kennedy signed Public Law 87-726 on October 1, 1962. This is a time for us to reflect on our own service as well as the service and sacrifice of our law enforcement brothers and sisters across the nation.

Police work is one of the most interesting (and misunderstood) occupations in the world. I remember my first interview when I was asked why I wanted to be a police officer. Sure, I wanted to help people, but that reason sounded a bit too cliché to tell the panel. So I thought about it and said, "I like to know what's going on around the community, and what better way than to be a po-

lice officer?" I don't know what the interviewers thought about my answer, but I got hired. And now, years later, that answer still holds true, maybe more than ever. No other profession experiences such a broad and unabridged view of "what's going on" in our communities than police officers do. We are called upon 24/7 to solve all kinds of society's problems, and often after the situation has elevated into a crisis. And I have to say, we're darned good at it. It's a job that most people could not do. Yet many people believe they understand how it works and how it looks based on what they've seen in movies and on TV.

In a one-hour TV cop show there is at least one officer involved shooting or violent confrontation

between each commercial break. How do Hollywood cops ever get caught up on their paperwork? The fact is police officers rarely use force. Nationwide, police officers use force at a rate of 3.61 times per 10,000 calls for service. Expressed another way, **police officers do not use force 99.9639% of the time** (IACP 2001). It's no wonder the public sometimes has an unrealistic view of what police officers do. Even so, the real rewards of this job come to us at obscure times and places: rescuing a domestic violence victim from her abuser, finding a lost child,

or even recovering someone's prized 1974 Ford Pinto.

On May 8, 2007, the Rocklin City Council unanimously passed Resolution 2007-105, declaring the week of May 13 as Police Week in the City of Rocklin. So remember, although our jobs and our actions are sometimes misunderstood, police officers are still appreciated and respected, especially here in Rocklin. And if nobody has said it to you lately, *thank you for all that you do!*

**NATIONAL POLICE WEEK**  
May 13 - 19, 2007



## Every 15 Minutes by Lt. Dave Johnstone

On April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, the Rocklin Police and Fire Departments presented the “Every 15 Minutes” alcohol awareness program at Whitney High School. This two day program emphasized the possible ramifications of drinking alcohol and the impact it has on young people, family, friends and classmates. This event challenged students to think about drinking, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved. The program’s name was conceived from the very real fact that every fifteen minutes someone in the United States dies in an alcohol-related traffic collision.

Project coordinators, Mike Nottoli and Chris Osborne, and numerous other paid and volunteer staff, partnered with organizations throughout our community to ensure the success of this emotional event. The following is an outline and brief discussion of the events that took place during the intense two day “Every 15 Minutes” program.

On the first day of the program, a designated student volunteer was removed from class every fifteen minutes by law enforcement, school administrators and chaplain officials. A mock obituary was then delivered to the student’s instructor who read it to the class and

posted it on the walls (both inside and outside the classroom) for the duration of the school day. Additionally, a roster of “deceased” students was kept throughout the course of the day at various locations on the campus. Tombstones were also placed on the grassy knoll located on the high school campus.

Some of the “living dead” students then participated in a simulated fatal DUI crash at 10:15 a.m. as “victims.” One of the students acted as a DUI driver and was subsequently arrested for DUI by Rocklin Police Officers at the scene of the mock accident. In an effort to make the simulated crash as realistic as possible, the following agencies participated in the event: Rocklin Fire Department, Placer County Law Enforcement, Chaplaincy, American Medical Response, Cal Star, California Highway Patrol, Placer County Sheriff’s Department/Coroner, and Sutter Roseville Hospital.

Also during the first day, Rocklin



Police Officers and Law Enforcement Chaplains delivered pre-arranged mock death notifications to the parents of participating students. At the end of the day, the “living dead” students were taken to a local hotel where they were sequestered from family and friends for the evening under the guidance and supervision of Police personnel, as well as other community member chaperones. During the evening, the “living dead” students and their parents wrote “good-bye” letters to their loved ones.

On the second day, a school assembly was held at Whitney High School. The “living dead” students were not allowed any contact with their family or friends until the assembly had concluded. Various speakers gave presentations to share their views and/or personal experiences regarding alcohol related tragedies. Some student and parent volunteers read their “good-bye” letters to the audience of the packed gymnasium leaving a tearful reminder of the ramifications of drinking and driving. Officer Chris Osborne delivered a powerful speech about how each one of the students at Whitney High School has an impact on the entire school community.

The last and most important goal of the program was to impress upon everyone the importance of acknowledging the fact that alcohol does not just hurt those who drink it, but too often it is the innocent who are the victims.

Through the efforts of the following individuals, the “Every 15 Minutes” program was a huge success:

Chris Osborne, Mike Nottoli, Jennifer Torres, Sergeant Bob Martin, Steve Ortmann, Doug Vance, John Adams, Marty Machado, Whit Woodard, Brad Alford, Jeff Amado, Ron McCray, Alan Kilborn, Rich Vallone, and Frank Yoschak.



## Welcome New Employees by Lt. Mike Freeman

Joining us as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, are Administrative Clerk Amy Lind, who is assigned to Administration, and Public safety Dispatcher Sandra Hopkins, who will make Communications fully staffed.

Amy comes to us from the private sector, where she has worked in the insurance industry and ac-

count management for the past seven years.

Sandra recently moved to California from Colorado, and has over 3 years dispatching experience in Santa Clara County. She is currently assigned to Communications training. Welcome aboard Amy and Sandra!



## Police Unity Tour 2007 by Captain Dan Ruden

Officer **Pat O'Brien** is in Washington DC representing Rocklin P.D. in the Police Unity Tour, a marathon bicycle ride that covers about 300 miles in 4 days to benefit the Police Memorial in Washington D.C. Pat is a member of the Northern California chapter ([www.unitytournorcal.com](http://www.unitytournorcal.com)) and is riding with officers from all over the country to raise funds for the Memorial. On Saturday, Officer O'Brien and the members of the Unity Tour presented a check to the National Memorial for over \$1 million. Great job, Pat!



## Organized Retail Crime by Det. Sgt. Lon Milka

Organized Retail Crime is a problem that law enforcement agencies throughout the country face. However, the Rocklin Police Department is doing its share to put a damper on such criminal behavior. In 2006, RPD was responsible for apprehending several suspects in two very large local cases. Upon adjudication of one of them, part of the unclaimed evidence seized was given to the FBI for undercover operations. The evidence was used in one of the largest organized retail crime undercover operations by federal law enforcement in the San Francisco Bay area.

A media bulletin released by the

FBI on February 9<sup>th</sup>, indicated that eight individuals were arrested. The arrests stemmed from a two-year investigation into a ring that bought stolen goods, such as baby formula and medical supplies, from individuals who stole these products from large retailers, including Safeway. At a warehouse in Hayward, investigators estimate that they seized more than 20 tractor-trailer loads of merchandise. The recovered products include cases of vitamins, cold medicine, other over-the-counter pharmaceuticals, baby formula, and hygiene products.

The Special Agent in Charge of the ICE office of investigations in San Francisco said: "The profits from these kinds of illegal enterprises are often funneled back into other kinds of criminal activity, which is why dismantling these schemes is a top ICE enforcement priority."

Subsequent to the arrests, I received an email from Special Agent K. Tyrrell, ICE, Oakland, as follows:

"We were able to use many of the products that your Police Department provided in a series of three undercover operations and obtained some great evi-

dence against the primary targets. We really appreciate your assistance with this investigation. The undercover sales to the markets in Oakland were all conducted with products you provided."



## Traffic Officers Return To School by Bob Martin, Traffic Sergeant

Officer Finney met with school principals to set-up a bicycle safety demonstration for grades 1-6. With help from Police Volunteer Larry Boehm, Community Programs Coordinator Mike Nottoli, Officers Ortmann and Osborne, the traffic unit provided a bicycle safety presentation and motorcycle demonstration for the students at the elementary school in Rocklin.



The Rocklin Police Team gave stickers and pencils to students, answered questions and let the students sit on the police motorcycles. Some students brought

their bicycles and rode with Officer Osborne while they practiced their hand signals and other safety instructions. "I've never been asked so many questions and they were

all good questions," said Steve Ortmann.



## A Collaborative Effort by Det. Sgt. Lon Milka

The Rocklin Police Department Investigations Unit has worked closely with RC Willey to recognize and prevent identity theft since the home furnishings store opened last year. Police staff provided several training seminars to cashiers encouraging them to watch for signs of identity theft. One of the areas the training concentrates on is counterfeit driver's licenses. Detective Brad Alford has done a great job in providing much of this training.

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, one of the cashiers that attended the training sessions spotted what she thought was a counterfeit license and rejected the sale of a computer and other merchandise. She alerted the R.C. Willey security team and jotted down the license plate number of the car driven by the female subject.

The next day the security team notified Rocklin PD and Officer Godwin wrote a report detailing the license plate and a description of the suspect vehicle.

On Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, Rocklin PD Detectives Mike Gandy and Brad Alford spotted the vehicle at the Heritage Inn in Roseville while assisting Roseville PD on a bank robbery case. Detectives Gandy and Alford contacted the driver of the suspect car and once inside the motel room they located 31 counterfeit California driver's licenses, dozens of counterfeit checks, a laptop computer, printer, and software used to create the counterfeit CDL's and checks. Two subjects were arrested.

Detective Alford, assisted by newly assigned Detective Corpo-

ral Bart Paduveris created a Critical Reach Flyer and since the arrest the Investigations Unit has been contacted by four different local law enforcement jurisdictions, reporting crimes with similar modus operandi.

This was a great collaborative effort by RC Willey and the Rocklin Police Department to take a significant identity theft ring off the streets of the Placer County/Sacramento County/El Dorado County area.

"If you looked closely at the counterfeit driver's licenses, they were a 'so-so' replica of the real thing. Certainly, if a cashier were to just copy the CDL number onto a check while the CDL was displayed in the wallet, chances are the fraudulent purchase might be completed. But

if a cashier were to ask the purchaser to remove the license from the wallet and then determine that the thickness of the license is legitimate or not, the cashier might be able to spot a fake. "This is what happened at RC Willey; they did a great job," said Det Sgt Lon Milka.



## Rocklin N.E.T. Program Starts in Full Swing

By Mike Nottoli

To better prepare our citizens for potential disasters and acts of terrorism, the Police Department has begun to deliver Neighborhood Emergency Training (N.E.T.) classes to our community. N.E.T. classes are 2 hours long and provide basic disaster and flu pandemic info to help community members develop emergency plans and kits for their families, neighbors and themselves. Rocklin's first N.E.T. class was delivered to 20 Neighborhood Watch Block Captains in April.

Our next presentation will be at the Villa Serena Assisted Living Community on May 24<sup>th</sup>. The Rocklin Police Department has two paid N.E.T. instructors (Natalie Constable and Mike Nottoli) and ten volunteer NET instructors. We are establishing an advertising campaign to get the word out to our neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and community groups.

*"You cannot solve a problem with the same thinking that lead to the problem" -Albert Einstein*

## Commendation by Jennifer Collins

On Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, a man called dispatch reporting that his wife was in labor. She was having contractions and could feel the baby was ready to deliver. Dispatcher Miller coached the caller, while dispatching Fire and AMR units.

Dispatcher Miller did an excellent job at keeping the caller focused and relayed the instructions in a calm, certain and confident voice. A healthy baby was delivered on scene by Fire and ambulance personnel.

## 2006 Peace Officers Memorial by Captain Ron Lawrence

The 2007 California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremonies were held during the first week of May, and included a Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at dusk, the Roll-Call Ceremony on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and various law enforcement agency Honor Guards posting at the Memorial from May 13<sup>th</sup> until May 19<sup>th</sup>, in Sacramento. The Rocklin PD Honor Guard has the distinct honor of posting at the Memorial on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 8AM, until 1PM. The annual memorial ceremony honored the memory, dedication and service of the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving to protect the citizens of the State of California, who were killed in the line of duty during the 2006 calendar year. This years' ceremony also honored four officers from previous years who had just recently been added to the Memorial. The fallen hero's added to the Memorial from 2006 are as follows:

### Officer Richard A. May

East Palo Alto Police Dept.

EOW: January 7, 2006

### Officer Earl H. Scott

CHP – Modesto

EOW: February 17, 2006

### Officer John Bailey

CHP – Rancho Cucamonga

EOW: February 25, 2006

### Deputy Pierre W. Bain

Los Angeles Co. Sheriff's Dept.

EOW: March 23, 2006

### Sergeant Scott A. Hanson

Covina Police Dept.

EOW: July 3, 2006

### Officer Nick-Tomasito Birco

San Francisco Police Dept.

## They're Official! By Captain Ron Lawrence

At the May 8<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, an official ceremony was held for the promotion of Lieutenant Mike Freeman and Sergeant Chad Butler, the specialty assignments of Corporals Bart Paduveris and Rich Cabana, as well as the swearing-in of part-time Police Officer Greg Cowart.

Each reaffirmed their sworn Oath of Office, and had their badges properly pinned on them by members of their families. We look forward to their leadership contributions.



## Did You Know?

### Records Unit Statistics during April 2007

- \* Answered 199 telephone calls
- \* Provided service to 544 customers at the front counter
  - Generated 96 calls for service
  - Fingerprinted 119 customers
- \* Processed 414 crime and incident reports, 218 citations, 139 arrest reports

EOW: July 26, 2006

### Officer Brent Clearman

CHP – Oakland

EOW: August 6, 2006

### Officer Landon M. Dorris

Los Angeles Police Dept.

EOW: October 22, 2006

### Deputy Jeffrey V. Mitchell

Sacramento Co. Sheriff's Dept.

EOW: October 27, 2006

### Deputy William J. Hudnall

Kern Co. Sheriff's Dept.

EOW: November 14, 2006

### Officer Daniel S. Bessant

Oceanside Police Dept.

EOW: December 20, 2006

### Officer Bryan D. Tuvera

San Francisco Police Dept.

EOW: December 23, 2006

### Constable Samuel D. Holman

Calaveras Co. Sheriff's Dept.

EOW: March 10, 1901

### Deputy Constable

#### Joseph Mamola

Oakland Township Constable's Office

EOW: April 13, 1927

### Officer Roderick D. Gordon

Western Pacific Railroad

EOW: September 8, 1935

### Officer David D. Irwin

CHP – South Los Angeles

EOW: September 18, 2000