

Clovis Police Department

Monthly Report to Council, August 2011



CLOVIS POLICE OFFICER ACCOMPLISHMENTS/CRIME UPDATES:

Investigations, Warrants & Searches: Drugs, Stolen Goods, Arrests

Two warrants and a probation search in Clovis between August 23rd and the 27th netted Narcotics detectives 44 marijuana plants, crystal methamphetamine, methamphetamine, hundreds of prescription drugs and drug paraphernalia. A total of eight people were arrested for crimes including drug possession, possession of stolen property and parole and probation violations. Yet another search of a wanted thief's residence led to the arrest of two more people for a stolen motorcycle, motorcycle parts and an engine in a "chop shop" operation.

Clovis Police Enlist Neighborhood's Help to Stem Copper Wire Thefts

Copper wire thieves are back in Clovis, striking in the Loma Vista community near Ashlan and Locan Avenues. They cut and removed thousands of dollars worth of valuable wire in August. Not only is this of monetary concern to city officials, but more importantly it is a safety concern. Without the wire, street lights in certain areas will not come on at night and could jeopardize residents' safety. That's why Clovis Police Patrol volunteers distributed flyers to area homes on August 19th. The notices asked residents to keep an eye out for dark street lights and suspicious activity in their neighborhoods. The flyers also let residents know that those working to make repairs will be wearing proper identification badges.

Unusual Stolen Property Ring Broken up with Three Arrests

Clovis Police and the Fresno Police C-CAT team with assistance from the HEAT (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) team broke up a stolen property operation in southwest Fresno on August 15th after two men were caught stealing batteries from Comcast utility boxes in the Gettysburg and Fowler area of Clovis. A Clovis Police detective's investigation into that case led to an arrest and to the property. Clovis Police served a search warrant near Jensen and Elm recovered 38 Comcast back-up batteries along with 65 stolen catalytic converters. Comcast officials told police these thefts have cost the company approximately \$100,000.00 in batteries, cable and electronic boards.

Traffic Collision Claims the Life of a Woman

A car hit a pedestrian on August 3rd near the Walgreens Store on West Shaw. A husband and wife were walking out of the store, when a 77-year-old man pulled into a parking stall and hit the gas instead of the brake. The woman was pinned between the car and a cage holding propane tanks, and passed away at Community Regional Medical Center.

Back to School Traffic Detail Generates More than 115 Citations

Nineteen Clovis Police officers wrapped up their Back to School Traffic Detail at Clovis schools on August 26th after writing a total of 116 tickets, most of those for speeding and cell phone use while driving. Officers were also looking for crosswalk, seatbelt/child safety seat and stop sign violations. Those people creating traffic hazards which endangered others also received tickets. Here are the stats:

- Cell phone – 51
- Speeding – 23
- Seatbelts/Child Safety Seats –14
- Crosswalk – 3
- Parking – 3
- Other (i.e. Driver Licenses, signaling, equipment violations) -- 22

Last year, Clovis Police officers issued 81 citations during the same time period. Of those, 39 were for speeding and 31 for cell phone use while driving.

PROMOTION:

Congratulations to Senior Police Chaplain Dave MacNeill

Pastor Dave MacNeill is the new leader of the Volunteer Clovis Police Chaplain program. Pastor David Murillo passed the torch to him after serving in the lead position for three years. David will continue to serve as a chaplain in the program, and will now be able to devote more time to his family and to his job as pastor at Family Restoration Church. As you know, Clovis Police chaplains are on-call 24/7 to help in our community when tragedy strikes. We thank David for his leadership and commitment, and for accepting this position in August. He has served both as a Clovis Police and a Fresno Police chaplain, and is Executive Pastor at Clovis Hills Community Church.



EVENTS:

“Clovis Night Out” is a Family Affair and Draws 2,500 People

The Clovis Police Department offered a new twist on the safety-oriented National Night Out with its own “Clovis Night Out” on August 27th at Clovis High School. Clovis Police kicked off their brand new “Clovis Community Watch” neighborhood program, which replaces the old Neighborhood Watch with new information and technology suggestions. About 2,500 people turned out and met the officers who serve the community, browsed more than 65 food, game and boutique vendor booths, enjoyed a DJ and a live band, and let the kids



have fun with “free” face painting and a “free” bounce house. Law enforcement vehicles, military vehicles and the city’s very large sanitation trucks and specialty vehicles were on display along with Clovis Fire Department engines. A couple of Police Lieutenants stayed cool as kids and co-workers paid for the opportunity to send them into the dunk tank. This was a community effort by Corporal Katy Benham and Community Service Officer Andy Isolano to bring families together for an enjoyable evening with safety in mind.

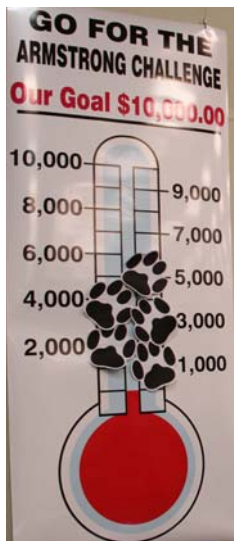


Clovis Police and Salvation Army Collaborate for Children’s Safety



The Clovis Police Department teamed up with the Salvation Army in Clovis to host a car safety seat giveaway/installation on August 8th in the Salvation Army parking lot. Twenty-seven families, identified through the Salvation Army, received free child passenger safety/booster seats properly installed in their cars. Certified Child Passenger Safety technicians from Clovis PD provided the proper seats, secured the seat in parents’ vehicles and made sure the youngsters were properly buckled up. The check-up was part of the Clovis Police Department’s Juvenile Traffic Safety and Education program grant. Funding for this program is provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety.

Clovis Pet Adoption Center Fundraiser Celebrates 4-Legged Stars!



The sixth annual Friends of the Clovis Pet Adoption Center fundraiser dinner on August 18th showcased four adorable, adoptable animals as guests arrived at the “star-studded” event. “A Star is Born” was the theme of this year’s dinner with live and silent auctions, pet photo contest and a special donation challenge from Clovis City Councilman Harry Armstrong that raised more than \$11,000.



Nearly 400 dinner guests purchased tickets for the event at the Clovis Veterans Memorial Building. Proceeds from the dinner and live and silent auctions, more than \$25,000, will go toward construction of the Miss Winkles Pet Adoption Center, Clovis. The Hollywood-style dinner benefit is one of several fundraising efforts to help complete the new facility. Clovis Police Chief Janet Davis addressed the audience and thanked those who have donated time and money to help the animals over the past year, and those who are working to make this new center a reality.

Beat 1 Officers Rally the Troops to Donate Backpacks & Supplies



One hundred and five children at Tarpey Elementary School received backpacks with school supplies inside on August 22nd courtesy of the men and women of the Clovis Police Department. Beat One officers, who patrol the Tarpey area, realized that without our help that many Tarpey students would go without at the beginning of the school year. Those officers enlisted the help of their colleagues to put together backpacks containing pencils, wide rule paper notebooks, scissors, a 24 pack of crayons, glue

sticks and a pencil box or bag. Many thanks to all who participated!

Car Wash Raises \$1,000 + to Send Explorers to National Conference

Clovis Police Explorers left their uniforms at home and donned t-shirts and shorts to wash cars at Clovis and 5th Streets on August 20th. They're trying to raise money to attend the National Law Enforcement Explorer Conference in Fort Collins, Colorado next year. The requested donation for each car wash was just \$5, and some folks donated more. This is the first of several such fundraisers before the conference in July. One hundred percent of the donations go directly to pay for the conference. The Explorers, ages 15 to 21, donate hundreds of community service hours to our City each year, and would appreciate the opportunity to join and learn with their fellow Explorers from around the country.



Clovis Police Department Mourns the Passing of Audrey Meyer

Administrative Assistant, better known to us as the Chief's secretary, Audrey Meyer retired on June 2nd of 2006 after 22 years of service to the Police Department

and a total of 25 years of service to the City of Clovis. This month, on August 15th, she passed away at the age of 74. She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Wes, their four children, fifteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Audrey worked for three Chiefs of Police during her tenure in Clovis. Audrey was proud to have served in the Police Department, and appreciated its high standards. Audrey was affectionately called “Deputy Chief.”



On her last day before retirement, Chief Zulim and his Command Staff gave Audrey something no one in this department has ever received -- sworn or non-sworn – a badge bearing the rank of “Deputy Chief.”

That’s how much she meant to us! We honored her, again, at a celebration of her life at New Hope Community Church in Clovis on August 20th, and will miss her very much.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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

	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>
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Citizen Surveys of Service: **89%** **88%** **77%** **77%**
 (Above average or excellent)

Community Development Block Grant Community Service Officer
Municipal Code Notices Issued for August: 97 Compliance: 94

Volunteer Hours for August (@ \$20.50 per hour):
Volunteers: 42 Hours Served: 855 Total Savings: \$17,313.75

Explorer Hours for August @ \$8.00 per hour):
Explorers: 17 Hours Served: 162 Total Savings: \$1,296.00

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

August 2011 statistics are not yet available.

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