

**CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE**  
**January 5, 2017**

**HONORING OFFICER KEVIN TONN**

The Police Department will be remembering Kevin next week beginning with the Tonn family gathering on Sunday, January 15, at 9:00 a.m. at Kevin's graveside, located at Sierra Hills Memorial Park and East Lawn Mortuary. Followed by a moment of silence at the site of Kevin's death at 11:30 a.m. Finally, the Police Department's Honor Guard will conduct a wreath laying in honor of Kevin Tonn later that day at 12:00 p.m. The wreath laying will occur at the Memorial site located at City Hall, 380 Civic Drive, Galt. These events are annual and we welcome the public to join us. No required public remarks or speeches will be presented.

**DONATIONS FOR ANIMAL SERVICES**

The Police Department received a check for \$1,600 from Sacramento County Supervisor Don Nottoli's, Community Services Project funds, to be used to purchase microchip scanners, animal pens and supplies for animals recovered and temporarily held at the police station. Also, on a chance meeting, Chief Sockman met the President/Co-founder for LAPCATS, Barbara Bowen-Doty, who following their conversation, donated two cat suites to help provide a safe, comfortable place when the police department takes in lost or found cats from the community. Each suite is made of stainless steel and has three large, separate living areas. Both the money for equipment and the donation will help improve the animal services we provide while the animals are in our care.

**POLICE RECRUITMENT**

- The most recent re-hired Dispatcher, Trista Webb, joined us effective December 19, and the last vacancy in Dispatch is expected to be filled later this month.
- Police Officer recruiting is ongoing with testing and interviews scheduled for the end of the month.

**CRIME PREVENTION**

The Galt Police Department is committed to continuously improving our relationship with Galt residents. We have two outreach events scheduled for January 2017. First, on January 23, 2017, at 7 p.m., the Police Department will be hosting a one-hour Neighborhood Watch meeting at New Hope Church, 200 New Hope Road, Galt. Topics will include how we can better reach our community members, including and engaging our Spanish speaking neighbors, updates on area abatements, and neighborhood concerns and quality of life issues.

Secondly, the Police Department has tentatively scheduled a neighborhood block party for January 28 at the 700 block of Stargell Way. The Police Department encourages attendance to this informal gathering of the northeast area residents to discuss homeless encampments near the creek beds and the community park, graffiti hot spots, reporting after hours activities at the parks and neighborhood concerns and quality of life issues.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Officers located a camp on Union Pacific Rail Road property south of Quick Stop. The camper

was advised of the City of Galt's camping ordinance and gave the camper a 72 hour notice to vacate. On January 4, the officers returned to find the camp abandoned. The debris was removed and the area cleaned up by the Sacramento County Work Release Program members.

### **SALES TAX RATE CHANGE**

Effective January 1, 2017, the sales tax rate in the City of Galt will decrease by 0.25%, to 8.25%. The reduction comes from the sunset of the additional statewide sales tax that voters approved in Proposition 30 in 2012.

### **ANNUAL CRACK SEALING**

Staff began its annual roadway crack sealing efforts to protect the sub-grade from water intrusion and prolong the life of City roads. Staff is working in the industrial area, which receives heavy truck traffic. Staff is evaluating other areas that would benefit from crack sealing. Crack sealing is a preventative maintenance measure meant to keep good roads in good condition and is not effective on roads with advanced deterioration.

### **VEGETATION MANAGEMENT**

Staff is preparing to perform annual spraying of right-of-ways and City owned and leased unimproved lots to control weed growth. Staff will spray as weather allows and will continue into late February. Proper chemical control of weeds will avert the need to mow and use other mechanical means to keep weeds in check.

### **HARVEY PARK RENOVATION**

In a team effort between Parks and Public Works, crew have installed conduits and security cameras have been installed at Harvey Park.

### **SAND BAG STATION**

Based upon current weather forecasts for the local area, the City has opened a self-serve sandbag station at the entrance to the City's Corporation Yard Annex at 550 Elm Ave. (near the railroad spur @ Industrial Drive). This is intended for use by City residents, with a limit of 20 sandbags per resident. Bags and sand will be provided, but residents will need to fill and transport them.

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT STATISTICS FOR 2016**

The City's Building Department issued 720 building permits in 2016. As a comparison, the City issued 129 total permits in 2015. Of the 720 permits in 2016, 134 were for new single family residential buildings, representing a substantial increase from the 71 that were issued in 2015. Of the 2016 permits, 130 were for residential upgrades such as patio covers, remodels, room additions, swimming pools and roof mounted solar panels. There were 41 permits issued for commercial uses such as tenant improvements and new signs. The remainder 415 permits were for over the counter type permits such as a reroof, water heater installs, HVAC, electrical, etc.

### **FINANCE DEPARTMENT NEW PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENT**

Carly Saunders stated working for the City on December 27, 2016, as an Accounting Assistant II. Her primary responsibilities will be processing payroll and she will be cross-trained on other roles in the Finance Department in the coming months.

**SPECAIL EVENTS**

- Chamber Food Truck – Saturday, January 7, 2017, on Fourth Street in Old Town
- 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Galt Winter Bird Festival – Saturday, January 21, 2017, at McCaffrey Middle School

**RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- Children’s Musical Theater starting January 19, at the Littleton Center, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Red Hawk Casino Bus Trip on February 9, leaving from the Chabolla Center at 8 a.m.