



# The Week In Review

A Report from the City Manager ~ Vol. 9 / No. 4 ~ January 30, 2009

**Community Services**

The Stockton Arts Commission welcomes five new commissioners: Cliff Johnston, Joyce McCallister, John Nagle, Brian Paris and George Rodriguez. Reappointments included Kathy Hart, Bill Maxwell, Joel Reyna, Jr., Paula Sheil and Monsignor Harmon Skillin.

The Stockton Arts Commission is soliciting applications for the City's Arts Endowment Grant Program for 2009-10. The program funds grants for Stockton-based arts organizations, individual artists and arts educators who present and produce projects in the City. Application deadline is March 27, 2009. Grants are funded from interest earned on the Endowment so it will remain a permanent resource for the community. \$66,950 was awarded to eleven artists/organizations for 2008-09. Two workshops have been scheduled to assist in grant preparation. Interested applicants are required attend one of two: February 25, from 5 – 7 p.m. or February 28, from 9 – 11 a.m., at the Philomathean Club, 1000 North Hunter Street. Grant guidelines and application information can be downloaded at [www.stockton.gov/arts](http://www.stockton.gov/arts) or by email to [deena.heath@ci.stockton.ca.us](mailto:deena.heath@ci.stockton.ca.us). For additional information, call 209-937-7488.

The Stockton Commission is seeking nominations from the community for individuals, organizations and patrons who have made major contributions to arts and culture in the community. The categories include the STAR Award (Stockton's Top Arts Award Recognition), the Patron Award, the Volunteer Award and the Career Achievement Award. Other categories may be designated if appropriate. Recipients will be honored at the Annual Arts Awards Celebration at the Bob Hope Theatre on September 12, 2009 following ART WALK. Criteria and nomination forms can be downloaded at the City website, [www.stockton.gov/arts](http://www.stockton.gov/arts) or by email to [deena.heath@ci.stockton.ca.us](mailto:deena.heath@ci.stockton.ca.us). For additional information, call 209-937-7488.

Oak Park Tennis Center	
Program	Activity
Group Lessons	January group lessons continued this week. There are 23 adults and 15 children registered.
Leagues	Oak Park Women's League plays matches off-site this week.
Tournaments	Challenge Cup tournament Sunday matches were canceled due to the weather. The tournament will be completed next weekend.

Oak Park Senior Center	
Program	Activity
Trips	Sly Foxes tour director and staff attended a tour presentation by Talbot Tours and several travel partners regarding upcoming tour programs. Due to the economy, cruises are a good deal this year. Staff and volunteers are working to increase revenue for senior programs through travel programs.
Rentals	A rental for a diabetes class was held Wednesday; a second class is scheduled for Saturday.
Daily Activities	Thursday afternoon dances continue to be a favorite with live music. New players joined the Canasta group this week.
Membership	Two members renewed their city-wide senior memberships this week and five new members joined.
Special Programs/Events	Appointments for AARP Income Taxes are filling up fast. Three trained volunteers will be assisting seniors with their income tax returns on Wednesdays from February 4 through April 15.

**Financial  
Management  
Department**

This information is provided to inform the City Council as outlined in Chapter 3, Section 3-030, Part IV of the May 19, 1988, revision of the Stockton Municipal Code. The Purchasing Division sold the following surplus property. Through Roger Ernst & Associates of Modesto, CA the City sold one (1) surplus vehicle for FOUR HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$495.50).

**Fire  
Department**

<b>Calls for Service Jan. 23 – Jan. 29, 2009</b>	
7	Structure Fires
1	Advised Call
5	Vehicle fires
43	Fire Alarms
28	Vehicle Accidents
10	Hazmat Calls
60	Miscellaneous Calls
1	Chimney fire
519	Medical Calls
<b>674</b>	<b>Total calls</b>

<b>Fire Prevention- Plan Checks, Inspections, Hood &amp; Duct Systems and Fire Systems Tests</b>	
8	Final Fire Inspections
11	Visual/Hydro Inspections
4	Fire Alarm Inspections
3	Hood & Duct Inspection
4	CCL Inspections

<b>Fire / Arson Investigations</b>	
5	Buildings fire
4	Cooking fire, confined to container
1	Mobile property (vehicle) fire
1	Fire in motor home, camper, recreational vehicle
8	Passenger vehicle fire
1	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire
1	Fire other
1	Structure fire
2	Trash or rubbish fire, contained
1	Outside rubbish fire, other
1	Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire
<b>26</b>	<b>Total Fire</b>
<b>\$115,661.00</b>	<b>Total Estimated Dollar Loss</b>
<b>\$1,841,600.00</b>	<b>Total Estimated Pre-Incident Value</b>

Fire Prevention Staff reviewed 19 building plans and fire suppression systems. Fire Prevention inspector conducted an inspection of a temporary Carnival at Charter Way and Turnpike Road.

The Emergency Communication Division met the National Academies of Emergency Medical Dispatch's (NAED) national compliance rating during the fourth quarter.

**Human  
Resources**

Spring Golf Tournament Feb 21, 2009, Par Three 2-person Scramble and Dinner at Swenson Park Golf Course. Register using the Class Activity Registration form located on the Health & Wellness intranet page. For additional information, please contact Purita at 937-8419.

Ping pong is still going strong at the Civic Auditorium daily during the lunch hour.

Orientation for two new employees was held this week: Matthew Blount, Water Systems Operator, Operations and Maintenance, and Philip Simon, Fire Protection Specialist, SCEA.

**Library**

On Thursday, January 22, the Ripon Branch Library hosted a very successful program (attendance 50+) for families entitled "Antarctic Adventures: What's Happening at the South Pole" presented by Modesto Junior College Professors Richard Anderson and Lynn Hansen (retired). Their trip was quite an adventure, both fact-filled and thrilling. For all those in attendance, the march of the penguins was re-visited with exciting footage and commentary.

On Saturday, January 24, 40 adults and 35 children gathered at the Angelou Branch for a program led by three generations of the Rutland family. The program focused on author Eva Rutland's book, *When We Were Colored*, which tells what it was like to be the first black woman in many walks of life. Eva's daughter and granddaughter, Ginger Rutland and Eva Fields, were presenters. Students and teachers from neighboring Hamilton School turned out in impressive strength for the event. Following the program, the Rutland family generously donated three signed copies of the book to the Library for its circulating collection.

On Sunday, January 25, the same event at Chavez drew 34 guests of all ages who were very engaged by the presentation. There were entire families present and one, a guest from Burbank, offered to refer Eva Rutland's story to her son who works for "Access Hollywood" as she believes there may be interest by talk shows as well. The programs continue throughout local libraries through February, marking both the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and Black History Month.

The Friends of the Ripon Memorial Library held their 35th Annual meeting on Monday, January 26, at 6:00 p.m. Highlights of the meeting included a brief history of the Friends in Ripon, Committee reports, appreciation of outgoing Board members and the election of several new Directors-at-Large. Director of Library Services and a Branch Librarian spoke about the Library, and Mayor Chuck Winn spoke of the importance of the Friends and the Library to the City of Ripon. The Ripon Friends will continue to provide important and significant financial support for library programs and materials even in the current climate of economic distress.

The Tracy Branch Library received an informative presentation from Alicia Davis, CEO of Davis and Davis on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Davis discussed probate, wills, powers of attorney and how to organize personal property to prepare for life transitions. She also introduced Melissa McDowell of the Neptune Society, who informed the attendees about funeral and cemetery issues. This talk was sponsored by the Tracy Friends of the Library, and the audience was quite appreciative of the free materials and information.

The Friends of the Manteca Library held their Annual Meeting on January 28, 2009, at the Manteca Library. The newly assigned Branch Supervisor outlined the Library's 2009-10 Funding Request for the upcoming year, the Library Division Manager for branches, provided an overview of the Library's strategic initiatives. Other discussions focused on the Treasurer's Report, volunteer recruitment and the exploration of online networking communities, such as Craigslist, to supplement the group's on-site fundraising activities.

On Friday, January 30, 2009, Library staff attended a presentation by Deputy State Librarian and noted futurist Stacey Aldrich entitled "Future Trends" held at the University of the Pacific. This talk involved audience participation, so participants came prepared to share their thoughts about what the future holds.

**Peacekeepers**

Child Protective Services contacted Peacekeepers to request information about the program's referral process and criteria in order to get assistance with gang related cases.

Outreach Workers witnessed a group of about 40 students at a Park near Madison Elementary school getting ready to fight. School Resource Officers from SUSD were also present to disperse the crowd.

An SPD Chaplain referred a female youth to Peacekeepers to receive mentoring and assistance with substance abuse counseling.

A youth took his best friend to enroll themselves into Point Break adolescent program to receive anger management counseling. The youth told the intake staff he knows Peacekeepers always enroll kids there who need help.

Outreach Workers assisted the administration in facilitating a bi-weekly leadership after school program for hi-risk youth.

An Outreach Worker assisted a youth with enrolling in school. The youth had not attended school in the past two years.

Peacekeepers assisted Law Enforcement during a truancy sweep by reaching out to hi-risk and gang related youth.

Peacekeepers assisted teachers from a County alternative school in mediating tension between two rival gangs in the classroom. The youth responded positively and five of them attended a job placement-resume' workshop at Worknet.

A former gang member was referred to Peacekeepers to get assistance in getting his tattoos removed.

Peacekeepers provided a gang awareness presentation at Christa McAuliffe Elementary school to 50 parents and students.

Peacekeepers concluded a four-week gang awareness class at the Juvenile Detention Center's Camp Program and conducted a monthly outreach visit targeting a focus group.

**Police Department**

Stockton Police Department handled 6,889 calls for service, incidents and/or reports during the week of January 22 - 28, 2009.

<b>Gang Enforcement Team (GSET) (Jan 19 - 25, 2009)</b>	
<b>Action</b>	<b>Number</b>
Field Interviews Conducted	79
Arrests	6 felony; 0 misdemeanor
Warrant Arrests	4 felony; 1 misdemeanor
Traffic Stops	55
Citations Issued	13
Cars Towed	5
Searches	21 probation; 3 parole
Confiscations	0 marijuana; 15.92 gr. meth; 0 heroin; 0 rock/cocaine
Guns	<b>5 GSET has confiscated 1,039 firearms since its inception.</b>

Community Health Action (CHAT) is aggressively focusing its efforts on approximately 1,097 vacant properties within the city.

Within the last week, the Graffiti Team removed 27,119 square feet of graffiti. Over 272 additional pieces of property were abated, including signal boxes and poles, mail boxes and public signs.

Required audit inspections of Self-Certified rental properties continues. Within the last week, seven properties were scheduled for inspection; all properties failed the inspections. Notices to Inspect were posted to 14 properties; inspections are scheduled to begin February 12, 2009.

The victim was at a friend's house, at Bellettini/Venice, when his ex-girlfriend arrived and began slashing his tires with a hunting knife. The victim drove his car away but was only able to get around the corner. The suspect followed the victim and continued to stab at his vehicle, breaking the taillights. The victim exited his vehicle and the suspect chased him down the street waving the knife at him; he gave up and left in her vehicle. The suspect came to the Police Department later and turned herself in.

The victim was walking in the 600 block of North Wilson Way, when three suspects confronted him and robbed him at gunpoint. Officers located two of the suspects nearby and, after they were identified by the victim, arrested them. The investigation is ongoing for the third suspect.

Officers saw the suspect swinging a crutch at the victim in the 300 block of Center. When Officers pulled into the parking lot, they saw that the suspect was also swinging a knife at the victim. Officers determined the suspect was harassing the victim for money and the victim told the suspect to leave. The suspect became angry and pulled a knife on the victim and began swing it at him along with his crutch. The victim defended himself with his jacket and car antenna. The suspect was taken into custody.

Traffic Officers conducted a DUI Checkpoint, pursuant to an Office of Traffic Safety Grant, in the westbound lanes of Harding Way, west of California; 354 cars passed through the Checkpoint. Officers arrested two drivers for driving under the influence and one subject for an outstanding felony warrant. Thirty-nine citations were issued and 26 vehicles were impounded.

Officers worked a Parole/Probation Mission in response to recent shootings. Officers arrested 7 people and confiscated 7 guns.

The victim reported she was getting into her vehicle in the 100 block of W. Flora when the suspect approached and forcibly pulled the victim's purse from her hands. The suspect fled on foot and was seen entering an apartment in the 200 block of N. Commerce. Officers located and arrested the suspect a short time later.

The victim was outside warming his car up in the 100 block of W. Poplar when two suspects approached him. Suspect #1 asked for a ride, but the victim refused stating, he was going to work. The suspect then struck the victim and pointed a gun at him. The victim struggled with Suspect #1 over the gun and as he did, Suspect #2 drove off with his car. The victim was able to wrestle the gun away and held Suspect #1 until Police arrived. Officers later stopped the vehicle and arrested Suspect #2.

The suspect entered a business in the 300 block of S. Union and attempted to stab the victim for an unknown reason. A witness struck the suspect several times with a pool cue in defense of the victim. The suspect fled from the business and went to the County Hospital, where he was treated for head and hand wounds. The suspect was identified by witnesses and arrested.

Officers responded to El Dorado/Lowell on a report of subjects using drugs and waving guns. When Officers arrived, one subject fled, while holding his rear pocket. An Officer chased the suspect and saw him duck next to a vehicle, and then he began to walk. The suspect was detained and a loaded handgun was recovered from the top of the vehicle tire. The suspect was booked into County Jail.

An Officer attempted to stop a vehicle for a traffic violation. The driver failed to yield and a one-minute pursuit ensued before the driver pulled over at Mariposa/Juliet. The driver was taken into custody without incident. The driver was found to be Driving Under the Influence.

Officers responded to a burglary in-progress in the 1400 block of Carpenter Road after a citizen witnessed two suspects forcing open a neighbor's garage door. Officers arrived and the suspects ran out of the residence, jumping fences. Officers located both suspects in the 1500 block of Carpenter. A

witness subsequently identified both suspects as those responsible in the burglary, and they were arrested.

Officers conducted a City wide Truancy Sweep and apprehended 64 truants. Agencies participating in the sweep consisted of S.P.D., S.U.S.D. Police, S.J. Probation, Union Pacific RR Police, Lincoln Unified, Lodi Unified and the S.J. Sheriff's Office.

Officers responded to Bank of the West, Pacific Avenue, on a report of a female suspect (S-1) attempting to cash a forged check. The suspects left in a white Dodge Intrepid just prior to the officers arriving. Detectives spotted the suspects' vehicle at El Dorado/March and initiated a traffic stop. The suspects failed to yield and a one-minute low-speed pursuit ensued. The suspects stopped their vehicle in the 4700 block of Birmingham where the male suspect (S-2) fled on foot into the block. S-1 was taken into custody and a search began for S-2. After a thorough search, S-2 was not located and the search ended. S-1 was arrested for forgery, burglary, possession of stolen property and two felony warrants.

The victim was in the McDonald's parking lot at 4500 Georgetown, when he was approached by the suspect. The suspect demanded his money. Fearing the suspect was going to hurt him, he turned over his cash. The victim then followed the suspect from a distance until he was able to flag down an Officer. The Officer arrested the suspect without incident; the suspect was charged with robbery. Most of the victim's money was recovered.

**Public Works**

<b>Facilities Maintenance Crew</b>	
<b>Location</b>	<b>Work Performed</b>
-----	10 work requests completed (41 received)
Bob Hope Theatre	Installed new space heater in dress shop
Cesar Chavez	Repaired drinking fountain
City Hall	Repaired locks. Repaired/performed maintenance on HVAC.
Corp Yard	Repaired/replaced lights
Civic Auditorium	Repaired/performed maintenance on HVAC
Fire Station #2	Repaired/performed maintenance on HVAC
Fire Station #10	Repaired/replaced lights
Fire Station #11	Repaired tile
Fleet	Repaired locks
Impact Teen Center	Repaired/performed maintenance on HVAC
Morelli Park	Repaired drinking fountain
MUD	Repaired/replaced lights
Oak Park	Repaired drinking fountain. Repaired bleachers.
Oak Park Senior Center	Installed new ADA door
Permit Center	Repaired/replaced lights
SEB	Repaired/replaced lights. Repaired/performed maintenance on HVAC.

Neighborhood Traffic Management Program	
Neighborhood	Status
Columbus Park (Council District 6)	Neighborhood kick-off meeting held on January 26 <sup>th</sup> . Committee members decided to participate in the Speed Hump Program instead of the Full Program, and they are contacting residents adjacent to possible speed hump locations to determine support.
Lincoln Village West Embarcadero (Council District 3)	Neighborhood kick-off meeting held on January 21st. Committee members decided to participate in the Speed Hump Program instead of the Full Program, and they are contacting residents adjacent to possible speed hump locations to determine support.
Oxford Manor (Council District 4)	Application for NTMP received. Neighborhood placed on waiting list.
Victory Park Terrace (Council District 5)	TCC met on January 15 <sup>th</sup> . Committee members elected to continue efforts toward forced turn islands (exit only) on Flora and Poplar at Pershing. They will meet again in one month.

Parks Crew			
Park	Graffiti	Vandalism	Hours to Clean
Anderson	X		5
Atherton	X		2.25
Brotherhood	X		1
Brooking	X		1
Columbus	X		.5
Cortez	X		1
Cruz	X		.5
Eden	X		.75
Friedberger	X		.5
Gibbons	X		2.5
Grupe	X		3.5
Harrell	X		3
Holiday	X		1
Laughlin	X		1
Legion	X		.5
Lock Lomond	X		.5
McKinley	X		1
Panella	X		1
Peterson	X		1
Sandman	X		1
Sherwood	X		1.5
Stribley	X		1
Swenson	X		2
Valverde	X		2

Tree Crew	
Quantity	Work Performed
12	Tree removals
6	Tree trims
4	Stump removals
3	Limbs down
8	Inspections

JHK Construction completed all ADA retrofits on the Troke Library project as of January 6<sup>th</sup>, which now completes all work on the Troke Library. Library staff moved back from the temporary facility at Weberstown Mall and currently are unpacking and organizing the books on shelves. The grand opening is targeted for early February; no date has been set yet.

Project construction is nearing completion for the North Stockton Strong Neighborhoods Initiative Street Lighting Project in the Kentfield Area, Porterfield Court, Porter Avenue, Gettysburg Place, Malvern Court, and Plymouth Court. Forty-one new streetlight foundations, poles, fixtures, conduits and pullboxes have been installed and twenty-four existing fixtures have been replaced in the North Stockton area for improved lighting levels and energy efficiency. Coordination continues with PG&E to provide service to the new streetlights and remove existing service to old streetlights. Old streetlights on wood poles are anticipated to be removed in February, weather permitting.

The French Camp Road/I-5 Interchange project is currently at 90 percent design complete. Caltrans staff is continuing to negotiate with the affected property owners. Twenty-five parcels need to be acquired or condemned for the project. To date, twenty-two appraisals have been approved by the City Manager of which ten parcels have been approved to initiate condemnation. The appraisals for the remaining three parcels will be completed in February and will be forwarded to the City Manager for approval. Right-of-way acquisition/condemnation is scheduled for completion in September 2009 and is the critical path. This project has been identified to receive Federal Economic Stimulus funds in the amount of \$24.5 million.

Design continues for the Hammer Lane Phase IIIB Widening Project between Alexandria Place and Thornton Road. Project plans and specifications have been reviewed by the project team and comments are currently being incorporated into project design. A City-County Cooperative Agreement has been executed and identifies the City as the lead agency for the project to widen Hammer Lane between Alexandria Place and Thornton Road, including a section in the County jurisdiction. Consequently, the right-of-way needed for the project widening has been acquired within the City and County jurisdictions. Coordination continues with PG&E to have pole relocation work along Hammer Lane completed by summer 2009.

This project is also in the final phase of widening the Hammer Lane corridor between Interstate-5 and Highway 99 in accordance with the Hammer Lane Specific Plan adopted by City Council in 1994. In general, the project will construct medians between Alexandria Place and Thornton Road with landscaping and irrigation. Hammer Lane will be widened from four lanes to six lanes and the entire roadway will receive an asphalt concrete overlay. Additional improvements include traffic signal modifications, storm drain upgrades, curb, gutter and sidewalk installation. Construction is anticipated to begin by summer 2009.

The North Stockton Railroad Grade Separations and Bridge Replacements project consists of four grade separations, replacement of two bridges and widening a portion of Lower Sacramento Road between Bear Creek and Pixley Slough. The grade separations will cross the Union Pacific Railroad tracks on Lower Sacramento Road, on the extension of Morada Lane east of Lower Sacramento Road, and at two locations on Eight Mile Road. The design is 60 percent complete. Start of construction is anticipated by December 2010.

A workplan for assessing the extent of contamination from an old underground storage tank under the sidewalk at 601 Main Street has been approved by the San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department. The assessment will be performed by Advanced GeoEnvironmental. The assessment will include two soil borings, analysis of four soil and two groundwater samples, calculation of the extent of contamination and writing of a technical report.

The contamination was discovered in 2004 when PG&E equipment struck an unknown heating fuel tank. The current owners of the building at 601 Main Street paid for the tank to be removed and for soil samples to be taken immediately under the tank. The samples confirmed that the soil under the tank was contaminated. Assessment of the extent and spread of the contamination is required by the Environmental Health Department, but the owners of the tank have not complied. Since the City owns the land the sidewalk is on, the City is considered to be co-responsible by the Environmental Health Department, and has agreed to proceed with the assessment of the site in order to prevent oversight of the site from being transferred to the Regional Water Board, with the possibility of fines being assessed on the City.

Once the assessment has been made and reviewed, Environmental Health Department will decide if remediation or monitoring of the site is required. The cost of remediation and/or monitoring will depend on the extent of the contamination and the requirements set by the Environmental Health Department.

**City Manager's  
Meetings  
&  
Presentations**

I held my respective weekly meetings with the Mayor and Councilmembers. I held my regular meetings with: Teri Bentz, Johnny Ford, Christine Tien, Laurie Montes and Mark Moses; and Joe Maestretti and Carol Marshall.

I attended the Council Budget/Finance/Economic Development Committee Meeting. Laurie Montes, John Luebberke, Mark Madison and I participated in the monthly Executive Team Meeting for the Council Water Committee. Ren Nosky and I gave a presentation to the Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee. Mayor Johnston, Ren Nosky and I met with Wendy Saunders, URS Bovis, consultant to the State of California, regarding the proposed prison hospital.

Mayor Johnston, the City Councilmembers and I attended Congressman McNerney's event demonstrating regional support for the Central Valley VA nursing home and expanded medical facility in French Camp. Teri Bentz, Christine Tien, and I held our regular conference call with Jerry Haleva and Blair Springer regarding State legislative issues.

**HAVE A GOOD WEEKEND**

**J. GORDON PALMER, JR.  
CITY MANAGER**