

## Radio Magic

Some transformations at the Woodland Police Department (WPD), are welcoming the Volunteers in Policing (ViPs) as we get back to our old schedules. Check out our radios. They look nearly new. Morgan used her negotiation skills to get the ViPs access to better radios to use during patrol. The Explorers had radios with better batteries. Morgan volunteered to store those radios in the ViP office and arranged for the ViPs to use them when the Explorers are not on duty. We now have better radios that we can use for patrol at schools, at shopping areas, at parks, downtown, and during traffic calming.



New equipment will be soon seen throughout the WPD. The Woodland City Council approved two federal grants, which total about \$130,000 so that the WPD could purchase critical equipment needed to deal with the coronavirus and 11 portable all-band radios. To deal with the coronavirus the department will purchase disinfectant systems; masks; and a FARO Laser Scanner Focus 70. The scanner provides several benefits. It allows staff to be less exposed to contaminants when processing crime scene data. It is able to 'freeze' a crime scene in three dimensions by quickly rendering a 360-degree view. The faster evidence gathering process will shorten road closures time, reduce secondary crashes, and reduce department costs. The new all-band radios will be used to coordinate communication among four agencies. The WPD will get four radios,

the Woodland Fire Department—six, the Willow Oak Fire Protection District and Yolo County Office of Emergency Services will share a single radio. The city agencies now use 800 MGHZ radio frequencies and the county agencies use VHF radio frequencies. The all-band radios will allow inter-agency communication on both frequencies.

All ViPs received radio training during the orientation session. If that is a faded memory, do not worry! Several ViPs attended Sgt. Ruiz's Vehicle Abatement training where he reviewed proper procedures. Check with Samantha Melgoza, Larry Vogelsang, Carol Wolf, Darrell Wolf, Alec Reynolds, Juan Escobar, Wesley Nelson, Sharon Reeser, or Janel Morgan. They all received Sgt. Ruiz's helpful Volunteer Radio Training Guide. Every ViP should carry this guide when they are on patrol. Key points are:

- Be prepared to transmit your thoughts clearly and consisely.

- Depress and firmly hold the microphone activation button before and after transmitting to avoid clipping information.
- Be sure that no other individuals are using the radio.
- Know the proper unit designator. The ViPs use 2 OCEAN 1 through 10. The numbers 1 through 10 designate beats. For example, 1 is Yolo County and 2 is Woodland.
- Know your CAD number. The CAD number is the Computer-Assisted Dispatch number that is unique for each ViP. See Morgan if you do not have your number.
- Sign on the radio at the beginning of your shift as follows:
  - ViP: “2 OCEAN 2”
  - Dispatcher: “2 OCEAN 2, go ahead.”
  - You: “2 OCEAN 2, CAD #, In Service.”
  - Dispatch will acknowledge your logon transmission.
- Whenever using the radio:
  - Decrease a car radio volume
  - Use clear annunciation
  - Always know your location
  - Pay attention to the beeper. If it is on do not transmit unless it is an extreme emergency.
- When you return from the field, make sure that you sign off with Dispatch. Sign off the radio as follows:
  - You: “2 OCEAN 2”
  - Dispatcher: “2 OCEAN 2, go ahead.”
  - You: “2 OCEAN 2, CAD #, Out of Service.”
  - Dispatch will acknowledge your logoff transmission.
- You can always call into Dispatch at the beginning and ending of patrol by calling the non-emergency number: 530-666-2411.
- Remember to turn off your radio and replace it in the charger at the end of your shift.

Welcome back! Check out the radios and get the Sgt. Ruiz Volunteer Radio Training Guide from one of our well-trained Vehicle Abatement Team members. 2 OCEAN 2, 2323, Out of Service.