30 years ago, I had the pleasure of being on the interview committee when James was hired. Our goal at that time was to find someone who would take pride in our town like our forefather’s and to see the future and new path of the Tuolumne Park and Recreation District.

James was first hired as a part time maintenance man and after a short time he stepped up and took on all of the responsibilities of a fulltime employee. We knew back then that his love for our little town was as strong as ours and it has always shown in every project we asked of him.

Everyone here tonight needs to know James is a 24/7 employee. In the past, he was a part of every decision and project Tuolumne Park and Recreation District ever made. Look around you and everything you see James has cleaned, mowed, repaired, climbed, painted, roofed, shoveled, raked, weed eated and watered.

Concerts in The Park is what it is because of James, but he is also a part of so many other projects like, West Side Trail, Tuolumne Community Garden, San Francisco Giants and Oakland A’s bus trips, Christmas Parade, Easter Sunday Egg Hunts, Halloween Parade, Flea Markets in The Park, Lumber Jubilee’s, Horseshoe Tournaments, Swim Lessons, Setting up for many activities in the Veterans Memorial Hall, Chalking Jerry Whitehead Sr. Field & overseeing Snack Bar Concessions for lots & lots of baseball games.

Our town is beautiful and well-kept because of you, James. It is my hope that you will work another 30 years for Tuolumne Park and Recreation District because your shoes will never be filled.

Thank You James!

Your friend,

Steve Artzer