

# LEDGER DISPATCH

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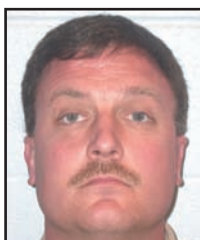


## Mule Creek prison guard arrested on suspicion of smuggling drugs

By **SCOTT THOMAS ANDERSON**  
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Just three days after Ione police cracked down on visitors smuggling drugs into Preston Youth Correctional Facility, Mule Creek State Prison investigators also launched a bust — only in this case, the target was one of their own.

On Tuesday, 38-year-old correctional officer Wayne Dion Bullard was arrested on suspicion of selling a controlled substance to prisoners in custody and



**WAYNE BULLARD**

Sources inside Mule Creek State Prison alerted the Ledger Dispatch to

bringing a weapon into prison. Bullard has worked at Mule Creek since 1998. He was arrested by a special investigative division of the California Department of Corrections that works out of Mule Creek.

Bullard's arrest yesterday afternoon.

Reached by phone, officials from the Amador County Sheriff's Office confirmed that Bullard had been arrested by CDCR investigators, with assistance from sheriff's deputies and the Amador County Combined Narcotics Enforcement Team.

"If it's true, it's shocking and embarrassing," said one Mule Creek State Prison correctional officer, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "I hope

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Gallery 10 celebrates 15 years of art



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Ione contemplates lawsuit over ballot initiative

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Jackson Pool will remain open, despite financial losses

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Historical society looks to preserve top 10 county sites

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## Sutter Creek tries to balance budget, city councilman thinks police should go

By **MATTHEW HEDGER**  
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Sutter Creek City Councilman Pat Crosby says it's time to make major changes in the way the city does business, even if it means losing its status as an incorporated city and dismantling the police department.

Crosby made his comments during a regular meeting of the council March 1 during discussions about revenues and deficits facing the city.

Sutter Creek is projecting a \$80,568 deficit at the end of the current fiscal year June 30.

"You just can't afford to have a fully staffed police department," said Crosby, who suggested Sutter Creek turn over patrol duties to the Amador County Sheriff's Office. "I think we should get our police lined up the way Pine Grove does theirs," he said.

When it was pointed out that Pine Grove doesn't have a police de-

partment, Crosby smiled and replied, "I know."

Crosby went on to say the council should review Police Chief and City Manager Rob Duke's position and save the money spent on his salary.

"We need to encourage him to move on to a bigger city," he said. "We just can't handle it (his salary) anymore."

Crosby's comments sparked a strong reaction from Mayor Gary Wooten, who pointed out they have been getting both a police chief and a city manager in one very competent individual, resulting in big savings for the city.

"I like the city manager," Wooten said. "He does a good job. It's uncalled for for you to say he should move on."

Duke did not attend the meeting due to illness.

Wooten also said Amador County Sheriff Martin Ryan is scheduled to appear before the council in April.

**SEE BALANCE BUDGET, PAGE 14**



## 'THANK YOUR VET'

His love for animals and their health has earned him attention from the Morris Animal Foundation. Dr. Robert Yack of Jackson Creek Veterinary Clinic in Jackson was recognized as the West Regional winner in the third annual "Thank Your Vet for a Healthy Pet" national contest. **SEE STORY, PAGE 17**