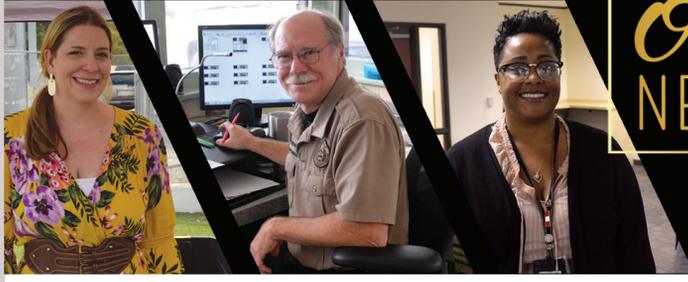




October NEWSLETTER

VOL 3: ISSUE 10



MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HERNANDEZ

On October 24th, our Victim Services Unit (VSU) hosted a luncheon for our detectives and support staff as we recognized Domestic Violence Awareness month.

VSU consists of eight full-time employees and over 50 volunteers. They focus on offering assistance to victims, witnesses and survivors of crisis situations to include sexual assault, homicide, aggravated assault, robbery, family violence, child abuse, family disturbances, harassment, residential burglaries, and vehicular crimes.

These amazing people offer compassion and support in various ways. Whether it be sitting on a sidewalk next to a shaky teen who just experienced a major car collision, holding the hand of a rape victim as she's transported to the hospital, providing resource information to a man whose brother is in a mental health crisis, or holding a

young mother who just lost a child, our VSU staff member or volunteer is the rock who holds the survivor steady and has the answers that make the next steps less traumatic.

VSU staff and volunteers are also trained to recognize signs of physical abuse that might not be obvious to the untrained eye. They're an asset to both the survivor and detectives.

Your Travis County Sheriff's Office is full of employees who operate every day as unsung heroes. Our VSU shines brightly among them. If you think you might want to be a VSU volunteer, please visit Victim Services Volunteers to learn more about it.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS



For the ninth consecutive year, we observed Domestic Violence Awareness month through a campaign called "Football is a Contact Sport. Love Shouldn't Be." To show support, varsity football players wore purple ribbon stickers on their helmets and varsity volleyball players wore purple shoelaces.



MEXICAN CONSULATE



The Honorable Pablo Marentes, Consul General of Mexico in Austin, invited Sheriff Hernandez and other local law enforcement executives to kick-off their week-long Domestic Violence Awareness campaign.



MISS SWEETHEART PAGEANT



On October 12th, we once again joined officers from other local law enforcement agencies as escorts in the annual Special Olympics of Texas Miss Sweetheart Special Needs Pageant.



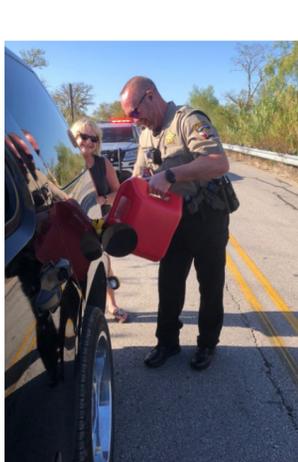
WALK & BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY



The first Wednesday in October is National Walk & Bike to School Day. The event is meant to inspire health and safer routes for students to walk and bike to school.



Facebook post from a user thanking Deputy Russell Thompson for escorting them home.



Facebook post from a user thanking Deputy Garrett Kunz for helping with a bicycle.

Well done, Deputy Garrett Kunz!



On June 3, 2018, a 17 year-old called her family from the side of the road, saying her boyfriend had strangled her to the point of losing consciousness.

Stephen Rojas, 42 years old, was found guilty on two counts of family violence. He was sentenced by Judge Cliff Brown to 30 years in prison on each case to run concurrently.

On February 3, 2018, TCSO began an investigation into the stabbing death of 36 year-old Emily Villareal. The victim had been murdered in front of her juveniles children.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



TCSO deputies spent the evening of October 1st celebrating National Night Out (NNO) with a number of community activities from all over Travis County.

NNO is an annual community-building campaign that enhances the relationship between law enforcement and neighborhoods. For more information about creating a Neighborhood Watch Program in your community, please contact our Community Outreach Unit.

