

# CITY MANAGER'S

## U P D A T E



March 2017 Issue 0088 Michelle Dawson, City Manager

## City Manager

### Media

#### Spotlight on Moreno Valley Business

Supporting the local business community is a high priority for the City of Moreno Valley. Each month the City Council recognizes two businesses during a regular Council Meeting. The MoVal Media Team produced videos to highlight the Shrimp Factory and Be Happy Nutrition Café & Club. [All episodes](#) are available on the [City's YouTube Channel](#). Spotlight on Moreno Valley Business airs daily on MVTV-3.

#### Mayor's Minute March 2017

Mayor's Minute is a monthly news magazine series hosted by Mayor Yxstian Gutierrez. This month the Mayor introduces My MoVal, a new website designed to engage and unite local volunteers. Mayor Gutierrez also highlights the City's fiscal strength, and the upcoming Public Safety Expo. Mayor's Minute is available on the City's [YouTube Channel](#) and airs daily on MVTV-3.



#### Moreno Valley Youth Conference

Media's graphic design team created marketing materials to promote the City of Moreno's first ever Youth Conference. The purpose of these marketing materials is to attract local teens to this job and education expo. More information on this event is available at [www.moval.org](http://www.moval.org).



#### CM Update Contributors:

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# Administrative Services Department

## Animal Services Division

### "Sweet Paws" Pet Adoption Event

From Friday, February 10 through Saturday, February 18 a total of 71 pets were adopted (55 family adoptions and 16 rescues) along with 29 pets reclaimed by their owners resulting in **100 positive outcomes for pets** during this pet adoption promotion. This annual pet adoption promotion held at the Animal Shelter was extended from three days to seven days this year, resulting in more positive outcomes for our furry friends. The pet adoption fee for family adoptions was \$50 for any dog and \$15 for any cat covering the spay-neuter surgery, a HomeAgain microchip and vaccinations.

## Human Resources Division

Total: 11 recruitments as of 3/10/17

<u>Recruitments</u>		<u>Workers Compensation</u>	
New recruitments:	3	New claims:	2
Ongoing recruitments:	8	Ongoing open claims:	29
Closed recruitments:	7	Closed claims:	1

Total Employees: 420

Retirements/Separations: 0/2

### New Hires



Patricia Jacquez-Nares

City Clerk



Erin Weaver

Sr. Administrative Assistant

## Upcoming Events:

The following upcoming events are planned during 2017 at the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter:

Low-Cost Rabies Vaccination & Microchip Clinic – Saturday, April 15, 2017, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Moreno Valley Animal Shelter

Save A Life Earth Day Pet Adoption Event – Thursday, April 20 – Friday, April 21, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. & Saturday, April 22, 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

\$5 Fridays Cat & Kitten Adoption Event – Every Friday during the month of May, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Cinco de Mayo Pet Adoption Event  
Wednesday, May 3 – Friday, May 5, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. & Saturday, May 6, 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Mother's Day Pet Adoption Event  
Thursday, May 11 – Friday, May 12, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. & Saturday, May 13, 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

## Program Statistics:

- Adult programs hosted 188 attendees
- Bilingual storytime hosted 99 attendees
- Family Night programs hosted 91 attendees
- Preschool Storytime programs hosted 84 attendees
- Teen Night programs hosted 38 attendees

## Library Services

### April Library Programs

- Bilingual Storytime - Thursdays at 11 a.m.
- Family Night - Thursdays at 6 p.m.
- Inland Scribes - Sundays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Preschool Storytime - Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
- Teen Night - Wednesdays at 5 p.m.
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) - Tuesdays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) - Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



### Computer Usage

- Library patrons completed 705 Internet sessions using 15 minute computers
- Library patrons completed 416 Internet sessions using 30 minute computers
- Library patrons completed 2,891 Internet sessions using 60 minute computers
- Library patrons completed 852 Internet sessions using children's computers

### Library Patron Trends

- The Moreno Valley Public Library had 20,932 library patron visits
- Library staff answered a total of 2,079 reference questions from visitors
- Library staff created 621 new library card accounts



## ***Purchasing & Facilities Division***

The Facilities Group recently worked with Public Works Maintenance and Operations to install six new television/monitors for the Department Operations Center (DOC) in the City Yard office building. This enhancement will allow the effective operation of the DOC any time an emergency situation, such as an extreme storm event, occurs.

Utilizing a special paint, the Facilities Group created a projector screen wall in the first floor Media Room at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Two more walls within the EOC will subsequently be painted in this manner to allow for additional projector screen walls. These efforts allow for a larger viewing area by projecting on the entire wall.

# Community DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

## Administration

### First Nandina

The First Nandina project was approved by the Planning Commission on October 9, 2014. No appeal was filed on the project. Demolition of the existing structures on the site was completed in April, 2016. The project proposes to construct a 1.45 million square foot warehouse/distribution center on 73 acres located at the southwest corner of Indian Street and Nandina Avenue in the Moreno Valley Industrial Area. The developer, First Industrial Properties, has received strong early interest from potential tenants.

### First San Michele Logistics

First Industrial is constructing an 187,000 square foot logistics facility at San Michele Road and Perris Boulevard. The structure is nearing completion and the tenant, Wiseway Transportation Services, has been issued a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for storage purposes while construction is being completed. Community Development, along with other departments, are working with the developer and tenant to get the facility ready for use before summer.

### March Business Center

Western Realco's March Business Center project at the southeast corner of Iris Avenue and Heacock Street, in the Moreno Valley South Industrial Area, is more than 80% complete. The project was approved for 1,484,000 square feet of warehouse/logistics space on the 75-acre site. The first two buildings, the larger of which encompasses 1,103,000 square feet, are complete. Western Realco has sold both buildings and the larger building has been leased to Floor and Décor with operations under way.

### Karma Automotive

The tenant improvement for Karma Automotive, at 17100 Perris Boulevard, is approximately 98% complete. The process of testing of all assembly and paint equipment, robots, computers, and procedures is complete. Karma has been constructing "test" vehicles, attending auto shows, and is gearing up for full production and sales this summer.

### Prologis

The 601,810 SF Prologis industrial building on the corner of Graham Street and Brodiaea Avenue has been issued a grading permit and work has begun. The building plans are approved and ready to issue once the grading is complete and pad certifications are approved.

### SimpliCITY – Making Your Job Super Simple with ACP!

On December 6, 2016, the city of Moreno Valley launched SimpliCITY enhancing the way we do business between departments and divisions and dramatically changing the way we deliver customer care.

The next phase of the project will be implementing the online portion giving access to our customers to process payments, check project status, submit items, schedule tasks and many more. The SimpliCITY team will begin this work by spring.

## Building & Safety Division

### Projects

- Plans are in process for a 104 guest room Holiday Inn Express, a four-story 114 guest room Residence Inn, and a 76 gas station and convenience store at the northeast corner of Day and Eucalyptus, the former site of Robertson's Ready Mix. These are the first three plan check submittals for the "Quarter Project" which will eventually also include a drive-thru fast-food restaurant and two retail/restaurant buildings.
- The Cupcake and Espresso Bar is working toward a Certificate of Occupancy and being open to the public as soon as possible. This business is located near the recently opened Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches, Dickey's Barbecue Pit, and the Organic Nail Spar Bar located at the corner of Day Street and Campus Parkway.
- The tenant improvement for Moreno Valley's first Mountain Mike's Pizza, located in the 24000 block of Alessandro Boulevard, is progressing and the restaurant is expected to open in spring.
- The Cactus Commerce Center, to be located at Cactus Avenue and Commerce Center Drive, has submitted plans for the first phase of the project which includes a diesel and gas station, car wash, and drive-through restaurant. Future submittals to complete the project will include two additional restaurant pads and a small industrial building.

### Quick Statistics

The following Building & Safety Division statistics are a comparison of February year over year (2017 and 2016) activity:

<b>BUILDING &amp; SAFETY</b>	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>February 2016</b>
Customer Counter Visits-Total/Daily Average	585/31	602/30
Building Permits Issued	167	178
Construction Valuation	\$6,055,163	\$5,231,536
Construction Inspections Performed	895	1,407
Issued Certificates of Occupancy	23	22
Plan Check Activity	149	251
Monthly Revenue	\$302,776	\$113,513

<b>CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY</b>	<b>Business Name</b>
<b>Temporary Certificates of Occupancy</b>	
BFC16-0195 (renewal)	O'Reilly Auto Parts (Perris Blvd)
BFC17-0016 (renewal)	Serta Simmons
BFC17-0001 (renewal)	El Pollo Loco
BFC17-0013 (renewal)	Wiseway Transportation Services
BFC16-0123	Farm Market
BFC17-0004 (renewal)	Floor & Decor
<b>Towngate Mall Certificates of Occupancy</b>	
BFC16-0015	Forever 21
<b>Restaurant Certificates of Occupancy</b>	
BFC16-0142	Dickey's Barbeque Pit
<b>Tract Certificates of Occupancy</b>	
<b>Lot #</b>	<b>Developer &amp; Tract #</b>
4 - 8	RSI Homes - 27251-1
36	Pacific Communities - 30268

## Code & Neighborhood Services Division

### Quick Statistics

The following Code & Neighborhood Services Division statistics are a comparison of February year over year (2017 and 2016) activity:

CODE & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES	February 2017	February 2016
Cases Initiated	368	303
Closed Case Investigations	586	260
Parking Citations Issued	2,401	2,133
Administrative Citations Issued	55	28
Counter Customers	323	360

Code and Neighborhood Services has hired and trained two part-time weekend staff members to assist with processing Code cases, respond to resident complaints, look for illegally parked vehicles, remove illegally posted signs causing blight, and look for illegally operating vendors. These positions are funded through a federal Justice Assistance Grant.

## Planning Division

### Quick Statistics

The following Planning Division statistics are a comparison of February year over year (2017 and 2016) activity:

PLANNING	February 2017	February 2016
Counter Customers	301	282
Entitlement Major Applications	8	3
Minor Applications	46	48
Plan Check Submittals	69	67
Application Fees	\$113,292	\$36,210

### Planning Commission

February 9, 2017

The Planning Commission reviewed and took action not to recommend approval of the Ironwood Village project. The project proposal includes a General Plan Amendment, Change of Zone, Tentative Tract Map, Plot Plan and Expanded Environmental Review/Initial Study for development of a 181 lot single-family residential development. The project site is located northeasterly of the intersection of Ironwood Avenue and Nason Street, and bounded by Ironwood Avenue on the south, Nason Street on the west, Oliver Street on the east, and vacant land to the north. The applicant is Global Investment & Development, LLC. The proposed project is within City Council District 2.

February 23, 2017

- The Planning Commission approved an Amended Conditional Use Permit to expand the existing Alta Vista Public Charter School with a new 4,684 square feet resource center. The project is located at 24021 Alessandro Boulevard within City Council District 3.

## Recent Case Submittals

- An Amended Plot Plan and related Administrative Plot Plan were submitted to remove the drive-through from Parcel 1 of the previously approved Quarter project. The project site is located at the northeast corner of Day Street and Eucalyptus (12490 Day Street). The applicant is MPA Architects, Inc. The project is within District 1.
- An application for architectural design review of the new residential units to be built at the northwest corner of Cactus Avenue and Wilmot Street. The applicant is KB Homes. The project is within City Council District 3.
- A pre-application was submitted for a seven lot subdivision at 24645 Eucalyptus Avenue. The applicant is Ed Romero. The project is within City Council District 1.
- An Administrative Plot Plan was submitted for the Harbor Freight building. The applicant is Mike Allen, Griffith Co. The project is within City Council District 1.
- An Extension of Time was submitted for the previously approved 12 lot single-family residential subdivision on Tranquil Way, east of Hubbard Street. The applicant is Himada Properties, LLC. The project is within City Council District 2.
- An Extension of Time was submitted for a previously approved 2,854 square foot Custom Home on Bradshaw Circle. The project site is located near the intersection of Cactus Avenue and Moreno Beach Drive. The applicant is William Redden. The project is within City Council District 3.

- The Planning Commission approved a Plot Plan for a new 220 unit multi-family apartment project. In addition to the residential units the approved project will include a community fitness building, a leasing building, common open space areas, and a mix of parking areas that include attached garages, carports, and open guest spaces. The project site is an approximate 11 acre vacant parcel located at the northeast corner of Lasselle Street and Cactus Avenue. The applicant is MV Bella Vista, LLC. The project is within City Council District 3.

## City Council

February 21, 2017

A General Plan Annual Report was presented to and approved by the City Council. With City Council approval the report will be distributed to the State Office of Planning and Research and the Department of Housing and Community Development.

## Administrative Approvals

The following projects were approved administratively in February:

- An Administrative Plot Plan was approved for interior remodel and exterior repainting of an existing KFC restaurant located at 12280 Heacock Street. The project is within City Council District 1.
- A Plot Plan was approved for an eight (8) foot curved-top iron fence and gates for the employee parking lot at the O'Reilly Auto Parts retail distribution facility located at 24530 San Michelle Road. The applicant is Mesa Fence Company. The project is within City Council District 4.
- A Plot Plan was approved for a new exterior wall sign at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Offices located at 12815 Heacock Street. The applicant is Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. The project is within City Council District 1.
- An Administrative Plot Plan was approved to confirm the final architectural design of new residential homes to be built for Tentative Tract Map 36882. The Tract includes 40 lots. The project is located on Brodiaea Avenue, west of Moreno Beach Drive, and east of Lasselle Street. The applicant is Frontier Communities. The project is within City Council District 3.
- A custom home application was approved for a 1,620 square foot manufactured home and 2,960 square foot separate detached garage to be located at 26253 Ironwood Avenue. The applicant is Najwa Sadik. The project is within City Council District 2.
- An Administrative Plot Plan was approved to add patio covers at the Harbor Freight warehouse site located at 23400 Cactus Avenue. The applicant is Griffith Company. The project is within City Council District 1.

# Economic Development Department



City of Moreno Valley congratulated Dickey's Barbecue Pit on Saturday, March 18, the date of their grand opening in the TownGate Promenade shopping center, located at 12620 Day Street, Suite E, at the southeast corner

of Campus Parkway and Day Street in Moreno Valley.

Based in Dallas, Texas, Dickey's Barbecue Pit offers slow-smoked barbecue, beef brisket, pulled pork, St. Louis style ribs, polish sausage, spicy cheddar sausage, smoked turkey, and marinated chicken, with an extensive array of home-style sides.

For more information about the City's new businesses or to learn more about establishing a business in Moreno Valley, please visit [www.morenovalleybusiness.com](http://www.morenovalleybusiness.com) and contact the Economic Development Department at 951.413.3460 or by email at [EDTeam@moval.org](mailto:EDTeam@moval.org)

## Moreno Valley Employment Resource Center Update

The Moreno Valley Employment Resource Center (ERC) is a vital community resource that provides workforce development services for both employers and job seekers.

During the month of February 2017, the ERC provided the following services:

	February 2017	2017 Year To Date
Total Number of People	699	1438
Number of Moreno Valley	325	961
Percentage Moreno Valley	46%	67%
Number of Workshops	4	6
Number of Job Fairs	2	5

The ERC is located at **12625 Frederick Street, Suite K-3, in the TownGate Center and is open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** For more information, residents and employers are encouraged to call 951.413.3920 or email [erc@moval.org](mailto:erc@moval.org). In the market for a new job? Join the [Hire MoVal Job Seekers' List](#) today!

As part of strong Economic Development efforts by the City, several additional restaurants also recently opened, including:

- Ahipoki Bowl – Towngate Crossing
- All American Ice Cream Moreno Marketplace
- Armando's Mexican Restaurant – Moreno Marketplace
- Cupcakes & Espresso – 2nd location at TownGate Promenade
- El Pollo Loco Restaurant Perris Blvd.
- Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches – TownGate Promenade
- Menchie's Frozen Yogurt Stoneridge Towne Centre
- Pupuseria Ita's – Sunnymead Towne Centre
- Shrimp Factory – Pigeon Pass Plaza
- Snowopolis – Towngate Center

Other restaurants that are slated to open in the near future include:

- Culichi Restaurant – Moreno Valley Plaza (under construction)
- Fatburger – The Quarter (lease signed)
- Habit Burger – TownGate Promenade (lease signed)
- Mountain Mike's Pizza Perris / Alessandro (under construction)
- Pieology – TownGate Square (under construction)
- Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen TownGate Square (under construction)
- Saigon Bistro – TownGate Center (lease signed)



## UNEMPLOYMENT REPORT

Unemployment in Moreno Valley has declined substantially since it peaked at 17.5% in 2010. Employment reductions after the holiday hiring contributed to an increased unemployment rate in January.

The following table provides comparison unemployment data for the State, County, and several Inland Empire cities:

	<u>January 2016 Rate</u>	<u>January 2017 Rate</u>	<u>January 2017 Unemployed Count</u>
California	5.5%	5.7%	986,000
Riverside County	5.9%	5.7%	60,500
Banning	5.2%	5.0%	600
Beaumont	3.5%	3.4%	700
Corona	4.6%	4.4%	3,600
Eastvale	4.0%	3.8%	1,100
Hemet	8.2%	7.9%	2,300
Menifee	6.9%	6.7%	2,500
<b>Moreno Valley</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>5,700</b>
Murrieta	4.7%	4.6%	2,400
Perris	8.6%	8.6%	2,500
Riverside	5.7%	5.4%	8,300
San Jacinto	8.9%	8.6%	1,600
Temecula	4.3%	4.1%	2,200

## HOME RESALE MARKET

Home sales information from CoreLogic ([www.corelogic.com](http://www.corelogic.com)) indicates that Moreno Valley's average home resale values dropped in January 2017, down \$10,191 from \$291,622 in December to \$281,431 in January. The volume of sales increased by 4.1% (6 more properties sold in January 2017 than in January 2016), demonstrating increasing confidence in Moreno Valley's housing market.

Compared to January 2016, the average resale housing price has increased by \$7,275, a 2.7% increase in one year.

The monthly annual volume and value trends are shown in the chart below.

	<u>December 2016</u>	<u>January 2017</u>	<u>Monthly Change</u>	<u>January 2016</u>	<u>Annual Change</u>
Number of Resale Transactions	188	153	Down 18.6%, 35 fewer sold in Jan '17 v Dec '16	147	Up 4.1%, 6 more sold in Jan '17 v '16
Home Resale Value	\$291,622	\$281,431	Down 3.5% \$10,191	\$274,156	Up 4.1% \$7,275

# Financial & Management Services Department

## Electric Utility

Staff from Moreno Valley Utility attended the 2017 Moreno Valley Region Economic and Workforce Development Summit hosted by the Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce. Speakers provided insight regarding the future of Moreno Valley, and the critical role of economic and workforce development plays to achieve the goals of the City Council. Staff was able to discuss the various programs that MVU offers to existing and new businesses locating in MVU's service area.



## Financial Operations/Financial Resources

### Calendar Year 2016 Payments Processed

Accounts Payable staff processed 5,577 payments during the 2016 calendar year. Of this amount, more than 82% was processed electronically to vendors decreasing our postage costs and creating operating efficiencies by reducing the amount of staff time dedicated to the physical handling of vendor payments. All current and new vendors are encouraged to enroll in our electronic payment program.

Payroll staff processed 13,243 payments during the 2016 calendar year of which more than 96% of this amount was processed via direct deposit. Employees continue to have direct access to paycheck records with the use of ESuite and have the advantage of retrieving current and historical paychecks on an as needed basis.

## Treasury Operations

### Annual Business License Renewal Update

Through March 1, 2017, Business License staff processed 5,167 renewals. Additionally, the online business license portal has continued to see a significant increase in the number of business using the portal to process their renewals. Through January we have seen nearly 1,900 businesses take advantage of the on-line renewal features, which is up from 1,500 in the prior year. Late notices were sent out in March to businesses that had not yet renewed. If you have any questions, please feel free to consult the Business License webpage ([www.moval.org/biz-lic](http://www.moval.org/biz-lic)) or contact the Business License team at 951-413-3080.

# Fire Department

## Fire Prevention Welcomes New Team Members

Fire Prevention is pleased to have filled two vacant positions. Fire Prevention welcomes Wes Collins as a Fire Systems Inspector and Mitchell Quinonez as an Administrative Assistant. Wes recently retired from the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center as a firefighter following 22 years of service. Mitchell comes from the Parks and Recreation Department where he worked for five years with his last position being a Recreation Leader.

## Training

On February 2, all Fire Systems Inspectors attended the California Automatic Fire Alarm Association annual conference. The one day conference provided valuable information regarding elevators, emergency communications and fire alarm/sprinkler systems. Inspectors had the opportunity to see cutting edge equipment and become familiar with new fire alarm products that conform to the fire code. Updates from the Southern California Fire Prevention Officers, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Office of Statewide Health Planning were also provided to all inspectors.

## Hazard Abatement

On February 23, Fire Prevention initiated the 2017 Hazard Abatement Program by mailing a courtesy notice to all owners of vacant parcels within the city. The notice informs owners to abate any hazardous vegetation, junk, trash and/or debris from their parcels by April 1. Due to the heavy rains received this year, vacant parcels are expected to have a larger volume of regrowth compared to previous dry years. Fire Systems Inspectors will begin the inspection of 1,710 parcels on April 3. The process is expected to continue through May and June.

## Office of Emergency Management

### 2017 February Storm – EOC Activation – Management Watch

The City of Moreno Valley activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during the two significant storm events that occurred in February. Pre-storm preparation and vigilance by City staff significantly reduced flooding of homes and local streets. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Public Works, Animal Services, Fire and Police Departments coordinated responses to ensure the safety of the community and its residents. Teams actively monitored “hot spots” affected by the heavy rains and dispatched crews to clear roads and respond to other storm-related issues.

The City received approximately 1.40” of precipitation during a 10-hour period along with high winds during the storm. OEM worked closely with the County of Riverside’s Emergency Management Department (EMD) to monitor regional traffic conditions, provide situational updates, and maintained constant communication throughout the events. Additionally, Emergency Response Force (ERF) and ACES/RACES Volunteers were present and ready to respond and provide local support throughout the duration of the event.



## Fire Operations

On February 9, Engine 99 responded to a diabetic medical emergency located in Council District 3. While enroute, Engine 99 was informed the medical emergency advanced to an unresponsive cardiac/respiratory arrest patient. On arrival, firefighters found the patient's wife on the floor performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on the unconscious patient. Firefighter paramedics immediately took over patient care and continued CPR and advanced life support (ALS) with the assistance of Engine 65 firefighters. After several minutes of aggressive resuscitative measures, the patient retained a pulse and was loaded into the ambulance for transportation to the nearest hospital. The outcome of the patient is unknown.

On February 11, Engine 48 responded to a reported medical emergency located inside the Sears Department store located in District 1. Upon arrival, firefighters found a male patient with burn injuries caused by an e-cigarette. It was reported that the patient was walking when the e-cigarette spontaneously ignited causing 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns to approximately 23% of his body. Firefighter paramedics immediately administered advanced life support (ALS) treatment on the patient's right leg, right hand and abdomen. Patient was transported to Regional Burn Center, Arrowhead Medical Center for assessment and continued care for burn injuries.

## Parks & Community Services Department Community Events

- The City of Moreno Valley and the Moreno Valley Arts Commission hosted **"The Writers' Launch Pad"** on March 11 at the Conference and Recreation Center. This free workshop provided assistance to writers in promoting their work to the marketplace and launching their careers. The speakers included authors James Burner and Elizabeth Stevens-Burner, known for the movies "Missing in Action," "Invasion USA," and "The Delta Force;" Angie Martin, who received awards for paranormal fiction in the 2014 Readers' Favorite International Book Awards, suspense fiction in the 2015 Readers' Favorite International Book Awards, and 2014-15 Top 50 Self-Published Books Worth Reading; and award-winning author and former law enforcement officer David Putnam who wrote "The Vanquished," "The Disposables," "The Replacements," and "The Squandered."
- The Parks and Community Services Department is preparing for the 2017 **Springtastic Egg Hunt and Festival**, which is scheduled to take place April 8 at Sunnymead Park. This year's festivities will kick off at 9 a.m. with an egg hunt for children ages two to ten years old. There will also be a designated special needs area. Staff will be providing more than 12,000 prize- and candy-filled eggs. Breakfast, cooked by the Morning Optimist of Moreno Valley, will be served immediately following the egg hunt for a \$5 fee until noon. This year's Springtastic Festival will also feature performances, inflatable fun zone, and spring-themed activities.
- Living Way Christian Fellowship has submitted an application for their third annual Easter Egg Hunt from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 15 at TownGate Memorial Park. The church will serve hotdogs and drinks free to the public, with a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny.

## Community Services Division

- **Time for Tots** activities in March consisted of several fun and engaging activities, including a creating pirate hats which allowed the tots to be creative for the Pirate Dress-Up Day on March 2. Other educational activities during March included circle time for St. Patrick's Day, music, and sports where staff emphasized the importance of physical activities and health.



- **Spring Valley Kids and Teen Camps** began on March 20 for children ages 5-11 and teens ages 12-14. Local children were able to spend their spring breaks enjoying exciting recreational games, watching movies, playing video games, and nurturing their creativity with seasonal arts and crafts. Spring Valley Kids and Teen Camps will conclude on March 31.
- **Sunshine Social Club** had an exciting March, which included Bingo Night, a birthday celebration, craft night, and a flea market, which provided the opportunity for the Club members to spend their “fun bucks” on donated items.



## Sports Programs

- The **Adult Softball League** winter season has come to an end. After all the wet weather delaying the start of new play, staff is now preparing for the spring season.
- Parks and Community Services will be offering a two-day girls’ volleyball clinic. Participants will practice fundamental skills in passing, serving, setting, and hitting during organized drills. All levels are welcome. This clinic will be held at the Conference and Recreation Center’s gymnasium on May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and May 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

## Senior Community Center

- The Senior Center hosted the **Big Game Party** on February 2. More than **80** seniors participated in games and enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs, salad, and desserts. The event was sponsored by Humana.
- Ten seniors participated in the **IPad training** class that began on February 3. This class is held each month.
- The Center held its **Valentine’s Day Sweetheart Dance** on February 14. Refreshments were provided by Al Rahma Food Bank and a photo booth was sponsored by Humana. More than 70 seniors participated.
- The **Black History Celebration** was held on February 16 with 140 seniors celebrating with African-American songs, dances, art, and clothing .
- The **Senior Birthday Celebration** was held on February 27. Regal Insurance sponsored the event and brought in birthday cake and ice cream for all the seniors. Friends of Moreno Valley provided lunch for nine seniors, who celebrated February birthdays.
- The Senior Community Center held its inaugural **Mardi Gras** event on March 2. Approximately 100 seniors attended the event, which included homemade gumbo, red beans, rice, fried chicken, and potato salad prepared by the Nicholson family. The event concluded with the traditional second line dance of Mardi Gras. Many thanks to staff and the Nicholson family for all their hard work to make the event a success.



## Grant Program

### A Child's Place

- Approximately 90 children participated in the program during the two-week **spring break**. Activities included a visit from Home Depot where children participated in age appropriate workshops.
- Children began the **TWIGs Curriculum** (Teams With Integrational Support Focus on Gardening and Nutrition) and "It's My Choice-Eat Right-Be Active" program.
- Families were invited to a **Spring Tea** at the sites where children and their parents enjoyed a cup of fresh tea and special treats.
- Children celebrated **Dr. Seuss' Birthday** with creative writing activities, dressing up in their favorite color, and making fun edible snacks.

### THINK Together

- THINK Together students from the middle schools participated in the **LA84 Championship Tournament** in Jurupa Valley. Moreno Valley students have been working together through practices, scrimmages, and league games in preparation of this tournament. The students have been focusing on building a team and working collaboratively by not only playing together, but working together as well. Students completed their homework together as well by tutoring each other to maintain the GPA required to participate. Special recognition goes to Badger Springs Middle School participants which third place for the boy's team and Landmark Middle School which received third place for the girl's team.
- The Academic Specialist at Edgemont Elementary School engaged the students for a Math Blast activity. A program was developed to assist the students using coloration between math and basketball. The students were very excited and eager to participate in this activity. Using math in not so traditional ways helps the students stay engaged.
- The first and second grade students at Towngate Elementary School had a great time playing Math Bowling. Two students called out the numbers on the pins that were knocked over and the other students added them up. The first group that added up all the pins correctly received the points.
- The Jr. Master Chef Competition is an activity that gives the students an opportunity to work collaboratively towards a goal, while using their creativity to come up with a lunch and dessert entrée. The students have 45 minutes to choose from a variety of healthy food items and materials provided to them and create the most tasty dishes possible. With the remaining 15 minutes, they were judged by a panel of parent volunteers and student judges.

## Parks Maintenance

### Vandalism and Graffiti

Parks Maintenance staff spent 20 hours abating vandalism and graffiti at 15 sites.

### Park Ranger Statistics

Park Rangers patrolled 1,144 areas, had 3,643 public contacts, and issued 170 citations such as curfew, vandalism, parking and alcohol.

### Court Referral Workers

Court referrals worked 936 hours (117 work days).

## Park Maintenance staff completed the following projects:

- Aerified sports fields at Lassalle Sports Park and El Potrero East Park.
- Top-dressed and seeded Lasselle Sports Park.
- Repaired pump at John F. Kennedy Memorial Park.
- Graded infields and removed high areas in grass infield and transition at Shadow Mountain Park ball fields.
- Groomed trails at Hidden Springs Paseo.
- The following projects are in progress:
- Install new weather-based irrigation controllers at Gateway Park.
- Add wooden fiber to Adrienne Mitchell Memorial and Pedronena Parks.
- Repair Celebration Park water feature.
- Fertilize all fields.
- Top-dress and seed El Potrero Park.
- Groom trails at Pigeon Pass, Sunnymead Ranch, Auto Mall and Cold Creek.
- Groom and spray weeds in Rancho Verde Trail, Grande Vista Trail, and Cactus Trail.
- Weed abate March Field and Equestrian Center.
- Spray weeds on trails and park sites.
- Aerate and fertilize baseball fields at Sunnymead, Morrison and Shadow Mountain Parks.

## Parks Projects Program

### Projects in Progress

The Shadow Mountain Park playground construction is stepping up, as the rain diminishes. Walkways are going in and the play equipment is being assembled. Construction is anticipated to be completed in late spring.



## Conference And Recreation Center Rentals

In addition to church services and various meetings in February, the following notable rentals were held at the **Conference and Recreation Center**.

- The Riverside County Department of Social Services hosted two days of All Staff Meetings with over 300 in attendance each day. This was administrative division training and the first time the City has hosted this training.
- The Boy Scouts of America, California Inland Empire Council #45, held its annual dinner in the Grand Valley Ballroom complete with a silent auction.
- The Riverside County Office of Education hosted a County Interagency Forum along with Department of Social Services, Public Health Department, and the Probation Department.
- The Riverside County Office of Education hosted an ESSA informational meeting with the California Department of Education. This was attended by school board members and administrators from local school districts.
- The Arlington High School held its Mid-Winter Formal for the third year in a row in the Grand Valley Ballroom.
- The Riverside County Probation Department held its Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony with more than 400 in attendance.
- The Riverside County Probation Department held a graduation ceremony for its new officers with 300 family and friends in attendance.
- The Riverside County Office of Education hosted the Riverside County's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Spelling Bee. The Grand Valley Ballroom has been the venue for this event since 2008.
- The Riverside County Department of Public Health held its Annual Immunization Update providing critical information for staff.
- The Moreno Valley Unified School District held its mid-year Leadership Summit with approximately 200 in attendance.
- The Riverside County Office of Education held Management Leadership Training.

## Case Of The Month

On February 28, 2017, officers from the Moreno Valley Police Department responded to the Moreno Valley Mall after a 911 call was received by a subject threatening to start shooting patrons inside the Round 1 Bowling Alley. Upon arrival, officers were confronted with numerous patrons evacuating the mall. Officers quickly formed several search teams and began a systematic search of the mall property in an attempt to locate the subject. A thorough search of the entire mall was conducted. The subject was not located and officers determined no threat existed to the patrons or employees at the mall. Moreover, there was no evidence to support the subject ever had a weapon or fired a gun inside the mall. After being closed for approximately one hour, the mall was reopened and normal business was resumed.

Further investigation into the incident revealed the suspect's location to be in the 22400 block of Alessandro Boulevard in the city of Moreno Valley. Officers responded and immediately arrested the suspect. No weapons were found during the investigation. Jackson was booked at the Robert Presley Detention Center and is being held without bail on charges of making a false police report of an emergency and a violation of his state parole terms.

## Patrol

Patrol officers responded to 12,877 calls for service during the month of January. On February 8, 2017, officers responded to a carjacking and robbery in the 13000 block of Sourwood Avenue. Two people were sitting on the tailgate of their truck when the suspect approached them and brandished a handgun. The suspect demanded the victims' iPhones, Apple Watch, wallets, and keys to the vehicle. The suspect fled in the victim's truck; however, officers located the truck a few blocks away. Responding officers who arrived in the area located the suspect and took him into custody. The suspect was booked at the Robert Presley Detention Center for carjacking and robbery.

## Community Services Unit

In February, the Community Services Unit (CSU) participated in four Explorer meetings, one Volunteer meeting, one Posse meeting, one Reserve meeting, one neighborhood watch meeting, attended three community events, and hosted Coffee with a Cop.

On February 22, 2017, officers from the CSU gathered at Burger Town USA in the city of Moreno Valley to share a cup of coffee with local residents. Officers were engaged in various topics of discussion with approximately thirty residents over the course of the event. This Coffee with a Cop event allowed the public to meet with law enforcement personnel in a relaxed environment and talk about a wide range of issues. Officers exchanged ideas about public safety and shared some of the most rewarding and difficult aspects of the career. During these discussions, officers were able to listen to issues and address various concerns from the community.

This event helped break down barriers and allowed for relaxed one-on-one interaction. The program aims to advance the practice of community policing through improving relationships between police officers and community members one cup of coffee at a time.

## Volunteers

The Moreno Valley Police Department relies heavily on volunteer forces to provide valuable services to the residents of Moreno Valley. During the month of February, volunteers provided 397 hours of service. Volunteers conducted Citizen's Patrol (uniformed high visibility patrol in marked volunteer patrol units), assisted the Business Office (helped front office personnel with day to day activities), incident call outs (responded to major incidents within the city to help with perimeter security, road closures, and searching for lost hikers/missing persons), and with monitoring the city-wide camera system (proactive monitoring of parks and problem or high crime areas).





## Traffic Team

In February, the commercial enforcement team became operational on a limited basis. Two officers trained in Commercial Vehicle Enforcement have begun addressing commercial vehicle violations.

### **OFFICE OF TRAFFIC AND SAFETY GRANT OPERATIONS (OTS)**

In February, the MVPD Traffic team conducted several Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) directed enforcement operations consisting of 1 Driving Under the Influence Saturation Patrol on Super Bowl Sunday, 2 PCF (Primary Collision Factor) Enforcement Operations, 2 Distracted Driver Enforcement Operations, 1 Traffic Safety Presentation for the local Mothers Against Drunk Driving victims support group, 1 "Know Your Limit" DUI Awareness/Prevention Operation, and 1 Pedestrian Decoy/Safety Enforcement Operation.

### **TRAFFIC STOPS/CITATIONS ISSUED**

The MVPD Traffic Team conducted 632 vehicle stops, wrote 529 hazardous/moving violation citations, 83 non-hazardous violation citations, and 201 parking citations. In addition, the team arrested 28 persons for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs (5 involved a traffic collision), made 2 felony arrests, and 46 misdemeanor arrests.

### **TRAFFIC COLLISIONS**

The MVPD Traffic Team responded to 44 minor-injury collisions, 19 non-injury property damage only collisions, five injury hit and run collisions, and 65 non-injury hit and run collisions. No major-injury or fatality collisions were reported. In addition, the MVPD Traffic Team responded to 68 reckless driver calls, 34 traffic hazard calls, 36 abandoned vehicle calls and 9 disabled vehicle calls.

## Special Enforcement Team

This multi-focus team currently consists of the MVPD Gang Team, Narcotic Enforcement Team, Problem Oriented Policing Team, and Burglary and Robbery Suppression Team. During February, the Special Enforcement Team served 14 search warrants, made 45 felony arrests, 16 misdemeanor arrests, seized 323 grams of methamphetamine, five grams of cocaine and recovered \$10,000 in stolen property.

In November 2016, officers from the Burglary Suppression Team (BST) began to investigate a series of residential burglaries in the Box Springs area. The investigation led to the arrest of the suspect. BST learned the suspect had bailed out of jail and suspected he had continued to burglarizing houses. Over the months of December and February, numerous residential burglaries had been reported, which were similar to the suspects previous burglaries. BST checked with local pawn shops and learned the suspect was pawning stolen items immediately after a burglary occurred. Utilizing the citywide camera system, BST members watched the suspect flee the apartment complex in a vehicle and drive to a pawn shop where pawn shop video surveillance depicted the suspect pawning stolen property he obtained from the burglary.

On February 16, 2017, Moreno Valley Mall Security called to report a suspicious person. BST responded in undercover vehicles and identified the suspect, who was in the act of burglarizing a vehicle. The suspect ran a short distance to flee from BST officers; however, was apprehended, and found to be in possession of stolen property. The suspect was booked at the jail on several counts of burglary.

## Investigation Bureau

During February, the MVPD Investigations Bureau investigated 167 crimes related to a variety of property and persons crimes. The Investigations Bureau also authored and served 11 search warrants, arrested three people, and filed seven cases with the District Attorney's Office. In addition, detectives conducted 27 residence checks for sex registrants, interviewed or registered 97 sex registrants, and conducted two business checks of massage parlors.

## Business Office

The Moreno Valley Police Department Business Office ensures the day to day functions of the Department are kept moving forward and is responsible for tracking all reports for the Police Department. During the month of February, the Business Office assisted approximately 2,044 customers at the front counter of the Moreno Valley Police Department, processed and entered 1,730 reports into the Records Management System to meet deadlines for the State Uniform Crime Report. In addition, the Business Office entered 764 citations into the Crossroads Tracking System, processed over 82 vehicle releases, and 294 arrest reports for filing with the Riverside County District Attorney.

# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

## Capital Projects

### Reche Vista Drive Realignment

The contractor has completed the traffic signal at the intersection of Heacock Street and Reche Vista Drive. The contractor also installed a set of solar-powered flashing beacons for an equestrian crossing at the intersection of Reche Vista Drive and Canyon Ranch Road. Public Works is happy to announce that the construction of the Reche Vista Drive project is complete.



### Alessandro Boulevard Entry Monuments

Two contractors, Van Holland Concrete and Dane Construction, are nearing completion of upgrades of monuments at two locations along Alessandro Boulevard. The upgrades provide the monuments with a modern and appealing look that better serves as gateway to the City as well as identify the Civic Center complex. Decorative tiles, facial textures, lettering and color City seals are in place. Installation of additional landscaping and rubber mulch will also be installed.



### Heacock Street Improvements from Iris Avenue to Gentian Avenue

On February 21 City Council awarded a construction contract to Sequel Contractors Inc. The contractor has started the pre-construction requirements. Construction is scheduled to begin soon and conclude in August (weather permitting). The project will widen the roadway from two to four lanes.



# City Clerk Department

## Special Election

The Special Election for District 4 will be held Tuesday, June 6. The following four candidates have qualified to be placed on the ballot with their proposed ballot designations:

- Cheylynda Barnard, Social Worker
- Ulises Cabrera, Youth Program Director
- Hector Diaz, Small Business Owner
- James C. Baker II, Parks & Recreation Commissioner

Please contact the City Clerk's Office for more information.



## Moreno Valley Youth Conference

The Moreno Valley Youth Conference is a collaborative effort by the Emerging Leaders Council and the Parks and Community Services Department to satisfy Momentum MoVal Initiative 6.1.2. The event is scheduled for April 8, 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood Golf Center. The Conference is designed to help Moreno Valley youth ages 17 or older create an effective resume, get comfortable with interviewing, learn about workplace etiquette, and experience a mock interview. For more information or to register online go to [http://www.moval.org/city\\_council/elc-jobexpo.shtml](http://www.moval.org/city_council/elc-jobexpo.shtml).