Ceramic container found at Mt. SAC blown up by bomb squad



By Ruby Gonzales

12/01/15

WALNUT >> A ceramic container wrapped in tape found Tuesday in a courtyard at Mt. San Antonio College drew suspicion and led to the evacuation of several buildings, the cancelation of some classes and a call to the sheriff's bomb squad.

"It was not a bomb," Sheriff's Lt. John Saleeby said. He said the squad "rendered it safe." They blew up the container which a college official had earlier described as a casserole dish.

Jill Dolan, director of Public Affairs at Mt. SAC, said inside the container was a blue plate and note.

She said the bomb squad did not know there was a note until they blew up the container. According to Dolan, the note said: Thank you for the good dish.

A janitor discovered the container in a courtyard area within the theater complex at 6:57 a.m. and told campus security, she said.

She said the item raised suspicion because it was in an odd place. It was found lying on the ground, Dolan added.

The sheriff's Walnut/Diamond Bar station was notified. Soon, the Sheriff's Arson and Explosive Detail headed to the college at 1100 N. Grand Ave.

Dolan said classes that were held before 8 a.m. were cancelled. She said the following buildings were evacuated: the Performing Arts Center, the music building, 1A, 1B, 1C, 6 and the Campus Cafe.

The incident was over at around 8:40 a.m.