



## Animal Control

**Rescued horse thriving thanks to Animal Control action** – In April of this year, Animal Control staff working with the District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office and the then owners of horse named Kendall and Star (pictured left) rescued these two horses to ensure their health and welfare. Rather than go through a seizure process, the owners were worked with to do what was right for the horses.

Thanks to the great work of Angelle Nolan, Will Clayton, Wade McCammond, Elizabeth Haakana and Lt. Phil West, Kendall and Star were surrendered by the owners and transported for treatment and ultimately found new homes.



Animal Control Officer Will Clayton took the initiative after the horses came into County care and found them a home quickly. As the picture shows, these horses are healthy and are being well cared for.

Contact: Angelle Nolan, (760) 932-5582

## Board of Supervisors

**Vice Chair Tim Fesko speaks at Carson Kiwanis** – Mono County Board of Supervisors Vice Chair and 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor Tim Fesko is seen here after attending and presenting to the Carson Valley Kiwanis Club. Vice Chair Fesko, seen in picture with Larry Offenstien of the Kiwanis Club of Carson Valley, spoke about the economic benefits of the eastern Sierra ATV and UTV jamboree. The event is benefit to both California and Nevada as the antelope valley is a bi state valley.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Eastern Sierra Broadband Consortium special guest Sunne McPeak** – Vice Chair Tim Fesko, Supervisor Tim Alpers, Economic Development Director Alicia Vennos, Jeff Simpson and Stacie Klemm and I attended a special meeting of the Eastern Sierra Broadband



Consortium on Thursday July 31<sup>st</sup>. the 35 person meeting was a round table convened by Sunne McPeak, Executive Director of the California Emerging Technology Fund, who was there to see how they can help Mono, Inyo and Kern Counties all best access the true potential of the Digital 395 network.

Supervisor Fesko and Supervisor Alpers both presented information on the ways in which Mono County will be looking to the Digital 395 Deployment as a means for strengthening our community through many different efforts. There was great interest around the idea of becoming a Gigabit community, which would give our communities access to information and resources currently unavailable.

IT Director Nate Greenberg sits on the Eastern Sierra Broadband Consortium and has been working with many departments and other jurisdictions to maximize this resource for all communities. Thanks to everyone's hard work, Mono County is clearly a leader in the nation by having access and supporting this project and can now take advantage of the strongest broadband backbone on the planet.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

## **Community Development**

**Main Street design workshops** – Funded by a federal scenic byway grant, consultant Opticos presented Main Street design workshops with local businesses Monday & Tuesday in Walker, and Wednesday & Friday in June Lake. The workshops focused on improvements to enhance storefronts and economic vitality of communities along US 395 corridor. Big thanks to Sefan Pellegrini, Melia West, Gerry Le Francois, project coordinator Courtney Weiche, and supervisors Alpers and Fesko for making these workshops successful.

**Benton/Hammil RPAC** – At its Monday meeting, the RPAC received a presentation on economic development strategies by Alicia Vennos and Jeff Simpson, and information on the General Plan update, including development credits, from Brent Calloway. CAO Jim Leddy provided a budget update, and Supervisor Stump discussed county matters, including the latest on West-Wide Energy Corridors.

**Collaborative Planning Team** – At Thursday's quarterly meeting, federal, state and local agency representatives received reports on Yosemite's Tuolumne and Merced river plans by Kathleen Morse. Jeff Ulrich provided an update on Humboldt-Toiyabe Forest Plan Amendment, addressing sage grouse policies; Steve Abele of US Fish & Wildlife Service announced a new 30-day comment period on sage grouse listing starting Aug. 5; Wendy Sugimura and Steve Nelson of BLM provided an update on the Local Area Working Group sage grouse preservation efforts; and Jeff Hunter of Bodie Conservation Partnership introduced a concept of a national monument for the Bodie Hills. Other items included a presentation by Stefan Pellegrini of Opticos Consulting on Highway 395 national scenic byway planning and design efforts, and update by Steve Nelson on West-Wide Energy Corridor in Tri-Valley vicinity that he will be discussing further with Supervisor Stump. Lesley Yen of USFS/Inyo briefed the CPT on the Inyo Forest Plan update.

CONTACT: CD Ritter, (760) 924.1804

## County Administrator's Office

**County Passes Trindel Evaluation for 5<sup>th</sup> time in a row!!** - We received notification this week that we **PASSED** our 2013/2014 Trindel Insurance Fund, Annual Loss Prevention Evaluation for the 5<sup>th</sup> time in a row! Not only does this mean we get a refund, but also that we have continued efforts to ensure we provide a safe workplace for ALL our employees.

We want to thank the staff who participated in the interviews for their time and willingness; Steve Amundson, Gerald Frank, Kirk Hartstrom and Walt Lehmann – you were a big part of this result. We would also like to thank the departments for their continued efforts to comply with regular monthly safety meetings. Let's keep working together to make Mono County a safe workplace.

CONTACT: Sarah Messerlian, (760) 932-5405

**North County Employee Round Table** – Thursday August 7<sup>th</sup> in Bridgeport memorial Hall – Come on over for an early morning coffee and some donuts with the CAO to discuss any issues you would like to raise!

**South County Employee Round Table** – Thursday August 14<sup>th</sup> – at the Board of Supervisors Chambers – 8:30 to 9:30 am! Come on by. This time may need shifting in future months as we have Planning Commission at 10:00am in same room and some of our Planning staff are unable to attend as they are up in BP for the Planning Commission meeting. Let's discuss on August 14<sup>th</sup>!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**The Strategic Plan moving forward!** – Thank you to the 15 attendees of the July 24<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee. The next Meeting for the Steering Committee is August 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at Lee Vining Community Center. We spent nearly three hours on one page but it was great needed work! Next time the next page!

Next meeting of Steering Committee and schedule is as follows:

- **August 7<sup>th</sup>**
- **August 21<sup>st</sup>**
- **September 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **September 11<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you again for your participation.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Ambassador and Leadership Training on July 29<sup>th</sup>** – 15 people attended the Ambassadors Training on July 29<sup>th</sup> – Thank you to those who participated. On August 7<sup>th</sup> at Steering Committee we will be reviewing the next steps for employee outreach and continuing work on the Draft Strategic Plan outline. The commitment of our employees to this effort is amazing and thank you to everyone who is spending time on developing this effort!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510



**California State Association of Counties Provides brief run down on the end of Legislative Session bills**

– Attached with this Update is the CSAC review of the end of session activities. Sacramento always finds ways to keep counties on their toes with last minute fun...

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Economic Development**

**Mono County Honored *again* for State Fair entry** – Mono County has won the People’s Choice Award at the California State Fair. This new award is in addition to the three Awards won last month including a Gold Award, and two blue ribbons. This now means (drum roll....) Mono County has won more awards than any County in the State for our State Fair exhibit. Over 800,000 people visit the state fair and the marketing and tourist impact of our presence is calculable.

CONTACT: Alicia Vennos, (760) 924-1743

**Tourism:**

- Mammoth Festival of Beers & Bluesapalooza is happening THIS WEEKEND! Make sure to swing on by Sam’s Woodsite in Mammoth Lakes to enjoy good beer, great music and friendly folks!
- Next Mono County Tourism Commission meeting is scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup> in the Sierra Center Mall in Mammoth Lakes, CA at 10:00 am
- The El Portal Fire continues to burn but all major roads to Yosemite, including 120 E, remain open at this time. For the most current updates, visit Yosemite National Park’s Facebook page or <http://www.nps.gov/yose/blogs/Yosemite-Fire-Update-August-1-2014-as-of-7-00AM.htm> Currently the fire is 4,198 acres and is 58% contained. Always make sure to check road conditions before heading in Yosemite National Park.

**PR/ Advertising/ News:**

- There is a wonderful two page article on Mono Lake and the many species that call it home. The piece, titled A Phalarope Ballet (PDF attached), is wonderfully written and highlights the bird migratory patterns that come through the Mono Lake Basin area.

**Film Commission:**

- Potential international documentary on water use and issues within the state of California coming to film in various areas of Mono County including Mono Lake, Bodie and some private land. A brief description of the film is below;  
*“Established and run by Sam Branson (son to Richard Branson), Sundog Pictures has built a reputation for making leading TV programmes such as the BBC series Inside Edinburgh Airport and feature documentaries like Breaking the Taboo: The War On Drugs (voiced by Morgan Freeman and featuring interviews with former Presidents Clinton and Carter). As well as*

*branded documentaries for globally recognized companies including Virgin Galactic and Jaguar Land Rover.*

*Sundog Pictures are now in production on a feature documentary about the global population debate, directed by Emmy, BAFTA and Academy Award nominated filmmaker James Brabazon. Within the 90 minutes we aim to explore various different issues relating to population, the key being how we currently feed and water the world's population and how we will cope in 2050, when it reaches a staggering 10 billion. To do this we will be filming in 8 countries (China, Kenya, India, Mexico, US etc.) across the next 7 months, demonstrating how internationally, everyone's needs for food and water are interdependent and inextricably linked.*

*We are coming out to the US in a week and a half to film the first part of the documentary, which will demonstrate California's contribution to the global food chain. It will also explore what scarcity issues across the state and the short and long term implications this will have on both agriculture and the local community."*

### **Economic Development:**

- Economic Development presentations are wrapping up- department had a great turn out at the Benton RPAC/Community meeting on Monday, July 28th. After all the community presentations have concluded, there will be a comprehensive (yet easy) survey sent to all community members and business owners with the Economic Development Strategies and the priorities that they feel are most important to their communities.

### **Social Media:**

- Facebook pages for Tourism and Economic Development are hitting record highs with likes and visits to the page. Each week we are seeing increases and continue to have great engagement!
- We have launched our Instagram page and it is doing well. However, we always want more friends and photos! Follow us @ VisitEasternSierra and use any of the following hash tags to join in the conversation and share the beauty of the Eastern Sierra! #monocounty #easternsierra #wildbynature #adventure

**CONTACT:** Liz Erdelyi, (760) 924-1738

## **Public Health**

### **HAZmat incident in Bridgeport sees great response from multiple agencies and county departments -**

Last Saturday, contingents of Mono County first responders were called into action for a hazardous material spill, just south of Bridgeport. Responders included Mono County EMS, Environmental Health, Sheriff's Dept. and Haz-Mat team, in conjunction with CHP, Bridgeport Fire, Lee Vining Fire, Mammoth Fire, MWTC Fire, and Careflight.

Incident command was initiated on the southern end of the spill, with a second team stationed on the northern end. Mono Counties Haz-Mat team made three entrances into the hot zone, which included personal protective gear for each member. A



decontamination zone was utilized after each entrance, and the spill was for the most part neutralized during the third entrance, with the remainder being cared for by a professional haz mat cleanup crew from out of the area. Hats off to our very own haz mat crew member, Paramedic Teddy Shepard, for his response and professionalism during the event. A majority of the responders were local volunteers, so please take the time to say “ thanks” to your local fire department personnel, and remember the phrase, “volunteer,” Where would we be without them? Stay Safe, Rob

CONTACT: Rob De Forrest, (760) 924-1832



### Sheriff's Office

1. There was a Hazardous Chemical Spill (leakage) on hwy 395 south of Bridgeport on Saturday morning. Multiple agencies responded with an Incident Command initiated. Hwy 395 was closed with a voluntary evacuation done for the Evans Tract. Two deputies were exposed as was the driver, all were transported to Mammoth Hospital for evaluation. Hwy 395 was closed most of the day with detours being routed through Nevada. Jennifer Hansen received a ‘thank you’ from Caltrans for her work and assistance with the PIO part of this operation. An after action meeting is being set up by CHP Sgt. West for next week.

CONTACT:"OB", Sheriff Ralph Obenberger, (760) 932-5279

