



MEMO

Date: October 25, 2013
To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
CC: All Employees
From: Steven Jepsen, City Manager
Re: **City Manager's Report – October 25, 2013**

Yuba City News

The new Sutter Animal Services Facility is now open!

The Sutter Animal Services Authority celebrated its grand opening on Tuesday, Oct. 22. The new shelter is located at 200 Garden Highway.

The shelter is led by Manager Diana Barrett, a Bay Area native with 27 years of animal welfare experience. "Our hard-working and dedicated staff genuinely care for animals and look forward to taking animal care to a new higher level for this community," Barrett said. "Staff who issue animal licenses, respond to injured or aggressive animals, impound strays, and provide bite investigations and quarantines, among other services will now have space to perform their work. Volunteers who provide invaluable support will also benefit from the new environment."



Public Works Projects:

PROJECT	STAFF	STATUS	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
5 th Street Bridge	Kevin	Complete Project Approval & Environmental Document: Feb 2014	Construction 2016 - 2017
Fish Screen	Claire	Construction 75% Complete	March 2014
Wildewood Water Project (Prop 84)	Ben	Bid Opening scheduled 10/29/13	2015
Feather River Parkway Phase 2	Diana & Brad	Design and Permitting	November 2015
Downtown Sewer Rehab	Diana	Construction started 10/21/13	September 2014
King Avenue Safe Routes to School	Kevin	Utility Relocations Nov. 2013 – April 2014	Fall 2014
Wastewater Treatment Facility Oxygen Reactor	Mandeep	Construction 55% Complete	June 2014
Butte House Road/Pease Road Class II Bike Lanes	Ben	Construction start Oct. 2013	Winter 2013
Striping Project	Diana	Construction start Nov. 2013	December 2013
Helen Ave Drainage Improvements	Omar	Construction start Winter 2013	Early 2014

Yuba City at a Glance:

Incorporated January 23, 1908	Number of New Single Family Home Permits Issued	
Area 14.652 Square Miles – January, 2013	2000	135
Population	2001	358
January 2013 65,841	2002	589
Male 49.5%	2003	750
Female 50.5%	2004	991
Wastewater Municipal Utility Services	2005	869
10.5 million gallon capacity	2006	254
6.7 million gallons daily average flow	2007	158
Water Municipal Utility Services	2008	56
20.9 Million Gallons of Storage Capacity in 9 Tanks	2009	33
30 Million Gallon Daily Treatment Capacity	2010	18
	2011	14
	2012	13

Congratulations!



Parks & Recreation

Barbara Gilmore
is Retiring

Years of Service

31



Public Works

Russell McKenzie
is Retiring

Years of Service

16



Public Works

Jim Frost

Jim has been promoted
to Custodial Supervisor

Meet Scott Hanson from IT



As an Information Systems Technician, I handle all computer related issues for the City. Whether it is repair or replacement, I pride myself on providing the best possible customer service and timely response to all of your computer needs.

My wife's name is Kristin; we just had our 9 year anniversary last week! We have two kids, Andrew, 8, and Allie, 6. My amazing children have their own special talents and it is a joy to watch them grow and become kind, upstanding members of our community. My son plays baseball for Sutter Buttes Little League and my daughter is in ballet, tap, and jazz at Studio B, as well as an active member of Girl Scouts.

For fun, I love to golf, fish, hunt, and watch my son play baseball. I have recently taken up running and just completed the Tough Mudder in Tahoe, as well as my first 5k for pink October.

Originally I am from Columbus, Ohio, Go Bucks! I have lived in Northern California for 12 years.

I love college football and I always get fired up this time of year, as most of you know! Drive past my house any Saturday in the fall and you will see my Ohio State flag flying high!

I joined the Marine Corps right out of high school and went to boot camp at Paris Island, South Carolina. After 13 weeks in the southern heat and humidity, and another couple months of training in North Carolina and Virginia, I got stationed at Camp Pendleton in southern California. I spent 2 and a half years there and fell in love with the California lifestyle! Just as I was getting used to San Diego living I got shipped to Okinawa, Japan where I spent my last year. The cultural differences were amazing and it really made me appreciate the United States, and our way of life.

City Calendar





Events this weekend:

Saturday October 26:

- United Way Spooktacular River Run, 9:00 a.m.
- Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) Fundraiser - 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Benefit for Allana Smiles Foundation, 6:00 p.m.
- Fotine's Greek Food Festival 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Next Week:

	October					November	
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
8:00					8:00 Sister City Delegation Tour of City Facilities 		Hmong Festival 
9:00							
10:00							
11:00			11:45 Lunch Mob The Loco BBQ Co. Sutter Street				Sikh Festival 
12:00							
1:00							
2:00							
3:00							
4:00				4:00 Sister City Welcoming Ceremony			
5:00			6:00 Workshop with Sutter County Supervisors		 Halloween Festivities Link		
6:00							
7:00							

Save the Dates!

- Hmong New Year Festival, Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds **Sunday November 3**
- Yuba City 34rd Annual Sikh Parade **Sunday November 3**, 11:00 a.m.
- Swan Festival **Saturday November 9 & Sunday November 10**
- Downtown Christmas Stroll **Saturday December 14**, 2:00 p.m. **Christmas Tree Lighting** – 6:30 p.m.

Celebrate Sikh culture:

The 34th annual Yuba City Sikh Festival and Parade takes place Friday through Sunday, Nov. 1-3, with the parade happening Sunday, Nov. 3 at 11 a.m. The action is centered around the Yuba City Sikh Temple at 2468 Tierra Buena Road. Go to www.tinyurl.com/SikhFest for more information.

An exhibit on Sikh history in the North State is on permanent display at the Community Memorial Museum at 1333 Butte House Road in Yuba City. Call 822-7141 for hours. The curators also maintain a very informative website at www.punjabipioneers.com.

Swan power: Officials in Marysville, Yuba City hope elegant waterfowl draw tourists

By [Matt Weiser](#), Sacramento Bee
Published: Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013

Each fall for millenia, tundra swans have arrived by the thousands to spend winters on Sacramento Valley wetlands and rice fields. They travel thousands of miles along the Pacific Flyway from their summer breeding grounds in the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic. Now, the cities of Marysville and Yuba City are laying ambitious plans to honor the majestic snow-white bird with an annual festival.

On Nov. 9 and 10, the two cities straddling the Feather River will join forces to launch the California Swan Festival. One goal is to celebrate these iconic waterfowl, which have held a place for centuries in the human imagination as a symbol of beauty, love and commitment.

But leaders in the two cities also hope the festival will put them on the map with tourists. "Obviously, the Yuba-Sutter region is probably not thought of in many ways as a tourism destination," said Darin Gale, Yuba City's economic development manager. "However, we do have a lot of assets that people do come and travel for. One of the key ones is waterfowl."



The Sacramento Valley is already known as a top destination for winter bird-watchers. But festival supporters believe that putting the noble swan out front on the marquee will help make Yuba City and Marysville a hub for wildlife viewing. The

region surrounding the two cities is a spectacular setting to view swans, thanks to the scenic backdrop of the Sutter Buttes. In winter, vast numbers of swans can be seen wheeling over wetlands and flooded rice fields that surround the tiny mountain range, forming jaw-dropping clouds of flapping white wings.



"Swans have the draw of getting people's attention, to see something they don't typically see close to home," said Bruce Forman, interpretive services supervisor at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. "The swans are kind of the poster child, but this festival is about all kinds of wildlife in the region there."

Forman first approached area leaders seven years ago about starting the festival. The timing wasn't right for local officials then. But a year ago, the Yuba City Council agreed to give the Yuba-Sutter Chamber of Commerce \$210,000 over three years for tourism initiatives, with the swan festival as a major focus.

The chamber serves both cities and has taken the lead on organizing the festival, with help from the Audubon Society, California Waterfowl Association and Ducks Unlimited. Yuba County is donating the use of a large building to serve as the host site, dubbed "Swan Central," at 720 Yuba St. in Marysville. The city of Marysville donated staff time to prepare the building. "It has the potential to be a huge event," said Kristy Santucci, the chamber's CEO. "We're really encompassing everything recreationally that we have to offer in this area."

The event builds on an established interest in swans, thanks to swan tours offered in the area for several years by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. Those tours already draw hundreds of visitors to the area and typically fill fast. They begin this year on Nov. 16 and run through January.

For an inaugural event, the festival includes an impressive selection of tours and educational programs. Thirty tours are planned, from swan viewing on private farms and national wildlife refuges, to hikes in the Sutter Buttes and Sierra foothills. Visitors can also tour imposing area water facilities, including Oroville and New Bullard's Bar dams. Other unusual venues include Beale Air Force Base and the Marysville Wastewater Treatment Plant, each a special bird-watching venue of a different sort. The Swan Central festival headquarters will host informational booths, activities for children and nature presentations, from photography techniques to discussions of rare species such as ringtail cats and California's first wild wolf in 90 years.

The event joins a growing roster of successful birding events in the Central Valley that includes Lodi's Sandhill Crane Festival, on Nov. 1-3, and Chico's Snow Goose Festival, on Jan. 23-26. These have proven to be a boon to their local economies during months that are typically slow. The crane festival also forged a partnership with Lodi's wine-making industry, and birding enthusiasts often add wine-tasting to their trip. Ken Nieland, president of the Lodi Sandhill Crane Association, said that after 17 years, the event now can be counted on to sell out hotel rooms and fill restaurants in little Lodi. Only the tours cost money – as with the swan festival – so Nieland could not offer hard attendance numbers. But he said it reliably draws “a couple thousand”

people every year, mostly from the Bay Area. The crane festival also forged a partnership with Lodi's wine-making industry, and birding enthusiasts often add wine-tasting to their trip. “We've kind of grown up together,” he said. “It's a nice audience for all those hospitality entities and also for the wineries and antique shops. All day long people are asking ‘what's a good place for lunch, what's a good place for dinner’. There is definitely an economic impact.”

Gale said there is similar potential for partnership with the olive oil and rice producing farms in the Yuba City-Marysville region. These are an important part of the “Farm-to-Fork” local food movement that the city of Sacramento has championed, he said.

“The swans absolutely rely on the farms, and it's a key part of the ecosystem,” he said. “I hope people realize it's a key part of that circle of life that's right here in the Sacramento region.”

