

OXNARD NEWS IN BRIEF



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

City of Oxnard receives 2017 Tyler Public Sector Excellence Award



On Monday, May 8, staff members with the Oxnard Police and Information Technology (IT) departments attended the Connect 2017 conference in San Antonio, Texas, where they received the prestigious Tyler Public Sector Excellence Award. The award is bestowed upon organizations that demonstrate leadership, innovation and excellence in developing, deploying and maintaining Tyler Technology solutions in new ways.

The Oxnard Police and IT departments use Tyler Technology products for duties such as records management and 9-1-1 dispatching. Oxnard accomplishments include:

- Sharing of investigative information through a Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)-led network of participating agencies
- Set up police report website to allow residents, businesses and big-box retail outlets to report crimes without having to go to the station or wait for an officer to respond
- Deployed mobile app to enable officers to identify suspects in the field via smartphones
- Integrated taser body-worn camera videos with Computer Aided Dispatching data
- Integrated the Records Management System data to Police Evidence Management System
- Set up traffic analysis system to map collision information for geographic staffing deployment, traffic and citation trend analysis
- Created self serve kiosk to allow people to report crimes and pay citations

- Provide regular crime maps and related information to the public
- Created an automated daily report that summarizes activity for the previous 24 hours
- Implemented a system that maps crimes and calls for service, and serves as guide to identify problem locations ("hotspots")

Denise Shadinger becomes Oxnard's first female commander



Denise Shadinger is making history in Oxnard. She was named the City of Oxnard's newest police commander, becoming the first female commander at the Oxnard Police Department.

Raised in south Oxnard, Commander Shadinger joined the Oxnard Police Department in 1996. She became the first female K-9 handler, and over the years has served the department in various capacities including senior officer, field training officer, detective for the Narcotics and Family Protection Unit and patrol sergeant.

Shadinger will transition to patrol duty as commander for the south district. "I am honored to be selected for this position and to have the opportunity to work in a part of the city where I spent the majority of my childhood," Shadinger said.

"The South District Neighborhood Policing Team has been working diligently to address quality of life issues, and I plan to expand those efforts," she said.

Employee George Van Hemert receives 2016 Safety in Motion Award

George Van Hemert, health and safety supervisor for the Environmental Resources Division (ER) of the Public Works Department, was awarded the 2016 Safety in Motion Award by PRECO Electronics.

PRECO has been developing safety technologies since 1947. For the past six years, the organization has honored professionals who share its value of keeping safety moving forward in their companies, communities and industries.

Van Hemert received this honor for his persistent pursuit of heavy duty vehicle safety. One of only two award recipients, Van Hemert implemented safety measures that decreased workers compensation injuries, helping to bring the ER Division's indemnity costs to the lowest level of any Southern California company of a similar size and industry.

We sat down with Van Hemert for a question-and-answer session about his career and safety philosophy.



Q: First let me say congratulations on receiving the 2016 Safety in Motion Award. That is a great honor for you and for the Environmental Resources Division.

A: Thank you. You know we have gone three years without having to report an accident to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Environmental Resources Industry is #5 in the list of most dangerous places to work in the U.S. The City of Oxnard Environmental Resources Division is one of the safest facilities in the country, so this is a great accomplishment for all of us. It is important to know that we could not have had this success without the full support of Todd Housley, the Environmental Resources Manager. If you want to get something accomplished you have to work as a team. Our current safety success could not happen unless everyone from the management on down believes in the process and follows through.

Q: You obviously bring experience to the table, what did you do prior to coming to work for the City of Oxnard?

A: I worked as a regional safety manager for the Central Coast of California. I was in charge of doing inspections, safety risk assessments and workers comp investigations for a number of companies in the region.

Q: You covered all aspects of safety management, so I'm guessing that you saw a huge range of accidents and improper safety practices. What did you take away from that?

A: You have to emphasize the fundamentals of safety, but one of the major problems that you have to be aware of and fight against is complacency. In order to reduce injuries, the goal is to help employees maintain an adequate alert level, because no matter how well trained you are you can become complacent. It can happen to any of us. It is also important to enforce safety. People have to feel comfortable in their jobs, and they have to have an understanding that this is what I have to do in order to go home safely. An important aspect of the job is to help them realize that it is in their best interest, and the City's, for them not go home injured.

Q: We noticed that even now, away from Environmental Resources, you are wearing your safety vest and you have your safety eyewear in hand.

A: (George smiles at this question) You know when everyone is wearing their safety equipment it makes you feel that you are in a professional environment, and that it is important. Image is an important aspect because it affects attitude.

Q: It is a visual form of communication?

A: Exactly.

Q: Obviously being a good communicator is essential to your success. What are some of the communication methods you employ?

A: Yes. It is important to not only look the part, but to do the part and prove it through action and communication. You have to have good communication. Every location should have safety tailgate meetings with subjects that address what needs to be done in order to protect you under different circumstances. Whenever we have an incident, we sit down afterwards with the people who were involved and we discuss what could have been done differently to prevent it from happening and then we set about making those corrections. You have to talk with employees and follow through with them. It's not just about reprimanding people – that definitely has its place, but it is also important to compliment people when they do things that make their environment safer.

Q: What advice would you give to anyone who wants to be safer in their lives?

A: Something I have come to realize is that speed is one of the biggest factors in causing accidents. Rushing things and being complacent can lead to injuries. For example, you might be cutting something up for dinner and you are in a hurry. You know that the knife is sharp and potentially dangerous, but because you are in a hurry you don't take the extra steps to ensure safety and you end up accidentally cutting yourself. The same can happen in the workplace. My advice is to slow down enough to put safety first and this will greatly decrease your chance of injury.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Mussel quarantine in effect through Oct. 31, 2017



The Ventura County Environmental Health Division, in coordination with the California Department of Public Health, issued the annual quarantine of mussels taken by recreational shellfish harvesters. The quarantine is effective through Oct. 31, 2017, and has been established due to hazardous levels of toxin causing paralytic shellfish poisoning, which may be present in mussels along the Ventura County coast.

The quarantine applies to all species of mussels taken by the public anywhere on the California coast including all bays, harbors and estuaries. Commercially harvested shellfish are not included in the annual quarantine.

In addition, consumers are advised not to eat recreationally harvested bivalve shellfish (such as mussels, clams or whole scallops) from Ventura County. Dangerous levels of domoic acid have been detected in mussels sampled from Ventura County, making them unsafe to eat.

By complying with the mussel quarantine and advisory, exposure to Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) and Domoic Acid Poisoning (DAP) can be prevented. PSP affects the central nervous system producing a tingling around the mouth and fingertips within a few minutes to a few hours after eating shellfish that contain PSP toxins. This typically is followed by disturbed balance, lack of muscular coordination, slurred speech and difficulty swallowing. In severe poisonings, complete muscular paralysis and death from asphyxiation can occur.

Symptoms of DAP can occur within 30 minutes to 24 hours after eating toxic seafood. In mild cases symptoms may include vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, headache and dizziness. These symptoms disappear completely within several days. In severe cases the victim may experience excessive bronchial secretions, difficulty breathing, confusion, disorientation, cardiovascular instability, seizures, permanent loss of short-term memory, coma and death.

There is no known antidote to the toxins, and cooking cannot be relied upon to destroy them. Supportive medical care, however, has proven effective in managing the symptoms. Anyone who suspects they are experiencing PSP or DAP symptoms should immediately seek medical attention.

Mussels may be sold for use as bait when displayed and sold in containers labeled in boldfaced type with letters at least one-half inch in height as follows:

**MUSSELS FOR BAIT ONLY
UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD**

The County Environmental Health Division has posted placards in conspicuous places advising the public of the quarantine. The California Department of Public Health has established a Shellfish Information Hotline at (800) 553-4133 for additional information on shellfish biotoxin findings and quarantines.

For more information, visit www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/NR17-042.aspx

Camino del Sol resurfacing project to commence May 23

City of Oxnard construction contractors are anticipated to begin resurfacing Camino del Sol on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. Construction is anticipated to occur from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday through Aug. 11, 2017.

The resurfacing project includes replacing the existing asphalt concrete pavement between Entrada Drive and Del Norte Boulevard. During construction, traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction. The new pavement will consist of rubberized asphalt, providing a smoother, more durable street surface. Construction also includes removal and replacement of street signs and installing new traffic striping and markings.

Camino Del Sol is an important east/west arterial in the northern half of Oxnard. The road is heavily traveled by motorists, including semitrailers.

Additionally, the project will include paving a small portion of Ventura Boulevard, just north of Del Norte bridge. More information regarding potential lane closure dates and times will be provided as they become available.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Meet Up, Clean Up at Pleasant Valley Park May 13



Join us for the next Meet Up, Clean Up beautification event from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday, May 13 at Pleasant Valley Park, 4501 Justin Way. Volunteers should meet at the park for registration at 8 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Call (805) 572-5907 to RSVP.

The Meet Up, Clean Up program is designed to bring together community members and local organizations who work alongside City staff to improve Oxnard's quality of life through monthly beautification projects. The program allows participants to forge a relationship with each other and with City of Oxnard staff while gaining a sense of pride in their public spaces.

Meet Up, Clean Up is spearheaded by the Recreation Division of the Cultural and Community Services, with support from neighborhood councils, local organizations and employees from several City departments.

ARTS, CULTURE & EDUCATION

'State of the arts' community meeting May 25

Join us on Thursday, May 25, 2017, at the Oxnard Main Library, Meeting Room B, 251 S. A St., for a discussion on the future of the arts in downtown Oxnard.

The networking mixer will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting from 6-8 p.m.

For more information, contact Michele Kantor at (805) 385-3938 or michele.kantor@oxnard.org.



Mayor, commissioners tour after-school program at McAuliffe Elementary School



On Monday, May 1, Mayor Tim Flynn joined Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commissioners Roger Poirier, Steve Nash, Angela Whitecomb and Gabriel Teran for a tour of the after school program held at McAuliffe Elementary School. The mayor and commissioners visited each rotation in the program, which consisted of math, language arts, homework, art, special enrichment and recreation (fitness and sports).

After-School Education and Safety Art Gala attended by over 400 people



Thursday, May 4, 2017, was the annual After-School Education and Safety Art Gala, which was held at Frank Middle School. The theme for this year's event, highlighting the beauty of Ventura County, gave our student artists the opportunity to showcase their artwork.

The students received overwhelming support at the event from their families, friends, Councilmembers Perello and Madrigal, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commissioners Poirier, Nash and Whitecomb, as well as members of the Oxnard School Board and district administrators. More than 400 people attended the event.

Community celebration of 110 years of Oxnard Public Library services is a success

A monthlong social media campaign, combined with strategic outreach and marketing to celebrate the Oxnard Public Library, resulted in over 3,400 community members attending the 110th anniversary event, "Libraries Transform," on Saturday, April 29. And transform they did!

With windy conditions threatening to put a damper on the outdoor festivities, last-minute changes were made early in the morning to bring the majority of the booths inside and convert the Main Library into a colorful gala of exciting activities!

Multiple community partnerships and collaborative efforts resulted in participation from several community organizations including Congresswoman Julia Brownley's Office, Assemblywoman Jacqui

Irwin's Office, Oxnard City Council, Oxnard Library Board, Cal State University Channel Islands, Oxnard School District, Inlakech and local authors, performers, artists and more.

Event components included City Corps train rides, the Inlakech youth mariachi band, several bilingual story times held throughout the day, a balloon presentation that ended with the creation of a four foot balloon sculpture of a dog and bone, craft programs such as colorful macaroni jewelry, paper bag puppets, story booklets and bookmarks. In addition, several local authors were on hand for a meet-and-greet with their works available for signature and sale. There was a robotics display by young adults from Rio Mesa High School's Robotics Team and also a 3D printer demonstration.



Overall, the event was well received by the public, and staff received multiple compliments and requests to celebrate the Oxnard Public Library every year.



EVENTS

PERFORMING ARTS AND CONVENTION CENTER, 800 HOBSON WAY

Movies at the PACC: "Annie" at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 25



The PACC brings Annie to its screen for its monthly "Movies at the PACC." The story of an orphan in a facility run by the mean Miss Hannigan, Annie believes that her parents left her there by mistake. When a rich man named Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks decides to let an orphan live at his home to promote his image, Annie is selected. While Annie gets accustomed to living in Warbucks' mansion, she still longs to meet her parents. So Warbucks announces a search for them and a reward, which brings out many frauds.

Admission is free. Click [here](#) to register.

805 dance showcase 6 p.m. Saturday, May 27

A dance showcase with some of the best talent in the 805 area, along with a handful of special professional guests from all over, will be right in your backyard. You don't want to miss out this one! Click [here](#) to buy tickets.

Senior activities, bingo: Wednesdays

Join the PACC for weekly bingo with *Ventura County Council on Aging*. Senior craft and activities begin at 10 a.m. Bingo doors open at 5 p.m. with games starting at 7 p.m.

Oxnard Ballroom Dance Club: 7:30 p.m. Thursdays

Each week a different live band performs big band sounds from the 1930s and 1940s, along with other types of music, to keep the dance floor in a constant state of counterclockwise motion. Fox trot, waltz, cha-cha, tango, samba and even line dancing test the men's ability to remember their steps and turns while the women follow their lead.

CARNEGIE ART MUSEUM (CAM), 424 SOUTH C STREET



“Defying Darkness” on display until May 21, 2017

The development of recent works delving into a darkness not to be feared is highlighted with over 30 drawings in Joanne Julian's signature combination of detailed graphite and splashed *sumi* ink.

CAM STUDIO GALLERY

CAM Studio guest artist Terry Arena will be at the studio through May 29. www.carnegieam.org/cam-studio-gallery

REMINDERS

Alleyway improvements continue in Terrace Estates, Windsor North through May 2017

City contractors continue to reconstruct alleyways in the Terrace Estates and Windsor North River Ridge neighborhoods. The project consists of removing the existing asphalt alleyways and reconstructing them with concrete, which is more durable and lasts longer.

Click [here](#) to view a previous version of Oxnard News in Brief, which includes the construction schedule and more details about the project.



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