



# MANTECA BULLETIN



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## The road to Manteca's future

### Atherton Drive destiny is main drag south of Bypass

By DENNIS WYATT  
Managing editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

You can't get much of anywhere on Atherton Drive today. It exists as three separate segments with the heaviest used section connecting Union Road and Main Street as access to The Promenade Shops at Orchard Valley.

Another segment dead-ends on both sides of Airport Way to provide access to nearby neighborhoods.

The third section dead-ends west of Wellington Avenue by the Paseo Apartments and then curves to the south to T-intersect for the time being with Woodward Avenue.

This summer the city is spending \$2.9 million - all of it from restricted funds such as federal stimulus money that has been wedded with money collected on new growth - to connect Main Street with the segment that ends near Paseo Apartments.

#### ROADS



It will provide another way for traffic to move between two of Manteca's main retail clusters - Orchard Valley and Spreckels Park.

But its real advantage for the city is opening more freeway frontage for commercial and office development. Commercial real estate experts before the recession hit believed that the 120 Bypass corridor will eventually become one of the hottest locations in the Northern San Joaquin Valley given its traffic movement of commuters from both Modesto, Stockton and the foothills to Bay Area employment centers plus the heavy weekend traffic from the Bay Area to the Sierra.

Atherton Drive's long-range destiny is to not only serve as access to what is envisioned as teeming retail and office along the 120 Bypass put also to pro-



HIME ROMERO/The Bulletin

Atherton Drive will be extended this summer from South Main Street to where it now ends near Paseo Apartments.

SEE ROADS, PAGE 5

### SOUTH COUNTY IN A NUTSHELL



Kids won't have to go to the San Joaquin River to catch fish on Saturday.

#### FREE FISHING DERBY SATURDAY

► SAFETY FAIR TOO: One of Manteca's most popular kids' events - the Sunrise Kiwanis' fishing derby and safety fair - takes place this Saturday, May 7, from 7 to 11 a.m. in the CVS Drug Store parking lot at 1190 North Main Street. Huge troughs are placed under canopies on Lancaster Drive to give every kid a chance to catch and keep their own trout. The free event is open to those 15 and younger. Bait, line and pole will be provided. Volunteers will assist kids with fishing. The Manteca Parks and Recreation Commission along with the Manteca Youth Advisory Council are co-sponsors of the event.

#### EU SOBER GRAD BUNCO FUNDRAISER

► MAY 11: East Union Sober Grad Bunco Fundraiser Wednesday, May 11, at 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. Women, men and students welcome at the East Union cafeteria. There will be snacks and beverages plus prizes for winners. Call or email Tani-sha at 403-5428 or heavens-girls75@aol.com for tickets.

#### WHAT'S INSIDE



► ARBOR DAY: Nine trees planted in parking lot at Woodward Park.

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#### ESSENTIALS

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### SCORING WITH TEST EFFORT



HIME ROMERO/The Bulletin

Thirty-two Lathrop Elementary School students who made big strides in their state STAR test scores were surprised Friday with time inside the mobile Game in the Box whose owner brought it to campus free of charge. Shown playing are, from left, Karena Moreno, Madali Fernandez, Angelica Perez, and Erin Grine. See additional photos on page A2.

## IN THE SWIM AGAIN AT EU

### Manteca Dolphins back swimming in Manteca

By ROSE ALBANO RISSO  
City editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

#### SCHOOLS

The Dolphins are back in Manteca.

"We are so happy and pleased to say that we are swimming back in our home town," said Lori Brubaker, the president of the Manteca Dolphins which had been using the Lathrop High School pool during the last several months for their daily weekday swimming tryouts and weekend meets.

The first day of their return to Manteca was Monday, May 2,

with the young swimmers treading water at the East Union High School pool.

Having the venue-change request granted by the school district was reason enough for the Dolphins to be ecstatic. But they were even more pleasantly surprised at the quick action taken by school district officials in granting their request. Superintendent Jason Messer, who admitted he was the one who made the decision to assign the Lathrop High

pool to the Dolphins, promised the group that he was going to look into their request and notify them via letter.

"We never got a letter from Mr. Messer," Brubaker said. Instead, she received an e-mail a few days later from the superintendent's secretary notifying the Dolphins about being moved back to the Lancers' pool in Manteca.

"We are very thankful to Mr. Messer for moving us to East Union," said Brubaker.

Not happy about having to drive

SEE DOLPHINS, PAGE A3

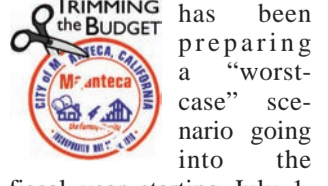
## Crime lab funds OK for next fiscal year

By DENNIS WYATT  
Managing editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

#### BUDGET

Manteca Police won't have to worry about coming up with as much as \$200,000 in budget cuts to cover possible crime lab charges following reassurances from Attorney General Kamala Harris' office.

Police Chief Dave Bricker



has been preparing a "worst-case" scenario going into the fiscal year starting July 1. As a result, he was looking at everything that could

SEE LAB, PAGE A3

## Dev playing Power Balance Pavilion

By JASON CAMPBELL  
Staff reporter of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Devin Tailles is no stranger to the spotlight. The 2007 Sierra High grad has been making waves in the music world ever since making the move down to Los Angeles to pursue what had always



2007 Sierra High grad Devin Tailles - known around the world as Dev - is currently on tour opening for R&B superstar Usher. The tour will end with two dates in Northern California.

Photo contributed

### SCHOOLS

## Lathrop implements voluntary common dress for upcoming 2011-12 school

By DENNIS WYATT  
Managing editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

LATHROP - A "voluntary common dress" is being implemented at Lathrop Elementary when the new school year starts in August.

Eighty-three parents have committed to send their children to school in three basic colors - yellow, white, and black - and stick to polo shorts, blue jeans or khakis including shorts, skirts, and blouses.

Lathrop Parent Teacher Club President April Victorine, one of the parents spearheading the effort, noted the move is to try and eliminate kids from pressuring parents to "one-up" or match clothing of other students, and to guard against students inadvertently - or on purpose - dressing in gang colors.

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### COURTS

## Million dollar elderly abuse case in court

By GLENN KAHL  
Staff reporter for the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Renee and Jerry Woolf of rural Manteca face three felony counts of financial elder abuse, credit card fraud and one white collar crime enhancement involving \$1.4 million of their 80-year-old aunt's savings as they enter the final days of a month-long Superior Court trial in Stockton.

Assistant District Attorney Cherie Adams said the couple took care of the aunt after she was stricken by a stroke. Now it must be determined by the court how much of her savings were actually used for her care and how much went to the benefit of Woolf's immediate family and business.

"There's been over a million that has been in and out of the account," Adams said.

Bank records reportedly indicated that as of January 2010 there was less than \$5,000 left in her account. Adams added that the spend-

SEE CASE, PAGE A3