

ATHERTON POLICE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER #1



Welcome to the 1st Neighborhood Newsletter from the Atherton Police Department. We hope to provide you with vital and interesting information on police business, helpful tips and articles to help you know the officers that work in your community.

Your Department

Your Police Department is staffed with 17 sworn Police Officers, which include:

- 1 Police Chief
- 1 Lieutenant
- 4 Sergeants
- 1 Detective Sergeant
- 1 Detective
- 9 Patrol Officers

We also have 3 Communications Dispatchers, 1 Communications Supervisor, 1 Community Service Officer and a Civilian Training Manager.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF, MICHAEL A. GUERRA

I have been a member of this organization since 1985 and this community is truly a part of my family. I enjoy working with our City Manager Jerry Gruber and the Town Council on providing the finest level of police services to the community.

For over 86 years, Atherton has been the address of choice for leaders in business, government, education, and the arts. Its distinctive residential homes and estates surround the culturally diverse schools that embrace students from every socio-economic and cultural background. Atherton Police Officers routinely deal with students, visitors, and residents ranging from youth-at-risk to internationally prominent sports figures and business leaders.

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We are fortunate to have the support of our residents, illustrated by a special service tax that in part is used to assure that a high level of police services will always be available. Our personnel provide a full range of high quality services, including community resource programs in the Town's schools, traffic enforcement, criminal investigations, as well as the more routine calls for service.

In order to increase the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Police Department, we continue to update and upgrade with the latest technology.

Our "family-like" agency is what makes Atherton such a great place to work!

Please see *Chief* on page 2



Chief from page 1

To the community and residents – thank you for your optimism and support of the men and women of the Atherton Police Department. As police work becomes more difficult and the type of investigations change, it is comforting to know you stand beside us on the thin blue line.

New Lieutenant: Joseph Wade

Lieutenant Wade has been with the Atherton Police Department since 1999, and has been assigned as a Sergeant to both patrol and investigations. In addition, Lieutenant Wade had collateral duties as a SWAT operator on the multi-agency Redwood City Police Department SWAT team, Field Training Officer (FTO), and Defensive Tactics Instructor. Lieutenant Wade has spent time as a supervisor with the regional Gang Task Force.

As a Police Officer, Lieutenant Wade was assigned for several years as a School Resource Officer (SRO). Lieutenant Wade is currently the President of the Atherton Police Activities League.

Lieutenant Wade has a Bachelor's of Science degree from Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo, and a Master of Arts in Leadership from St. Mary's College.



NEW K-9: Lotty

In Atherton, the police department is very grateful to specific residents who have come forward and donated funds to purchase our police dogs, to buy and set up the K-9 vehicles, and to pay for expenses such as high-quality canine food, veterinary care, and the tools and equipment used for K-9 training. The police department is ever mindful of the generosity and support provided by the community.

Please see *Lotty* on page 3

LIDAR – New Speed Enforcement Device

A new feature of the Atherton Police Department is the use of LIDAR, an innovative tool for traffic and speed control. LIDAR stands for Light Detection and Ranging.

Similar to Radar, LIDAR uses a radio frequency which is emitted from the handheld device towards a traveling vehicle. The unit measures distance and speeds by measuring the time delay between the transmitted frequency and returned frequency.

A Message from Sgt. Rick Enberg

Joining the Atherton Police Department in 2006 has been the culmination of my forty-year law enforcement career, both civilian and military. I would not have reached this apex of my life without the unwavering support from my wife–Jeanne, my daughter–Elizabeth, and two sons – Max and Nick.

I started my law enforcement career with the US Army Military Police, with deployments to the Republic of South Vietnam and the Republic of South Korea. After completing my initial active duty commitment, I joined the Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff and then joined the Stanford Department of Public Safety as a Police Sergeant. After 9/11, I retired from the Stanford Department of Public Safety and returned to active duty as a Special Agent for the US Army Criminal Investigations Command (CID), deploying to Europe and Iraq. I joined the Atherton Police Department in 2006 as a Reserve Officer while I continued working with the US Army CID, which I retired from in 2010.

I attained a Bachelors Degree from California Polytechnic University (Cal Poly–SLO) and a Masters degree from San Jose State University.



Lotty from page 2

It is also important to note that surrounding communities often request the use of our K-9 teams to assist in searches of buildings and locations, so that dangerous suspects are apprehended quickly and safely. It often takes a trained K-9 team only minutes to check a building or large open area for missing persons or suspects, where it might take hours and a host of officers to safely contain an area long enough to do a thorough search without the dogs.

K-9 Lotty is a two year old female German Shepherd assigned to Officer Dean DeVlugt. Lotty is patrol as well as tracking certified. Tracking involves the K-9's ability to follow a scent or ground disturbance to its source long after a person or article is left behind.

Lotty is very strong, but loves to please. Lotty enjoys working and visiting schools to meet with kids. When not at work, Lotty loves to play hide-and-seek and tug-of-war. Her best friend is retired K-9 Zar.



Lotty

"The dog's nose can discern scent some 200-300 times better than a human. For example, if we smell a good stew cooking on the stove, a police dog can differentiate the scent of the meat, the potatoes, the vegetables, and the broth!"

PAL Scholarship Awards

Every year, the Atherton Police Activities League (PAL) offers \$5,000 college scholarships to high school seniors who attend one of the three high schools in Atherton.

The 2 winners for 2010 are: **Daniel Kozlowski** from Menlo- Atherton High School and **Trevor Gibson** from Sacred Heart Prep. Each received a **\$5,000** scholarship! Criteria for the award include: personal profile; athletic and/or community involvement; leadership experience; honors and awards; letter of recommendation; and a 250 word essay about their scholastic goals, dreams, and career goals. Congratulations to Daniel and Trevor!

How Busy is your Police Department?

In 2009, the police department handled over 14,000 incidents that were either reported by the community or were officer initiated.

The Atherton Police Department handles a wide range of calls for service each day and night. A few of the most common calls include with 2009 statistics:

- Residential alarms – over 3,600 calls
- Suspicious circumstances (including suspicious vehicles and suspicious persons) – over 900 calls
- Over 250 traffic enforcement details were generated at residents' requests and over 3,900 traffic stops were initiated
- Over 280 calls for Town Ordinance violations and parking violations

The officers of the Atherton Police Department also initiate security checks of the schools, construction sites and Holbrook Palmer Park during the evenings and weekends.

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For Emergencies
DIAL 9-1-1

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

[http://www.ci.atherton.
ca.us/police](http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/police)

Troop 61705 meets Ofc. Mills

On May 13, 2010, Officer Brad Mills met with Brownie Troop 61705 at St. Joseph's School. The girls in the troop are second graders at St. Joseph's. While with the group, Officer Mills taught the girls what to do in an emergency, how to respond to strangers demonstrated some of the equipment he uses on patrol.



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ATHERTON RESIDENT