

Packer by Day, City Treasurer by Night

By Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs

On packer Pam Bulahan's day off from the Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, California (DDJC) Bin Packing section in Warehouse 16, you can find her working her part-time job—City Treasurer for Isleton. Every Monday she is down at city hall signing payroll checks, issuing demands on city funds, looking at reports and catching up on city business.

Bulahan came to work at DDJC last August when the McClellan Depot closed. Her commute from the town on the bank of the Sacramento River to Tracy is 50 miles each way, only two miles more than her trip to McClellan.

Her career in city government started one day while working on her roof. The building inspector dropped by and encouraged her to apply for the vacated City Treasurer job.

"I was already a regular at the city council meetings due to a government class I was taking," said Bulahan.

Bulahan took basic accounting classes while attending Delta College and California State University, Sacramento. She holds a bachelors degree in Communication Studies with a minor in business.

After being appointed to the City Treasurer position for her first term, she ran unopposed for her second term. She was elected by more than half of the registered voters for another four-year term, which expires in 2004.

According to Bulahan, the biggest change she has noticed since becoming the city treasurer is the number of invitations to political fundraisers in Sacramento.

Her main duty is to make sure the city's money gets invested in a Local Agency Investment fund, which is run by the state for municipalities.

"Before I became the treasurer, the city was getting pass book savings rates," recalled Bulahan. "I recommended the city go to the Local Agency Investment fund to get more return on investment."



Ms. Pam Bulahan.

Currently she manages approximately \$266,000, with \$16,000 to \$20,000 coming in each month from the state and city, which operates sewage and garbage service.

She rarely misses a city council meeting. The day after being released from a seven-day stay in the hospital resulting from a car accident, she hobbled into the council meeting with the help of crutches.

The only time she missed a meeting was when she was visiting her brother in Hawaii. "But that was a night I didn't have to give a report," she quickly added.

Bulahan is not into city finances for the money. She is a volunteer for the most part, putting in about 10 hours a week at city hall for a monthly paycheck of \$20.

Her motivation for civic work comes from a desire to see her hometown of 33 years progress. Isleton's biggest business was the canning industry. However, the last cannery closed in the 80's. Most residents are retired or commute to work.

"I'd like to see the waterfront area improved and develop more tourism business for the marinas and main street," she said.

DDC and Special Olympics Team Up for Success

Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Army, Navy, and Air Force Reservists joined the 2002 Adult Special Olympics Pennsylvania April 27, 2002 for a day of games and excitement, held at the Mechanicsburg Defense Activities.

More than 150 Special Olympic athletes participated.

DDC employees were honored to be a part of a day full of winners and fighting spirit.

The Adult Special Olympics Pennsylvania has been sponsored by the local Chapter of Federally Employed Women (F.E.W.) for the last twelve years.



Special Olympic Athletes and volunteers watch the events of the 2002 Adult Special Olympics Pennsylvania.