

Clovis Police Department

Monthly Report to Council, October 2011



CLOVIS POLICE OFFICER ACCOMPLISHMENTS/CRIME UPDATES:

A Man Walking his Dog Dies after Being Hit by a Small Pick-Up

Clovis Police received several calls just after 7:40 p.m. on October 24th about a man down in the roadway with his black Labrador Retriever. A small, dark gray Toyota pick-up truck hit the man and the dog as they crossed Fowler westbound just south of Shepherd Avenue in the trail crosswalk. The man perished at the scene. His dog was rushed to a veterinary hospital, where it was treated for some injuries. The Clovis Collision Reconstruction Unit's investigation, including speed, road conditions and measurement results continues. Two men were northbound in the pick-up when the accident happened. The crosswalk was lighted at the time and the street lights were on. The driver pulled over right after the collision, and alcohol does not appear to be involved. No one has been arrested.

Driver Arrested for DUI after Hitting a Pedestrian in an Alley

Clovis Police arrested 27-year-old Matthew Walthers of Clovis on October 23rd for felony DUI and felony hit and run after he ran into a 52-year-old woman pushing a shopping cart in an alley behind 491 W. Ashlan Avenue about 3:15 in the afternoon. After hitting the woman, Walthers got out of his car and started to walk away. Clovis Police officers immediately apprehended him. The victim looked to have suffered injuries, which do not appear to be life-threatening. Walthers was booked into the Fresno County Jail on both felony charges.

Six Suspects Arrested in Clovis Massage Parlor Sweep

Six women were arrested on October 25th during a compliance inspection sweep of massage parlors in the City of Clovis. Clovis Police, assisted by the Clovis Fire Department, the Clovis Building Department and Fresno Police Department investigators, conducted a series of inspections at massage businesses located within the city. A growing number of public complaints of potential sexual activity occurring at some of these locations prompted the inspections. Officers searched 10 locations and arrested six women for solicitation for prostitution at five establishments. Inspectors also issued several citations for municipal, building and licensing violations. The goal of such sweeps is to ensure that legitimate businesses can thrive and that those engaged in unlawful activity are pushed out of the city. Clovis has just under 200 massage licensees operating within the city.

Clovis Police Arrest Robbery Suspect Linked to Three Cases

Clovis Police arrested 28-year-old Marco Lopez of Fresno on October 18th for robbing the State Center Credit Union on the southeast corner of Willow and Nees in the middle of the afternoon. Following the evening arrest, Clovis Police detectives served a search warrant at his Fresno home in the 900 block of E. Muncie. They were accompanied by Fresno Police. Clovis officers recovered all but \$5 of the money stolen from the Credit Union. Fresno officers found evidence linking Lopez to one bank robbery and one attempted bank robbery on October 17th at the Wells Fargo Bank Branch near River Park. Clovis Police arrested Lopez at a yoga gym at Champlain and Perrin, where he was participating in a class.

Texting Demos Appear to Pay Off for High School Drivers in Clovis

One week after Clovis Police offered hands-on texting while driving demonstrations to students with valid licenses at Clovis, Clovis East and Buchanan High Schools, three Clovis Motor officers launched a maximum enforcement period during and after school to catch teens who continued to text and drive. Their week-long efforts led to a total of 23 traffic citations for teens, but only 4 for cell phone/texting violations. Most tickets were for speed. Some



adults, during National Teen Driver Safety Week from October 17th through the 21st, have a little explaining to do to in court. The same motor officers patrolling around the three campuses cited approximately 40 adults for traffic violations, and half of those received tickets for either talking on their cell phones or texting while driving. The Clovis Police Traffic Unit was heartened to find that most of the approximately 4,000 students who watched or participated in the demonstrations heeded officers' advice to NOT text and drive. This operation was the result of a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety.

AWARDS:

Two Veteran Clovis Officers Bring Home Silver from World Games



(Photo, 2001)

Clovis Police Sergeant Javier Campos and Corporal Louis Jackson brought home silver medals from the World Police and Fire Games in New York in the Men's Master Basketball 3 x 3. Seventy countries were represented at the games featuring sixty different sporting events and 15,000 competitors. Fresno Police Officers Jaime Campos and Charlie Chamalvide, Kerman Officer Tom Chapman and DEA Agent Clark Wheeler rounded out the team. The local officers made it to the final round of competition before the New York Fire Department team outscored them by just 8 points. As you may recall, Sgt. Campos and Cpl. Jackson were on the team that won the gold medal at the World Games in Indianapolis in 2001.

Annual MADD/AVOID Luncheon Honors Two Clovis Police Officers

Hundreds of law enforcement officers from throughout the Central Valley attended this year's Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Officer of Traffic Safety AVOID luncheon at the Fresno Convention Center on October 11th. Clovis Officers Mark Bradford and David Roseno received awards for their combined 54 DUI arrests in 2010. Law enforcement agencies from 6 counties participating in AVOID anti-DUI programs were represented at the gala event. Chief Davis served as one of the presenters.



Chief Davis Swears-In Two New Officers on October 20th



Officer Suzanne Martinez is a Los Angeles native who came to Fresno to study Forensic (Crime Lab) Science because of the reputation of Fresno State's program. Her first "class" ride-along left such an impression that she decided to become a police officer. Officer Martinez served as a Fresno Police Reserve Officer (through the FSU Criminology Program) for one year performing duties such as vehicle stops, pedestrian contacts, checking hot spots, and she spent six months with an officer handling calls for service on the night shift in southwest Fresno. She went on to earn her Master's degree in Criminology at Fresno State. Officer Martinez graduated as a top cadet in her Academy class in addition to serving as Class Sergeant. Suzanne wanted to work for Clovis PD, because it's an agency that strives to put its citizens first.

Officer Angel Velasquez is a Chicago native. He settled in the Central Valley 13 years ago and met his wife, who served 3 years as a Fresno Police Officer. He worked as a Financial Advisor for 3 years at Morgan Stanley/Dean Whitter and as the Investment Sales Manager at County Bank for 6 years. Officer Velasquez truly enjoyed his volunteer position with the Fresno County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Unit. For 6 years, Angel served on the Jeep Unit and was called out to find missing people in the Sierra. He had a passion for the work from the rescues to the unfortunate recoveries, and decided to pursue a career in law enforcement. Angel earned his Bachelor of Science degree at California State University, Fresno as a Physiology Major with emphasis in Kinesiology and Exercise Science. Officer Velasquez graduated 9th in his Academy class of 47 in addition to serving as Squad Leader. Officer Velasquez says he wanted to work for a department that prides itself on fighting crime and maintaining a safe community for his children and for being one of the safest places to live in California.

EVENTS:

Miss Winkles Pet Adoption Center Clovis Groundbreaking Moment

The Miss Winkles Pet Adoption Center, Clovis moved one step closer to reality as Mr. David McDonald, Clovis dignitaries and staff, Friends of Clovis Pet Adoption Center and Sierra Vista Mall representatives donned hard hats and pick up shovels at the groundbreaking for the new facility at the south-east corner of Sierra and Temperance on October 10th. As you may recall, Mr.



McDonald (former Pelco President and CEO) is donating 2 million dollars for naming rights of the facility in memory of his late West Highland Terrier, Miss Winkles, for which the Police Department is extremely grateful. He made the pledge because of the wonderful care the Animal Services staff gives to their four-legged charges. After much planning and design, Mr. McDonald and the community will now see the new adoption center come to fruition. The Clovis Police Department is also excited about a new partnership with Sierra Vista Mall to raise additional funds through the community for this project. This facility marks a milestone for Clovis Animal Services Division of the Police Department and for the community through a remarkable public/private partnership. We appreciate the community's support in this endeavor. How you can help: call (559) 324-2451

Clovis Police Start Red Ribbon Week with “Don’t P.O.P.P. Meds”



The Clovis Police Department's Youth Services Division shows high school students in Clovis the dangers of prescription and over the counter drugs through its “Don't P.O.P.P. Meds” prevention project funded by a \$10,000 grant from A.T. & T. The program began on October 24th at Clovis East High School's Red Ribbon Week kick-off. Students received pamphlets, t-shirts and wristbands to show their solidarity against the growing problem of prescription medication abuse, which has caused medical emergencies and even deaths among teens in our area. Peer counselors at the school are spearheading the project to get the word out to their fellow students. Similar programs took place at Clovis High and Buchanan High later in the week. Youth leaders designed the shirts that communicate the dangers of these drugs. We thank A.T. & T. for its support in this mission, which also encourages parents to secure all prescription medication in their homes and dispose of unused medication in our “Drop It Off” box at the Clovis Police Department. Later in the week, Clovis Police Officers participated in a variety of Red Ribbon Week programs at Clovis Elementary and Jr. High schools.



Clovis Police Participate in “Shave the Brave” Benefit for Children

Clovis Police Officer Kristjan Herrick and Community Service Officer Andy Isolano participated in the “Shave the Brave” fundraiser for the California Law Enforcement Wish Upon a Star Foundation on October 1st. They collected donations for losing their locks, raising several hundred dollars. The money raised goes to help children with life-threatening conditions realize their “dream.” Over the last 29 years, the organization has raised enough money to fulfill 1,900 wishes. Law enforcement, firefighters, emergency and military personnel participated in Fresno, Hanford and Visalia this year.



The Clovis Police Reserve Unit Reels in Funds at Bass Tourney



The 13th annual Clovis Police Reserve Unit’s Bass Fishing Tournament took place on October 15th on the Fresno side of Millerton Lake. This professional tournament offered fair competition with standard payouts. This annual fundraiser for the Clovis Police Reserve Patrol Unit brought in about \$2,000.00 for the non-profit unit, along with recognition for all the volunteer officers do. They utilize generous donations from businesses and individuals for training, operations and equipment. Reserves also promote safety in the community. Congratulations to Clovis Police Corporal Brett Hershberger and his brother for taking 2nd place in the competition and to Brett for earning the “Top Cop” award.

Traffic Officers and Explorers Participate in National Safety Weekend



Clovis Police Traffic Officers presented video programs and offered information to people in front of Sears in Sierra Vista Mall as part of the department store's National Safety Weekend from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 8th as part of the Office of Traffic Safety grant to educate people about the dangers of texting and driving. Clovis Police Explorers donated their time to fingerprint and photograph

children for their parents' records at this annual event.



Clovis Police Participate in “Enhance Training Skills Week”

Many Clovis Police officers volunteered their time to attend courses during a unique “Enhanced Training Skills Week” offered at the Fresno Regional Training Facility. The driver training course offered 5 different stations and allowed officers to really put their skills to the test at this relatively new facility in mid-October. Also this month, several officers had the opportunity to attend the 2-day Region V Gang Conference in Tulare County.

Animal Services Offers Dog License Amnesty & Registers Nearly 400

October was Dog License Amnesty Month and Clovis Animal Services offered dog owners a deal they really couldn't refuse. Clovis residents were able to get a one-year license for free or a two-year license for the price of one year, and even a three-year license for a two-year price. On an average day, Animal Services sells 7 or 8 licenses. During October, officers sold 378. The promotion meant not only licenses for dogs, but also made sure they received their vaccinations. In addition, Animal Services participated with a booth at the annual Wiggle Walk at Valley Animal Center on October 15th. The event brought in donations of \$200.00 and a lot of people interested in checking out the Clovis Pet Adoption Center.

Halloween at Headquarters for Tiny Trick-or-Treaters



About 60 youngsters paid a visit to Clovis Police Headquarters on October 25th to get a head start on trick-or-treating this year through a program initiated by the Clovis Library. The children and their parents had an opportunity to meet McGruff the Crime Dog, officers and professional staff and take short tour through the Headquarters.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Priority 1 Response Times: (unavailable due to computer reporting inconsistencies)**

	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>
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Citizen Surveys of Service: (Above average or excellent)	77%	77%	86%	91%
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Community Development Block Grant Community Service Officer
Municipal Code Notices Issued for October: 265 Compliance: 110

Volunteer Hours for October (@ \$20.50 per hour):
Volunteers: 42 Hours Served: 604.5 Total Savings: \$12,241.13

Explorer Hours for October @ \$8.00 per hour):
Explorers: 16 Hours Served: 93.5 Total Savings: \$748.00

News Releases Available On-Line: www.cityofclovis.com

October 2011 statistics are not yet available.

**** Response Times are currently being reviewed for inconsistencies in computer reporting.**