

The City of Ridgecrest Monthly Report



[monarch-butterfly-lq.jpg](#)
thedailygreen.com

August 2011

RPD monthly report

August 2011

RPD monthly report

Matt Bockhahn is our newest addition to the Ridgecrest Police Department. Officer Bockhahn was sworn in as a Police Officer on August, 22nd.



Chief Strand and Officer Matt Bockhahn



Officer Matt Bockhahn is taking his Oath of Office.



City of Ridgecrest
Police Department

100 W. California Ave. • Ridgecrest, CA 93555 • 760.499.5100 • fax 760.371.1674
RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE OF EVENT: August 02, 2011 @ 0420 hours

TYPE OF EVENT: Attempted Robbery
Residential Burglary
Conspiracy to commit a crime

LOCATION: 200 block of N. Robalo St.
Ridgecrest

SUSPECT: Deshawn Lavell Green, 37 yoa, Ridgecrest resident
Marquell Anttwon Harris Jr., 18 yoa, Ridgecrest resident
Daril Anthoni Manns, 20 yoa, Ridgecrest resident
Male juvenile, 16 yoa, Ridgecrest resident

On 08-02-11 at approximately 0420 hours, Officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department were dispatched to the 200 block of N. Robalo St. regarding a robbery that just occurred. Upon arrival, Officers were told that 4 black males had just broke into her residence. The victim related that one of the suspects brandished a firearm.

The victim recognized the subject with the firearm as Marquell Harris Jr. All of the subjects then fled the scene before any property was taken. The victim relayed this information to responding officers and Detectives were called to assume the investigation.

Throughout the investigation, numerous items of evidence were located and three additional suspects were identified. Deshawn Green, Daril Manns, and a 16 year old juvenile were all identified as the other suspects.

The suspects admitted they were involved and all implicated each other in the crime. The firearm was located and was determined to be an air soft gun.

Harris, Green, Manns and the juvenile suspect were all charged with Attempted Robbery, Residential Burglary, and Conspiracy to commit a crime. They were booked at KCJ and are being held on \$45,000.00 bail. The 16 year old male juvenile was transported to Juvenile Hall in Bakersfield.

RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police
PREPARED BY: Detective Kristen Lawson



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

100 W. California Ave. • Ridgecrest, CA 93555 • 760.499.5100 • fax 760.371.1874

Ronald N. Strand, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: JULY 14, 2011
TYPE OF INCIDENT: HOMICIDE / ELDER DEPENDANT ADULT ABUSE
LOCATION OCCURED: 300 BLOCK OF N. ROBALO ST.
VICTIM: FEMALE ADULT – 73 YEARS OLD
SUSPECT: Joy Esther Melot – 43 Years Old – Ridgecrest Resident

On 07/14/2011, officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to an address in the 300 block of N. Robalo St. regarding an unattended death. At the location they located the elderly victim, who was provided in-home care, deceased in her bedroom. The deceased's living conditions were determined to be unsuitable for her age and medical conditions. Obvious cause of death was not evident and RPD began investigating the death as suspicious in nature. The Kern County District Attorney's Crime Lab was called to the scene to assist in scene examination and evidence collection.

Evidence gained through investigation in conjunction with the Kern County Coroner's Office determined that the death was a result of homicide and identified the suspect as Joy Melot. Melot was the deceased's live-in, care provider at the time of the death.

On 08/18/2011, Joy Melot was arrested by Officer Dan Armogida and Detective Manny Castaneda of the Ridgecrest Police Department. She was subsequently transported to Central Receiving Facility-Bakersfield and booked on charges of Murder and Elder/Dependant Adult Abuse.

Prepared By: Sgt. Justin Dampier

RONALD N. STRAND - Chief of Police
Friday, August 19, 2011 12:56



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

100 W. California Ave. • Ridgecrest, CA 93555 • 760.499.5100 • fax 760.371.1674

RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE OF EVENT: August 29, 2011
TYPE OF EVENT: PC 187(a) - Murder
LOCATION: 1500 N. Norma St.
VICTIM(s): Russell Dean Bair, 25 yo
Trona Resident
SUSPECT(s): Alexander Aguilera, 28 yo
Ridgecrest Resident

On 08-29-11 at approximately 1800 hours, Officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to a trailer park in the 1500 block of N. Norma St. regarding the report of subjects arguing and possible gun shots. Upon arrival, Officers located a male subject, later identified as Russell Bair, on the side of the mobile home. Bair appeared to be the victim of a gunshot wound and was pronounced dead at the scene. Detectives arrived and secured the scene. Officers began a county-wide search for Aguilera, enlisting the help of the Kern County Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, and the Inyo County Sheriff's Department.

Throughout the investigation, Detectives learned the shooting was the result of a domestic dispute between Aguilera, Bair and a female subject. The trailer where the shooting occurred belongs to Aguilera and the female subject once resided there. Aguilera fled the scene in a Toyota pickup, which belongs to the female involved in the dispute. The vehicle was later recovered in the desert area near Highway 395.

The Kern County Coroner's Office and the Kern County District Attorney's Crime Lab were called to the scene to assist with the investigation.

Aguilera turned himself in at the Ridgecrest Police Department two hours after the shooting and he was arrested. He was booked for Murder at the Kern County Jail and is being held without bail.

The investigation is continuing and no suspects are outstanding.

RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police
PREPARED BY: Detective Kristen Lawson

INVESTIGATIONS

August was an extremely busy month for the Investigations Bureau. Priority cases occupied the majority of available time with training and preapproved leave taking up any remaining time. The Bureau as a team, worked together to process, investigate, and successfully solve the several cases of violent crime that occurred in the community.

On 08/02/2011, a Home Invasion Robbery occurred at a local residence. Four (4) suspects were subsequently arrested on charges of Burglary, Attempted Robbery, and Conspiracy.

Investigation into a suspicious unattended death case from July revealed evidence that the death was a result of homicide. Joy Melot was subsequently arrested and charges filed through the District Attorney's Office alleging murder and elder abuse.

On 08/23/2011, RPD was advised of a suspicious, unattended death of an elderly female victim who had been transported to Ridgecrest Regional Hospital and passed away. The coroner initially classified the death as suspicious in nature with signs of possible physical abuse. Investigation is still ongoing, but the preliminary belief is the injuries were a result of a fall and prior medical conditions.

On 08/27/2011, a victim presented at Ridgecrest Regional Hospital stating she had been drugged and raped at a residence during a party. Investigation is almost complete with the suspect identified and charges to be requested through the District Attorney's Office.

On 08/29/2011, a shooting occurred at a trailer located within the trailer park of 1599 N. Norma St. The shooting occurred during a dispute at the residence. The victim exhibited a firearm and shot at the resident of the trailer, but missing him. The resident/suspect was also holding a firearm and shot back at the victim, striking the victim in the upper chest and killing him. The resident then fled the scene. Extensive scene processing began as well as a multi-agency manhunt for the resident/suspect. After several hours, the suspect turned himself into RPD and subsequently arrested and booked on charges of murder. The completed investigation was turned over to the Kern County District Attorney's Office who ruled the death as a "justifiable homicide." The suspect was released from jail.

Several other priority cases were taken this month such as child abuse and child molestation that investigation was initiated on.

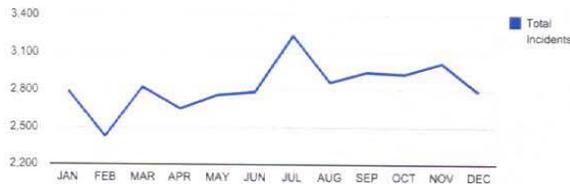
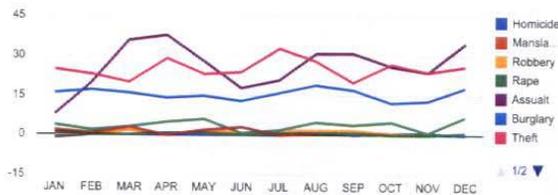
This month, Detective Castaneda attended the FBI Violent Crime Behavioral Analysis Seminar at UCLA. The seminar focused on violent crime trends, crime and behavioral analysis, and case study of numerous cases.



CrimeStatistics : Public

Prepared September, 2011 - Below is the last 12 months ** August
Includes a July Homicide Case

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
Homicide	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	3
Manslaughter by Negligence								1 [1]					1
Robbery	0	0	2	0	2	1	2	2	2	1	0	1	13
Rape	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	7
Assault	8	20	36	38	28	18	21	31	31	26	24	35	316
Burglary	16	17	16	14	15	13	16	19	17	12	13	18	186
Theft	25	23	20	29	23	24	33	28	20	27	24	26	302
Auto Theft	4	2	3	5	6	1	2	5	4	5	1	7	45
Arson	2	1	3	0	2	3	0	1					21
Total Violent Crimes	8	20	38	39	31	19	24	37	34	28	25	37	340
Total Property Crimes	47	43	42	48	46	41	51	53	41	44	38	51	566
Total Part One Crimes	55	63	80	87	77	60	75	90	75	72	63	88	906
Total Incidents	2,795	2,424	2,822	2,650	2,761	2,786	3,238	2,862	2,943	2,932	3,014	2,786	34,013



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Homicide	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
Robbery	7	15	14	16	16	13	10	12
Rape	20	16	6	20	23	19	15	12
Assault	277	335	293	325	375	329	346	334
Burglary	238	226	210	240	221	155	170	210
Theft	466	436	397	507	359	342	335	348
Auto Theft	53	51	65	45	41	56	42	53
Arson	9	3	11	7	7	11	15	21
Total Violent Crimes	304	367	313	361	414	362	371	361
Total Property Crimes	766	716	683	799	628	564	562	632
Total Part One Crimes	1,070	1,083	996	1,160	1,042	926	933	993
Part One Percentage	15%	1%	-8%	16%	-10%	-11%	1%	6%
Call for Service	30,554	28,307	31,160	29,841	31,984	36,784	39,361	36,723

If you would like further information concerning these statistics feel free to send an e-mail message, fax, write or call.

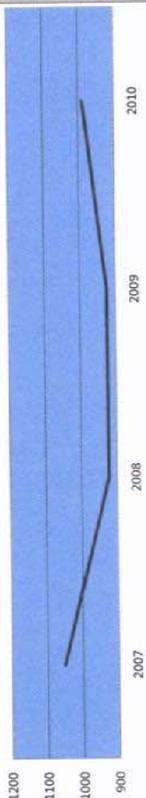
E-MAIL: prichard@ridgecrest-ca.gov

Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

Crime

	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Aug 10	Aug 11	% Change	2010	2011	% Change
Violent Crime	32	36	13%	288	216	-25%
Murder	1	2	100%	1	2	100%
Rape	0	1	100%	0	1	100%
Robbery	1	2	100%	8	8	0%
Assault	30	31	3%	269	200	-26%
Property Crime	44	53	20%	344	377	10%
Burglary	20	19	-5%	150	127	-16%
Larceny	22	28	27%	253	208	-18%
Auto Theft	2	5	150%	36	30	-17%
Arson	0	1	100%	10	12	20%
Part 1 Crimes	76	89	17%	666	570	-14%

Part 1 Crimes



Personnel

	Allocated		Filled		Vacant	
	Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 11
Total	56	49	49	7	7	7
Sworn	38	32	32	6	6	6
Professional Staff	18	17	17	1	1	1

Vacant Positions

Police Officers/Dispatcher	Status
Left open for salary savings	

Investigation

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Aug 10	Aug 11	% Change	2010	2011	% Change
News Cases	267	251	-6%	2284	2176	-5%
Cleared DA or Other	75	90	20%	773	832	8%
Arrests	12	7	-100%	141	135	-4%
Inactivated	22	7	-68%	263	226	-14%
Active	165	409	148%	2169	3597	66%

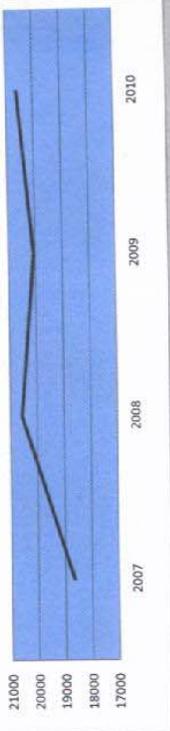
K-9 Deploy

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Aug 10	Aug 11	% Change	2010	2011	% Change
Deployments	6	0	-52%	115	92	-39%
Apprehensions	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Building Searches	1	0	100%	9	20	500%
Vehicle Searches	4	0	-42%	51	34	-46%
Drug Finds	2	0	-50%	22	5	-86%

Performance Measures

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Aug 10	Aug 11	% Change	2010	2011	% Change
Patrol Activity	3149	2962	-9%	25048	22338	-11%
Total Incidents	1700	1769	4%	11834	13113	11%
Calls for Service	1449	1093	-25%	10032	9225	-8%
Officer Initiated Incidents	495	386	-22%	3748	3154	-16%
Traffic Stops	954	707	-26%	6284	6071	-3%
Other OIA Incidents	344	375	9%	2956	2777	-6%
Reports Taken	213	152	-29%	1765	1494	-15%
Total Arrests	45	47	4%	361	289	-20%
Felony Arrests	30	19	-37%	352	232	-34%
Juvenile Arrests	28	11	-61%	223	163	-27%
Drug Related						

Calls for Service



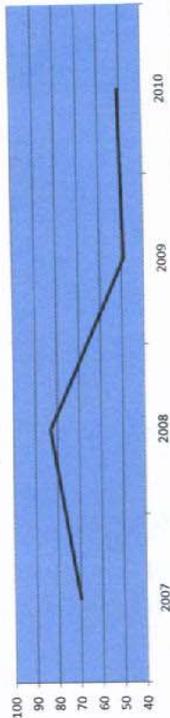
Traffic

	Monthly Comparison			Year to Date		
	Aug 10	Aug 11	% Change	2010	2011	% Change
Citations	68	142	109%	488	892	83%
Moving	14	6	-43%	205	44	-79%
Non-Moving	17	17	0%	175	135	-23%
RMC Violation	19	25	32%	140	171	22%
Collisions	1	0	-100%	2	1	-50%
Fatal	4	8	100%	33	51	55%
Injury	14	14	0%	99	109	10%
Non-Injury	0	3	300%	6	10	67%
DUI Related						

Top 5 Collision Intersections YTD

- S. China Lake Blvd./Church Ave.
- S. China Lake Blvd./Uppin Ave.
- W. Ridgecrest Blvd./N. Norma St.
- E. Ridgecrest Blvd./S. Richmond Rd.
- S. Norma St./W. Church Ave.

Injury Traffic Collisions



Top 5 PCFs YTD

- Driving under influence
- Basic speed violation
- Failure to signal/unsafe turn
- Fail to stop at red light
- Fail to yield right of way

PACT MONTHLY REPORT AUG 2011

PACT Volunteer Hours

Executive Director	9.0
Financial	3.0
Fundraiser	108.5
Training	13.5
Training Admin	2.5
Administrative RPD	201.0
Administrative Org	54.0
Vehicle Maint.	8.0
Animal Welfare	453.0
Child ID	0.0
EOC	7.0
Graffiti Task Force	25.0
Nuisance Abatement	6.0
Patrol	355.5
Preventive Patrol	0.0
Surveillance	10.0
Neighborhood Watch	0.0
Teen Court	15.0
Code Enforcement	18.5
Evidence Run	30.5

Sites Cleaned 108
Shopping Carts Returned: 17
Houses Checked 67

PACT HOURS	1305.5
Non-member hours	20.5
Chaplain hours	0.0
TOTAL HOURS	1326.0

YTD Hours for 2010 12,429

YTD Hours for 2011 8533.5

Subpoenas Issued: 41 Served: 14 Returned: 27

Graffiti Sites Cleaned: 108

Graffiti Donations: \$40.00

Child ID Donations: 0.0

Shopping Carts Returned: 17

General PACT Fund Donations: \$1,602.00 from Carnival and Viewfinders

Non-Member Hours: 20.5 hours

Neighborhood Watch Letters: 10

SCE Partnership Volunteer Hours: 10

There were Non-Member hours provided by Norma Abbott (2 hours) assisted on getting some supplies from Womens Shelter so an infant could be transported to Bakersfield, PACT Coordinator (18.5 Hours) which included Downs St clean up Flair Training on Aug 17 and DUI Checkpoint on Aug 27.

On Aug 1, a surveillance was conducted in the neighborhood of 1400 Ranger due to a lot of late night activity. No results. Surveillance LT. Greg Turnbaugh conducted the surveillance.

On Aug 6, 2 volunteers transported an Infant to the Jamison Center in Bakersfield, CA.

Norma Abbott who works at the Womens center provided some items for the infant to be transported, clothes, formula etc.

On Aug 8 and 23 a total of 10 Neighborhood Watch Letters were sent out.

On Aug 9, I sent more detailed information as requested by the Morongo Band of Mission Indians regarding our Child ID program for a donation.

On Aug 10, 3 Volunteers assisted on traffic control due to a natural gas line leak on Inyo between Reeves and Ward.

On Aug 13, 5 volunteers and PACT coordinator along with 5 explorers assisted with traffic control for Downs St. Clean up no issues.

On Aug 12 to 14 PACT Sponsored a Carnival at the Denny's parking lot. Good turn out by PACT and the Explorers. Crowds for the Carnival were good. PACT made \$2410.00 on the carnival. PACT gave the Explorers \$600.00 for their fund, we paid the rental of the property to Coldwell Banker in the amount of \$800.00 and PACT's general fund got \$1,010.00. All in all we did good. The owner of the carnival was advised of some problems and he was going to take care of it.

On Aug 15 Nuisance Abatement picked up and returned 17 shopping carts.

On Aug 16 while driving around a gentleman named Greg Smith donated \$40.00 for Graffiti Clean up and said thank you for the good job.

On Aug 16 PACT received a letter from IRS stating that we needed to file a 990-n Post Card which is suppose to be done once every 3 years to keep up our non-profit status. I did this and it was accepted by the IRS with a confirmation from them. We are in compliance.

On Aug 16 Greg Turnbaugh did a surveillance at the Larkspur Apts. From 12midnight to 5 am. No issues.

On Aug 17, 7 Volunteers and PACT Coordinator attended a Flair Training Class put on by Robert Oberfell of CERT. This was good training.

On Aug 22, 2 volunteers did a special transport of a case for the Detectives to the DA in Mojave.

On Aug 24, PACT had their Monthly meeting and 20 volunteers attended which was great.

On Aug 27 PACT and explorers assisted on DUI Checkpoint. It went good.

On Aug 29, PACT responded to a Crime Scene Call out. 8 volunteers and the Coordinator responded.



RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESERVE ORGANIZATION

MONTHLY SUMMARY

AUGUST 2011

	Current Month	YTD Total
Reserve Hrs.	186.5	639

During the Month of **AUGUST** Reserve Officers worked the following hours:

Officer Kiren	0.0 RETIRED
Officer Dysart	09.0
Officer Schatz	02.0
Officer Robbs	51.0
Officer Dorrell	39.5
Officer Regan	28.0
Officer Parsons	02.0
Officer Kinslow	26.0
Officer Podell	29.0

This month, members of the Reserve Organization augmented Patrol, Teen Court, range, BHS Football, monthly meetings and ARPOC.

Prepared by;



Tony Brown
Sergeant

Ridgecrest Police Department Animal Control Section

Monthly Report of Activities
August 2011

	CITY	NAWS	KERN CO	SAN BERN	Current Year		Previous Year	
					MTD	YTD	MTD	YTD
Dispatched Calls	171	0	0	0	171	1557	192	1359
Field Calls	14	0	0	0	14	156	23	139
Emergency Calls	5	0	0	0	5	40	9	60
Impounded Dogs:								
Public	26	0	10	1	37	321	33	251
A.C.O.	37	0	8	0	45	307	44	361
Total	63	0	18	1	82	558	77	533
Impounded Cats:								
Public	57	5	23	1	86	792	109	668
A.C.O.	24	0	0	0	24	129	22	93
Total	81	5	23	1	110	921	131	761
Miscellaneous Animals:								
Dead Animals:	8	0	0	0	8	37	2	35
	8	0	8	0	16	104	16	71
Cumulative of Animals Handled:	160	5	49	2	216	1620	226	1400
Dispositions								
Dogs Adopted	8	0	1	0	9	81	8	118
Dogs Released	21	0	5	0	26	223	36	255
Dogs Euthanasized	7	0	4	0	11	122	13	99
Cats Adopted	1	0	0	0	1	66	2	63
Cats Released	21	0	11	0	32	231	3	21
Cats Euthanasized	38	0	11	1	50	415	107	631
Animals Euthanasized:	45	0	15	1	61	528	120	709
Fees Collected								
Licenses		\$2,472.00		\$16,700.00		\$1,283.00		\$13,138.00
Vaccinations		\$149.00		\$1,510.00		\$216.00		\$3,266.00
Shelter Fees		\$2,710.00		\$19,905.00		\$2,686.00		\$24,666.50
Total Fees Collected		\$5,331.00		\$37,549.00		\$4,185.00		\$41,070.50

Prepared By: *Mary Stage* Reviewed By: _____

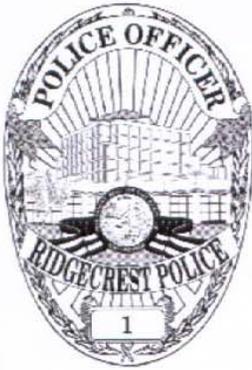
RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT
EXPLORER POST #806
MONTHLY STATS

August 2011

<u>ACTIVE EXPLORERS</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
20	193.50

The above hours include teen court, ride a longs, explorer meetings, DUI Checkpoint, median clean up, and PACT carnival.

Prepared by: Detective Kristen Lawson



City of Ridgecrest

Police Department – Code Enforcement

100 W. California Ave. ∇ Ridgecrest, CA 93555 ∇ 760.499.5118 ∇ fax 760.371.1674

RONALD N STRAND, Chief of Police

Code Enforcement Monthly Report August 1st – August 31st

Cases Opened this month in RIMS	31	
YTD Opened in RIMS	128	
Cases Opened this month in CitizenServe	0	
YTD Opened in CitizenServe	28	
TOTAL CASES		156
REMAINING OPEN CASES	31	
Cases Closed this month in RIMS	23	
YTD Closed in RIMS	98	
Cases Closed this month in CitizenServe	0	
YTD Closed in CitizenServe	27	
TOTAL CLOSED CASES		125
Citations Issued this Month	0	
YTD Citations issued	10	
Vehicle Tows this month	4	
YTD Vehicle Tows	8	

(Note: This report covers time period beginning March 17, 2011 due to Medical Leave)

CITY OF RIDGECREST
PARKS AND RECREATION
MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2011



J&J WORLDWIDE YOUTH FALL SOCCER BEGINS

**NEARLY 300 KIDS ON 26
TEAMS HAVE COME
TOGETHER THIS
FALL TO PLAY SOCCER
FOR THE
J&J WORLDWIDE
YOUTH SOCCER
LEAGUE. LEROY JACK-
SON SPORTS COMPLEX
WILL HOST GAMES
FRIDAY NIGHTS AND
SATURDAY MORNINGS
UNTIL THE END OF OC-
TOBER!**



MCDONALDS BIG MAC FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE SOON!

**SIGN UPS UNTIL
OCTOBER 7! SEASON
STARTS OCTOBER 31ST!
ANOTHER EXCITING
YEAR OF
FLAG FOOTBALL!
SPONSORED YET AGAIN
BY OUR LOCAL
MCDONALDS
RESTAURANT!**



Ten Men Out



AP PHOTO/JOSH REYNOLDS

LAST RAPS?
While slow-pitch softball is not dead in most communities, some recreation professionals are recommending CPR.

SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL'S PRECIPITOUS PARTICIPATION DECLINE HAS LEFT RECREATION PROFESSIONALS TO PONDER THEIR PROGRAMMING ALTERNATIVES.

BY PAUL STEINBACH

The end didn't come all that suddenly. In its glory years, the Jock's Nitch Softball Classic drew 140 slow-pitch teams to Pittsburg, Kan., for three days of camaraderie and competition. First, the women's division dropped 10 years ago. Five years later, the elite teams from St. Louis and Kansas City, several of which flew players in from points all over the country, were no longer signing up in sufficient numbers to support their own bracket. Last year, the total number of teams competing in the Classic stood at 70, half of what it was in the halcyon mid-1990s. With only 13 men's and seven co-ed teams registered two days prior to the 2011 entry deadline this past June, Jock's Nitch, a sporting goods retailer with

Ten Men Out

13 locations in Kansas and Missouri, unceremoniously gave its 23-year-old tournament the hook.

"We wanted to keep this tournament going, and we didn't take cancelling it lightly," says Jock's Nitch vice president John Minton. "We wanted to give it every chance, but we also wanted to be fair to people. A lot of teams would not have been happy coming down to play in a seven- or 13-team bracket. It's just sad that it died out on us."

Good news is about as common as a perfect game in slow-pitch softball circles these days, as the sport has seen a precipitous drop in participation that has spanned two decades. According to survey data compiled by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association, more than a third of the slow-pitch-playing population has disappeared since 2000. In terms of team sports, only

wrestling has witnessed greater attrition.

In Pittsburg, 120 teams played in slow-pitch summer leagues a dozen years ago. Today, there are only 30, and recreation officials have told Minton that the sport might not be offered next season. "It's just not there," says the 43-year-old Minton, who played slow-pitch softball for 20 years. "We're seeing it in the store. Our sales are down. The bottom line is, the kids out of high school aren't playing."

SGMA defines core participation as engaging in a sports activity 13 or more times a year. Since 2008, the number of core slow-pitch softball participants ages 25 to 34 has dropped by roughly 400,000. "I think part of the reason for that is there has been big growth in other sports," says SGMA membership manager Jonathan Michaels. "Here

in Washington, D.C., there's a huge kickball league. Obviously, it's a lot easier to kick a kickball than it is to hit a softball."

Similar flight has been seen on the other side of the age spectrum — the 45-to-54 demographic. Minton, for one, didn't last that long. "The last year I played, I said, 'Here are my rules: One base at a time. I don't slide. I don't dive.' And I used to pitch. Forget about that. You won't get me near a pitcher's mound. I stopped that because it got to be way too dangerous."

Is slow-pitch softball in danger of dying? Not quite, but some recreation professionals are recommending CPR. As many respondents to an informal AB survey indicated that the number of teams/leagues in their community is in decline as those who reported even

Kay Park Recreation 1-800-553-2476
 Janesville, IA 50647 319-987-2900 fax call for free catalog

"Speedy Bleacher"! Highway towable!
 Sets up in 10 minutes or less! Hydraulically Folded

Player Benches Bike Racks
 Tip & Roll

Custom Elevated Bleachers Drinking Fountains

www.kaypark.com
 Making people-places people-friendly since 1954

Make your team perform like a machine.

TENNIS **BASEBALL & SOFTBALL**

BATTERY & AC MODELS from \$499

from \$1,095

SPORTS TUTOR
 The Sports Machine Company

SOCCER **VOLLEYBALL**

from \$1,349 from \$999

www.sportsmachines.com
 1-800-448-8867 for FREE catalog
 Sports Tutor, 3300 Winona Ave., Burbank, CA 91504



Ten Men Out

the slightest uptick.

Brett Altergott has proclaimed the sport dead in Germantown, Wis. — a village of 20,000 located just up the highway from one-time softball hotbed Milwaukee — where the lone slow-pitch survivors belonged to an out-seam league. “It was a 30-plus league, but most of the guys were 45 or 50,” says Altergott, the village’s park and recreation director. “It went from eight teams to six, and when it got down to four, the guys were like, ‘It’s not worth it for a four-team league.’”

Twenty-five years have passed since *Sports Illustrated* devoted an 11-page spread to the prolific power numbers put up by one slow-pitch softball team — the Men of Steele’s. Yet, the sport itself hasn’t changed much since. Slow-pitch softball still eliminates the skill positions (pitcher and catcher) required of fast-pitch

softball and tilts the scales obscenely toward offense — regardless of players’ testosterone levels. What, then, explains its plummet in popularity?

Ron Radigonda, executive director of the Amateur Softball Association of America, points to a pair of societal shifts at play. The first is the aging of the baby boom generation, which counts among its members Radigonda, who once played fast-pitch softball four nights a week and ran leagues in Sacramento, Calif. The other could be viewed as a departure from the “me generation” mentality. “The bubble of the playing population is not as big as it once was,” Radigonda says. “And we’re seeing more parents foregoing their participation in recreational sports in order to provide recreational opportunities for their children.”

For some, it’s not so much a lack of

personal drive as resources. “I have kids, and I definitely have had to look at that myself a little bit more during the hard economic times,” says Bob Adams, leisure services director for the city of Greeley, Colo. “Instead of me playing softball, I’m definitely making sure my kids are able to do the sports programs they’re wanting to do.”

In many cases, those sports programs are taking over the very softball diamonds that have been left underutilized in the slow-pitch downturn.

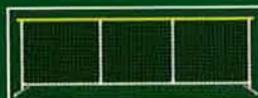
Germantown’s softball diamond has been retrofitted with base anchors and pitching rubbers at varying distances to accommodate girls’ fast-pitch teams from the Metro Milwaukee area, as well as serve the village’s thriving Little League baseball program. A permanent clay mound currently rises from the

SPORT FENCE INTERNATIONAL, INC.

877-812-2111
sportfenceinternational.com

- TRULY SAFE
- TOTALLY PORTABLE AND COMPACT!
- MULTI-PURPOSE FOR SPORTS OR SPECIAL EVENTS
- EXCITING
- FENCE SYSTEM

- YOUR FENCE IS A REVENUE SOURCE
- Offset your cost by advertising attachable banners to fence.*



Ten Men Out

center of a skinned infield. "It's not the greatest scenario in the world," Altergott admits. "But it makes the field as multipurpose as it can be."

In Charlotte County, Fla., where the slow-pitch situation isn't as dire, softball diamonds are nonetheless converted temporarily for baseball through the use of three portable pitcher's mounds costing \$650 apiece. "The biggest issue with them is the age of the player and whether or not the mound is capable of handling their stride," says Mike Norton, recreation/athletics coordinator for the Board of County Commissioners. "On a clay mound, you have a constant surface that goes down. With these portable mounds, the stride either needs to hit on the mound or beyond the edge of the mound, and that's where they sometimes have to make adjustments." A second

adjustment comes upon the planting of the second foot. "They can't use the typical form that they would if they were coming off a clay mound, because now you have a flat surface all of a sudden," Norton says. "It's a little bit different scenario, so it does change the way they pitch."

Beyond that, the 70-foot base paths required for an AAU baseball tournament held at Charlotte County's five-diamond softball complex placed second base uncomfortably close to the outfield grass. "We're not the only facility in Florida that has done it," Norton says. "It wasn't ideal, but it did work. If we were to continue to go that route, we would adjust the outfield by moving the turf back a little bit."

Other sports finding a home on softball diamonds include the usual suspects (flag football, youth football, small-sided soccer), less common

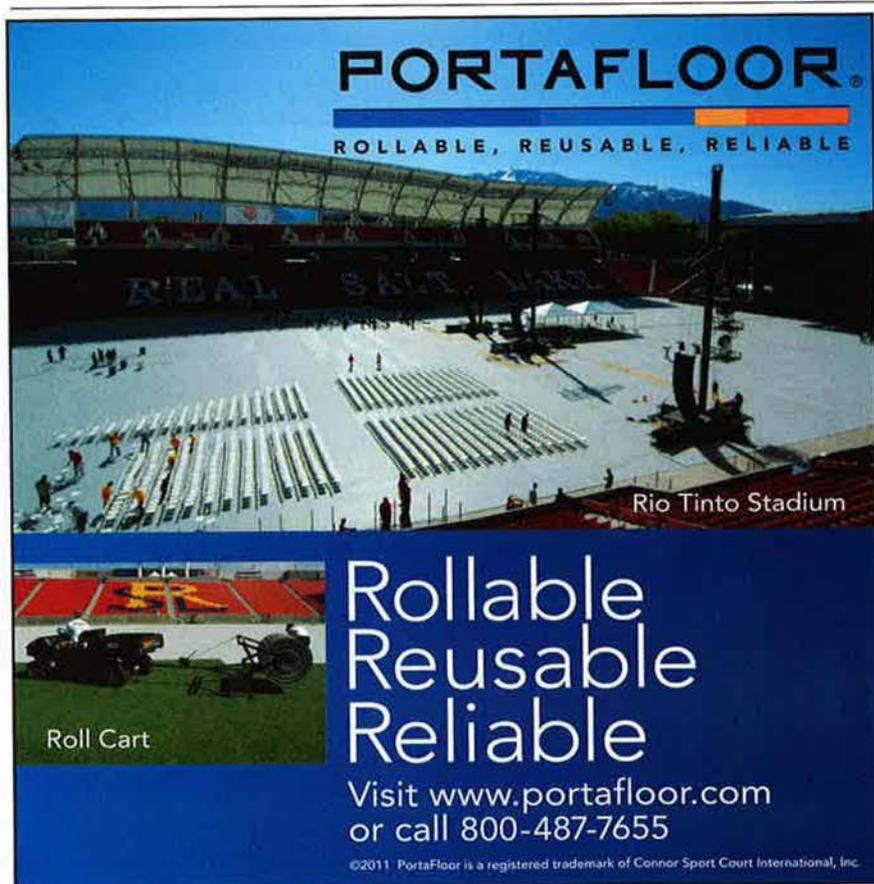
rec sports (field hockey, lacrosse and rugby) and even less common pursuits. Two years ago, the city of Winston-Salem, N.C., spent \$400 to have a cement pad installed to make one of its softball diamonds conducive to cricket.

That said, slow-pitch softball has received tremendous life support in certain communities. Fifteen years ago, city officials in Greeley invested \$8 million in a four-diamond softball complex, complete with a community park that includes a playground, restrooms, a retention pond, a parking lot and a walking path that connects to the city's trail system. The overarching goal of the infrastructure investment, which coincided with the construction of a new recreation center, was to boost slumping softball participation numbers. "One of the reasons why we built the softball fields with the recreation center was to hopefully generate new interest in softball," says Adams, adding that the plan worked. "We had dropped clear down to about 140 teams at the time. As soon as we built the new fields, we bumped up to 200. It dropped down again, but we've been consistent at 180 teams."

That many teams visited the site on a single weekend in July for a girls' fast-pitch tournament — an emerging market niche for Greeley, according to Adams. "We've had great success bringing in the youth girls' fast-pitch leagues on the weekends now," he says, "because adult slow-pitch has slowed down greatly on the tournament side of things."

At the time of the complex construction, Greeley earmarked an additional \$1.5 million toward the conversion of an existing softball diamond for multipurpose use. The project entailed removing fences and eight inches of clay from the infield, then trucking in enough dirt to raise and pitch the field, which had been susceptible to flooding. Lights were also added to support nighttime soccer, lacrosse and rugby use.

Dirt and clay issues no longer concern recreation officials in



PORTAFLOOR®
ROLLABLE, REUSABLE, RELIABLE

Rio Tinto Stadium

Roll Cart

Rollable
Reusable
Reliable

Visit www.portafloor.com
or call 800-487-7655

©2011 PortaFloor is a registered trademark of Connor Sport Court International, Inc.

Ten Men Out

Sparks, Nev., which sold its existing softball real estate and in 2008 opened a \$27 million synthetic turf complex that features six softball fields, two fields each for Little League and Babe Ruth baseball, and three fields designed to accommodate both football and soccer. With brown turf taking the place of a skinned infield, the softball fields have also hosted baseball, kickball and football. "I've talked to a lot of people about the new development that's going on, and people are developing turf facilities," says the ASA's Radigonda. "They're building turf facilities that can be multipurpose, and then they're not dealing with watering, fertilizing and mowing to the same degree."

Even in Germantown, investment in infrastructure is being pitched as a potential economic boon. The village park's 13 acres will still feature tennis courts, a skate park and playground equipment, but it also will include concessions/restroom facilities and three diamonds capable of hosting both girls' fast-pitch softball and Little League baseball tournaments. Temporary fences could be set as far back as 250 feet for baseball — or removed entirely should adult slow-pitch make a comeback. "Something that a lot of our commissioners hang onto is that they don't want this to just be a specialty softball complex," says Altergott, who anticipates a 2014 project completion. "That's why it's important to have movable fences. If you don't have a fence issue and you have green space in the outfield, you can convert that into small-sided soccer fields. Diamonds take up space, but it's how you try to maximize the use of that space that becomes important. I wouldn't be doing my job if we weren't looking at a way to improve an underutilized facility and asking, 'What does it need to be to be utilized five to six days a week?'"

Radigonda seems resigned to the fact that adult softball participation is following the arc of its namesake slow pitch. "I don't



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF GREELEY LEISURE SERVICES

WHERE HAVE YOU GONE, SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL?
A Greeley, Colo., park now hosts soccer where softball once ruled, but a four-diamond complex across town has revived participation in the latter sport.

think we'll see those numbers that we once saw, because society has changed so much," he says. "When I first started running softball leagues in 1972, the entry fee for a team for 10 games was \$30. It's not \$30 anymore. It depends on what part of the country you're in, but teams are paying between \$60 and \$100 a game in entry fees. The economics are never going to get back to where they once were, and that has something to do with how much people play. I was a four-night-a-week player. I played all the time. Economically, I don't think you'll see that people will be able to afford to do that."

At its pinnacle, the Jock's Nitch Softball Classic pumped \$1 million into the Pittsburg economy every summer. Minton would like to keep that much alive, even if his slow-pitch tournament cannot be resuscitated. "Everybody really looked forward to

our softball tournament weekend, because the hotels were all full. You could go to any convenience store, restaurant, bar, liquor store, Wal-Mart, and you just could tell the tournament was on, because of the softball players. That's something we wanted to do for the community, and that's why we go forward."

Minton envisions sponsoring tournaments for girls' fast-pitch softball and youth baseball teams, beginning as early as next year. "Actually, the youth teams travel better because you get more family members coming with them," he says. "It could end up being a better draw for our community in the end. So many of these kids' parents have played in our tournament at one time or another, and they know what a great event we put on here. That's going to be our big push — to get it going again, but in a youth format." @

August 21, 2011 - August 27, 2011

August 2011							September 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	

<p>21 Sunday</p>	<p>22 Monday</p> <p>9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺</p> <p>4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺</p>
<p>23 Tuesday</p> <p>4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺</p> <p>5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph ☺</p>	<p>24 Wednesday</p> <p>9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺</p> <p>12:00pm 5:00pm Dept. Head Retreat; RR/Ch Pk</p> <p>4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺</p> <p>7:00pm 8:00pm Gospel Mtg; R/C room ☺</p> <p>8:00pm 10:00pm ACES; N/S Gym ☺</p>
<p>25 Thursday</p> <p>4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺</p> <p>5:30pm 8:30pm Adult Cooking; Kitchen</p> <p>5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph ☺</p>	<p>26 Friday</p> <p>9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺</p>
<p>27 Saturday</p> <p>10:00am 10:00pm CGA Awards Banquet; Pinnacles/Kitchen</p> <p>12:00pm 4:00pm Open Gym; N/S Gym ☺</p>	



August 28, 2011 - September 03, 2011

August 2011							September 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	

28	Sunday	29	Monday
		9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺	
		4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺	
		6:30pm 7:30pm Zumba ; Petroglyph ☺	
30	Tuesday	31	Wednesday
12:00pm 2:00pm Quality of Life; FF/Ball ☺		9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺	
4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺		11:30am 4:00pm Health Services; RR/Chim Pk	
5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph ☺		12:00pm 2:00pm Quality of Life; FF/Ball ☺	
		4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺	
		5:00pm 8:00pm Soccer Coach Meeting; FF/Ball	
		6:30pm 7:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph	
		7:00pm 8:00pm Gospel Mtg; R/C room ☺	
		8:00pm 10:00pm ACES; N/S Gym ☺	
1	Thursday	2	Friday
11:30am 1:30pm IWVESC; Red Rock/Chimney ☺		9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺	
4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺		2:00pm 6:00pm ICS VBall Game; North/South Gym	
5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph ☺		2:00pm 6:00pm Swader Reception Practice; Pinnacle/Kitchen	
3	Saturday		
12:00pm 12:00am Swader Reception; Pinnacles/Kitchen			
12:00pm 4:00pm Open Gym; N/S Gym ☺			



<h1>September 04, 2011 - September 10, 2011</h1>		September 2011							October 2011						
		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	2	3							1
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
									30	31					
4	Sunday														
5	Monday	CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY													
6	Tuesday	4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym		5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph		6:30pm 8:00pm CERT Mtg; R/C rm									
7	Wednesday	9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph													
		4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym													
		7:00pm 8:00pm Gospel Mtg; R/C room													
		8:00pm 10:00pm ACES; N/S Gym													
8	Thursday	4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym		5:30pm 8:30pm Adult Cooking Class; Kitchen		5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph Gym									
9	Friday	9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph Gym													
10	Saturday	7:00am 7:00pm Community Dinner; Full Hall/Kitchen		8:00am 12:00pm Healing Field; Freedom Park		12:00pm 4:00pm Open Gym; N/S Gym									



September 11, 2011 - September 17, 2011

September 2011							October 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3							1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

11 Sunday 	12 Monday 9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺ 3:00pm 4:30pm ACTION; RR/Chim Pk ☺ 4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺ 6:00pm 9:00pm Desert Art League; FF/Ball 6:30pm 7:30pm Zumba ; Petroglyph ☺
13 Tuesday 4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺ 5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph ☺ 7:00pm 8:30pm Cameo Dog Training; Fossil Falls	14 Wednesday 9:00am 12:00pm IWV Collaborative; Red Rock/Chimney Peak ☺ 9:00am 10:00am Multi DSC Tm; R/C Rm ☺ 9:30am 10:30am Zumba; Petroglyph ☺ 4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺ 7:00pm 8:00pm Gospel Mtg; Fossil Falls ✕ 7:00pm 8:00pm Zumba; Petroglyph 8:00pm 10:00pm ACES; N/S Gym ☺
15 Thursday 4:00pm 6:00pm ICS Volleyball; N/S Gym ☺ 5:30pm 6:30pm Zumba; Petroglyph ☺ 6:30pm 8:30pm Bible Study; FF/Ball	16 Friday ☺
17 Saturday 8:00am 1:00am Bowles/Gamble Reception; Pinnacles/Kitchen/Gazebo 12:00pm 4:00pm Couch Birthday Party; RR/Chim Pk 12:00pm 4:00pm Open Gym; N/S Gym ☺ 8:00am - 1:00am Reception FF/Ball	



Public Services Department

AUGUST MEETINGS

- Aug 3 - Pre City Council Meeting
w/City Manager
- Aug 4 - IWV EDC mtg.
- Aug 9 - Management Team Ice
Cream Social
- Aug 17 - Facilities tour for Solid
Waste services
- Aug 18 - Solid Waste mtg.
- Aug 18 - Wal Mart EDA mtg.
- Aug 25 - Management Team follow-
up Strategic Plan mtg.
- Aug 25 - Pacific Development mtg.
- Aug 25 - Wal Mart review mtg.
- Aug 25 - China Lake Alliance mtg.
- Aug 30 - Quality of Life Comm.
Facilities TAB review mtg.
- Aug 31 - Quality of Life Comm.
Facilities TAB review mtg.

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

James McRea
Public Services Director

Gary Parsons
Economic Development Manager

Ricca Charlon
Administrative Secretary

Matthew Alexander, AICP
City Planner

Kady Everson
Planning Intern

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Public Services Department focus during August was again directed towards AB1X 26 and 1X 27. Adopted by the legislators June 15, 2011 which effectively dissolves Redevelopment Agencies but allows Agencies willing to comply with a "voluntary" payment to be exempted from elimination. The Governor signed these bills and they became effective on June 29, 2011. An Ordinance accepted by the Ridgecrest City Council determining it will comply with the voluntary Alternative Redevelopment Program pursuant to Part 1.9 of Division 24 of the California Health and Safety Code, in order to permit the continued existence and operation of the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Ridgecrest, was presented for consideration and adoption by the City Council. An Underlying Resolution of Intention and an Enforceable Obligation Payment (EOP) Schedule were also adopted. A Statement of Indebtedness will additionally be prepared and filed along with other documentation which are being developed and will most likely be required. The CRA, the League of California Cities, and others have filed a lawsuit which was accepted by the Supreme Court. The remaining deadlines the Court set in order to meet its goal to make a decision in CRA v. Matosantos before January 15, 2012 are:

Sept 24, 2011: CRA and the League must file their response to the State's filing.

Sept 30, 2011: Amicus curiae briefs must be filed with the court.

October 7, 2011: Replies to individual amicus briefs must be filed.

The Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) issuance in July of 2010 projects continue to move forward in implementation. These projects are directed toward infrastructure, roads & streets, leisure services & parks, economic development, Old Town, and alternative energy.

The pending legal maneuvers with the franchise waste hauler and the ongoing dispute that has been at the center of the City's inability to complete the remaining ALAP items to date and resolve community residential disputes in service has had a finding of fact by arbitration. In accordance with the franchise agreement the dispute was forwarded to Arbitration and the existing franchise will terminate September 02, 2011. The City Council is in process of establishing interim service policies for solid waste services. Waste Management was awarded an Interim Solid and Recycling Franchise Waste agreement after an extensive review and public awareness effort. An RFP, independent community committee review, and interaction with HFH consultants proceeded the interim selection.

Commercial on site recycling for all businesses, institutions, and multi-family facilities is still required and mandatory. Residential solid Waste and Recycling will be modified.

Waste Management and the City of Ridgecrest are Pleased to Introduce the New Interim Trash Collection & Recycling Franchise!

The Waste Management team is actively working in the City to ensure a positive transition to the interim agreement. We have local managers available to address concerns needing immediate attention. Waste Management will host a Local Help Desk at City Hall in the lobby near the Police Station throughout the implementation process, beginning on September 1.

Ridgecrest Deployment Hotline:
866-831-9489
www.wmridgecrest.com

Local Help Desk Hours of Operation:
Tuesday - 9 AM - Noon
Thursday - 1PM - 4PM



August Monthly Report



City of Ridgecrest

Public Works Department

July 15, 2011

Traffic Safety

APPROPRIATE USES OF TRAFFIC CONTROLS

The consistent application of traffic control devices is essential in maintaining traffic safety. Any given device for the control of traffic should have the same meaning and require the same action on the part of motorists regardless of where it is encountered. For example, an out-of-state motorist should be able to expect familiar traffic conditions when encountered with the same traffic control devices.

STOP SIGNS AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Stop signs and traffic signals are not intended to reduce speeding. Generally, stop signs and traffic signals are installed at intersections where conflicting traffic volumes are high enough to require control or where there is a high incidence of accidents correctable by stop signs or traffic signals.

(Continued on page 2)

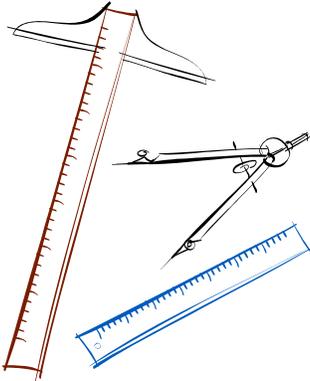
Wastewater Department

The City of Ridgecrest Wastewater Treatment Facility operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56. The Treatment facility operated with no discharge violations or abnormal conditions. The Department inspected and passed (6) new connection to the sanitary sewerage system. The Department responded to (3) requests for service, after inspection (1) proved to

be related to the homeowners lateral, and (2) were determined to be from illegal discharges of grease and vandalism. The Department as compliance with Board Order No. 6-00-56 had Pond No. 3 annual effluent analysis performed, the result are included with this month's SMR. The Department noted an increase in the BOD in Pond No. 3 this can be attributed to high temperatures and the Navy's increased golf

course irrigation use of effluent from Pond No. 3. The Reclamation Department reclaimed 8.55 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation. The Department hydro flushed 8,800 ft. of main line sewer for compliance with the SSO and SSMP program. The Department performed erosion control maintenance on the pond levees.





(Continued from page 1)

Stop Signs

Stop signs help drivers and pedestrians establish right-of-way at intersections. The justification for stop sign installation is determined by nationally recognized, "warrants," or guidelines. These warrants consider:

- The number of vehicles and pedestrians entering the intersection during a substantial part of the day,
- The prevailing speed of traffic,
- The amount of time traffic must wait to enter the intersection, including the availability of safe crossing opportunities, and
- Any accident patterns susceptible of correction by stop control. The volumes of traffic on both streets should be nearly equal to consider all-way stop control at an intersection.

Stop signs installed at locations that **do not satisfy** the above warrants may produce negative consequences such as:

- Unnecessary traffic congestion and delay,
- Motorist frustration and temptation to not completely stop, or altogether disobey the stop signs,
- An increase in the likelihood of rear-end accidents,
- Added noise and pollution for nearby residents, as vehicles stop and accelerate, and
- An intersection that previously appeared, "not busy," now looks like a major intersection.



Traffic Signals

Traffic signals provide for the orderly movement of vehicles and pedestrians by:

- Increasing the traffic handling capacity of the intersection,
- Reducing the frequency of certain types of accidents, especially the right angle type,
- Providing for the efficient and orderly movement of traffic, and
- Providing for minor street traffic to enter or cross the major street with less delay or risk of accidents.

The justification for installing traffic signals is based on nationally recognized warrants, or guidelines, and considers factors such as:

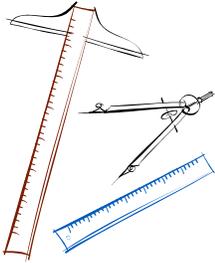
- The number of vehicles and pedestrian entering the intersection during a substantial part of the day,
- The prevailing speed of traffic,
- Schools in the vicinity,
- The amount of time traffic must wait to enter the intersection, including the availability of safe crossing opportunities, and
- Any accident patterns susceptible of correction by traffic signals.

FLASHING BEACONS

Flashers attract attention to unexpected and hazardous conditions not readily apparent to drivers. For flashers to be effective, they must command the respect of motorists. Therefore, the condition must be viewed serious enough for motorists to justify having been alerted. If it seems arbitrary or unnecessary, drivers tend to ignore it. They may be used to warn motorists of upcoming severe dips or curves, or obstructions such as tunnel portals, bridge railings and abutments, or overcrossings.

August Monthly Report

..... From the Engineering Department



The Engineering Department is excited to inform you that the new traffic signal at the intersection of Radar and South China Lake Boulevard is being erected the week of the August 8th. Energization and programming of the traffic light should follow within two weeks.

The Department is also working on the final stages of several grant applications. These grant applications are from the Federal Highway Administration and are administered by Caltrans.

The projects are as follows: paving improvements to Downs Avenue between Inyokern Rd. and Drummond, paving of Sunland Ave. between Ridgecrest Boulevard and Church and the final paving of College Heights Boulevard between Franklin Avenue and Jarvis Avenue. The design phase is complete with plans and specifications for each project. The City's consultants, Helt Engineering and Quad Knopf Engineering are in the final stages of obtaining the E-76 authorization to construct.