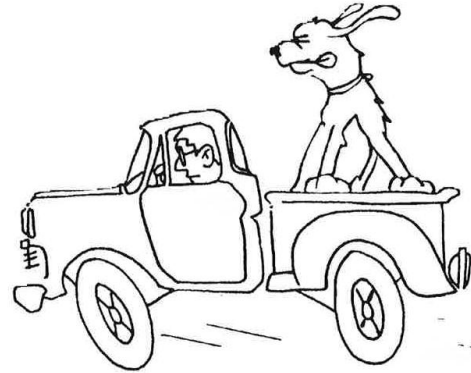




Animal Control

It shouldn't happen to a dog - DON'T let your dog travel unsecured in an open pickup truck bed. Dogs can't "hold on" the way humans can, and any sudden start, stop, or turn can toss your pet onto the highway. If the impact of hitting the road at a high speed does not kill them, oncoming traffic probably will. It is estimated that at least 100,000 dogs die this way each year in our country.

There are other hazards to consider. Most dogs love the feeling of wind blowing past their ears at 60 MPH, but that wind can seriously irritate mucous membrane and blow pieces of grit into the animal's eyes. It may require veterinary attention to remove the foreign material, which could cause permanent eye damage. Insects or flying debris can also lodge in the nasal passages or get sucked up into the windpipe.



Open truck beds provide no protection from the weather. Rain, snow, and freezing temperatures are obvious problems, but even warm days have their dangers. Hot sun can heat the metal floor of a truck bed enough to burn a pet's paw pads. And, once the truck has stopped, a dog left sitting in the broiling sun without water or shade may suffer from heat stroke before long.

It is easiest to allow your dog to ride inside the truck cab, or leave him at home. If they must ride in the back of the truck, put the pet inside a crate that will give him some protection from the wind and weather, and tie the crate securely to the walls of the truck bed, so it cannot slide about or be tossed out of the truck. Do not leash your pet inside the truck bed, as many a dog has been strangled when tossed or bumped over the side of the truck and been left helplessly dangling. Special harnesses are available to prevent this kind of horrific accident.

CONTACT: Angelle Nolan, (760) 932-5582

Community Development

Trail Plan - Mono County Planning staff Courtney Weiche and Heather deBethizy, along with National Park Service River Trails & Conservation Assistance Program, hosted a successful Trails Tour and Community Dialogue Nov. 6 in Lee Vining. The discussion focused on a trail plan connecting the town of Lee Vining through Lee Vining Canyon and possibly into Yosemite National Park. Attending stakeholders included representatives from Friends of the Inyo, SCE, Mobil Mart, Inyo National Forest, Caltrans, and LADWP. The goal is a Mono-Yosemite Gateway Trail Master Plan by spring 2014.

Frogs, Toads & Grouse- The Board of Supervisors (BOS) on Nov. 6 approved a comment letter prepared by analyst Wendy Sugimura and consulting biologist Jim Paulus regarding the proposed US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) listing of the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog. The letter advocates eliminating several front-country recreation areas from the proposed critical habitat area with science-based justification, thus helping to mitigate the potential economic impact on Mono County. Similarly, the letter advocates a shift in the biological paradigm for the Yosemite toad listing by downgrading livestock grazing, pack stock use, and recreation to "not a listing factor," recognizing that past practices and

impacts are no longer allowed or practiced. A letter opposing the listing of the sage grouse was also authorized and delivered Nov. 5 at the USFWS meeting in Bishop. A USFWS sage grouse workshop with BOS is scheduled Dec. 3.

Parking Relief - On Nov. 5 the BOS approved reduction of parking requirements for central business districts recommended by the Planning Commission as developed by analyst Brent Calloway. These parking regulations allow up to 40% to 50% reduction in required parking in certain circumstances, thus allowing for easier business growth and expansion in communities.

Antelope Valley RPAC - After much debate and discussion Nov. 7, and with assistance of Principal Planner Gerry Le Francois, the Antelope Valley RPAC (Regional Planning Advisory Committee) completed review and revision of the area plan policies. These proposed revisions will now be included in the Mono County General Plan update. Thanks to committee members for their many months of time and effort.

CONTACT: CD Ritter, (760) 924-1800

County Administrator's Office

Drive safe! - Winter Driving Tips: please follow the link below to a helpful pamphlet from Caltrans. It covers information about how to drive safely during storm conditions including information on winterizing your vehicle, being prepared, winter driving tips, when chains are required and the different chain controls, anticipating delays and closures, and how to check current road conditions. We hope you find this information helpful and remind all employees to stay safe this coming winter.

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo/winter_driving_0607.pdf

CONTACT: Sarah Messerlian, (760) 932-5405

Annual Employee Holiday Potluck - SAVE the Date! -- Please reserve the date for the Annual Holiday Potluck Luncheons. These events are a time to celebrate the holiday, achievements over the last year and Years of Service Awards. Please bring a favorite dish to share. Decorations, tablecloths, plates, utensils, napkins, and drinks will be provided.

South County
Wednesday, December 11, 2013, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Mammoth Sierra Center Mall

North County
Thursday, December 12, 2013, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Bridgeport Memorial Hall

CONTACT: Teresa Neely, (760) 932-5416, Sarah Messerlian, (760) 932-5405, Stacie Klemm, (760) 943-5410

Mammoth Mountain team presents plans for June Lake Ski Area – On Tuesday, November 5th, Along with Supervisor Alpers, Scott Burns and Courtney Weiche, I attended the June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee. Over 80 people were in attendance as Rusty Gregory and his executive leadership team

discussed the season, the focus on heavy marketing of June Mountain for families and the MMSA commitment to strengthen the June Lake economy. Supervisor Alpers provided a county update on issues of import in addition.

June Mountain will open on December 13th and MMSA is offering a number of incentives to bolster June Mountains attendance including a special rate for Mono County residents and the fact that kids 12 and under are free skiers this year. Tomorrow, Saturday November 9th, only at the Double Eagle Resort, from 2pm-7pm the special JMSA Adult Season Pass will be \$310 which means a savings of \$89 – plus \$10 of every purchase is being donated to the June Lake Chamber of Commerce to assist with their winter events. In addition, June Mtn. Season Passes are valid at Mammoth Mountain for spring skiing after April 20.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

RCRC hosts November 15th Meeting With State Water Board Staff on Groundwater - In early October the State Water Board staff released a Groundwater Work plan Concept Paper for discussion purposes. The document and related materials can be accessed at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/groundwater/workplan.shtml

State Water Board staff has agreed to meet with local government representatives to both describe the Groundwater Work plan Concept Paper, receive comments and to answer questions. The proposed framework lists existing actions and suggests potential future actions that the Water Boards and others could take, including suggested legislation. After meeting with various Stakeholders State Water Board staff intends to discuss with the State Water Board in January 2014 stakeholder input received.

RCRC has asked if there are county staff interested in attending and we have requested the ability to participate via conference call. Still awaiting details for that option as of November 8th.

Meeting particulars are as follows:

Friday, November 15

11:00 am – 1:00 pm (lunch will be provided)

RCRC Board Room

1215 K Street, Suite 1650

Sacramento, CA 95814

Attendees are urged to RSVP to Kathy Mannion at kmannion@rcrcnet.org by COB on Tuesday, November 12. The call in number for those participating by phone is:

(916) 326-5821

CONTACT: Karen A. Keene, RCRC Senior Legislative Representative (916) 327-7500 x511 or Jim Leddy (707) 529-4510

Solid Waste Task Force Meeting – On Thursday, November 7th, the Solid Waste Taskforce met. Chairman Byng Hunt was in attended and the meeting was chaired by Tony Dublino. Tony and the Taskforce continue to provide feedback into the Mono County Integrated Waste Management Plan.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy (707) 529-4510

County employees asked to shift parking habits in Bridgeport - Public concerns have been raised regarding public parking availability for those coming to our Bridgeport offices. The concerns focus on:

- 1) The lack of parking for the public on School Street between Bryant and Emigrant (in front of the Library's main entrance), and;
- 2) The lack of parking on Bryant Street between School and Sinclair Street.

In order to ensure adequate public access and maintain some employee street parking, County employees have been requested to not park on Bryant between Sinclair and School Streets and only park on the west side of the School Street (the side Memorial Hall is located).

This should ensure public access to Annex I, Annex II, the Sheriff's Office as well as the Courthouse. There is a parking lot next to Memorial Hall which is open to employees to park.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy (707) 529-4510

Economic Development

Google Translate was added last month to the Mono County Tourism website www.MonoCounty.org which gives access to numerous languages and will assist our international visitor with their trip planning. Our website saw a 20% increase in traffic, year over year, for the month of October and traffic since July 1, 2013 is at an all-time high of 170,000 visits and 365,000 pageviews. On the social media front, Mono County Facebook fans are at **10,668**. The **November E-Newsletter** went out on Thursday, Nov. 7th to a visitor database of over 15,500. To receive the E-newsletter, go to www.MonoCounty.org to sign up.

On Wed. Nov. 20th, the Mono County Tourism & Film Commission will review several grant applications received from community non-profits for the newly released **Community Event Marketing Fund**.

At the recent **California On Locations Awards** which honors the Film Locations industry, Special Use/Film Permit Coordinator for the **Bishop BLM** Field Office, **Donna McMullen**, won the prestigious award for "**Federal Public Employee of the Year**." Congratulations, Donna!

Mono County is currently being scouted for another major vehicle commercial to be filmed in early December. Locations from Rock Creek to Bridgeport are being considered.

The **Inter-agency Visitor Center** board met on Nov. 7th in Bishop and discussions centered around plans to manage the potential government shut-down in January which will affect the USFS-owned visitor center building in Lone Pine, but not ESIA staff. Temporary visitor center locations are being considered in the event of another federal government shut-down in order to keep visitor services available.

At the June Lake CAC meeting on Nov. 5th, June Mountain announced a **special Season Pass sales** event to take place on Saturday, November 9th at the Double Eagle Resort from 2pm-7pm only. For more information, go to www.JuneMountain.com.

The Economic Development staff is sending a representative to a **Small Business Financing Conference** on November 14th, offered by the Small Business Development Center at California State University,

Bakersfield. The conference will provide details and strategies for lending, financing options and solutions for small business owners which we will pass on to Mono County stakeholders and businesses.

CONTACT: Alicia Vennos, (760) 924-1743

Public Works

Public Works Employee saves man in trouble - On Wednesday morning, November 6th, Mono County Public Works employee Steve Amundson was riding his bicycle to work in Bridgeport. He was headed south on Highway 182 when he noticed a male adult lying unconscious on the edge of the Milk Ranch Road.

Steve stated the person was unresponsive and partially clothed. It was a very cold morning. Steve was able to ensure he was breathing and called 911. The paramedics and other emergency personnel responded and took the individual for proper medical care.

Hat's off to Big Steve!

CONTACT: Jeff Walters, (760) 932-5440

Annual Winter Snow meeting allows interagency information exchange – On Tuesday, November 5th, the Mono County Road Supervisors and the Acting PW Director Jeff Walters attended the annual Winter Snow Meeting. This is an annual meeting to clarify each agencies staffing and equipment levels as well as status of emergency shelter/trailers going into the coming winter. In attendance were representatives from the following agencies:

1. Caltrans
2. California Highway Patrol
3. The Town of Mammoth Lakes Fire Department, Police Department, and Public Works Department
4. Mono County Public Works Department and Sheriff
5. Mammoth Mountain operations

Here is an update from each agency in attendance:

Caltrans

1. The Gas Ex systems are ready to go in June Lake and Lee Vining
2. Caltrans will be applying a brine solution to the highway preceding storms. This is supposed to alleviate some of the snow/ice build-up as well as reduce the use of cinders on highway 395 "from Sherwin Grade to Bridgeport"
3. Staffing levels are close to what they were last year
4. Seasonal staff start in early December
5. Will issue "Essential Personnel Passes" again this year to all agency staff that are essential for opening roads and operating essential functions of their respective agencies
6. Road closures will be in affect at these locations during periods of intense snowfall and whiteout conditions:
 - a. Sherwin Grade

- b. HWY 395 North of HWY 203: Lee Vining, Bridgeport, State Line
- c. HWY 395 South of HWY 203: Bishop, Lone Pine, Olancha
7. During periods of intense snowfall Caltrans may escort public during a window of opportunity (weather dependent). This would be one trip in and one trip out of Mammoth Lakes
8. Will be requiring all cars to have chains in their vehicle even if they are driving a four-wheel-drive

CHP

1. Ready to go
2. Down three officers right now

Town Police

1. 41% less staff this year than last
2. No coverage 3am – 7am unless there is a significant issue/event
3. Cannot assist in chain control areas as in past years

Town Fire

1. No change to current service levels - Status Quo

Town Public Works (Road)

1. Status quo although have three vacancies they are trying to fill with no luck
2. There will be 6 flights in/out of Mammoth Airport on weekends./ Less during the week

Mammoth Mountain

1. No change
2. Looking forward to winter and hoping for a lot of snow/skiers

Mono County Sheriff

1. Status quo

Mono County Public Works

1. Status quo although have a vacancy to fill in Lee Vining and another coming up in Antelope Valley

Social Services

CalFresh program reductions - Over 500 people receiving CalFresh benefits in Mono County saw a reduction in their food stamp dollars beginning last Friday, when the temporary increase from federal economic stimulus dollars came to an end.

A temporary increase in CalFresh benefits was implemented in 2009 during the height of the economic recession, as a provision of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The increased benefits provided by this law expired November 1, 2013. A household of four receiving the maximum monthly benefit level of \$668 saw a decrease of \$36, or 5.4 percent.

Other types of assistance available for eligible CalFresh families include WIC food prescriptions and services, and IMACA food bank and commodities.

To learn more about these resources: Mono County Women Infants and Children (WIC) (760) 924-4610 and IMACA (760) 934-3343.

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763

Meals on Wheels - Beginning Monday, November 25th, our Tri-Valley seniors who are recipients of the Meals-on-Wheels (MOW) program will begin receiving meals prepared at the Bishop Senior Center. Currently, MOW recipients in the TriValley area receive a weekly delivery of five days worth of nutritious meals from the Walker Senior Center. Thanks to a cooperative partnership with Inyo County, Mono County Senior Services will purchase from the Bishop Senior Center kitchen a combination of hot and frozen meals for delivery to seniors three times per week. This will allow us to visit the homes of our seniors throughout the week, rather than just once weekly. We are grateful for this partnership that allows us to enhance services for our residents, while also helping to cut costs and preserve precious resources for our seniors.

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763

Welcome Rose! - Please help welcome new Mono County employee, Rose Martin. Rose is the newest member of the Child/Adult Welfare team in the Department of Social Services. Her office is located in the Sierra Center Mall.

Rose will serve as a Vocational Trainee/Assistant, where she will help to ensure the smooth flow of communication and transportation for our clients.



Thank you, Rose, for choosing to work with the County of Mono!

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763

Mono County Strengthening Families Team - Please consider joining the Mono County Strengthening Families Team. The mission of this local group is to introduce and implement the Protective Factors into Mono County agencies and community events. All are welcome!

The Protective Factors are:

1. Parental Resilience
2. Social Connections
3. Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
4. Concrete Support in Times of Needs
5. Children's Social and Emotional Competence

Overview of the Protective Factors:

"The Protective Factors are conditions in families and communities that, when present, increase the health and well-being of children and families. They are attributes that serve as buffers, helping parents who might otherwise be at risk of abusing their children to find resources, supports or coping strategies that allow them to parent effectively, even under stress."

From Strengthening Families and Communities <http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing>

Goals of Mono County Strengthening Families Team:

- Create opportunities to share the Protective Factors with agencies, parents and the community.
- Encourage agencies to adopt the Protective Factors to help create a common language amongst agencies.
- Build interagency collaboration.
- Provide tools for restructuring how we engage families.

For more information please contact Didi Tergeesen at dtergeesen@monocoe.org or (760)934-0031 x 109

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763

MANAGED CARE MEDI-CAL COMES TO MONO COUNTY - Effective November 1, 2013, the Governor's Budget expanded managed care Medi-Cal into rural counties that were Fee-For-Service (FFS) only, including Mono County. This expansion is designed to provide beneficiaries with care through an organized delivery system.

In managed care, a health plan provides services through established networks of doctors, clinics, specialists, pharmacies, and hospitals. When choosing a Medi-Cal Health Plan, Medi-Cal beneficiaries are required to choose a primary physician who coordinates care.

Some services will remain in the Fee-for-Service system, such as dental, mental health, alcohol and drug treatment services, and California children's services (CCS).

Approximately 900 Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Mono County have received notices explaining how these changes could affect them and whether they are required to choose a health plan. The plan choices are either Anthem Blue Cross or California Health and Wellness Plan. For those beneficiaries that did not choose a health plan by Nov. 1, a plan will be chosen for them. Those enrolled in a Medi-Cal Health Plan who want to choose another health plan for any reason may leave the health plan and join a different health plan.

For help with enrollment, call Social Services at (760) 924-1770 and ask for Nely Rodriguez.

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, 760/924-1763

IMACA HOLIDAY PROGRAMS - Every year at this time IMACA, as well as other local organizations, begins their holiday-related programs for low-income families. They provide meals for families and assist in providing gifts to their children. If you would like to contribute directly to the Holiday Food Basket (Thanksgiving and Christmas) efforts or to the Wish Tree program, which provides gifts for families with children 13 years of age or younger, please go to the IMACA website, www.imaca.net to make a direct contribution. For more information, call the local IMACA office at 760/934-3343 (Mammoth) or 760-873-8557 (Bishop). Help make this holiday season a wonderful one for all of our community.

CONTACT: Jill Paydon, IMACA (760) 873-8557 x23

Sheriff's Office

1. Undersheriff Weber and I had a meeting Thursday with Douglas County Sheriff Ron Pierini and his Undersheriff Paul Howell. We discussed issues such as current crime trends, staffing, custody issues, assisting each other's agency along with getting our current MOU with each other updated. Just for info, our K-9 trains with Douglas County K-9's on a routine basis.
2. Undersheriff Weber and I also had a meeting with the upper command staff members of all the Eastern Sierra Law Enforcement agencies on Friday to discuss various topics of concern which affect all of us.
3. Our office has been contacted by Mammoth High School to assist them, along with other local agencies, when they conduct an 'Every 15 Minute' program for their students. Our office gladly agreed as this program is a very valuable tool to teach the hazards of DUI. The first meeting for this will be in December with the program probably being held in the springtime. Our office has assisted with this program several times in the past, both with Mammoth High School along with Coleville High School.
4. **Behavioral Health sends "Shout out" for Deputy David Scobie** – On October 25th, Christina Caro of Behavioral Health shared with the Sheriff's Office her appreciation for Deputy Scobie's assistance with an individual needing services in June Lake on October 19th.

Deputy Scobie received high praise for his professionalism dealing with a difficult patient during a psychiatric emergency assessment and the staff of Mammoth Hospital, the patient's wife and Behavioral Health staff all were deeply grateful for the role he played during the issue.

CONTACT: Sheriff Ralph "OB" Obenberger, 760- 932-7549

REMINDER! -- New home for Mono County Search and Rescue to be dedicated on November 23rd! - On Saturday, November 23rd, 2013, the SAR Team would like to extend a welcome invitation to all of their generous donors, and all the members of the Mono County communities, to join them in their building dedication and open house from 11:00am to 3:00pm at 1315 Meridian Blvd in Mammoth Lakes.

CONTACT: Jennifer Hansen, (760) 932-5279

