



# Gang violence drops off

## Police get key suspects, weapons off streets

By DENNIS WYATT

Managing editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Just a few months ago Manteca seemed to be on the verge of turning into a daily shooting gallery for gang-on-gang violence.

There were several high profile drive-by shootings on the Main Street corridor including one that ended with a customer in a convenience store caught in the line of fire suffering a gunshot wound and another where a

woman returning a movie to a video store missed being hit with stray bullets. There was also the murder of 19-year-old Derrik Gann whose suspected killer is believed by police to have had gang motivations for the crime.

Today, gang-related violence has dropped off significantly in Manteca.

"Our officers have worked very hard and diligently to get some suspects who are key gang mem-

### CRIME

bers arrested and doff the streets," noted Manteca Police Chief Dave Bricker.

Bricker said "those bad guys were responsible for the bulk of the violence." The arrests also took a number of weapons including guns off the streets. He lauded his officers who have focused a lot of time and effort into building cases against the more violent gang members.

"There is a misnomer out there that we don't have any officers

dedicated to fighting gangs," Bricker said. "The gang unit was dissolved (along with a narcotics unit) and combined into a street crimes unit."

Bricker said the four officers in the streets crime unit along with patrol have been making a concerted effort to build cases against gang members involved in the violent acts.

"The graveyard shift guys are out there every night busting

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GLENN KAHL/The Bulletin

**Eight-year-old Austin displays his love for his dog after the 22-month-old St. Bernard survived being poisoned in his Trailwood Avenue back yard with anti-freeze last Friday.**

### CRIME

## Someone is poisoning dogs in Park West

By GLENN KAHL

MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Two dogs have been poisoned with anti-freeze in their own back yards on Trailwood Avenue over the last two weeks – one died, one is recovering.

Another dog and a cat died from unknown causes. They had not been tested for what they had consumed recently in the same neighborhood bordering on park lands that run along the backs of the homes in the area.

One homeowner said that her family nearly lost their two-year-old St. Bernard that had eaten what she believes was packaged lunch meat laced with anti-freeze that had been thrown over their four-foot-high fence into the rear yard of their residence.

The Park West Home Owners Association requires the height limitation to the fence and fences that allow those walking in the park to view into back yards. The fences cannot be solid, one resident stated.

While their St. Bernard continues to improve a neighbor lost their pet Boston Terrier to the same fate. That family also

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### OUTREACH

## 1,500-plus Christians taking it to the streets

By DENNIS WYATT

Managing editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

A small army of more than 1,500 Christian volunteers are expected to hit the streets in Manteca on Sunday to spread everything from The Word to bark at four park playgrounds.

It is part of the second annual "Taking it to the Streets" community outreach that now involves three churches of different denominations - New Hope, Northgate Community, and Crossroads Grace Community.

It starts with a short joint service at 9 a.m.

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### COURT

## Lathrop mayor's ex-husband seeks full custody of three kids

By ROSE ALBANO RISSO

City editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

LATHROP – Duston Tuhy, the former husband of Lathrop mayor Kristy Sayles, took steps on Thursday to obtain full physical custody of their three children

– two boys ages 8 and 10, and a girl aged 13 – until the court proceedings involving their stepfather, Thomas Xavier Sayles, is resolved.

Tuhy said he went and picked up the court papers that he needed from the San Joaquin County Family Court Services in Stockton Thursday morning before attending the arraignment of Thomas Sayles in the afternoon. He is expected to file those papers today and hopefully bring his three children to his home in Stockton later today, he said.

Appearing in Manteca Superior Court Thursday, a handcuffed Thomas Sayles who entered the courtroom with seven others in uniform orange jail jumpsuits pleaded not guilty to the child abuse charges. Judge Ron Northrup

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Sayles

## MCNERNEY TENDS TO BUSINESS



HIME ROMERO/The Bulletin

**TOP PHOTO: Congressman Jerry McNerney, right, is given a tour of Manteca Ford by dealership owner Phil Waterford on Thursday. BOTTOM PHOTO: Manteca-based JM Equipment owner David Baiocchi, left, meets Congressman McNerney.**

## SBA LOANS DRIVE BUSINESS

### McNerney pitches program at Manteca Ford

### ECONOMY

By VINCE REMBULAT

Staff reporter of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Congressman Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, strongly believes in the Small Business Act.

Never mind that it's an election year.

"The law has already been passed and signed (by President Obama) and is independent of the upcoming election," he said during his stop at Phil Waterford's Manteca Ford on Thursday.

In November, McNerney is expected to face a stiff challenge

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## Main St. Café accepts donations for toddlers who lost mom

By ROSE ALBANO RISSO

City editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Main St. Café in Manteca has made its facility as the drop-off site for donations to the family of the late Michelle "Shell" Guillermo.

The 38-year-old mother died of complications from surgery last month leaving her husband Richard "Richie" and their three young children – Sami, 3, and twins Abigail and Gabriel who are turning 2 this month.

Family and friends have been

### COMMUNITY

trying to help the family cope not only with grief but with immediate basic necessities in life, which is where the Main St. Café comes in. When Richie's aunt, NaNa Gale Manding from Tucson, Ariz., started a clothes donation for the children, Jakkie Arellano stepped forward and generously offered her restaurant as a drop-off place. The restaurant is located at 1464 W. Yosemite Avenue across the

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Jakkie Arellano, left, owner of Main St. Café, and her sister Melanie Cardoza, show some of the kids' clothes that people have dropped off at the restaurant.

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ALBANO RISSO/  
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### WHAT'S INSIDE



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