

Animal Control

Neutering program available – Why neuter Rover? Most people can see the obvious of spaying a female dog – avoiding unwanted litters – but don't know the many medical and behavioral benefits of having their male dog neutered.

Neutered male dogs are healthier. They are less likely to develop prostate problems and testicular tumors. By eliminating most roaming and fighting, neutering reduces the risk of injury and infection, saving on your expensive veterinary bills.

Neutered dogs are more content and better behaved. Neutering reduces males dogs annoying and embarrassing habits with furniture and your neighbor's leg. Neutering reduces aggression against other animals as well as the male's tendencies to roam, jump fences and otherwise seek out female dogs. Through a safe and painless procedure, male dogs enhance their chances of loving a long, healthy life and will save their owners potential trouble and costs.

For more information of the neutering services, please refer people to Mono County Animal Control.

CONTACT: Angelle Nolan, (760) 932-5582

County Administrator's Office

Chalfant Valley RPAC Meeting – Supervisor Fred Stump, Garrett Higert, and I attended the Chalfant Valley RPAC meeting. Supervisor Stump updated the attendees on a number of county issues including the process for the installation of a new cell tower by AT&T (More details under Information Technology section below. Garrett provided an excellent overview of upcoming roadwork for Benton and Chalfant to the attendees.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Attended the County Administrative Officers of California Annual Meeting in Monterey – The most important topics remains the ongoing formula for distribution of AB109 funds, aka realignment. Rural counties continue to advocate for a fair share and want to ensure the continuation of minimum funding levels as we struggle with alternative treatment programs with limited community resources. Suburban and Rural counties face far larger prisoner populations, rural communities must remain vigilant to keep funding for the growing prisoner load and the sophistication of the type of prisoners.

PERS smoothing of formula changes will impact FY 2015-2016 by seeing increases up by 5% over the next three years.

Karen Keene, senior staff member at CSAC, provided a legislative update. Some of the highlights (or lowlights) from the session included:



2014 Water Bond – the 2009 water bond is back as an two \$5.5 Billion Bonds. CSAC has been working with authors of bills to get water storage language into measures. Unknown if it will end on the ballot in November 2014.

Williamson Act – Funding for subventions may return. CSAC working with Department of Finance on language to help restore this agricultural lands protection act.

Medical marijuana – Prior CSAC working group research is available and counties continue to struggle with establishing clear guidelines. Policy on siting authority and local land use for counties will be focus of CSAC efforts.

Cap and Trade Update – State Budget borrowed cap and trade funds meanwhile CSAC is working as part of a coalition to access those funds for local governments.

Tribal Gaming – CSAC is working with Senator Feinstein to reform fee to trust process in order to seek language to require greater county consultation as tribes look to remove fee lands for potential gaming options. Gaming Compacts due to expire in 2019 are already being re-negotiated by Governor to create greater land use role for counties.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Economic Development

Economic Development Update - Mono County fall color hotspots featured today on www.CaliforniaFallColor.com and local June Lake photographer, Tom O'Keefe, posted a great picture of Silver Lake last weekend.

China! Exposure for Mono County's fall season, June Lake, and the new Eastern Sierra Fall Color Map & Guide appeared in the latest issue of US Frontline, billed as the only national English-language newspaper in China. Chinese visitation to California continues to grow – China is the 4th largest overseas market for California, rivalling the UK and Australia -- and the average Chinese visitor spends \$6000 per trip (2011 Visit California statistics).

Bodie was featured in Yahoo Travel on Sept. 23 -- the direct result of our attendance at Visit California's Los Angeles Media Reception in September: <http://travel.yahoo.com/photos/9-spooky-ghost-towns-to-visit-this-fall-1379975114-slideshow/ghost-towns-rhyolite-photo-1379976375566.html#crsl=%252Fphotos%252F9-spooky-ghost-towns-to-visit-this-fall-1379975114-slideshow%252Fghost-towns-bodie-photo-1379976260738.html>

Fall Open House: Mono County Tourism & Film Commission is hosting its annual Fall Open House on Friday, November 8 at June Mountain's Mid-chalet. Invitations and agenda will be finalized today.

The consumer Travel/Fishing Tradeshow season kicks off in a couple of months -- here is where Mono County Tourism will be:

Tradeshow Schedule
2014 Location

January 9-12 International Sportsman's Expo - Sacramento
January 25-26 Bay Area Travel & Adventure Show -- Santa Clara
February 8-9 LA Times Travel & Adventure Show - Long Beach
March 5-9 Fred Hall Fishing Show - Long Beach
March 14-16 Reno Expo
March 22-23 San Diego Travel & Adventure Show
March 27-30 Fred Hall Fishing Show - San Diego

CONTACT: Alicia Vennos, (760) 924-1743

Information Technology

Digital 395 construction work on segment M122 (Round Mountain Road, behind Crowley Lake Dam) is nearing completion - All conduit and vaults have been placed and conduit is being tested this week. Restoration work is underway with target completion date of 10/25. Cable placement should be complete by the end of next week, with splicing following closely behind.

CONTACT: Nate Greenberg, (760) 924-1819

Cell Phone Tower Update - Supervisor Stump, Scott Burns, and myself have been working with AT&T on two cell coverage issues – one in Chalfant and the other in Crowley Lake. AT&T will be presenting their concept for a new tower in the community of Chalfant at the Chalfant Valley Fire Commissioner's meeting on 10/29. The County's efforts to improve AT&T coverage in Crowley are being met with some resistance from the company, but conversations about potential options continue. This is an ongoing issue and additional details will be forthcoming as the community is engaged by AT&T.

CONTACT: Nate Greenberg, (760) 924-1819

Public Health

Ryan White Staff Review - The Health department had a visit from the Ryan White program staff to review the FY 2012-13 grant. This is a program funded by the federal government that offers financial assistance and medical guidance for HIV positive residents of Mono County. It also funds HIV testing for all residents. There were no findings. Per Jackie Wilson, the Operations Advisor who made the trek to Mono County, "Staff is to be commended for their attention to detail, dedication to program and most importantly, caring for clients."

CONTACT: Lynda Salcido, (760) 924-1842

Flu Clinics Completed - The Health Department has completed all Mono County community flu clinics vaccinating over 1000 people thus far. Once again we collaborated with CERT for their assistance at the Mammoth and Crowley clinics and we much appreciate their involvement! In order to advertise for the clinics, we partnered with numerous community partners and agencies to get the word out. This proved to be a very effective form of advertising! We have also completed the flu clinics for Mammoth Unified School District with 450 students receiving vaccines. We will be holding clinics at all Eastern Sierra campuses in the coming weeks. To date, 72 Mono County employees have received the flu vaccine.

CONTACT: Lynda Salcido, (760) 924-1842

CalREDIE helping convert to electronic reporting - The Health Department is in the process of transitioning Mammoth Hospital from paper reporting to electronic communicable disease reporting through the award winning State portal CalREDIE. This process will improve mandated communicable disease reporting and investigation.

Public Health will be working with Mammoth Hospital over the next several months ensuring a successful transition and change in workflow.

CONTACT: Hillary Bayliss, (760) 924-1835

Public Works

Equipment sharing with Town continues - Public Works contacted the Town of Mammoth Lakes about sharing equipment. The Town requested use of the the County's snow pole straightener and the County wants use of the road striper. This past week we worked in conjunction with the Town's staff to stripe a portion of Crowley Lake Drive and Benton Crossing Road. This was a test to ensure this arrangement could work out in the future.

The MOU is being finalized thanks to efforts of Town's staff and County Counsel and should be completed soon.

CONTACT: Jeff Walters, (760) 932-5440

Sheriff's Office

Member of the Sheriff's team passes - Lt Phil West's long time Patrol Horse "Abby" passed away this past Saturday. Abby has been with Lt. West for over 20yrs and was his Law Enforcement Patrol Horse for over 17 years. Abby will surely be missed not by just Lt. West and his family but many more.

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

Mono Deputy takes top honors at completion handgun shoot - Back on Saturday Oct. 12th the Eastern Sierra Police Officers Association (ESPOA) had a competition handgun shoot and qualification for both current and retired law enforcement officers/deputies for all of the eastern sierra. This competition consisted of three separate courses of fire followed by a BBQ lunch. I am proud that one of our own, Deputy John Pelichowski took top honors! John beat out Bishop Chief of Police Chris Carter in a very close duel.

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

Enhanced security at Jail with new lock installation - Pushbutton combination locks were installed on the two gates in the jail rear yard area. This will enhance security around the facility. The combination will be the same as the locks on all Sheriff facility doors around the county. So if you are 'in the know' with that combination you are all set to gain access through the gate(s).

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

Inmate Work Crews continue to help county improve facilities – Inmate work crews are currently painting the entire inside of the jail facility and have completed approximately 50% of the job thus far. It is expected to be complete in next week or so. Also, Lt. Mike "Air" Booher met this week with Public Works staff to assist them in setting up rehab for the Mono Lake Cemetery and the Bridgeport Cemetery relating to issues caused by summer rains. Between these two locations, and with putting possibly (8) inmates on the details, it will take upwards of 300-350 man hours of labor to complete these jobs.

With these two items alone inmate work crews are saving the County a considerable amount of staff hours and labor costs as well as having meaningful activities during their incarceration. The Sheriff's Department is teaching and training inmate(s) in skills they might not have had knowledge prior to being in custody, and due to that some of the costs associated with the painting project (paint and supplies) are being covered by inmate welfare monies again saving the County money.

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

Overtime issue update – The Sheriff has extended an invitation to the Board for any additional information on the overtime issues. Staff can provide more information on the intricacies of scheduling, manpower needs, grant requirements, etc. that can affect overtime. The Sheriff's Department and staff want to ensure that all Board Members have all the information possible. Please contact this Jennifer Hansen, Undersheriff Weber or myself a call (or email) and we can set up a follow up meetings.

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

Deputy Sheriff trainee Chris Sergeiff resigned his employment for personal reasons. We will attempt to fill this position as soon as possible as we still have a current hiring list.

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

REMINDER! -- New home for Mono County Search and Rescue to be dedicated on November 23rd! - The Mono County Sheriff Search and Rescue (SAR) Team, over the past several years, have been working very hard in fundraising efforts to build a permanent building and permanent "home" for the team. The SAR Team, besides the thousands of countless volunteer hours spent in the field helping those in need, also does thousands of hours of training to keep their skills fresh. The team has vehicles, snowmobiles, and other equipment that help make their volunteer time more effective to those victims they serve. Even though the team has been fortunate to always have a place to "store" equipment, and other facilities which to house their trainings, the team has never actually had their own "home".



With their successful fundraising efforts, the generous land use by the Mammoth Community Water District, and all the generous donations they received (over \$850,000), the SAR Team is proud to

announce that their new "home" is complete! The dream of finally having a home base in which to operate this team of dedicated volunteers has come true!

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.**

Please join the team rain, snow, or shine for this major accomplishment! The team will be hosting tours of the new building and training center, along with demonstrations of their equipment. The team could not have been successful in meeting this goal and accomplishment without the kindness and generosity of those within and beyond Mono County and it is time to celebrate together!

CONTACT: Jennifer Hansen, (760) 932-5279