



## *The Week in Review*

A Report from the City Manager – Vol. 4, No. 48 – December 15, 2011

**\*\*\* Note: City offices will be closed as a result of upcoming holidays and unpaid furloughs that will be taken by City employees. Offices will be closed December 22 through January 2. There will be no “starts” or “stops” for water, sewer or garbage service during these two weeks. Solid waste collection will remain on its regular schedule.**

### **Fire Department**

Toy Collection Site: The South County Crisis Center has placed barrels at each of the three fire stations to collect toys for the children at their organization. They have also included wish lists from some of the children for those who would prefer to sponsor an individual child. Please help us support this event by dropping off your toy donations at one of the fire stations.

Chamber Coffee: The Fire Department will be hosting the Chamber Coffee on Wednesday, December 21, at 8:00 a.m., at Fire Station No. 2, located at 1154 S. Union Road. Please join us!

### Highlights of Incidents:

- *Electrical Arcing – Churcher Drive – December 8*  
Firefighters were dispatched to a report of electrical arcing from a stove on Thursday morning. Upon arrival, Firefighters met with the occupant, who stated she had been cleaning the appliance when it started to spark. Firefighters isolated the stove, securing both the electrical and gas lines, ensuring that the hazard did not extend further into the structure.
- *Gas Leak – Tami Place – December 8*  
Firefighters responded to a gas leak on Tami Place on Thursday evening. Upon arrival, they found the residents outside with the garage door open. Firefighters investigated the area for the source of the gas leak and found that a propane tank had been left partially open. Once the valve was secured, Firefighters again checked the garage and surrounding area to confirm it had been contained and ventilated the area.
- *Fire – Moffat Boulevard – December 9*  
Firefighters were dispatched to an outdoor fire on Moffat Boulevard early Friday morning. Upon arrival, they found a vegetation fire smoldering at a

commercial facility. Firefighters immediately extinguished the fire and checked the surrounding area for fire extension before releasing the scene.

- *Fire – Woodward Avenue – December 9*

Firefighters responded to a grass fire on Woodward Avenue on Friday afternoon. Upon arrival, they found a vegetation fire. Once the fire was extinguished, Firefighters checked ensuring there were no further hazards in the area.

- *Elevator Rescue – Bass Pro Drive – December 10*

Firefighters were dispatched to a smoke detector activation at a hotel on Bass Pro Drive on Saturday afternoon. While en-route, they were notified by Dispatch that there were two people trapped in the elevator and that they were adding the Truck Company to the call. Upon arrival, they found the source of the smoke was coming from the hydraulic unit of the elevator and that there were a total of four people trapped. Firefighters were successful in forcing entry into the elevator shaft and rescuing the four trapped victims without damage to the facility.



*Elevator Rescue – Bass Pro Drive – December 10, 2011*

- *Fire – Marion Street – December 10*

Firefighters were dispatched to a structure fire on Marion Street late Saturday evening. Upon arrival, they found smoke in the residence with the odor of electrical burning. Firefighters were assigned to check the roof top and found that the smoke was coming from a malfunctioning HVAC vent. Firefighters found melted wiring to the unit blowers and disconnected the power source. The entire roof was then searched for fire extension and the residence was ventilated to remove the remaining smoke.

- *Fire – West Yosemite Avenue – December 12*

Firefighters responded to a vehicle fire on West Yosemite Avenue on Monday morning. Upon arrival, they found burning debris in the rear seat of the vehicle. The fire had spread throughout the seat and interior. Firefighters extinguished the fire and checked the rest of the vehicle for fire extension. Upon investigation, the engine company crew found multiple cigars in the ash tray and ashes scattered throughout the floorboard and seats.

## Police Department

The following is a summary of the significant events from the past week:

Pursuit: On December 8, the Police Department received a message regarding a stolen Honda Accord from the City of Ripon. The message was broadcasted to Patrol Officers, and at 10:30 p.m., a Manteca Officer observed a similar vehicle northbound on Sequoia Avenue. The Officer checked closer and discovered the license plate matched that of the stolen vehicle. The Officer made a U-turn and initiated a felony car stop at South Union Road and Daniels Street. When Officers stepped out of their cars and ordered the suspect to turn the ignition off, the suspect in the Honda accelerated and fled. Several Officers pursued the stolen Honda westbound onto Highway 120 until conditions required them to terminate.

Operation Safe Holidays: On December 7 and 8, Special Crimes Unit (SCU) Detectives assisted in a two-day operation coordinated by the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department. The goal of this operation was to address the criminal element in an effort to curb crimes during the holiday season. Personnel came from Federal, State, County and municipal agencies. Personnel were divided into nine teams throughout the County. The Manteca Team was comprised of SCU Detectives, State Parole, San Joaquin County Probation and San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department personnel. Day 1 was dedicated to a parole and probation sweep involving suspects previously involved in violent criminal activity, and Day 2 was a saturation patrol for Officer-initiated contacts and stops. During the two-day operation, the Manteca Team made 11 felony arrests, 6 misdemeanor arrests, 4 warrants arrests, conducted 14 parole searches, and investigated 6 drug cases and 2 weapons cases.

Pursuit and Arrest of Burglary Suspects: On December 12 at 1:55 p.m., the Manteca Police Department was dispatched to the 1600 block of Snapdragon Way in regard to an interrupted residential burglary. The suspect vehicle was described as a white 1990s four-door Lexus. The San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department had taken a report of an interrupted residential burglary earlier in the morning, with the description of the suspect vehicle being the same. Officers responded to the area and observed the suspect vehicle driving westbound on Highway 120. Officers followed the suspect vehicle and requested additional assistance from the California Highway Patrol. A pursuit was initiated, and continued eastbound on I-580 until the vehicle was lost in the Dublin area. A short time after the vehicle was lost, Alameda County Sheriff's deputies located the vehicle in the downtown Dublin area. They also located three suspects in the vicinity and took them into custody. It was discovered that these three suspects had been involved in multiple residential burglaries. These burglaries occurred in different jurisdictions including Tracy, Manteca and the unincorporated areas of San Joaquin County. The suspects were in possession stolen items that included a rifle, computers, gaming systems, jewelry, currency and IPADs. All three suspects were transported to the Manteca Police Department, where they were interviewed and booked.

## Public Works

Engineering and Information Technology Internal Audit Finds \$80,835 in Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) Fee Underpayments:

The franchise fee that PG&E pays to public agencies in its service territory is based, in part, on the number of premises within each agency's geographic boundaries.

PG&E recently updated its Geographic Information System (GIS), and used this new software to re-calculate the number of residences in each public agency within its service territory. PG&E then used this information to validate the franchise fees paid to the various cities and counties that they serve. After completing their calculations, PG&E shared the information with each public agency, and offered them the opportunity to review it for accuracy. The City's Engineering and Information Technology (I.T.) divisions took the opportunity to review PG&E's calculations. I.T. also conducted its own analysis for comparison using the City's GIS. The result of I.T.'s analysis indicated that PG&E incorrectly listed 831 premises as being within City limits that were, in fact in the County; and that PG&E incorrectly listed 192 premises as being within the County that were, in fact, in the City limits. PG&E agreed with I.T.'s analysis, and re-calculated the franchise fees based on the corrected information. PG&E found they had underpaid the City \$80,835.90 from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2010. This week, PG&E presented Engineering with several checks totaling \$80,835.90 for franchise fee underpayments from 2006 to 2010. PG&E will also review the franchise fee paid to the City in 2011, and will make adjustments, if any, by April 2012.

**Parks and Rec** Manteca Library Holiday Hours: During the week following Christmas, the library will open on an abbreviated schedule. The library will operate from December 27-30 from noon to 4:00 p.m. each day. Normal operating hours will resume Tuesday, January 3, 2012.

### **Special Events**

- The Manteca Senior Center hosted its Annual Breakfast with Santa Claus event on Saturday, December 10. There were more than 250 people who attended the event. Children and their parents were served breakfast made especially by the senior volunteers. Children made arts and crafts, visited with Santa and had pictures taken with him as well. Thank you to the Senior Center's volunteers who made this event a success.



*Breakfast with Santa*

### **Program Activity Information:**

#### **Tiny Tots**

- Tiny Tots Basketball is in its last week and it has been running very well. We have more than 80 participants enrolled in the program. The program runs five weeks and is held at Golden West Community Gym.

## Youth Basketball

- We had our coaches meeting on Saturday, December 10, and most all of our coaches showed up. Coaches received team rosters and signed up for practice times. Practices started the week of December 12.

## Adult Basketball

- Adult Basketball is scheduled to start February 12. We are trying to recruit teams, hoping to surpass last year's mark of 18 teams. If you or someone you know is interested in playing, call the Manteca Parks and Recreation office 456-8600.

## Kids' Zone Before- and After-School Programs:

- There are 280 children enrolled in our Kids' Zone programs. Enrollment has increased by 10 within the last month. The Parks and Recreation Department has a total of 19 Kids' Zone programs at local elementary schools. Kids' Zone is a licensed child-care program for school-aged kids.
- Manteca Garden Club offered a poster contest to the participants enrolled at the Kids' Zone programs. The contest was for Smokey the Bear and Woodsy the Owl. Participants drew the characters along with a concept, either keeping parks clean or preventing forest fires. There were 75 posters entered into the contest.
- With it being the month of December, participants at our Kids' Zone programs enjoy making crafts and doing holiday activities. McParland, After-School program made a Christmas Theme in their class, by setting up an artificial tree and making a fire place out of cardboard. They decorated the tree with lights and their own handmade ornaments.
- At the Woodward Kinder Zone program, the children have been making several crafts that pertain to Christmas. They've made gingerbread houses, paper stockings, marshmallow snowmen, pinecone trees and paper plate wreaths.



*Posters Contest Entries*

*McParland Christmas Theme*

*Holiday Wreath Craft*

## Community Development

Building Safety Week in Review – Week of December 5-9: The Building Safety Division conducted 134 inspections during the week. The division issued 59 building permits, which included 21 Single-Family Dwellings, 3 Residential Additions, 1 Storage Rack, 1 Commercial Remodel, 9

Residential Reroofs, 4 Miscellaneous Plumbings, 4 HVACs, 3 Patios, 1 Fence, 4 Miscellaneous Electricals, 2 Signs, 1 Residential Siding, 1 Water Heater, 1 Swimming Pool, 1 Miscellaneous Commercial Electrical, 1 Miscellaneous Residential Demolition and 1 Water Softener. A total of 42 new project applications were accepted at the counter and, of those, 28 were issued immediately. A total of 14 submittals were held for plan check services. They are: 4 Signs, 6 Single-Family Dwellings, 2 Miscellaneous Electrical, 1 Addendum and 1 Antenna.

## Economic Development/ Redevelopment

HOPE Family Shelter Rehabilitation: The HOPE Family Shelter Rehabilitation Project is expected to be completed in the next few weeks. The project includes a substantial rehabilitation of the eight-unit building and a tear-down and new construction of the laundry facility/office. The HOPE Shelter is an emergency shelter offering help to those in need on a first-come, first-served basis. The families may stay in the shelter for up to three months and receive counseling on how to reestablish their lives. This project has been funded entirely by Redevelopment funds. The Grand Opening of the Shelter will be in mid January.



*HOPE Family Shelter – 528 W. Yosemite Ave.*

Juniper Apartments: Construction of the 153-unit affordable housing complex at Juniper Apartments is currently under way. All buildings, with the exception of one, have their structural frame inspections, and the installation of electrical, plumbing, mechanical and lath continues. The contractor has begun the site work with the placement of asphalt, concrete for the trash enclosures and concrete curbs. Framing is scheduled to be completed within the next two weeks. This project is partially funded by the City of Manteca Redevelopment Affordable Housing Set-Aside funds.



*Juniper Apartments*

# City Manager's Office

Employee Retirements: I wanted to take this opportunity to wish the following 21 employees well in their retirement. These dedicated employees have either retired this year, or will be retiring within the next two weeks.

- |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                  |                                      |                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Public Works:</u><br>Leesha Evans<br>Keith Connaroe<br>Rich Dahlgren<br>Tom Foley<br>Jay Kirby<br>Robert Lumpkin<br>Tony Morrise<br>Bob Moulden<br>Carlos Ramos | <u>Police:</u><br>Cherrill Jones<br>Dave Bricker<br>Ralph Colin<br>Stephen Harris<br>Melanie Lewis<br>Linda Silva<br>Victor Vincent<br>Ken Wells | <u>Fire:</u><br>Randy May            | <u>Community Development:</u><br>Kevin Birkholtz |
|                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                  | <u>Finance:</u><br>Julie Sweeney     |                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                  | <u>Administration:</u><br>Rex Osborn |                                                  |

I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to each of you on your retirement. The combined years of service and experience leaving City service this year equals 361.5 years. I know the City Council and the rest of the employees join me in thanking these 21 individuals for their tireless service to the Manteca community. We will miss all of you – the City simply will not be the same without all of you. May your new journey be fun-filled!

Last TWIR of the Year: Beginning next Thursday, December 22, City offices will be closed for the remainder of the calendar year, as a combination of the Christmas and New Year’s holidays, and unpaid furloughs. Because of the short week next week, there will be no The Week in Review. I want to take this opportunity to, first of all, thank the City Council and the employees of the City of Manteca for their incredible dedication to this community. They are second to none! I also want to wish the community a joyous holiday season, and a happy and healthy 2012. There is still much to be done in the New Year, and I look forward to working with the Council, the staff and the community to continue to make Manteca the special place it is!

Until next year...!