



THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

September 22, 2023

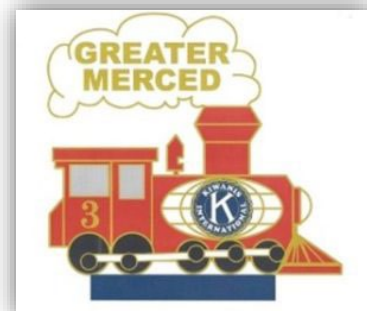
Run for the Rail

Plans to renovate the Kiddieland Train at Applegate Park are underway. These plans include an electric train and a new track system. Support this project and join the **Run for the Rail**. The City of Merced Parks and Community Services Department, Merced County Office of Education, and Cultiva La Salud are collaborating with Kiwanis of Greater Merced to host the 5K/10K Run/Walk.

Visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Merced/GatewaytoYosemite10k5k> or scan the QR Code on the flyer for more information and to register.



Support the train. Join the run!



Merced Police Department Officer Spotlight

**EDUARDO
CHAVEZ**

PATROL OFFICER

OVER THE WEEKEND, OFFICER EDUARDO CHAVEZ WAS RECOGNIZED AT THE 2023 COMMUNITY HEROS NIGHT BY TURLOCK MASONIC LODGE #236.

OFFICER CHAVEZ WAS PRESENTED WITH THE "COMMUNITY HERO AWARD." MASONRY (ALSO KNOWN AS FREEMASONRY) IS BASED ON THE BELIEF THAT EACH MAN HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE. JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING OFFICER CHAVEZ FOR HIS UNDOUBTEDLY HARD WORK AND THE DIFFERENCE HE HAS MADE IN OUR COMMUNITY. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK OFFICER CHAVEZ!!!

**OFFICER
SPOTLIGHT**



Merced Police Department Officer Spotlight

**LEON
HERR**

PATROL OFFICER

WE WANT TO CONGRATULATE OFFICER LEON HERR FOR PASSING THE MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT FIELD TRAINING.

OFFICER HERR WAS BORN IN MERCED. HE EARNED HIS BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE FROM SACRAMENTO STATE. BEFORE JOINING THE MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT, HE WAS A MANAGER OF AUTOZONE AND WORKED AS A PRIVATE SECURITY OFFICER WITH E & J GALLO WINERY.

HIS INTEREST IN BECOMING A POLICE OFFICER WAS DUE TO MERCED PD'S EXPLORER PROGRAM. HE STATES THAT THE EXPLORER PROGRAM AND THE ADVISORS/OFFICERS MADE A MAJOR IMPACT ON HIS LIFE. AFTER BEING PART OF THE EXPLORER PROGRAM FOR 3 YEARS, HE REALIZED THAT HE DID NOT SEE HIMSELF DOING ANYTHING ELSE ASIDE FROM BECOMING A POLICE OFFICER. OFFICER HERR WILL BE THE FIRST MEMBER OF HIS FAMILY TO PURSUE A CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.

PLEASE JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING HIM!

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT



Bike Helmet Inspection and Give Away

Last weekend, Sergeant Mark Jenkins and Explorer Lieutenant Derrick Robles conducted bike inspections and gave away bike helmets.



Saturday Bike Rodeo with Merced PD

Community members recently joined Merced PD for a bike rodeo. The event included an obstacle course to provide a fun way to learn how to safely ride a bike, a bike repair station, and free helmets.



Public Works Promotes WaterWise Wednesdays

In California, the most significant use of all urban water happens outdoors, watering landscapes. Many of our landscapes have grass turf or non-water-wise plants unsuitable for our area's dry, hot climate and require a wasteful amount of water to maintain.

Luckily, careful planning, proper plant selection, efficient irrigation systems, and water management best practices can significantly reduce outdoor consumption. Saving water doesn't mean giving up our gardens.

This week's WaterWise tip includes information on transforming landscapes. Visit www.saveourwater.com for more information and tips and www.facebook.com/CityofMercedPublicWorks/ for more Wednesday tips.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS (THAT ARE GREAT FOR YOUR GARDEN)



CALIFORNIA POPPY

This wildflower tolerates low water conditions and thrives when it's hot and dry. Bright orange or yellow blooms add big color to your garden and attract pollinators like bees and butterflies which are healthy for your yard.



MANZANITA

Manzanita offers deep red, twisted branches and shiny, evergreen leaves. It also provides essential habitat for birds and insects. Many varieties of manzanita are waterwise and thrive in various soil types.



YARROW

A hardy plant that comes back year after year with beautiful clusters of small, delicate flowers in white, pink and yellow. It also attracts pollinators like bees and butterflies. Yarrow thrives in various soil types and is a low-maintenance addition to any garden.



CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA

A vibrant plant that comes back year after year with bright, reddish-pink flowers. It attracts hummingbirds and other pollinators, and its ability to thrive in dry conditions makes it waterwise and low-maintenance.



CEANOTHUS

This group of plants includes shrubs, trees, and groundcovers that are all great choices for waterwise gardens. Many species of ceanothus thrive in a range of soil types and are tolerant of low water availability. They also attract pollinators like bees, butterflies, and birds!

TRANSFORM YOUR YARD



PLANT NATIVE WATERWISE PLANTS

- Decorate your yard with low-maintenance, waterwise plants.
- Pick plants that will grow well in your climate.
- Native Plants to consider: Cacti, California Poppies.
- Waterwise plants: Lavender, Rosemary



MULCH YOUR GARDEN AND FLOWER BEDS

- Mulch can be made up of a variety of materials including: wood chips, bark, straw, and compost.
- Mulch retains soil moisture, reducing evaporation.
- Mulch allows you to water your garden less often.
- Mulch helps prevent weeds from growing!



INSTALL DRIP IRRIGATION

- More efficient than traditional sprinklers.
- Delivers water directly to the roots reducing water waste due to evaporation or runoff.
- Helps prevent overwatering.
- Waters plants slowly and efficiently.



DITCH YOUR LAWN

- Lawns are thirsty and require lots of water to maintain.
- Thirsty lawns are also expensive costing us money and using up valuable water resources.
- Consider replacing your lawn with waterwise and native plants or landscaping that doesn't require any water (xeriscaping)

City of Merced Fire Department

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



**Tuesday,
October
10th**

6 to 8 PM
Merced College, 3600 M St
Allied Health Center, RM 130
*Free parking

**Thursday,
October
12th**

6 to 8 PM
Sam Cafe, 235 W. 12th St

**Wednesday,
October
18th**

6 to 8 PM
Merced Civic Center,
678 W. 18th Street

Topic of Discussion:

First Responder Fee Information & Education

Everyone is invited to attend these meetings

For more information, visit
www.engage.cityofmerced.org

First Responder Fee Town Hall Meetings

The Fire Department will hold three Town Hall meetings to discuss First Responder Fees and gather community feedback.

For information about First Responder Fees, visit www.engage.cityofmerced.org – City of Merced Fire Department First Responder Fee Community Outreach. Take the survey and read the First Responder Questions and Answers.



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR
3RD ANNUAL COPS FOR CRITTERS

TRUNK or TREAT CAR SHOW

Eventbrite

SPACE IS LIMITED,
REGISTER NOW!



ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT APPLEGATE PARK AND ZOO

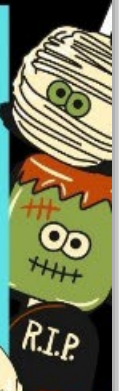
Saturday, Oct 28th • 10AM-2PM

611 W. 22ND St. Merced CA 95340

vehicle Registration
\$25 until 10/16
after deadline \$30

Adult & Child Costumes welcome
CANDY-GAMES-MUSIC-FOOD VENDORS
&MORE!

Vendor Registration \$25



Movie at the MOAT

Movies in the Park, Friday, September 22nd at the MOAT located in Applegate Park. Thanks to Merced Breakfast Lions Club for sponsoring the screening of Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets. The movie starts at sunset.

Don't forget to bring blankets and chairs. See you at the movies!

