

Substation

Continued from Page 1

ment in the area with its mere presence, the station is also a convenient means for business owners and employees to voice their concerns to an officer.

"Now if you need someone, you can just walk across the street," said John Mathison, a 7-Eleven clerk. "You don't have to call them on the phone, and they can see your face."

"It's good for community relations."

That proved especially true on Tuesday when two students raced into the building to report a suspected drunk driver. An officer was in pursuit of the suspect just moments later after the students reported the car's license plate number.

Eugene Police Sgt. Rick Gilliam, the campus public safety officer, cites a recent incident at Starbucks. Employees dealing with an unruly patron simply walked across the street to hail police, who quickly removed the patron.

The station is staffed by Mason, one other officer, two guides and a probation/parole officer, who Mason said deals mostly with sex offenders in the area.

While Mason said she is pleased to have moved from the trailer that served as the station's temporary home in the 7-Eleven parking lot, the construction and advertising of the permanent station has presented a pleasant problem.

"We have nearly two times the workload," Mason said. "We've gone from about 75 reports a day to nearly 200."



Police Officer Bev Mason flips through the yearly crime statistics report Tuesday afternoon at the police substation located at the corner of 13th and Alder streets. *Amanda Cousin/Emerald*

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