

KIM'S TOP 10

BURNEY LIBRARY

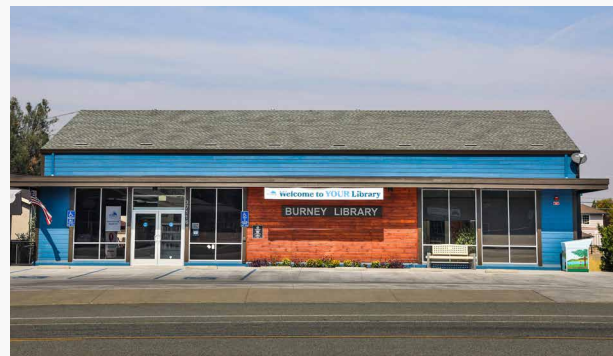
The Burney Miracle! It started at the opening to the Woodlands Apartment complex. Supervisor Mary Rickert and I were visiting. She asked why the Burney Library project could not get traction. I told her there was no way a volunteer group could pull off this kind of project without County or City support. She asked if I would help. I said, I would love to, but she needed to get the former County CEO Larry Leas to agree.

The County had estimated the project to purchase and remodel the building at almost \$1 million. The Burney Friends, aka FOIL, had raised money over the years. The County had set aside \$400K from the Hatchet Ridge windmill mitigation fund, and we raised more community funds including support from Hat Creek Construction, Burney Rotary Club, First 5, Sierra Pacific, Chrysopolae Foundation, Steve Woodrum, Grocery Outlet, and many others.

One particular highlight was when I was presenting the plan to the Board of Supervisors and requesting they enter into escrow for the building. A series of speakers spoke eloquently in support. We had secured the necessary funds to proceed. A couple of the supervisors were not fans of the project and publicly doubted the plan and asked what would happen if I ran out of money and could not finish. Shannon Phillips rose to the podium and shared that the project was a priority for The McConnell Foundation and they would guarantee the rest. We got the votes to proceed, after several disappointing trips to the Board. It was a glorious victory.

Then we had to do it! The building was owned by a couple who were physical therapists and had moved out of state. We had been in discussion with them for years about our interest in the building. The only way my plan would work was to complete the renovation prior to the sale, with the help of friends. So, I had to convince the Ropers to enter into escrow with the County, allow our team to complete \$250K in renovations, including taking down walls, adding new walls, new paint, new signage, new flooring, and more, and then close escrow with the County. We all had to believe the County would not pull out. Kevin McKay provided on-site project management services. The flooring and painting were completed by local contractors offering discounted rates. FOIL and Rotary volunteers assembled the library shelves. Our facilities team filled in the gaps.

This project had many lives, many challenges and ultimately, success. Its completion was nothing short of a miracle. I am grateful to the amazing FOIL leaders, especially Pat Pell, Linda and Bill Murray, Fran Collier, the late Melanie Kerns, all of whom I consider dear friends.



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NUR PON OPEN SPACE



During the Great Recession, funding for park development came to a standstill. We shifted to open space revitalization, which is less expensive to build and maintain. We started with Turtle Bay East. Terry Hanson secured a couple of large grants and managed the trail construction, pavilion and riparian restoration. It was an immediate success. We shifted to Henderson Open Space, which was later renamed Nur Pon Open Space in consultation with the Redding Rancheria. Nur Pon translates to “Salmon Run” in the Wintu language.

Nur Pon started out as what we thought would be an easy project, not that far away from City Hall with amazing natural beauty. During this time, the unhoused population swelled and many found Nur Pon unsafe or uncomfortable to visit. We applied for a big grant and we didn't get it. When we debriefed with the granting agency, they said we needed to demonstrate more community support. This created my first collaboration with Steve Woodrum. I shared with him that we had this riverfront project with tremendous potential. We needed local funding to prove to the state that the project was a priority for our community. He generously committed \$50,000 and the California Conservation Corps came on board as a sponsor.

On the second application, we did get the grant. And then we got another grant! Things were looking very positive and the community was very upset with the conditions at Nur Pon. Just as we were getting close to finalizing construction plans, Dignity Health requested to purchase a portion of the property. This was very contentious and stressful. I opposed the sale, but it was approved. We lost land we were planning to use, which forced a redesign. Then, as we were just about ready to finish that update, the Bureau of Reclamation requested to use a portion of the property for a salmon spawning channel. The channel sounded like a great idea, however, we were not in a position to lose any more land. We countered their offer with a demand to include two bridges, one at each end. The resulting island would be connected via bridges, creating a trail loop. This was an expensive demand as there was a PG&E pole on the island and the bridge had to be constructed to carry a heavy truck. After several more months of negotiation, BOR agreed to pay the additional \$2 million for bridges and we were finally ready to go. Kudos to Terry Hanson and BOR John Hannon who kept working to get to yes.

The looped trails, channel and river access are spectacular. Allowing for off leash dogs was not universally popular, but I believe has led to high utilization and appreciation of this beautiful space.



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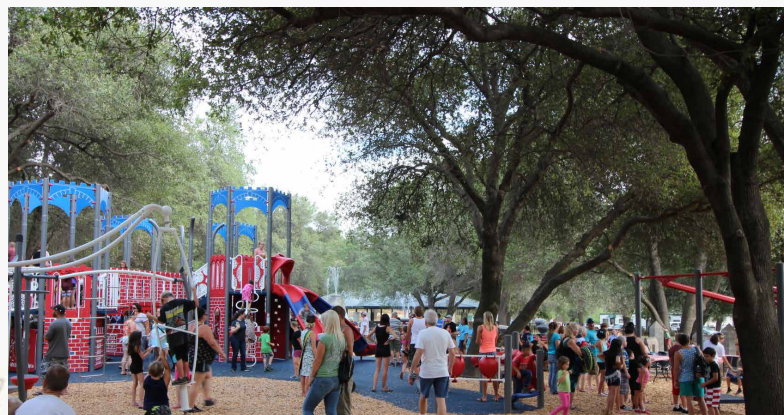
KIDS KINGDOM & FANTASY FOUNTAIN 2



I arrived at Community Services after the initial Kids Kingdom and Fantasy Fountain projects. However, it was my job to make sure that 2.0 versions were successful. Many Redding residents, including many on our staff, relayed special childhood memories and a lot of important family events there. When it came time to redo them, it was important that they be exceptionally recreated. That sounds good, but we did not have funding. These projects are special to me because of the tremendous community effort that came into play to make them happen. So, while other projects were bigger and more expensive the actual work that we had to do to make these two come to fruition was significant, and also super rewarding.

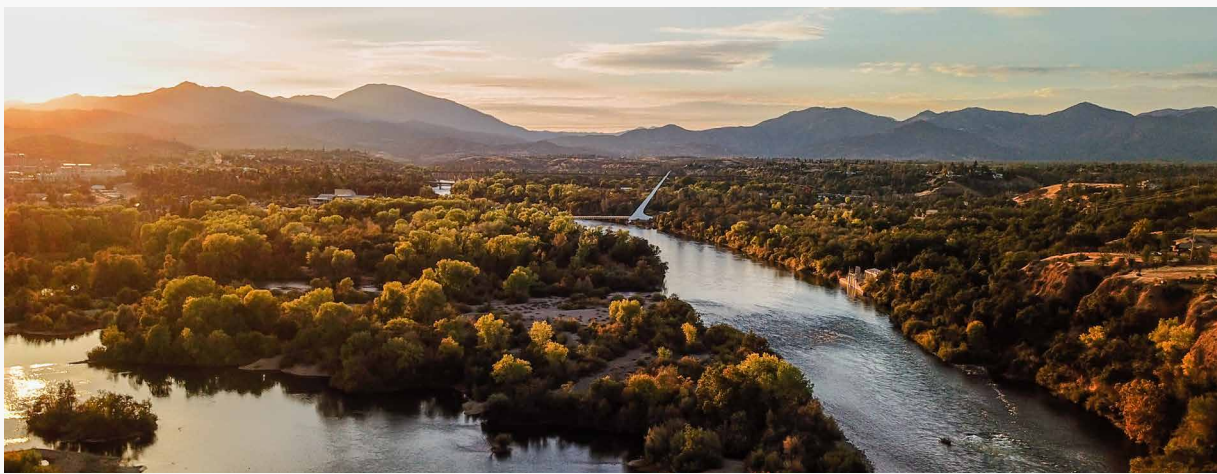


Fantasy Fountain came first. The volcano and the surfacing were failing. I called upon a number of people who were involved in the first project and they agreed to help again. We had to redesign the fountain, so that it could not be climbable, which then took away the need for a safety surface. Without the efforts of Pat Wallner, Dale Simpson, the late Jerry Peters, Shanna Cannon, and Michelle Martin Streeby, we would not have made that happen. During this project I got to know Armando Mejorado, Gary Desmond, Linda Masterson and Lynne Pearson. Armando designed the floor mural and sketched it out. The ladies supervised the families coming to paint the fish and frogs they had sponsored. All of these folks became good friends and I went on to ask Linda to be the first president of our Redding Parks and Trails Foundation.



KIM'S TOP 10

CITY OF REDDING COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



For many years, the City struggled mightily to adequately share the stories of our many successes, explain operational issues, and clearly communicate on many important city issues. The idea of Public Information Officer came up many times, but was never funded. We created a couple of websites that lacked cohesiveness and functionality. The era of social media created an even greater need for a unified voice. An assortment of divisions had their own Facebook pages, many of which did not represent so well. Then, our recreation marketing coordinator Therese moved to Texas and we were recruiting to replace her. We received the most incredible group of applicants. I pitched to City Manager Barry Tippin that this was the time to stand up a citywide communications effort. This was right after the Carr Fire and Barry had been playing a significant role in posting to Facebook during the emergency and aftermath.



We saw the need to communicate more directly to residents using various channels, and we needed people that knew how to do that well. He said, "all right, get your colleagues on board and we'll see what we can do." We got most of our colleagues on board, but we could not get everyone and so the proposal died. Then Snowmageddon happened, and - once again - the City was in a place where I needed to communicate directly and promptly to residents on important emergency matters, and was unable to do so effectively. That event changed the equation and CM Tippin authorized the hiring of a team to work in Community Services for the entire city. We started out with three and we are now up to seven. I couldn't be more proud of the work that Katie Hunter, Steve DiPaolo, Joseph Martinusen, Kimberly Bonéy, Landon Cramer, Allie Figura, and Catherine Hunt are doing to tell our many stories in a timely and clear manner, to translate "city talk" into plain English, to amplify the beauty and wonder of our town, and to connect on many different levels with our wide array of residents and their interests.

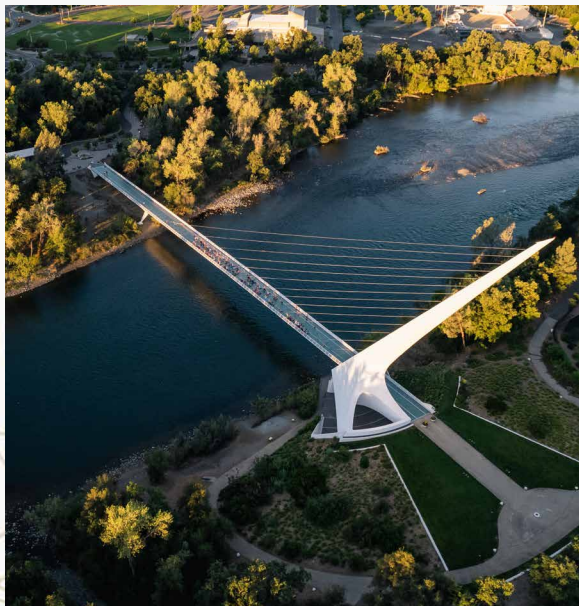
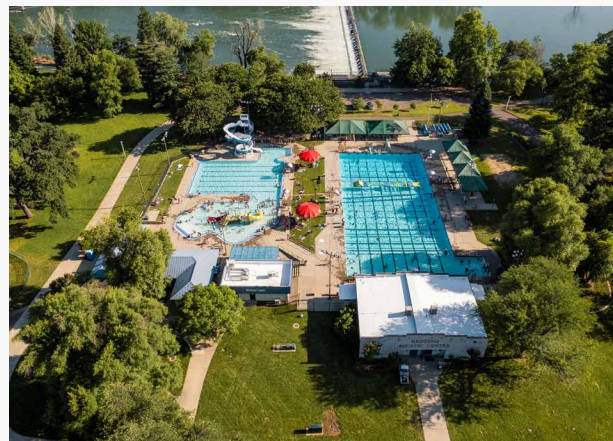
KIM'S TOP 10

2000 - 2004

The Golden Years

In June of 2000, I was appointed acting Community Services Director and nine months later I got the job permanently. As former City Manager Mike Warren told us repeatedly, "these years will be the best of times." The energy and momentum of Mike's leadership raised expectations both in the community and at City Hall. I was managing a department, two citizen committees and a commission. During this time, we constructed many of Redding's most beloved facilities - Redding City Hall, Turtle Bay, Sundial Bridge, Redding Aquatic Center, Big League Dreams, Redding Soccer Park, and the Caldwell Skate Park. We all worked with the understanding that we were building a community to be proud of and providing a high quality of life for all residents.

It should be mentioned that throughout these years we were literally sprinting 10+ hours a day, and Mike was not as patient as he is now. My learning curve was vertical, and I was fortunate to have many experts and professionals to watch and learn from, including Phil Perry, Kurt Starman, Jim Feider, Jim Hamilton, Terry Hanson, Rita Vokal, and especially Mike Warren. My most outlandish stories also come from this time, which are too much to share here - maybe future episodes of Parks & Recreation.



KIM'S TOP 10

SUNDIAL CELEBRATE 10

When it came time to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Sundial Bridge, we knew we wanted to make it special. After the initial controversy of the Sundial Bridge prior to its construction, the community had almost entirely rallied around the structure as the iconic landmark of our City. We wanted to underscore that importance and the positive impact of the Bridge with a large community celebration. Lucky for me, Bev Stupek and Nathan Parmalee also raised their hands as we led the planning and production of the two-week series. Deb Lucero, Shannon Phillips, and Carrian Foster contributed to the overall success. Together, we raised a quarter million dollars to cover the expenses for these free community events. The highlight was the BANDALOOP aerial dance troupe, who performed on/off the pylon of the Bridge. We put on two weeks of outdoor concerts at Riverfront Park, held the first Sundial Splash float event on the river, hosted Brews by the Bridge, conducted bridge tours, held a concert on the Civic lawn, and finally convened as a community for the Freedom Festival fireworks. The attendance and enthusiasm were high throughout the entire series. My friendships with Bev, Nathan, Shannon, Deb, Carrian were cemented in sweat.



CELEBRATE
JUNE 20
thru JULY 4

10
Sundial Bridge
2004-2014
Redding, California

Celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the world renowned Sundial Bridge with two weeks of activities, concerts, events, and performances – from a thrilling kickoff by vertical dance pioneers **BANDALOOP** performing from the Sundial Bridge to a Freedom Celebration finale!

Presented by
VisitRedding.com **SUBARU** **SHASTA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

With Special Support from John & Betty Fitzpatrick and The McConnell Foundation

With major support from **REU** **Shasta Regional Medical Center**

With additional support from Best Western PLUS Hilltop Inn / C.R. Gibbs American Grille, Coldwell Banker C&C Properties, Home Helpers, Lehigh Heidelberg Cement Group, Mt. Shasta Mall, Redding Bank of Commerce, Redding Rancheria, Shasta Regional Community Foundation, and Upstate Hearing

celebrate10.com

Celebrate 10 is a collaboration between City of Redding, The McConnell Foundation, Redding Civic Auditorium, Shasta County Arts Council, Turtle Bay Exploration Park, and VisitRedding.com.



KIM'S TOP 10

DR. MLK JR. CENTER

The MLK Center wasn't on my radar during my early years in the department. After Gordon Carpenter's retirement, we were not permitted to replace him due to budget shortfalls. Thus, I took a more active role in the oversight of the Center. Over the coming months, it became clear to me that the staff and the programs there were struggling mightily. The operations were well below the standards that we had for other recreation programs. After a couple of near miss incidents, I made the decision to close the Center and to invite a blue-ribbon committee to work with us to develop a new program based on best practices and models of other cities. That effort was extremely difficult. I was naïve to the impact on the broader community, specifically the African American community. I underestimated the collective impact of decades of adverse actions against them. Members of that community came out in opposition to the closure and to me personally. These were some very trying days.

Ultimately, we re-opened the Center with the help of the blue-ribbon committee who included Fran Brady, Georgia Fowler, Eddie McAllister, Cindy Bishop, Judy Salter, Charlie Menoher, Jody Van Orden, Monique Taylor, and Theresa Muth. With Cindy Bishop's help, we partnered on an afterschool program with Cypress Elementary and hired Christina Massey. I hired Christina part-time and Cindy also hired her part-time and together we had a full-time Center Director. Over the last 14 years, the MLK Center has become a model, itself, offering programs and services that are building a character and community for its many participants. Under Christina's leadership, we have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant funds (Thank you, Tracie Neal) to offer programming and outings that many of these kids were not experiencing otherwise. Christina has hired a talented team who care deeply about the children and families they serve. I am very proud of the quality of programming we are producing and the positive impact on so many children's lives. Today, we are working on a remodel of the facility, so that it looks as good as it feels.



KIM'S TOP 10

PARK IMPACT FEES



I have a love-hate relationship with Park Development Impact Fees. Park impact fees are probably my greatest legacy, second only to the amazing people that I have helped train up over the years. The adoption of new and increased fees has been my most stressful and difficult topic. When I started, park impact fees were about \$350 per house. You can imagine that does not build very much, which is why we had so many undeveloped park sites, and no community center or gymnasium. In 2002, we initiated the drafting of a new Parks Master Plan. This was on the heels of a new General Plan. Through this effort, and under Mike Warren's guidance, we sought to establish a higher park development impact fee. This brought out many in opposition, some of whom took to making inaccurate claims and personal attacks. However, we prevailed, and the fee was raised to about \$2,000 for every new house, with future inflationary adjustments. Every four or five years after that, we go through a process to study the cost of park construction to reset the fee, and every time it is a huge political topic, with many of the same characters coming out in opposition. In 2019, after three prior attempts, we proposed to add new fees on commercial, industrial and office projects. These developments had previously been excluded and only residential projects were charged. As a community that serves many people beyond our corporate limits - as the county and our neighboring cities have only a few parks and very limited recreation programs - we needed more funding to keep pace with demand. With great courage leadership from our female majority on the City Council - Erin Resner, Kristen Schreder, and Julie Winter, and City Manager Barry Tippin, the new fees were approved. Today and in the future, we will have a steady and reliable funding source for new park development. Since 2019, over a million dollars in park impact fees have been collected from commercial, office, and industrial projects.

I also want to note an impactful and strategic partnership I have enjoyed with Jeb Allen and the Emmerson family of Sierra Pacific Industries. During the 2019 park fee update, Jeb and Mark Emmerson provided letters of support to increase both the residential and commercial fees. This was powerful support in the face of other industry opposition. Together, we have constructed three large neighborhood parks and several new trails that will serve the community well for generations - Highland Park, Salt Creek Heights Park, and Shastina Ranch Park. Thank you!



KIM'S TOP 10

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES



My first experience with Public Art was when City Manager Mike Warren wanted to install large steel-cut salmon sculptures along Cypress and Market Street medians. He wasn't sure how well they would be received and so I was tasked to take them on a roadshow to solicit feedback. I went to the library, the mall, the county fair and many other places. After a positive response, I worked with John Martin Streeby, who designed and fabricated them. They are still out there today and have lasted longer than we thought.

After that, I was tasked to build a Sculpture Park in front of the new City Hall - with no budget for art. Go figure! After a lengthy design process and on-site soil remediation, we got the landscaping portion of the project completed. The sculptures were installed over a few years with a variety of efforts.

Leah Hawes stepped forward to commission a larger-than-life bronze fly fisherman. She sold smaller versions of the statue to local people, and those funds purchased the large, life-size statue in place today.

Usana Weaver, mother of former mayor Brent Weaver, introduced me to Dr. Chae Moon, who owned a large rock sculpture collection at his home. He had commissioned a highly regarded Korean artist, Han Yong Yin, to create the works over many years. After several visits with Dr. Moon and the positive influence of Usana, he agreed to donate 27 individual pieces, which composed seven collections, to the City. In recent years, the LACMA museum in Los Angeles, which has the largest collection of Korean art in the U.S., has expressed interest in acquiring his work.

Later, with help from Alice Porembski (from whom I learned all I know about public art) and Todd McAfee, (who designed the temporary art foundations and has provided design guidance ever since), we sought out artists for temporary installations. Chris Fennell built the wood sculptures on-site and Bryan Tedrick loaned us his metal sculptures. These temporary sculptures are still here. When Mike Warren retired, we commissioned Colleen Barry to create a mosaic bench in his honor.

Jim Phillips, John Martin Streeby, Lura Wilhelm, Lucius Upshaw are four local artists who have also contributed significantly to the beauty of our community. I've enjoyed working through the design process and technical hurdles to bring their creations to the community.

In the next year, we will introduce a beautiful new sculpture at the north end of the Sacramento River Trail, a gift of the George Emerson family. It will be another beloved landmark on our Hall of Fame trail.



KIM'S TOP 10

REDDING PARKS & TRAILS FOUNDATION AND ENDOWMENT

Real cities have their own park foundations. Redding East Rotary Club served as fiscal sponsor for several community projects, but they were moving on to other endeavors, and it was time for us to have an independent organization solely dedicated to this purpose. I contacted longtime supporters Linda Masterson, Peggy Rebol, Casey Cancilla, Gary Brickwood, John Deaton and Ron Davis and they agreed to start the Redding Parks Foundation, which later became the Redding Parks and Trail Foundation. With Gary's help, we completed all the legal incorporation paperwork, and Linda Masterson led as our first president. Peggy Rebol capably took the reins and serves as the current president. I am so grateful for the support of this organization and its incredible members who have, as we say, green in their blood - supporting both as advocates and fundraisers for our park and trail systems. The foundation has evolved to a point where it is ready to establish an endowment fund to provide long-term funding for park and trail projects and programs. My family and I are pleased to be founding donors, and we hope you will be, too.

