



# MANTECA BULLETIN

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## Teen found dead in Manteca home Garage yields 20 pounds of marijuana

By GLENN KAHL

Staff reporter for the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Manteca Police were called to an Orchard Way home shortly before noon Monday to find a 19-year-old teenager not breathing.

Patrolman Mike Espinosa and another man who had recently gotten out of the military traded off in a CPR effort to revive the teen.

They were unsuccessful in their life saving effort, but that was only part of the story as friends gathered on the lawn in the heat of the day.

Officer Armen Avakian said he asked the resident at the home if he had anything illegal in the home. Clifford Wayt, 27, reportedly admitted that he had marijuana in the garage.

### DEATH

As officers unraveled yellow crime tape around the scene, because of the deceased inside — not immediately knowing the cause of death — other officers began to search the garage of the home.

Avakian said they found some 20 pounds of marijuana in bags — some packaged and ready for sale — and boxes of marijuana

in the garage in addition to one marijuana plant.

Sheriff's deputies in the role of the coroner investigated what was termed an unattended death to determine the cause.

Wayt was charged with felony possession of marijuana and possession of marijuana for sale. He was arrested and taken to the Manteca Police Department where he was booked.



GLENN KAHL/The Bulletin

Officer Armen Avakian loads the trunk of his patrol car with bags and boxes of marijuana taken from a Manteca home Monday afternoon.

### POLICE

## Baton uses handcuff tech to detain violent suspects

By GLENN KAHL

Staff reporter for the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

RIPON — It's a police baton that doubles as a handcuff — with plenty of leverage.

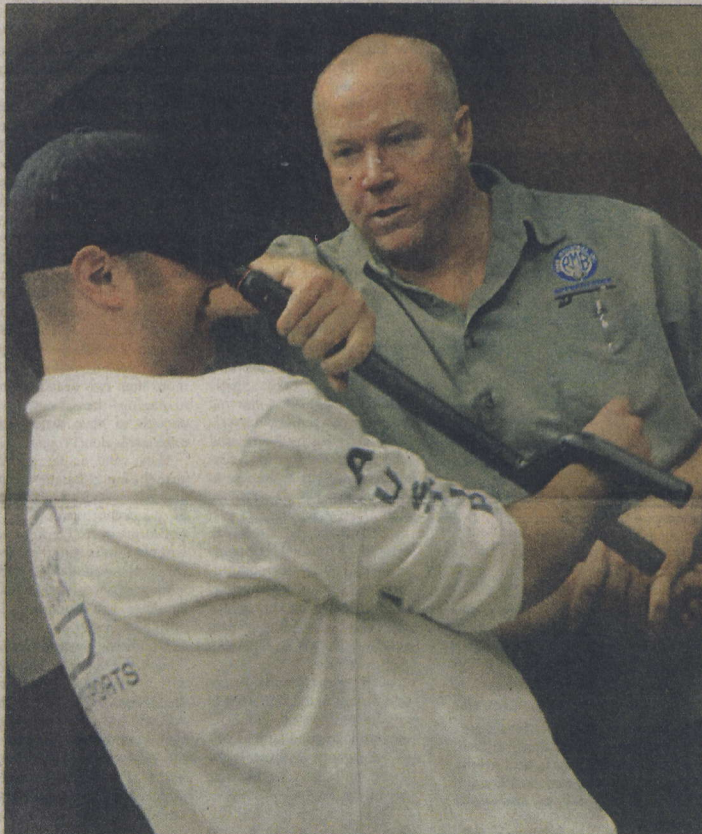
That's the latest advance in crime fighting technology to be tested by the Ripon Police Department's officers. Rich Barwick, founder/inventor of RMB Industries, Inc. led an in-service for Ripon officers Monday in just how to use the "Apprehender" police baton against resisting and violent suspects.

Nearly a dozen officers gathered in their training center to experience first-hand a new police baton that quickly put them to the ground without the chance of breaking a wrist. The baton also proved effective when placed on a suspect's ankle as officers also learned in the in-service.

Placing the baton on an ankle and standing on its handle also made the suspect immobile — unable to fight with officers.

Barwick brought enough of the batons to give to each member of the department to add to their self defense arsenal. He demonstrated how fast an officer can place the "Club" like

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GLENN KAHL/The Bulletin

Ripon Police Sergeant Steve Merchant slips the yoke of the "Apprehender" police baton around the wrist of Officer Scott Lindsay. With a simple click, the baton turns into a handcuff with sufficient leverage to drop a suspect to the ground without breaking his wrist.

### POWER

## SSJID weighs next step in bid to enter retail power on Thursday

By DENNIS WYATT

Managing editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

The last time South San Joaquin Irrigation District met to formally air its plans to enter the retail power business, a large contingent of PG&E employees and retirees showed up prompting a move to a nearby church sanctuary.

PG&E also contracted with a media production company to videotape the proceedings.

Round 2 in the SSJID's bid to reduce retail power costs across the board 15 percent in Manteca, Ripon, and Escalon starts this Thursday at 9 a.m. at the district office, 11011 E. Highway 120. That's when the directors will conduct a public meeting to decide whether to move forward with an application to the San Joaquin Local Agency Formation Commission to grant it permission to add retail power delivery to its repertoire of public services that includes irrigation water, wholesale power generation, and assisting Manteca, Lathrop, and Tracy with their domestic water supplies.

The first time LAFCO rejected the SSJID proposal over several of its board members concern about the use of eminent domain with several expressing a personal distaste for a public agency using it to take over parts of a private concern. PG&E, though, is a quasi-public agency that itself has eminent domain powers it uses much more frequently than most government jurisdictions. Also, as a protected utility, the state allows to PG&E to operate with protection from competition will assuring it of a return on their investment — or profit — in excess of 11 percent.



## More room on way for customer lobby?

By DENNIS WYATT

Managing editor of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

Days when municipal utility bills are due — including the absolute last day to pay on delinquent bills to avoid a shut off of water service — lines often snake outside the

### CITY HALL

closure and unemployment now at 14 percent in Manteca.

The reason is simple. The lobby in the finance department is Lilliputian in size. There are just three service windows and

tomter service windows and to expand the lobby to accommodate more customers in line.

The remodel also will allow for the replacement of more efficient work stations to enhance the efficiency of finance department workers.

The money was included in last year's

## SALES TAX Ripon not flustered by getting nothing from state

By JASON CAMPBELL

Staff reporter of the  
MANTECA (CALIF.) BULLETIN

RIPON — What could have spelled disaster appears to be only a false alarm in the eyes of Ripon's financial guru.

When it was announced last month that 15 cities in California would not be receiving their sales tax checks from the agency charged with tax administration and fee collection — including Petaluma, Maricopa, Ripon, and Gustine — budget planners like Ripon City Administrator Leon Compton always knew that it was a possibility.

After all, the governor did invoke his right under a 2004 law that allowed him to borrow up to 8 percent of property tax revenue from municipalities as long as they're repaid within three years. It allowed Sacramento to get the ball rolling on digging themselves out of one of the biggest budget disasters in history.

But according to Compton, Ripon's name on the listing was more of a misunderstanding than anything else. He noted Ripon received more than they had actually received more money than usual the month before and the lack of a check was simply a way of balancing out the discrepancy.

"To the best of my knowledge — unless something has changed that I'm now aware of — we're still getting out tax checks," Compton said.

Compton has gained praise by some members

## POLICE

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tool's yoke around a wrist and click a secreted handcuff into action. Then the length of the baton allows leverage to put a large man immediately to the ground and defenseless.

The baton can also be used on a car's steering wheel to keep it from driving away from the scene of a crime.

Lt. Ed Ormonde said that initially 10 officers are going to be testing the baton in the field and bringing back their evaluations. He said the department is going to be adding the baton to its policy manual in the near future.

"Other agencies may be more apt to use it if we have creative feedback," he said.

Sgt. Teri Jensen said she sees the baton as something that will enhance officers' ability to arrest suspects who forcibly resist with violence.

"This is a safe and effective way to immobilize them without affecting safety by having a variety of options available to quickly and safely protect the citizens of Ripon," she added.

The sergeant credited Chief Richard Bull's willingness to try new technology — keeping Ripon police on the cutting edge. "We continually try new technologies and new equipment to evaluate their effectiveness in law enforcement," she said.

Barwick said he has put promotional batons also in New Jersey, Utah, Florida and Canada. Ripon is the only department in the Central Valley to be testing the "Apprehender" in day-to-day field use.

## TAPIA

FROM PAGE 1

"I like working with the guys that I work with, and this is something that I want to keep doing."

With his AHS van full of everything from boxes of CAT-5 cables to tools, Tapia has to be prepared for just about anything when he shows up on site for a job that can be as easy as hanging some outdoor speakers or as complex



GLENN KAHL/The Bulletin

**A Ripon police officer quickly learns how fast the new "Apprehender" baton can take down a suspect with the proper leverage. The department is testing the new tool as well as including the baton in their new training manual.**

It weighs slightly over three pounds. A newer composite design now being produced weighs less than a pound, he added. In their future design, the baton will include a flash light in its yoke.

The inventor said the lighter version developed out of a request by the Orange County Sheriff's Office for a light weight version of the baton for their officers to carry on their service belts. The "Apprehender" now sells for \$395.

Described as the "ultimate law enforcement device" it can be viewed in detail on the firm's website at [www.APPREHENDERULED.COM](http://www.APPREHENDERULED.COM).

Its ergonomic design allows even the smallest police officer to control the largest suspect easily and safely. The touch

within the walls.

"Throughout the day I'm just out there doing what I'm supposed to be doing and taking care of the customers' needs," Tapia said. "A lot of it is running wires, but I think that I've gotten pretty good at what I do on a daily basis, and I just try and do the best that I can so that the customer is happy with what they're getting."

Changes in technology have made Tapia's job even more

less control feature allows officers to maintain distance from the suspect, but allows them to be able to apprehend the suspect without touching them.

A quick release incorporated in the handle provides the option to rapidly move from one suspect to another in a gang or riot situation.

Other advances in Ripon's Police Department included the digital camera systems installed at main intersections and throughout the school system feeding into the monitoring dispatch center.

And, the recently added "Powered Parachute" has placed an eye in the sky that is available to search for anyone lost along the Stanislaus River in addition to missing children throughout the community.

take the time to hide the wires that you need to connect to the cable or satellite box, the Blu-ray player, or the video game console.

It's the sort of mentality that keeps people like Tapia employed, and every time he climbs behind the wheel of his company van he feels fortunate.

"It's good to have a job right now and know that I'm going to be able to go in tomorrow," he said. "Sometimes it can be

## Passings

### Buddy Allen Chambers

Resident of Manteca

Buddy Allen Chambers, 28, died Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009. He was born on August 10, 1981. He was the beloved son of Michael Chambers and Tanya; caring brother of Natasha Trester; loving uncle to Abigail Trester. Buddy's beautiful heart and soul touched the lives of everyone he knew. Friends and family are

invited to a visitation and viewing on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2009 from 6 to 9 p.m., with a vigil service at 7 p.m. A funeral mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 10 a.m. All services will be held at St. Michael Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore, CA. For more information please call: Holy Angels Funeral & Cremation Center FD1974; (510) 537-6600.

Manteca (Calif.) Bulletin  
Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2009

### Brian M. Chapman May 6, 1969 - August 20, 2009

Brian M. Chapman died on Thursday, August 20, 2009 in Denair, CA, he was 40 years.

Brian was preceded in death by his father Donald Chapman of Manteca. He is survived by his longtime companion Bridget Knight of Oakdale; his children, Eric and Todd Chapman of Manteca, Will Davis of French Camp, Brianna and Michael Chapman of Oakdale, and Andrea and Nichole Overbay of Oakdale. Brian's son, Joseph Chapman passed away the same day shortly after Brian.



Brian attended Golden West School. He was an avid Oakland

Raiders fan and enjoyed camping with his family. He will be missed by many family members and friends.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 5, at 11 a.m. Journey Church, 444 Argonaut, Manteca. Private burial arrangements are being held at Park View Cemetery, 3661 E. French Camp Road, Manteca, CA 95338.

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### Patricia Rogene Horne

Former Ripon resident

Patricia Horne died Friday, Aug. 28, 2009 in Mountain Home at the age of 81. She was born Wednesday, Aug. 8, 1928 in Fullerton, Nebraska, the daughter of Lawrence E. and Minnie P. Bloxom King.

She married Harold Glenn Horne Sr and was a beautician and most notably worked as a Lab Technician Supervisor for a paper mill in Ripon, California. Patricia lived in Gassville since 2000 moving from Ripon, California. She enjoyed gar-

dening, crocheting and bird watching; especially her humming birds. She was also a very good seamstress.

Patricia Horne is survived by one son, Richard Horne of Gassville, AR, two daughters, Ida Tucker of Gassville, AR and Glenda Boerten of Gassville, AR. She was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

Burial will be in the Kirby's Tucker Memorial Cemetery, Mountain Home, Arkansas. Funeral services will be private. Arrangements are by Kirby & Family Funeral & Cremation Services.

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