

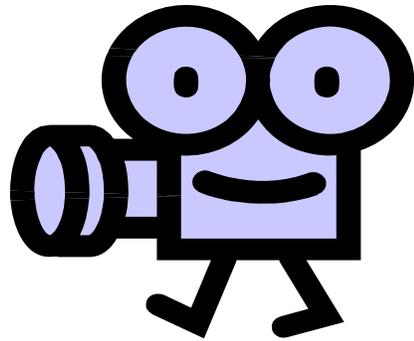
The City of Ridgecrest Monthly Report



May 2007

Short Takes

*Written and Directed by
Harvey Michael Reese*



 “Shoppers at Wal-Mart stores across America are loading carts with merchandise – maybe a flat-screen TV, a few DVDs and a six-pack of beer – and strolling out without paying. Employees also are helping themselves to goods they haven’t paid for. The world’s largest retailer is saying little about these kinds of thefts, but its recent public disclosures that it is experiencing an increase in so-called shrinkage at its U.S. stores suggests that inventory losses due to shoplifting, employee theft, paperwork errors and supplier fraud could be worsening. The hit is likely to rise to more than \$3 billion this year for Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which generated sales of \$348.6 billion last year.”

 Council meetings, Council committees, Staff meetings, Staff one-on-ones, News Media briefings, News Media one-n-ones, Radio commentaries.

 Regional transit contract.

 Wastewater treatment plant reconstruction, new plant planning.

 Labor relations contract re-openers.

 Power generation; continued discussions.

 IWV Water District General Manager; monthly meetings.

 County Supervisor; discussions regarding Parks and Recreation District formation and other matters.

 Kern County Association of Cities.

 Ridgecrest Regional Hospital healthcare financial solutions discussion.

 Meetings with prospective developers.

 National Defense Industry Association.

Ridgecrest Police Department

RPD monthly report

Special points of interest:

Between April 14 and May 12, 2007, the City of Ridgecrest had suffered several Arson fires that occurred at the corner of E. California Ave. and S. Lumill St. These fires were started during night time hours usually on weekends. Each time, Kern County Fire Department responded to extinguish the fires. On several incidents, Michael Smith was the reporting party.

On May 12, 2007, at about 0030 hours, Officer Ballestero was sent to S. Lumill St. and E. California Ave. on a reported Arson fire. Kern County Fire put out the fire and cancelled our response.

Arson Suspect Arrested

At about 0130 hours, Officers Dilley and Ballestero were sent to the same location to investigate yet another Arson fire. Officer Ballestero and Officer Dilley made several contacts in the surrounding neighborhood. From those contacts, Officer Ballestero felt Michael Smith was a person of interest.

PACT Volunteers Henry Wilson and Jesus Garcia were strategically placed in the area with night vision and binoculars. Within 15 minutes, Wilson and Garcia witnessed a WMA walk to the desert area and set the third fire of the evening then

run back to a residence at the corner of S. Lumill St. and E. California Ave. Officers were notified and converged on the 1294 E. California Ave. address. Officers contacted Michael Smith as he just exited his shower and came to the door nude.

Wilson and Garcia positively identified Michael Smith as the subject who was in the desert and set the fire. Officer Ballestero placed Smith under arrest for Arson. Smith was taken to KCJ for booking and interrogation. Smith admitted to setting all fires in the area. Smith was booked and incarcerated pending \$52,000.00 bail.

Inside this issue:

Crime Statistics

Traffic Statistics

General Investigations

Overtime

Volunteer Organizations

Suspect Arrested after Parole Search

On May 20, 2007, at about 1200 hours, Officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to 1000 block of W. Willow Ave. to conduct a parole search. Upon arrival, the suspect Jacob Wagener ran from the residence. Wagener was later caught at the corner of W. Willow Ave. and S. Inyo St. Wagener was taken into custody without incident.

During a parole search of the residence, Officer Gillette and Officer Taylor located two large baggies containing marijuana. The marijuana's total weight including packaging was approximately 1 pound.

Wagner was transported to the Kern County Jail in Ridgecrest, where he was booked and incarcerated. Wagner is currently being held without bail.



Milestone Reached: "8000 Volunteer Hours"

On 05/24/2007 at about 1100 hours, Police and Community Together, (PACT) Volunteer Frances Simpson reached a milestone with the Ridgecrest Police Department. As of that time, Ms. Simpson completed 8000 hours of volunteer service donated to the Ridgecrest Police Department. This is equal to approximately 4 years of full time employment and all of it is donated time.

Frances Simpson has been a member of the PACT program since joining the organization in August of 1992. During her time with PACT, Frances has served in several different units and she has received numerous commendations and recognitions for her work as a volunteer.

Frances is that "smiling face" that we always look forward to seeing in the hallways of the department. The

work she performs is invaluable.

The PACT Program continues to serve the community and the Ridgecrest Police Department through volunteer service that makes Ridgecrest a great place to live. Anyone wishing to learn more about the PACT program or anyone that would like to join dedicated volunteers like Frances can contact the Ridgecrest Police Department PACT office at 499-5107.



Francis Simpson receives the 2nd Challenge Coin from Chief Mike Avery.

Congratulations



For the first time in the history of the Ridgecrest Police Department, Chief Mike Avery had the honor of promoting the current Lieutenants to Captains. This is a step to change the structure of the Department. Above, Theresa Wheeler pins the Captains badge to her husband, Jon Wheeler. Left, newly promoted Captain Fowler, pins captain's bars to Captain Wheeler. Captain Fowler was promoted the previous day. Although there are no pictures (I am truly sorry Captain Fowler) Kandy, Captain Fowler's wife was also able to have the honor.

Strong Arm Robbery

On May 13, 2007 Officer A. Agostinacci contacted the victim in this case at Ridgecrest Regional Hospital. The victim reported that a short time earlier, he was physically assaulted by a subject in the 200 block of N. Balsam St. The victim was approached by a subject, later identified as Laren Wilson, who asked him for change. While the victim was obtaining change, Wilson physically attacked him, knocking him off his bicycle. Wilson took the money the victim had on his person and fled the scene. The victim received minor injuries to his hands from the altercation.

On May 14, 2007, while conducting follow-up investigation at an address in the 300 block of N. Alvord St., Officer Agostinacci and Sgt. Dampier located Wilson hiding in a shed in the backyard of the residence. Wilson was detained without incident and transported to RPD where he was subsequently arrested.

Wilson was transported to the Kern County Jail – Ridgecrest Facility where he was booked on open charges of robbery.

Arrest Made for Under the Influence and Possession

On May 22, 2007 at about 1450 hours, Officers and Detectives of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to the 400 block of W. Reeves Ave. to conduct a probation search on the residence of Douglas Gurley. Upon arrival, Officer Sparks contacted Gurley and several other subjects inside the residence.

During a search of the residence, Officer Sparks located several glass smoking pipes (commonly used to ingest controlled substances), a small amount of marijuana, and

approximately 1.3 grams of methamphetamine. Officer Sparks arrested Gurley for violations of under the influence and possession of a controlled substance.

Detective Lawson contacted Debra Sortor and conducted a search of her person. Detective Lawson located two baggies which contained methamphetamine and a glass smoking pipe (commonly used to ingest controlled substances). Detective Lawson arrested Sortor for a violation of under the influence and possession of a controlled sub-

stance. Gurley was transported to the Kern County Jail in Ridgecrest where he was booked and incarcerated. Gurley was being held on \$14,000 bail.

Sortor was transported to the Kern County Sheriff's Department's Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield where she was booked and incarcerated. Sortor was being held on \$24,000 bail

Monthly Community Policing Report

As you know, we agreed to change the COP reporting format. The officers are reading the COP book and we chose to have each Watch Commander document his officer's efforts. This month's report is somewhat "limited" in that the officers are just getting started in their efforts.

Officer Podell is working with a resident at 305 N. Balsam St. to assist him/her in setting up Neighborhood Watch in his/her neighborhood.

Many of our Officers have identified problems at the Rose Garden Inn and have taken it upon themselves to "clean it up." They have spent a lot of time do-

ing "sweeps" of many sorts and have weeded a lot of the "rif-raf" out (either arrested them or scared them off). The new (or current) manager is in the process of evicting several residents.



Officer Taylor has been working on "blight" issues (illegally parked/abandoned vehicles) by ticketing and towing them from our streets.

Officer Keys has been working on parking problems (semi's parking on E. Ridgecrest Blvd.). Numerous complaints have been received about a semi that blocks motorist's view exiting side streets. Officer Keys is working on a solution to the long-standing problem.

Arrest Made in the Possession of Controlled Substance for Sale and Transportation of Controlled Substance

On 5/30/07 at about 2028 hours, Officer Sparks stopped a vehicle in the 1600 blk. S. China Lake Blvd. for speeding. During contact with the driver, Albert "Tommy" Thompson, Officer Sparks detected that Thompson was displaying symptoms of recent controlled substance use. Officer Dilley and canine partner "Nitto" arrived on scene to assist. Nitto conducted a walk around of the vehicle and alerted for the presence of narcotics. Officer Sparks conducted a search of the vehicle and located approximately 386 grams of suspected methamphetamine in a Tupperware container. Also located in the vehicle were several unused zip-lock baggies, cell phones, scanner and approximately \$1,500. in U.S. Currency.



\$38,600.00

Thompson was placed under arrest for the above listed charges and his "Enterprise" rental car was removed from the scene. Thompson was eventually taken to the Kern County Sheriff's Department for booking pending \$32,500. bail.

All items located, are indicative of possessing the controlled substance with the intent of sales.

Street value of the methamphetamine seized which was intended to be distributed within the City of Ridgecrest is approximately

Arrest Made in Residential Burglary

On May 18, 2007 at about 1350 hours Officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to the report of male suspect pounding on the door of a residence. Upon arrival they were told that the male suspect, HAGEWOOD, had left the scene in a vehicle. HAGEWOOD did not live at the residence, though his former girlfriend did. An area check was conducted though the suspect was not located in the Domestic Dispute. At about 1440 hours victim's inside the home again called 911 to advise that the suspect had returned. During the call, Dispatcher Turbide could hear and was told of a physical attack by the suspect

above, as he forced his way into the home. The caller advised the suspect was possibly armed. Officer's arrived on scene only to find that the suspect had again fled in a vehicle. The suspect was spotted fleeing the scene, driving erratically. Officers overtook the suspect at the intersection of W. Ridgecrest Blvd and Norma St. There he was taken into custody during a high risk/ felony stop without injury. Inside the vehicle, two knives were recovered. The suspect was transported and booked at Kern County Jail/ Ridgecrest, where at the time of this press release he remains in custody.

Assault with a Deadly Weapon

On 05/28/2007 at about 2230 hours, Officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to the report of a battery which occurred in the 400 block of W. Ward Ave. Decker had been involved in a physical altercation with the victim, and witnesses alleged Decker had kicked the victim in the face several times. The victim sustained serious injuries and was air lifted to Kern Medical Center in Bakersfield, CA. The victim is listed in critical condition according to Hospital staff.

Decker was later located, arrested and transported to the Kern County Jail/Ridgecrest, where he was booked for the above charges and held on \$55,000.00 bail.

Officer M. Lauritzen was the lead investigator on this case.

Youth Arrested in Vandalism

On May 12, 2007, Officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to the report of several tire slashing in the above listed areas. Witnesses and victim's described that the brazen acts had occurred in broad daylight, possibly by juveniles that were in the area. The Investigation led to the discovery of over five victims with

damage to one or more tires on vehicles they owned. The suspect had used a knife or other sharp object to puncture and damage the tires.

In the following week, Officer S. Podell conducted follow up on the crimes and located the suspect, a 13 yoa juvenile male, who was later arrested. The juvenile showed no re-

morse for the crimes and was booked at Ridgecrest Police Department and later released.



Two Arrested in Possessing Counterfeit Money



On May 11, 2007, Sloan arrested Anderson and at about 2130 hours Officer Ryan Sloan responded to "One Stop Market" on a reported passing of counterfeit \$20.00 bills.

When Officer Sloan arrived, he stopped and contacted Jeffrey Anderson and Alexander Aguilera in an "Enterprise" rental car. After a short investigation, Officer

Search pursuant to arrest, Officer Sloan located approximately 114 grams of brick marijuana and \$14,005.00 U.S. currency. These items were located in the trunk of the vehicle. When asked about the counterfeit money and marijuana, Anderson and Aguilera said they did not know how the bills came into their posses-

sion. The marijuana was said to be possessed for personal use only and denied any standing with regard to the \$14,005.00 U.S. currency. All items of evidence were booked into the Ridgecrest Police Department property system. Anderson and Aguilera were transported to KCJ Ridgecrest where they were booked pending bail.

Robbery-Home Invasion

On 5/31/07 at about 0600 hours, Officer Marrone, Officer Lloyd, Officer Atkins and Officer Podell responded to the report of a residential invasion robbery that had occurred in the early morning hours. The suspects made contact with the victim at her door after knocking. Force was then used to enter into the house and electronic equipment was stolen from inside and the suspects fled. The elderly female victim,

waited to call Police in fear of the event, and reported it only when her grandson arrived home. She was not injured as a result of the crime.

The early investigation led Officers to a nearby suspect and other evidence of the crime. Within hours, the two suspects listed above were in custody and later confessed to the crime. The third suspect, Hill remains at large.

The group had apparently been involved in several other crimes during the night and this investigation continues.

The above suspects were booked at Kern County Jail where they remain in custody at the time of this press release on \$62,500.00 bail each.

Any persons with information on this or other related crimes or these suspects are asked to contact the Ridgecrest Police Department

Arrest Made in Possession of over 1 Oz of marijuana

On 5/31/07 at about 0750 hours, During this contact with the suspect, Officer Keys and Sergeant Obergfell responded to the location above on the report of a "suspicious subject" inside a vehicle. The car was not known at the location and did not belong to any of the neighbors. While speaking with the driver, Rodriguez, it was apparent he was nervous and was not familiar with the subjects who lived near the location. Additionally, he was on probation for other crimes.

During this contact with the suspect, Officer Keys detected that Rodriguez was displaying symptoms of recent controlled substance use and a small metal canister was discovered which the suspect was attempting to conceal. Inside this container was several marijuana "joints". As the suspect exited the car, a knife pouch was concealed where the suspect was sitting. Inside this was several baggies containing suspected methamphetamine, as well as a glass smoking device. Rodriguez was arrested at the scene.

Officer Keys conducted a search of the vehicle and located approximately 30 grams of Marijuana concealed in a clothe container. The vehicle was towed from the scene. **The suspect was transported and booked at Kern Country Jail/ Ridgecrest, where he remains in custody at the time of this press release.**

Presentation Made to the School Board

On May 17, 2007 Officer Aaron Miller had the opportunity to show a C.H.A.M.P.S. PowerPoint presentation to the S.S.U.S.D. School Board. As part of the presentation Officer Miller explained to the board members how the C.H.A.M.P.S. program was created and gave a report on its progress. The members of the board seemed pleased with the information presented and relayed to Officer Miller that they have received very positive feedback from teachers and administrators at our local schools.





Nitto

While visiting from our Sister City of Tepatitlan, Mexico delegates had the unique opportunity to see our police dog Nitto, in action. Nitto's handler, Canine Officer Tom Dilley, recruited Police Trainee, Bill Groves to put on the "suit" during the demonstration.



**RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS
MONTHLY SUMMARY**

MAY 2007

CATEGORY	TOTAL
NEW CASES	163
REFER TO D.A.	111
FROM D.A.	110
CLEARED	116
BY ARREST	80
TOTAL	580
PROPERTY RECOVERED	\$ 947.86

PREPARED BY: JOYCE MARKWITH APPROVED BY: P. Wheeler

Overtime Use

<i>Overtime Type</i>	<i>Total Of Total Hours</i>
51 Support Services	29
54 San Bernardino County Services	2
55 Ridgecrest Patrol	232.25
56 Shelter Services	429.25
AM Administrative Duty Meetings	1218.25
AR Administrative Duty Records	112
ARM Administrative Duty Repair/Maintenance	55
AS Administrative Duty Station Assingments	296
AT Administrative Duty Records	1.5
AT Administrative Duty Training	2917.5
CA Court Appearance	1877
CS Court Stand-by	214.5
IF Investigations Criminal Follow Up	2021.5
II Investigations Interviews	415
IR Investigations Traffic Related	230.5
IV Investigations Vice / Narcotics	471.25
PB Prisoner booking	617
PM Prisoner matron duty	19.5
PR Prisoner release/feeding	13
PT Prisoner transportation	1229.5
RC Report Writing Criminal	1893.5
RI Report Writing Information	126.75
RT Report Writing Traffic	305
SC Shift Coverage In Court	74.5
SE Special Events	3719
SL Shift Coverage On Sick Leave	2003.25
SL Shift Coverage On Time Off	12
SS Shift Coverage Shortage	3624.75
ST Shift Coverage On Time Off	1719

Overtime Type

Total Of Total Hours

Total Hours

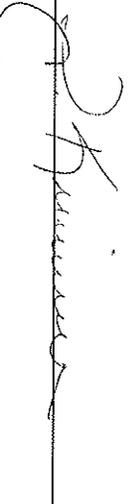
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Ridgecrest Police Department Animal Control Section

Monthly Report of Activities
May 2007

	CITY	NAWS	KERN CO	SAN BERN	Current Year		Previous Year	
					MTD	YTD	MTD	YTD
Dispatched Calls	130	0	0	0	130	776	187	823
Field Calls	14	0	0	0	14	99	23	115
Emergency Calls	4	0	0	0	4	19	0	7
Impounded Dogs:								
Public	34	2	20	2	58	255	54	282
A.C.O.	38	0	4	0	42	245	45	272
Total	72	2	24	2	100	500	99	554
Impounded Cats:								
Public	33	0	37	14	84	332	163	477
A.C.O.	22	0	0	0	22	44	38	76
Total	55	0	37	14	106	376	201	553
Miscellaneous Animals:	4	0	1	0	5	16	9	27
Dead Animals:	8	0	6	0	14	68	13	38
Cumulative of Animals Handled:	139	2	68	16	225	960	322	1172
Dispositions								
Dogs Adopted	16	2	5	1	24	100	27	154
Dogs Released	26	0	4	0	30	191	29	173
Dogs Euthanasized	18	0	10	1	29	122	35	196
Cats Adopted	7	0	4	0	11	40	17	53
Cats Released	3	0	0	0	3	15	3	21
Cats Euthanasized	36	0	30	14	80	273	161	431
Animals Euthanasized:	54	0	40	15	109	395	196	627
Fees Collected								
Licenses					MTD	YTD	Pre MTD	Pre YTD
					\$1,417.00	\$5,804.00	\$1,045.00	\$5,798.00
Vaccinations					\$300.00	\$1,260.00	\$155.00	\$1,050.00
Shelter Fees					\$3,755.00	\$17,320.00	\$2,500.00	\$15,670.00
Total Fees Collected					\$5,472.00	\$24,384.00	\$3,700.00	\$22,518.00

Prepared By: _____



Reviewed By: _____

RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

EXPLORER ORGANIZATION

MONTHLY SUMMARY

May 2007

	Current Month	YTD Total	Last YTD	Percent Change
Explorers	193	878	263	333

During the month of May, the Explorers worked a total of 193 hours. The hours were comprised of meetings, working the front counter, and ride alongs. Recruitment for new people is currently on going. There are currently 20 active Explorers.

Prepared by *Aaron Miller*
Ofc. Aaron Miller
Explorer Advisor

RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESERVE ORGANIZATION

MONTHLY SUMMARY

May, 2007

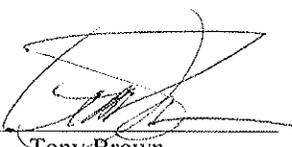
	Current Month	YTD Total
Reserves Hrs.	42	479.5

During the month of April, Reserve Officers worked the following hours:

Officer Kiren	2
Officer Dysart	0
Officer Schatz	8.5
Officer Robbs	11
Officer Dorrell	17.5
Officer Regan	3
Officer Mitchell	2
 Total hours:	 42

This month, members of the reserve organization augmented patrol, assisted with range, provided prisoner transports, worked a fair detail, and assisted in CSU and other Investigation Division details.

Prepared by

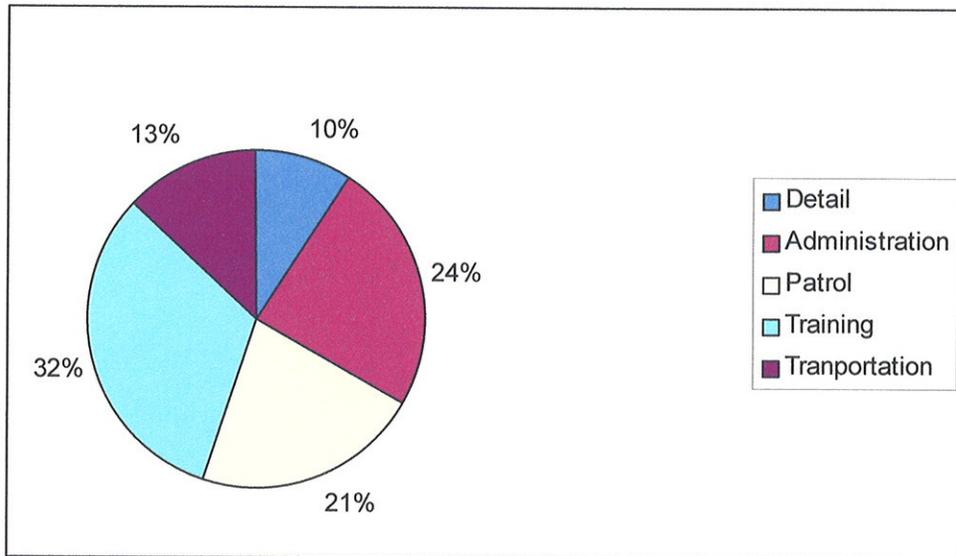

Tony Brown
Sergeant

Reserve Report for the Month of May 2007

The Reserve Officers achieved a total of 42 hours for the month of May. Officer Robbs worked 9 hours of patrol with Officer Taylor and accounted for 21 percent of the total reserve hours. Officer Dorrell contributed 4 hours for detail activities with Officer Sparks and 5.5 hours for prisoner transportation; which accounted for 10 and 13 percent of the total reserve hours respectively. The Reserve Officers acquired 13.5 hours of training, which consisted of Practice Range and Range staff functions and was 32 percent of the total reserve hours. The Reserves had 10 hours of administrative time for reserve meetings which was 24 percent of their time.

The following is a breakdown of the Reserve hours:

Administration	10.0 hours	24%
Details	4.0 hours	10%
Uniformed Patrol	9.0 hours	21%
Training/Range	13.5 hours	32%
Tranportation	5.5 hours	13%



Officer hours are as follows:

Dorrell	17.5 hours	32%
Mitchell	2.0 hours	11%
Regan	3.0 hours	9%
Robbs	11.0 hours	22%
Schatz	8.5 hours	17%



City Of Ridgecrest

Parks Recreation And Cultural Affairs Department

Monthly Report

May –June 2007

RPRD

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- James Monroe Graduation
- Recreation Activities Abound
- Parks and Recreation Background Check Procedure.

Huge Turn Out For Summer Activities

The Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department held sign-ups for all summer activities during a 3 day sign-up event at the end of May.

The three day sign-up event began on Tuesday May 29th with about 300 people signing up for summer day camp and arts and crafts classes such as Necklace making, paper airplane crafting and a brand new board game camp, just to name a few.

Wednesday May 30th brought another 300 people to sign up for all of the aquatics programs such as swimming lessons, diving camp, and water polo.

Thursday May 31st proved to be the busiest night when over 300 people came to sign-up for the many sports camps such as UK International Soccer, Flag Football, and Basketball camps. The popularity of these sports camps and the volume of sign-ups for each one

prompted the expansion of some camps into second and even third sessions, something which has never happened before.

Sign-ups for summer activities are ongoing on a space available basis throughout the summer and we continue to receive many new sign-ups each day.



Customers waiting to get into the sign-up area.



The Cashier line during sign-up.

Department Offers Activities For All Ages

The Ridgcrest Parks and Recreation Department has always offered a wide variety of programs and activities for everyone in the community and that list continues to grow every year. From Stained Glass to Flag Football, there is something for everyone.

Youth activities abound at the Parks and Recreation Department. Each program aims to bestow upon the youth of our community the values of hard work, discipline and team work. Values which will

aid them far into the future. From Soccer and Football, to Pre-School and Day Camp the Parks and Recreation Department offers numerous activities to get youth out of the house and into some fun. Record breaking enrollment in all activities has prompted the department to offer multiple camps and classes as well as expand current programs to meet the need.

Though most of our programs are youth biased, we have plenty of activi-

ties for adults as well. Adult Kung Fu and Karate, Stained Glass classes and a Variety of Cooking classes are but a few of the activities we have available and new classes are being added all the time.

Youth do a drill in our Flag Football Camp, one of our most popular camps.



James Monroe Holds Graduation At KMCC

Over 500 people came to the Kerr McGee Center on Thursday June 7th to watch as James Monroe Junior High School's 8th graders walked the aisle to receive recognition for their hard work and to reflect on their years at the school before they begin their journey to High School and beyond.

The Parks and Recreation Department Congratulates all who graduated and wish you well.



Family and friends look on as the graduates walk the aisle at KMCC.



KMCC THE PLACE TO BE

Parks and Recreation Background Check Process

In the May 2007 issue of Parks & Recreation Magazine there was an article about background checks in Parks and Recreation Departments, you may read that article on pages 4-6 of this report.

The Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation department would like to explain a little about our background check procedure and what it means to our customers and participants of our programs.

The City of Ridgecrest performs a procedure called a Live Scan

on all potential volunteers and employees to ensure the safety of the youth who participate in Parks and Recreation Programs. The Live Scan procedure performed by the City of Ridgecrest strictly conforms with the laws set forth by the State of California.

Directors Scoop

By Jim Ponek

Directors Scoop...

A sad way to start the Summer with the loss of a great kid Amanda Collins who was killed in an automobile accident.

Amanda was a lifeguard for our department at Pinney Pool. She also had been on the Parks & Recreation High Desert Swim Team Torpedo's for the last 4 seasons. Money is being raised to purchase a bench in memory of Amanda to be placed at Pinney Pool. Funds are being collected at Kerr McGee Community Center.

Summer is now in full gear... I was totally impressed with all of my recreation staff with how smooth sign ups were on May 29, 30 and 31. Over the last three years our staff, have continually made improvements with how sign ups happen. Each year we have made some major changes which have allowed the recreation sign ups to be a positive experience for all participants.

Pinney Pool is now open to the public and the new concession set up has been a huge success. If you have not seen Pinney Pool lately, stop by to take a look. What a great place for our community.

That is the Scoop...



HIDING IN THE

BACKGROUND

What your park or recreation agency doesn't know about a potential employee could present unforeseen danger.

By Randy Rodebaugh and Camille Sweger



Learn how one sexual predator slipped through the cracks in a small Wisconsin town.

www.nrpa.org/p&r

We have all heard the horror stories of children abducted, molested and sometimes murdered.

Reports of attacks on our youth are happening at an alarming rate in our society. And unfortunately, we are also exposed to increasing incidents of our elderly becoming victims of fraud, burglary or theft because they have simply entrusted the wrong person.

In addition, national crime statistics clearly indicate that children and other

vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and persons with disabilities, are at risk as victims of crime. Incidents can occur in large, metropolitan cities or small, rural communities.

Too often we read news accounts of these incidents and learn once again the perpetrator had a deep history of this crime on his record, but was entrusted to have a close relationship with his victim—whether with children as a coach, mentor or teacher; or as a trusted companion to an elderly or disabled citizen.

America's youth, elderly and people

with disabilities are by far the most commonly targeted. In order to make contact with this susceptible population, many of the perpetrators use the guise of becoming a volunteer at local agencies or community centers where defenseless people of all ages are entrusted to adult caregivers. Once the predator has gained access to his victim, he can easily manipulate his way into a position of trust, power and control.

These incidents beg the question: What can park and recreation agencies do to thwart occurrences on their turf?

Action at the Local Level

We all have the responsibility to do everything we can to ensure the safety and well being of the people most vulnerable in our communities. Proactively taking measures to identify those individuals who are dangerous and pose threats to society before they have access is a must. More and more, these measures include the use of criminal background checks on prospective adult volunteers. This goes a long way to provide a shield of safety for communities.

“For years, we have required volunteers to complete an application and get fingerprinted,” says Andre Pichly, recreation superintendent for the city of West Sacramento Parks and Recreation Department. “We believe that the comprehensive background checks will discourage those individuals who are not safe to work with our customers from volunteering.”

Background checks have been available for many years and have been part of the general employment screening process for decades. Typically, background checks consist of auditing an applicant’s past for criminal activities or other character flaws that may increase risk or danger to others.

Reviewing someone’s criminal history is a relatively new concept to park and recreation agencies and other volunteer-driven organizations, but it has shown a steady increase since the early 2000s. Now, this safety measure is fast-becoming the standard for organizations that rely on volunteers to work with the most vulnerable populations.

Types of Background Checks

There are many valuable resources for obtaining complete background checks of any individual who will be interacting with our youth, elderly or persons with disabilities. Finding the best provider for this service, along with a cost-effective means to fund the endeavor, are usually the biggest hurdles for most communities.

Whether you choose a law enforcement agency or a private organization to partner with on this important program, there are a few key elements that need to be included:

Social Security verification—It is a helpful step to verify applicant’s name

and date of birth.

Address trace information—Gives an address history of each applicant.

Local county or state criminal record search—Most current and thorough source of applicant’s residence.

National Criminal Record Database search—Allows access to supplemental criminal records outside of the state or county residence.

Multi-state sex offender registry search—Many states are available online to supplement criminal checks.

Note that it is important that the reports should identify the criminal activity in categories (i.e. violence, sex offenses and drug offenses) rather than

NRPA Issues National Recommendations, Launches New Initiative



To address the public safety concerns associated with volunteer access to vulnerable populations, NRPA has issued a set of national recommendations to qualify, credential and properly train volunteers for public service in park and recreation settings. Operation TLC² Making Communities Safe is a comprehensive management resource that outlines a quality volunteer management framework and provides affordable and administratively efficient services to implement the national recommendations, particu-

larly for programs serving the most vulnerable individuals. Participating organizations will obtain the special designation of “Charter Organization” and will receive premium access to an online volunteer training program and national visibility through NRPA.

For more information on the national recommendations and Operation TLC² Making Communities Safe, visit www.nrpa.org/tlc2 or contact NRPA at programs@nrpa.org.

What You May Not Know

3% of the volunteer applicants have serious criminal histories (including sex offense, crime of violence or other felony)

10% of these volunteer applicants have criminal histories

14% of these volunteer applicants have criminal histories outside their current state of residence
Source: SSCJ

There are 550,000 convicted sex offenders in the United States

24% of these sex offenders are unaccounted for

Source: CBS Special Report

list each specific crime (i.e., assault, battery and aggravated assault)

Once these elements are in place, there are other important procedures that first should be approved by your agency attorney. Depending on your jurisdiction, there may be specific laws that will govern some of your policies. These include policy and authorization form language, Fair Credit Reporting Act compliance and due diligence—would it hold up in a court of law?

It has not been uncommon in the past for organizations to spend between \$50 and \$75 to run a comprehensive local and national search on one individual. However, because of technology enhancements and the private sector's renewed focus on the volunteer industry, you can find some programs that will charge less than \$25 for a comprehensive due-diligent search.

Disqualification

Defining the criteria for disqualifying

individuals from volunteer service positions is frequently the most difficult challenge faced by local agencies. This issue is sensitive and draws many debates with diverse opinions. Of course, there is no question when it comes to keeping all sex offenders away from our children. However, there are other crimes that pose a potential threat.

Typically, each community has worked to define its own unique set of standards for what it considers disqualifying criteria. Unfortunately, beyond evaluating specific crime history, there are no other clear-cut guidelines or recommendations in place to assist communities with this critical step.

Background Checks Are Working

For a variety of reasons, some applicants with serious offenses sometimes feel their records will not be found or that the check is not actually going to be done. "Out of the 150,000 volunteers we screened last year, we turned away

4,500 because of sex offenses, violence or other felony criminal records," says Byron Palmer, vice president of South-eastern Security Consultants, Inc.

While many people subscribe to the belief that sex offenders are the biggest threat to our kids, the harsh reality is that most of those volunteers excluded reflect a history of violence including murder, homicide and aggravated robbery with intent to kill.

One by one, park and recreation agencies, along with other local entities, are taking the necessary steps to make background checks a basic foundation of their volunteer management program. It is an essential and fundamental step in the application process to maintain public trust in public agencies.

This expectation of trust is an important value to all park and recreation agencies and professionals. Protecting customers from the risk of violence should be an agency's first priority.



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31875 Solon Road
 Solon, Ohio 44139
 Ph: (440) 337-1584
 TomS@safestructure.com

CIRCLE 19 ON PRODUCT INFORMATION CARD OR VISIT WWW.NRPA.ORG/FREEINFO

Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

May 14 -
May 20

May 2007							June 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 14		Thursday, May 17	
8:00am 9:00pm ITEA Storage (R/C Rm)		10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Red Rock)		5:00pm 9:30pm Youth Volleyball League GAMES (N/S Gym)	
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Red Rock)		5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	
5:30pm 8:30pm Youth Volleyball Practice (N/S Gym)		5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)	
5:30pm 7:30pm ACTION committee meeting (Petroglyph)		6:30pm 7:30pm Karate (R/C Rm)	
5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)			
6:30pm 8:00pm Desert Art League (Fossil Falls/Ballarad)			
6:30pm 8:30pm Officials (Chimney Peak)			
Tuesday, May 15		Friday, May 18	
7:30am 5:00pm Patrice (Kitchen)		8:30am 3:30pm ATC (Red Rock/Chimney)	
8:00am 12:00pm Sr. Art Class (Red Rock/Chimney)		3:00pm 10:00pm BHS Prom Set up (Pinnacles/Petro)	
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)			
5:00pm 8:00pm WSI (Fossil Falls)			
5:00pm 7:00pm Green Acres Townhomes Assoc. (Chimney Peak)			
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)			
5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)			
7:00pm 9:00pm Youth Volleyball Practice (N/S Gym)			
7:00pm 8:30pm Prepaid Legal (Red Rock)			
7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)			
Wednesday, May 16		Saturday, May 19	
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)		8:00am 12:00am BHS Prom (Pinnacles/Petro)	
11:00am 7:00pm Houchin Blood Bank (Pinnacles)		8:30am 3:30pm ATC (Red Rock/Chimney)	
11:30am 1:00pm YAC Leadership Meeting (Gazebo)			
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)			
5:30pm 8:30pm Youth Volleyball Practice (N/S Gym)			
5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)			
7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)			
		Sunday, May 20	
		12:00am 1:00am BHS Prom (Pinnacles/Petro)	
		10:00am 12:00pm BHS Prom Clean UP (Pinnacles/Petro)	
		12:00pm 2:30pm Open Volleyball (N/S Gym)	
		3:00pm 5:00pm Open Basketball (N/S Gym)	

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Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

May 21 -
May 27

May 2007							June 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 21		Thursday, May 24	
10:30am	1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	10:30am	1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)
5:30pm	8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:00pm	8:00pm WSI (Red Rock)
5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)	5:00pm	7:30pm Quality of Life (Fossil Falls/Ballararat)
6:30pm	8:30pm Volleyball Tournament - Div 2 (N/S Gym)	5:30pm	8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)
		5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)
		6:30pm	7:30pm Karate (Chimney Peak)
Tuesday, May 22		Friday, May 25	
7:30am	5:00pm Patrice (Kitchen)		
8:00am	12:00pm Sr. Art Class (Red Rock/Chimney)		
10:30am	1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)		
5:00pm	8:00pm WSI (Ballarat)		
5:30pm	8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)		
5:30pm	8:30pm Open Volleyball Team Practices (N/S Gym)		
5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)		
7:00pm	8:30pm Prepaid Legal (Red Rock)		
7:45pm	9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)		
Wednesday, May 23		Saturday, May 26	
10:30am	1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	8:00am	12:00am Pecoff/Adkins Wedding / Reception (Petroglyph/Pinnacles)
5:00pm	8:00pm WSI (Red Rock)	1:00pm	3:00pm Pecoff (Fossil Falls)
5:30pm	9:30pm Kern COG (Petroglyph)		
5:30pm	8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)		
5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)		
5:30pm	7:30pm Arts Council (Fossil Falls/Ballararat)		
6:30pm	8:30pm Volleyball Tournament - Div 2 (N/S Gym)		
7:45pm	9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)		
		Sunday, May 27	
		12:00pm	2:30pm Open Volleyball (N/S Gym)
		3:00pm	5:00pm Open Basketball (N/S Gym)

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Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

May 28 -
June 03

May 2007							June 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 28		Thursday, May 31	
		7:30am 9:00pm Blue Flooring in Gym (N/S Gym) 8:00am 9:00pm Furniture STORAGE (Fossil Falls) 10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room) 5:00pm 7:00pm Green Acres Townhomes (Ballarat) 5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room) 5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm) 6:00pm 7:30pm SUMMER REGISTRATION - Sports Camps (Pinnacles/Petro) 6:30pm 7:30pm Karate (Chimney Peak)	
Tuesday, May 29		Friday, June 01	
7:30am 5:00pm Patrice (Kitchen) 8:00am 12:00pm Sr. Art Class (Red Rock/Chimney) 10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room) 3:30pm 5:00pm High Desert Basketball (N/S Gym) 5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room) 5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm) 6:00pm 7:30pm SUMMER REGISTRATION - Preschool, Daycamp, Arts & Crafts (Pinnacles/Petro) 7:00pm 8:30pm Prepaid Legal (Red Rock) 7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)		8:00am 9:00pm Furniture STORAGE (Fossil Falls) 8:00am 9:00pm Museum Foundation - Set up (Gym - Petro - Pinnacles) 8:30am 3:30pm ATC (Red Rock/Chimney)	
Wednesday, May 30		Saturday, June 02	
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room) 5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room) 5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm) 6:00pm 7:30pm SUMMER REGISTRATION - Aquatics (Pinnacles/Petro) 6:30pm 8:00pm PD CERT Meeting (Chimney Peak) 7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)		8:00am 12:00am Museum Foundation Dinner/Auction (Gym - Petro - Pinnacles) 8:00am 9:00pm Furniture STORAGE (Fossil Falls) 8:30am 3:30pm ATC (Red Rock/Chimney)	
		Sunday, June 03	

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Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

June 04 -
June 10

June 2007							July 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

Monday, June 04		Thursday, June 07	
8:00am 9:00pm Furniture STORAGE (Ballarat)			
8:00am 9:00pm SET UP FOR MONROE GRADUATION (GYM - PETRO - PINNACLES)	8:00am 9:00pm SET UP FOR MONROE GRADUATION (GYM - PETRO - PINNACLES)	8:00am 9:00pm SET UP FOR MONROE GRADUATION (GYM - PETRO - PINNACLES)	8:00am 9:00pm SET UP FOR MONROE GRADUATION (GYM - PETRO - PINNACLES)
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Preschool Rm)	10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Preschool Rm)	10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Preschool Rm)
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	11:30am 1:30pm IWVESC (Red Rock/Chimney)	11:30am 1:30pm IWVESC (Red Rock/Chimney)	11:30am 1:30pm IWVESC (Red Rock/Chimney)
5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)	5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Red Rock / Chimney)	5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Red Rock / Chimney)	5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Red Rock / Chimney)
	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)
	6:30pm 7:30pm Karate (Chimney Peak)	6:30pm 7:30pm Karate (Chimney Peak)	6:30pm 7:30pm Karate (Chimney Peak)
Tuesday, June 05		Friday, June 08	
7:30am 5:00pm Patrice (Kitchen)	8:00am 1:00am Rosenblad - Lara Reception (Pinnacles)	8:00am 1:00am Rosenblad - Lara Reception (Pinnacles)	8:00am 1:00am Rosenblad - Lara Reception (Pinnacles)
8:00am 9:00pm Furniture STORAGE (Ballarat)	3:30pm 5:30pm Rosenblad (Chimney Peak)	3:30pm 5:30pm Rosenblad (Chimney Peak)	3:30pm 5:30pm Rosenblad (Chimney Peak)
8:00am 9:00pm SET UP FOR MONROE GRADUATION (GYM - PETRO - PINNACLES)	3:30pm 5:30pm Rosenblad (Fossil Falls)	3:30pm 5:30pm Rosenblad (Fossil Falls)	3:30pm 5:30pm Rosenblad (Fossil Falls)
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:30pm 8:30pm Chair storage from wedding (R/C Room)	5:30pm 8:30pm Chair storage from wedding (R/C Room)	5:30pm 8:30pm Chair storage from wedding (R/C Room)
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:30pm 6:30pm Roseblad - Lara Wedding WATER OFF (Gazebo)	5:30pm 6:30pm Roseblad - Lara Wedding WATER OFF (Gazebo)	5:30pm 6:30pm Roseblad - Lara Wedding WATER OFF (Gazebo)
5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)			
7:00pm 8:30pm Prepaid Legal (Red Rock)			
7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)			
Wednesday, June 06		Saturday, June 09	
8:00am 9:00pm Furniture STORAGE (Ballarat)	8:00am 1:00am Martin - Graduation Party (No Alcohol) (Petroglyph)	8:00am 1:00am Martin - Graduation Party (No Alcohol) (Petroglyph)	8:00am 1:00am Martin - Graduation Party (No Alcohol) (Petroglyph)
8:00am 9:00pm MONROE GRADUATION practice (GYM - PETRO - PINNACLES)	1:00pm 4:00pm PD Testing (Red Rock/Chimney Peak)	1:00pm 4:00pm PD Testing (Red Rock/Chimney Peak)	1:00pm 4:00pm PD Testing (Red Rock/Chimney Peak)
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (Preschool Rm)	1:00pm 3:30pm Davies Graduation Party (Fossil Falls/Ballarat)	1:00pm 3:30pm Davies Graduation Party (Fossil Falls/Ballarat)	1:00pm 3:30pm Davies Graduation Party (Fossil Falls/Ballarat)
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)			
5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)			
7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)			
	Sunday, June 10		

Pam Pearson

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Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

June 11 -
June 17

June 2007							July 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

Monday, June 11		Thursday, June 14	
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:00pm 7:00pm Boys Basketball (N/S Gym)	5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)
5:30pm 7:30pm ACTION committee meeting (Fossil Falls/Ballarot)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)	8:00am 5:00pm PD Training (Petro)	9:00am 12:00pm Social Security (Fossil Falls/Ballarot)
		10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:00pm 7:00pm Boys Basketball (N/S Gym)
		5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)
		5:30pm 6:30pm Flag Ceremony WATER OFF (Gazebo - Fountain Area)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)
		6:30pm 7:30pm Karate (Chimney Peak)	
Tuesday, June 12		Friday, June 15	
7:30am 5:00pm Patrice (Kitchen)	8:00am 5:00pm PD Training (Petro)	8:30am 3:30pm ATC (Fossil Falls/Ballarot)	
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:00pm 7:00pm Boys Basketball (N/S Gym)		
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)		
6:00pm 9:00pm Stained Glass	6:30pm 8:30pm China Lake Mountain Rescue Training (Fossil Falls/Ballarot)		
7:00pm 8:30pm Prepaid Legal (Red Rock)	7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)		
Wednesday, June 13		Saturday, June 16	
9:00am 12:00pm IWV Collaborative (Fossil Falls/Ballarot)	9:00am 10:00am Multi DSC Tm (Red Rock)	8:00am 11:00pm Big Band Express (Pinnacles)	8:30am 3:30pm ATC (Fossil Falls/Ballarot)
10:30am 1:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	1:00pm 3:30pm Youth Cooking (Kitchen)		
5:00pm 7:00pm Boys Basketball (N/S Gym)	5:30pm 8:30pm Adult Cooking (Kitchen)		
5:30pm 8:30pm Assoc. Technical College (R/C Room)	5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics (Aerobics Rm)		
7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu (Aerobics Rm)			
		Sunday, June 17	

Pam Pearson

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Public Works

Telephone 449-5080 - Fax 499-1580

The



2007 Spring Conference & Expo
Was held April 25-27, 2007 at Tenaya Lodge.

The event was attended by City staff representatives, Starla Shaver and Ann Taylor.

CalACT is the largest state transit association in the United States, with nearly 300 members dedicated to promoting professional excellence, stimulating ideas and advocating for effective community transportation.

CalACT is a statewide, non-profit organization that has represented the interests of small, rural, and specialized transportation providers since 1984. Our membership is comprised of individuals and agencies from diverse facets of transportation, including operators of small and large systems, planning and government agencies, social service agencies, suppliers and consultants.

CalACT's mission is to promote professional excellence, stimulate ideas and advocate for effective community transportation. The CalACT conference is a key component in achieving this mission. The conference provides a rare opportunity for local transit operators to engage representatives of federal, state, and local transit regulatory agencies, as well as, contractors, vendors, and suppliers in sharing the knowledge necessary to promote efficient and effective transportation systems.

This years Workshop Sessions included the following topics:

SAFETEA LU Regulations - Hear about the final regulations for all 5310, 5311 and 5317 programs from a DOT Representative.

CHP Terminal Inspections - Know what to expect when your annual CHP terminal inspection occurs including common violations and problems. Get tips from the California Highway Patrol on how to conform to regulations now to ensure a successful inspection. Solve communication problems between drivers, management and shop personnel now for optimum results.

CA Mobility Action Plan - You have heard about California's United We Ride Mobility Action Plan (MAP) at previous conferences. Hear about the current status and the MAP Track of sessions covering the focus areas of workforce investment, mobility management, non-emergency medical transportation, CTSA development, and the technology component of coordination.

Emergency Preparedness Toolkit - Learn how to prepare emergency plans for your transportation program using the National RTAP Toolkit. Utilize tools to resolve real emergency scenarios.

Disability Awareness Training - Session includes the latest information on this topic.

CITY OF RIDGECREST

Dennis Speer
Public Works Director

Joe Pollock
City Engineer

Federal Grant Programs - Caltrans DMD staff to outline the fundamentals of the grant process in this session.

Alternative Fuels - This session will focus on the four criteria that influence decisions regarding bus fuel selection: availability, affordability, sustainability, and security. ARB will provide an over view of regulations and review the Governor's proposals on biofuel research and carbon reduction.

Improving Coordination through CTSA's - This workshop will provide an overview of coordination strategies used successfully by Consolidated Trans-

portation Services Agencies (CTSAs) around the state. Workshop participants will learn strategies already put into practice that improve both quality of service and reduce cost of service simultaneously. Experts will provide guidance to setting up a CTSA in your region, including critical topics such as best practices, funding sources, requirements, current statutes, and roadblocks to success.

[Creating Peak Performance in Your Organization—A discussion on performance goals, measures, and remedies.](#)

[Coping with Customer Challenges](#) - We all have those difficult passengers: the complainer, the drunk, the cursing passenger, unruly teenagers, expectations for additional services. Join us in learning the steps that can be taken legally to protect the passenger and the agency. ADA regulations and the rights and responsibilities of the passenger and the agency will be discussed.

[ITS Tools for Coordination](#) - The coordination of public and human service transportation is developing many active partnerships at the federal, state, and local levels. Through the development of these partnerships, the need for advanced communication and information has led to the use of ITS by public and human service transportation providers. Learn how the USDOT is encouraging the use of ITS in coordinating transportation services and how Iowa and South Carolina have implemented transit ITS data collection.

[Verbal Judo](#) - Drivers, managers and staff all face daily situations with difficult people. This session will teach you how to use the gentle art of persuasion to redirect the behavior of others and generate voluntary compliance. Using Tacti-cal Communication, you will walk away with hands-on skills to assist in diffusing situations and calming difficult people.

[Transit as a MediCal Reimbursable Mode](#) - Medi-Cal does not currently allow for transit to be used as a reimbursable travel mode to and from non-emergency medical appointments. This has resulted in many seniors and disabled individuals having trouble getting to their appointments, and high per-trip costs. However, there are reasons for the rules and regulations in place related to NEMT. Hear both sides of the issue from representatives of the CA Department of Health Services Medi-Cal NEMT Unit, other states' Medicaid programs, and California human service agencies.

[Negotiating Skills](#) - An assessment of critical skills in accomplishing objectives of managing a local transit system.

[Medi-Cal Town Meeting](#) - Discussion on current Medicaid/Medi-Cal Laws and Regulations.

[Technology Tips for Operation](#) - Technology should focus on solving operational problems and not IT problems. Technology should address operational solutions and focus on types of databases utilized and GIS software. Technology should focus on efficient scheduling, better dispatching and better management of operations.

[Communicating with the Media](#) - Establish excellent media relations and make your point clearly, concisely, and completely.

[Developing Mobility Management Centers in California](#) - This workshop will explore the concept and practice of Mobility Management as a tool for effectively coordinating transportation resources to both provide improved services to the consumer as well as to maximize the cost-effective use of vehicles, funding and other limited resources

[Operations Roundtable](#) Discuss operations with insurance and maintenance experts.

[Coordinating Human Service Transportation](#) - Successful transition of low-income residents from Welfare to Work continues to hold an increasing focus for human service departments, at both a county and state level. An ongoing barrier to this successful transition is significant limitations in available transit options for this population. Hear about current “Best Practices” and plans for future collaboration and innovative strategies.

[The Difference Between Lobbying and Education](#) - Learn how to persuade legislators through education on the issues and understand the distinction between education and lobbying.

ENGINEER REPORT

Private Sector Projects

The demand for inspection and plan checking is still increasing primarily in the commercial and residential sectors. There are currently about 38 new residential subdivisions being processed with a total of more than 3200 new lots. In addition to these there are about 1500 lots in the Ridgcrest Heights area that are vacant and buildable. Actual development has however slowed in anticipation of the outcome of the BRAC process and the air corridor issue. D.R. Horton Company has commenced grading for a subdivision of about 200 lots on College Heights between Springer and Kendall.

Street Projects

Aside from normal street maintenance we have no active street projects under construction.

Traffic Signals

The video cameras have been installed at all seven traffic signals operated by the City. They should all be operational next week.



Water break on Church (at Sunset Street).



Photos by Larry Miller, Engineer Tech

WASTEWATER REPORT

City of Ridgcrest WWTF operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56.

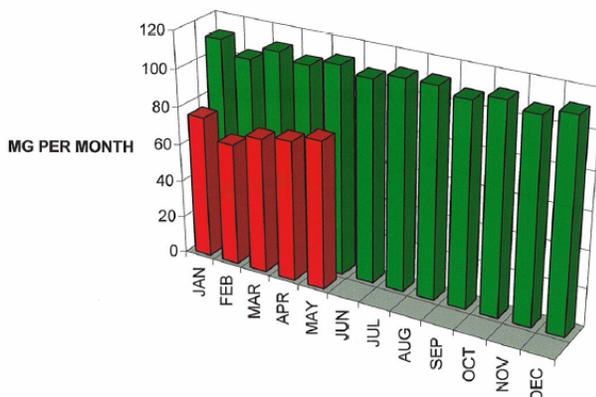
The department performed routine maintenance on clarifier No. 2, the department replaced 280 ft. of collector drive chain. Additionally, all new wear shoes were installed on the collector flights.

The department hydro flushed 1,500 ft. of main line collection system, as preventative maintenance.

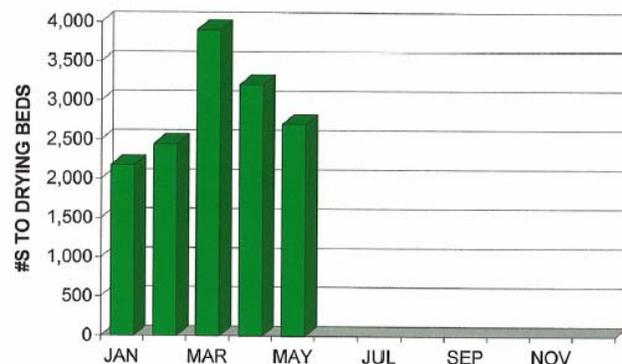
The reclamation department reclaimed 8 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation.

The department inspected and passed four (4) new connections to the sanitary sewer system.

2007 FLOW RED\ PLANT DESIGN GREEN



WW PLANT SLUDGE PRODUCTION 2007



Public Services

Telephone 449-5060 - Fax 499-1580

May Meetings

- May 01 - JLUS-OPR
Teleconference.
- May 03 - Mayor's Breakfast
- May 04 - Wal-Mart Super center
Management Mtg.
- May 08 - Wal-Mart Super center
Mtg.
- May 10 - Budget Mtg.
- May 10 - SCE Mtg.
- May 15 - JLUS Mtg. Palmdale
- May 16 - WEMO-HCP Working
Group Mtg. Palmdale
- May 24 - Kern Co. Assoc. of
Cities Dinner
- May 25 - ETCCP KernCOG
Mtg.
- May 30 - Sister Cities
Reception & Lunch
- May 10 - Desert Mountain Div.
RRA Mtg. Victorville.

Additional regular meetings in support of various activities and on going projects of interest to the city were attended.

PUBLIC SERVICES

James McRea
Public Services Director

Gary Parsons
Economic Development Manager

Matthew Alexander, AICP
City Planner

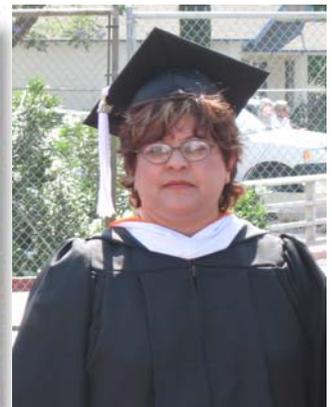
Bob Smith
Code Enforcement Officer

Community and Economic Development continues to review potential new Single Family Housing, Business Retention, and Economic Development Projects . NAWS was notified by DOD that their third Business Plan for the implementation of BRAC has been rejected. There is still no expectation of the final approval for the immediate future and the exact number of housing units, jobs and mission related development expansion remain undetermined. The ACUZ, JLUS, Kern County Specific Plan regional Blue Print project, as well as the **Ridgecrest General Plan Update** continue on their individual development tracts. A revision to the Zoning Ordinance, including a review of the Sign Ordinance and a Water Conservation Ordinance are included. The **GPAC** meetings and the **General Plan Workshops** are televised and held in the Ridgecrest City Council Chambers on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

May saw the completion of several projects that opened or will have openings during the early part of June. The Ridgecrest Business Park saw the completion the new Taco Bell, completion and beginning of landscaping of the Desert Valley Credit Union, a dedication ground breaking for the new NHSI Dental Facility and continued work on the Marriott Hotel, Conference Center, and Office complex. The Rite Aid project at China Lake and Ridgecrest Blvd. began demolition and site clearance. The Ridgecrest Nursery opened on West Ridgecrest Blvd. Initial site clearance and grading began for the D.R. Horton housing project at College Height and Kendall.



Danielle Valentine
Administrative Secretary
Appointed 7 May 2007



Darlene McGonagle
B.S. Public Admin - Cum Laude
University of La Verne

PLANNING

PLANNING COMMISSION:

On May 22, 2007, the Planning Commission considered the following public hearing items:

Preabatement Hearing – 315 W. Wilson Ave

Code Enforcement Officer Bob Smith briefed the Commissioners on the current state of 315 W. Wilson Avenue and provided photos taken at the date of report and photos taken of the property on the day of the meeting. Investigator Smith indicated the property had come to Code Enforcement's attention via the Ridgecrest Cares Program stating the building was an "eyesore" and a public nuisance. After initial inspection Investigator Smith discovered that the owner of the property was deceased and had not willed the property to family. Investigator Smith contacted the family of the deceased owner and established that they did not have any interest in the property and would not fight the abatement. The Planning Commission approved a resolution to issue an Order of Abatement requiring that the abatement be completed by June 31, 2007

Preabatement Hearing – 701 N. Sanders Street

Code Enforcement Officer Bob Smith briefed the Commission on the deteriorated and burned state of the property and provided photos taken at the date of report as well as photos taken of the property on the day of the meeting. Investigator Smith indicated the property was brought to Code Enforcement's attention on 8 June, 2006 via a reporting party from Florence Street. Investigator Smith went on to outline a history of attempting to work with the owner extending agreed timelines and offering assistance by contacting the Redevelopment Advisory Committee in regards to the owner taking out a loan to finance the clean-up of the property. Despite these efforts the property remained in much the same state as when first inspected though it was noted that some debris had been removed – including one old car. The Planning Commission approved a resolution to issue an Order of Abatement requiring that the abatement be completed by June 31, 2007. The Commission agreed that the following condition be included: An inspection be scheduled for 12th June at which time Investigator Smith make a further recommendation to the Commission as to granting an extension to 45 days bringing completion date to July 6, 2007 or leaving the completion date at June 21, 2007.

On June 12, 2007, the Planning Commission considered one public hearing item and three discussion items:

Site Plan Review SPR-07-04 - Windows/Walls & Floors

The Planning Commission approved a request to build a 60' x 120' 7,200 sq. ft. metal building for retail/warehouse for Windows/Walls & Floors at 1518, 22, 26 N. Inyo St, on three 6,000 sq. ft. lots on behalf of Emerald Point Development.

Kern County Tentative Tract 6634 – Discussion Item

Kern County had solicited input and advice from the City in regards to application TTM 6634 under consideration by the County Planning Commission on July 12, 2007. The area of tract was within the City's sphere of influence and the application was consistent with the City's General Plan designation for "Rural Residential (maximum of one-acre lots). The Planning Commissioners questioned the appropriateness of one acre home lots in an area surrounded by minimum 2 ½ acre, 5 acre, and 10 acre estate zoning. Also, the Commission indicated that two left hand turn pockets be required from Gateway Blvd on to Kendal and Saratoga. Planning Commissioners' comments were sent to the County Planning Department.

Electronic Changeable Copy Sign Code – Discussion Item

Staff requested a clarification in interpreting the sign ordinance provisions for electronic signage. Whilst directing the staff to research the impact of electronic signs regarding safety, the Planning Commission directed the staff to permit attention-getting devices so long as the signage doesn't exceed the size limits permitted by the code.

Women's Center Landscaping and Block Wall – Discussion Item

The Planning Commission directed the staff to issue an occupancy permit for the recently completed Women's Center located at 950 E. church Street provided that the facility's landscaping and block wall be completed by December 31, 2007.

GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

On May 22, 2007, the General Plan Advisory Committee held its third meeting which included the following topic areas:

MAP ATLAS – RIDGECREST TODAY

GPAC members reviewed and discussed a draft version covering the first half of the issues for the Map Atlas. The Map Atlas is designed to provide a graphic overview of the conditions and trends in the Ridgecrest area today.

Numerous editorial revisions were made to the draft map atlas within the Development Potential, Educational Facilities, and Environmental Constraints Maps

GENERAL PLAN GPAC SUBCOMMITTEES

The GPAC subcommittees assembled for their first meeting in order to discuss an overview of their responsibilities. The subcommittees are:

- Land Use and Circulation
- Conservation, Open Space, Parks and Recreation
- Military Sustainability, Noise, and Safety

NEXT GPAC

The next GPAC meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers on June 26, 2007.

Economic Development

Yes finally the demolition of J.D.'s is complete with the development of the corner of China Lake and Ridgecrest Blvd. now being underway, all with very little impact on the existing business' daily operations.

During the month we attended several meetings including SCE Energy Production and Conservation meetings, Viewfinders Origination meeting, Wal-Mart Progress and Status meeting and China Lake Museum Site Location meeting.

Other activities included work on the sale and development of lots 4 & 5, lots 34 & 35 with on-going construction of several buildings within the business park.

Wal-Mart's EIR review process is on-going.

Several new potential retail store developers were contacted as a result of our travel to the ICSC Conference with new potential projects being discussed.

Work continues on bringing new industrial firms to the valley with BLM and the IWV water District .

Sale of surplus agency and city property continues to be accomplished.