

Drunk driver nabbed with 25 pounds of marijuana

by Cheryl McDermott

A tip from a concerned citizen about a careless driver led Salem Police Officer Jared Noack to the discovery of 25 pounds of marijuana hidden in the suspect's vehicle after the driver was arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants, authorities reported.

Police found 25 pounds, about \$88,000 worth of marijuana - Salem Police photo Mario Alberto Andrade-Cerda, 50, of Salem, was taken into custody Wednesday for suspicion of drunk driving and giving false information to police. According to a news release, Officer Noack discovered four small bindles of marijuana, and a K-9 drug-detecting dog and his handler, Officer Sean Cooper found an additional 24 pounds of pot hidden in the cargo area of Andrade-Cerda's vehicle.

Andrade-Cerda and his passenger, 20-year old Jonathen Leyva of Whittier, California, were both charged with possession and delivery of a controlled substance, and possession and delivery of a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a school.

Both men were lodged in the Marion County Jail.

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