



MEMO

Date: November 14, 2013
To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
CC: All Employees
From: Steven Jepsen, City Manager
Re: **City Manager's Report –November 14, 2013**

Yuba City News

City Manager Steve Jepsen says Farewell

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve the City Council and community over the last 7 years. My wife Lynn and I have made many friends and lasting relationships in Yuba City that we shall always cherish in our lives. Yuba City is such a great community and family oriented place; our time here has been both rewarding and productive.

Thank you for your support and leadership during these last few years of economic challenges. We have positioned the city well to deal with the future. Yuba City has great employees that will continue to serve this community well. Your continued guidance and support for staff will serve you well in future years.

I am proud to have been your City Manager and proud of our accomplishments over the last seven years. I appreciate the opportunities you have given me in this position.

My best wishes for this Council and community and for Yuba City's future growth and prosperity.

Best Regards, Steven R. Jepsen



Police Citizen Academy Graduation

Please join us in congratulating our most recent Yuba City Police Department Citizen Academy graduates. We will be serving cake shortly after the ceremony. Hope to see you all there!

Date: Wed, November 20, 2013
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: City Council Chambers



Congratulations!



Congratulations
to
Diana Langley

Diana has been
promoted to Interim
Public Works Director

Current Job Openings / Recruitments / Promotions

Contact Human Resources at 822-4610 or on
the website: [Job Opportunities](#)

- **Police Officer Academy Graduate**

Closing Date: December 2, 2013 5:00 p.m.

- **Police Officer (Lateral)**

Closing Date: Open until filled.



Meet Lynn Haile from Finance



I began my career with the City of Yuba City in November, 2005. My current job title is Accountant 1 and I work in the Finance Department. The most notable duties of my position consist of working on the City's Operating Budget and its yearly audit preparation. In addition, I reconcile the City's bank statement and analyze the CIP funds and the Development Impact Fee fund. I love the variety of work and keeping busy all day.

My husband is Chris. We will be celebrating our 30th anniversary in December. We have two children, Katey and Skyler, who make us proud every day. When we get together for family time it is usually centered on food, especially BBQ. Spending time with my family, reading and playing golf are on the top of my priority list. Chris and I enjoy going on golf vacations to Mexico and I play golf with my parents and brother on Sundays as often as possible. You will find me at Future Fitness Health Club on weekday mornings before work. It's my all-natural energy boost.


I am originally from Princeton, north of Colusa on Hwy 45. It's a very small farming community and I have a lot of wonderful memories. Where else can you play 1st string basketball at 5'2"? There were 17 in my graduating class. After High School, I attended Heald Business College in Sacramento and I have worked in the accounting field ever since.

City Calendar

Saturday November 16:

- Artisans Presence Art Show and Sale 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Location: Regional Arts Council

Next Week:

	November						
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
8:00					9:00 SACOG		7:30 Hands of Hope Turkey Trot 
9:00							
10:00							
11:00							
12:00							
1:00					2:00 Yuba Sutter Interagency Council		
2:00							
3:00					4:00 Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority		
4:00							
5:00			6:00 Council Meeting		4:30 Regional Waste Management		
6:00				6:30 Citizen's Academy Graduation			
7:00							

Save the Dates!

- Downtown Christmas Stroll Saturday December 14 2:00 p.m.
- Community Christmas Tree Lighting Saturday December 14 6:30 p.m.

Lawsuit Targets Prayer At City Council Meetings

A religious watchdog organization has filed a lawsuit against the City of Pismo Beach, alleging that the prayers conducted at city council meetings violate the constitution.

The suit was filed on November 1 by The Freedom From Religion Foundation with Pismo resident Dr. Sari Dworkin serving as the local plaintiff.

At issue is the nature of the prayers given by Pentecostal preacher Dr. Paul Jones, which the group claims are sectarian and dogmatic in nature. The prayers, according to the group, often evolve into quasi-sermons that “proselytize and advance Christianity, and disparage non-Christians.”

The group is not only seeking an end to the prayers, but also hopes to declare the city’s appointment of Dr. Jones as city chaplain unconstitutional.

The city council established the official position in 2005 and soon selected Dr. Jones to fill it. Since then, the city has been in violation of the “no preference and establishment” clauses of the California Constitution, according to the group.

City attorney Dave Fleishman claims the suit has no basis. He points out that, in 2003, the city enacted a policy barring all sectarian invocations. The city, Fleishman said, has honored that commitment.

“I would be hard pressed to find any invocation that Dr. Jones has given where Jesus has been invoked by name. There have been one or two, but it hasn’t been Dr. Jones. And, Dr. Jones has been very good about making his invocations non-sectarian in nature,” Fleishman said.

Numerous California cities, including Lancaster and Yorba Linda, have previously come under fire for their invocations. In March, a three-judge panel of the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed a lower court decision, ruling that the prayers conducted at Lancaster City Council meetings were constitutional because they had been led by people from an array of different faiths.

The broader issue is now in the hands of the U.S. Supreme Court, which began hearing oral arguments in a similar case out of Greece, New York on Wednesday.

