



# COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

June 7, 2024

## Welcome Juniper the Red Fox to Applegate Zoo

Meet Juniper the Red Fox, who joined the Applegate Zoo after being rescued from the Gold Country Wildlife Center. At only 12 weeks old, Juniper was discovered inside a chicken coop. The chickens' owner debated releasing her far from their coop, but given her tender age, they feared she wouldn't survive without her mother. Consequently, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife intervened and transferred Juniper to the rescue center. Since she was too young to be on her own and red foxes are non-native to California, the rescue center reached out to us, and we gladly welcomed Juniper into her forever home.



## Environmental Education Display: Wastewater Treatment and Habitat Restoration at the Merced County Fair

The City of Merced Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) was the main display in the Tioga Hall building of the Merced County Fair this year. At the request of Candace Sigmond, Education Coordinator for Grassland Environment Education Center for Grassland Water District & CA Dept of Fish & Wildlife, the Water Quality Control Division was tasked to create a display depicting the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the processes involved in treating wastewater to useable resource.

One major useable resource is discharging treated wastewater, also known as recycled water, to the Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The WMA is located behind the WWTP and serves as a preserve for local wildlife and waterfowl habitat. The recycled water is discharged into two large ponds, creating wetlands, which help to provide suitable conditions for diverse organisms to thrive. Candace took a special interest in the WMA. She coordinated with Bill Osmer and Charles Slagter to bring Merced High School Future Farmers of America to the WMA to educate them on wetland habitat and management practices in restoring the habitat. Candace partners with the Student and Landowner Education in Watershed Stewardship (SLEWS) Program to provide this education in habitat restoration. This coordinated effort, in turn, brought about the reason for the display at the Fair. -continued on next page...



## Environmental Education Display – Continued

The display is about 20 feet long and 8 feet tall, consisting of 3 large illustrative posters of the WWTP, the WMA, and the Land Application Area, as well as a miniature model of each area. The model was created using multiple media including, but not limited to, woodworking, metalworking, acrylic, enamel, crafting supplies, and even some 3-D printing. Constructing the model was a group effort. Credits go to Beth Ball (master visionary), along with the skillful hands of Dylan Ford and Jeremy Geiger. Christina Yanez-Davison also assisted in painting and fun decorative aspects. Michelle Cadiente assisted in painting and staining the model bases. Vinyl labeling and 3-D printing credits go to Adam Purslow and Jeff Silva. We hope you had an opportunity to see the display in person at the Fair. The miniature model will be set up in the Water Quality Control Division office. If you have a moment, please come by!



**This week, 1,162 eighth-grade students graduated from Merced City Schools, including Anushka Elwin.**

Congratulations to the families of all the graduates moving on to high school. A special thanks to the Merced PD School Resource Officers for their ongoing support.

\*In the photo, Anushka is pictured with SRO Brian Dennis.



### Significant Progress as Roof Beams Lifted for New Terminal

This week marked a significant milestone in the construction of the new airport terminal. American Crane Rental was on-site to lift the large I-beams into place for the roof. These essential steel columns and I-beams were manufactured by Southern Valley Steel Inc., based in Bakersfield, California.



### Public Works in Action

Crews working on a concrete pad at Well Site 16.



Sewer/ Storm Drains Division crews performing repairs at Childs Avenue west of N Street.



**Engineering Department – Engineered for Success**

Concrete forms at CP-42 are being placed for the sidewalks for the parking lot and futsal courts.



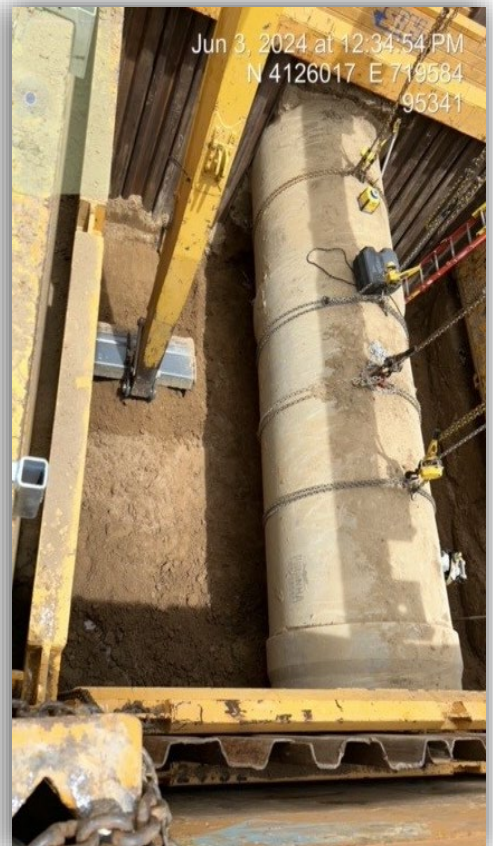
Renaissance Subdivision- Crews working on water services and installing sidewalks.



Canal Waterline Replacement- Crew working on new waterline on Canal Street



Crew installing a 10-foot diameter manhole at the Wastewater Treatment Plant



Parks and Community Services Presents



# MOVIES in the PARK

 <p><b>June 14th</b> Applegate Park (MOAT) W. 26 &amp; O Street</p>	 <p><b>June 28th</b> Joe Herb Park 2200 Yosemite Parkway</p>	 <p><b>July 12th</b> McNamara Pool/ Grass Field 1040 Canal Street</p>	 <p><b>August 16th</b> Rudolph Merino Park Pacific Dr. and El Redondo</p>	<p><b>Parks Make Life Better!</b></p>
 <p><b>August 30th</b> Nannini Youth Sports Complex 1800 Wardrobe Ave.</p>	<p><b>A MILLION MILES AWAY</b></p> <p><b>September 13th</b> Merced Center Rooftop Garage 605 W.18th Street</p>	 <p><b>September 27th</b> Bob Carpenter Park Parsons Ave. &amp; Silverado Ave.</p>	<p>For information about Sponsorship email us at <a href="mailto:kindavongl@cityofmerced.org">kindavongl@cityofmerced.org</a></p>  <p>PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES</p>	 <p>Instagram facebook</p>

City of Merced Parks & Community Services Presents

# INTO THE WILD SUMMER WILDERNESS CAMP

**ONE WEEK SESSIONS  
JUNE 10TH - AUGUST 2ND**

Parks and Rec invites your child to get "Into the Wild" at our Summer Wilderness Camp!

Nature-based activities include  
Birdwatching | Flora & Fauna education with Zoo Keepers | Learn Survival Skills | Special Guests & So Much More!

8AM - 12 PM | \$50 PER CHILD/WEEK | GRADES: K-6TH  
ROSSOTTI ED-ZOO-CATION CENTER  
1045 W 25TH ST. MERCED CA

REGISTER IN OUR OFFICE  
632 W. 18TH ST  
9 AM-12 PM & 1-5 PM  
(209) 385-6855

\*Lunch Included\*  
Space is Limited



PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



CITY OF MERCED  
**PICKLEBALL**

IMPROVE YOUR TECHNICAL SKILLS

**SUMMER SESSIONS**  
9AM-12PM | WED | 3RD-6TH  
1045 W. 25TH ST. MERCED, CA 95340  
(TEAL TOP NEXT TO KIDDIELAND AT APPLAGATE PARK)

**SESSION 1:**  
JUNE 12TH - JULY 3RD

**SESSION 2:**  
JULY 10TH - JULY 31ST

**FREE**  
SPACE IS LIMITED



SCAN HERE FOR APPLICATION

**REGISTER NOW**

PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE  
(209) 385-6855 • 632 W. 18th ST  
MONDAY-FRIDAY • 9AM-12PM & 1PM-5PM



## Provide input on the State Route 99 Comprehensive Plan: Participate Virtually

Caltrans is developing the State Route 99 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP) to create a balanced transportation system while considering community and environmental impacts. The plan will prioritize improvements for all transportation modes and align them with funding programs at regional, state, and federal levels.

**STATE ROUTE 99**



COMPREHENSIVE MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR PLAN

**MERCED, STANISLAUS & SAN JOAQUIN COUNTIES ZOOM MEETING**



**TELL US HOW TO MAKE YOUR TRIP ALONG AND ACROSS STATE ROUTE 99 SAFER, EASIER, AND MORE RELIABLE.**

Caltrans is preparing the State Route 99 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP), a long-range planning document, with the goal of achieving a more balanced transportation system that addresses community and environmental impacts. It will identify and prioritize potential improvements that address all types of transportation along the corridor and align them with regional, state, and federal funding programs.

Register for participation at the links below and a Zoom link will be provided.

TUE, JUNE 25, 2024	WED, JUNE 26, 2024	THUR, JUNE 27, 2024
5:30 – 6:30 pm	6:30 – 7:30 pm	5:30 – 6:30 pm
Register:	Register:	Register:
<a href="https://bit.ly/44SnBsE">bit.ly/44SnBsE</a>	<a href="https://bit.ly/4bEp5IV">bit.ly/4bEp5IV</a>	<a href="https://bit.ly/4art3Up">bit.ly/4art3Up</a>

Spanish interpretation services will be provided.

For further information, please contact us via email at [SR99CMCP@dot.ca.gov](mailto:SR99CMCP@dot.ca.gov) or call us at (559) 272-4561



## Sunsets & Serenades: A Night of Photography and Music at Applegate Park

Join us for an evening at the Applegate Park MOAT on Saturday, June 8th, from 6 to 8:30 pm. Explore stunning sunrise and sunset displays captured by local photographers at the inaugural City of Merced Photography Exhibition. Enjoy live music by local professional guitarist Mikel Soria.



You are invited to  
the City of Merced  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Exhibition

Saturday, June 8, 2024, 6 to 8:30 pm  
Applegate Park MOAT

Enjoy stunning sunrise and sunset displays captured by local photographers, accompanied by a sunset serenade from local professional guitarist Mikel Soria.

\*Light refreshments will be available

\*Sponsored by the City of Merced, United Way, and Merced Multicultural Arts Center

Event is free and open to the public

**ETHAN CONRAD PROPERTIES ACQUIRES MERCED MALL**  
*Renamed to Marketplace at Merced*

**Sacramento, CA – June 7, 2024:** Ethan Conrad Properties proudly announces the acquisition of the Merced Mall, a premier 329,000± square foot enclosed mall situated at 851 W Olive Ave, Merced, CA. The mall, strategically positioned at the best retail location in Merced, will be renamed *Marketplace at Merced*.

*Marketplace at Merced* has become our third regional mall in California and the second retail property purchase in Merced within the past twelve months! This significant acquisition underlines our commitment to investing in and revitalizing retail spaces across the state.

*“In our commitment to excellence, we are dedicated to remodeling the property to ensure it exudes the same allure and attractiveness as esteemed destinations like Yuba Sutter Marketplace and Chico Marketplace. Our aim is to create a space that not only meets but exceeds the expectations of our tenants and community members alike,”* said Ethan Conrad, CEO of Ethan Conrad Properties.

*Marketplace at Merced* serves a vast geographic region in California’s Central Valley and is poised for a comprehensive redevelopment. The redevelopment plans focus on transforming the 53-acre shopping center into a vibrant, entertainment, and service-driven hub. These enhancements are expected to significantly increase foot traffic and attract repeat visitors, ensuring the mall’s long-term market dominance.

*“The City is grateful for the years that Coddling Enterprises operated the Merced Mall, and we look ahead to working with Ethan Conrad Properties. We are fully confident that Ethan Conrad Properties will take the former Merced Mall to the next level and look forward to re-positioning the Mall to a major regional community shopping center,”* said Mayor of Merced, Matt Serratto.

We are proud to announce that we will be leasing this property to outstanding national tenants. This decision promises to bring immense benefits to the community, fostering economic growth and enriching the lives of residents. We have received significant interest from over 300,000 SF of anchor tenants, many of whom have already submitted compelling lease proposals for the 85,000 SF of anchor space. This level of enthusiasm underscores the undeniable appeal and potential of the property.

City of Merced District 5 Councilmember Sarah Boyle stated, *“The redevelopment of the former Sears building and Merced Mall are two major priorities for the residents of this community. We are excited and, with great anticipation, await the start and completion of the renovation project. Welcome to Merced and the best Council District in Merced, Ethan Conrad Properties.”*

Additionally, we are excited to unveil plans for two dynamic "pads," with several exceptional drive-thru restaurant tenants expressing keen interest or already submitting lease proposals. These tenants are poised to enhance the vibrancy and convenience of the property, catering to the community's diverse needs.

A special congratulations to our Senior Associate Broker, Joey Chiurazzi, for representing the buyer, Ethan Conrad.



## Pathways to Success Youth Service Center Announces Grand Opening

Exciting news! The grand opening for the Pathways to Success youth service building is on June 20th from 10 am to 11 am. Join us as we celebrate the launch of a vital community resource dedicated to empowering youth and supporting families. Pathways to Success offers a range of programs and services dedicated to strengthening personal growth, academic achievement, and emotional well-being.”

