



## **Behavioral Health**

**Mono County Probation honors Behavioral Health staff member** – On Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, Mono County Probation Department awarded Rich Bonneau with a Service Medal for his excellence in providing treatment to Mono County probationers and AB109 clients.

Rich has worked with the Probation Department combining his treatment expertise and keen ability to work with clients/probationers regarding reintegrating into society and reducing recidivism. Rich was honored by the probation department for his outstanding service, flexibility and for being the bridge between our two departments to being more treatment to our probationers.

CONTACT: Robin K. Roberts, (760) 924-1740

## **Community Development**

**Grouse Comments Submitted** – Thanks to a team effort led by Wendy Sugimura, and including contributions from Brent Calloway, Courtney Weiche, Gerry Le Francois, Nick Criss, Garrett Higerd, Peter Kobylarz, and Tony Dublino, an in-depth response to the proposed sage grouse listing was reviewed and approved Tuesday by the BOS. The comment letter reiterates the Board's opposition to the listing and provides a point-by-point challenge to many of the proposed listing conclusions.

**June Lake CAC** – At Tuesday's meeting, the CAC received a report from June Mountain's Greg Dallas on the status of operations at June Mountain. Supervisor Alpers provided an update on the BOS actions of the day, Alice Suzynski provided an overview of gateway sign efforts, and Ralph Lockhart previewed the upcoming June Lake Winter Festival. Associate Planner Courtney Weiche also presented a brief review of transportation policies.

**Antelope Valley RPAC** – At Thursday's meeting, the RPAC received an in-depth report from Bruce Woodworth and Hal Curti on the status of the Walker River water purchase and lease program. Gerry Le Francois provided an overview of the draft Housing Element update prepared by Brent Calloway. Supervisor Fesko presented an update on BOS matters, including the budget, sage grouse, frogs and toads.

CONTACT: CD Ritter, 760-924-1804

## **County Administrator's Office**

**Coffee with the CAO returns!** There was a quarterly meeting the CAO would host that would be an informal gathering for employees and the CAO. These meetings allowed employees to meet and discuss any issues of the day as well as get information or ask questions about the County. After hearing from some employees, we are re-launching this in an enhanced format to increase opportunities to meet and talk about any issues of the day. Tip o' the Fez to Don Nunn and Supervisor Fesko who both suggested a return to this type of format and it is a great idea!

Rather than quarterly, I will be starting a monthly time to come together. Also, I will have this meeting both in north and south county.

Starting March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and continuing on the first Thursday of every month at Memorial Hall from 8:00 am to 9:00 am and the first Friday of every month in Mammoth at the Board of Supervisors Chambers from 8:00 am to 9:00am we can come together. I hope you can attend.

In addition to this, please know that I am happy to meet with anyone to discuss any issues facing our County, so if you cannot make the new monthly meeting or want to meet one on one, call, email, text or reach out by whatever means possible. **Note: Telepathy tends not to work due to my thick skull!** For those folks who can't make it due to duties let me know and I will swing by the office.

Increasing and improving our communication is an ongoing effort and I appreciate your willingness to participate.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Strategic Planning Steering Committee has increasing turn out** – On Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Lee Vining Community Center over 30 staff members turned out to lend their efforts to helping design the kick off and planning process for the launch of the Strategic Plan. Virtually all departments had employees and management in the room. As we are building a ground up process the continued involvement by employees is much appreciated! We are getting closer to a date for the all employee kick off and planning to plan sometimes takes longer than planning but this is the needed investment of time that will ensure that the ultimate Mono County Strategic Plan is not a sit on the shelf binder but a living, breathing and guiding document that represents all employees efforts top build a stronger County.

The next meeting will be February 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm to 6:30 pm at the Lee Vining Center. Please feel free to attend.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Mono Lake Park Swings fixed thanks to great customer service by Public Works** – Last week we received a concern about Gus Hess Park in Lee Vining and the swing heights. A Thank you to the quick response by Joe Blanchard and the Public works staff for responding and addressing the issue.

We received the great follow up email from the constituent:

*“Thank you all so much for your prompt attention to extending the swing chains at mono lake co park. My children and countless others (incl my husband, now he won't have to jump up to get on the swings) will greatly appreciate it.  
Sincerely,*

*Danielle Dublino”*

Great work, Facilities!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Drought briefing being hosted by California State Association of Counties (CSAC)** - CSAC is co-sponsoring an important briefing on the California drought in Sacramento on the morning of Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Please see the attachment (attached to email of Board Update) for details about attending the “2014 Drought Briefing – Impacts and Actions: What You Need to Know.” If you can’t make it to Sacramento that day, the program will also be available as a webcast.

Please see the link below for registration details. You’ll get the webcast information when you register.  
<http://acwa.eventready.com/events/2014drought>

CONTACT: Gregg Fishman, Communications Coordinator CSAC (916) 327-7500 ext. 516

## **Probation**

**High Risk Probationers swept** - At the request of the Chief of Probation and in collaboration with Mono County Sheriff’s Office, on January 31, 2014, a sweep of High Risk probationers was conducted in north county to include Coleville, Bridgeport and Antelope Valley areas.

The completion of the searches was successful despite the poor road conditions (one officer driving a Subaru to Bridgeport slid off the road and required assistance) that delayed the start until shortly after 10:00 am. Probation and Sheriff officers visited ten (10) houses. Searches were conducted of seven houses. Seven (7) Drug or Alcohol tests were administered.

Only two homes did not have anyone home. One person was found violating their probation by drinking and possessing alcohol. No arrest and no one was taken into custody. The Sherriff’s Office provided three deputies and MONET. The teams covered a great deal of north county and the sweep was completed at 5:00 p.m.

A sweep is planned for south county for high risk offenders in the very near future. While Probation officers conduct home visits, sweeps allow for probation and law enforcement to cover more homes by teaming together to complete searches and administering drug and alcohol testing. This successful sweep is indicative of the positive effects of increased community supervision by probation staff as seen in an increase in compliance with probation terms and conditions.

CONTACT: Chief Karin Humiston, (760) 932-5572



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## **Public Health**

**Influenza update** - California continues to see widespread and high levels of influenza activity. In the last reporting week, there were 52 deaths under the age of 65, with 44 more under investigation. So far this year, there have been 147 confirmed deaths in California. Last year, for the entire flu season, there were 106 deaths. Four of the deaths this year have been in children, but the hardest hit age groups continue to be young and middle-aged persons. Sacramento has been particularly hard hit, with 21 deaths so far under the age

of 65. Ninety-one additional persons are currently requiring ICU care, as the flu makes the immune system turn on itself and fills the lungs with fluid.

***In Mono County, we have had no deaths, and no further hospitalizations.*** The levels of flu like illness reported from the Mammoth Hospital Emergency Department and Sierra Park Clinics. (Family Medicine and Pediatrics) is still near epidemic thresholds, where it has been now for the last 5 weeks. Nationally, levels of flu seem to be at a plateau, especially in the Southeast where it first started. However, most of the country is still experiencing widespread and high levels of activity, which is expected to continue for some time.

Most influenza-positive specimens identified in California during the 2013–2014 influenza season are influenza A; of the influenza A viruses subtyped, most are 2009 A (H1N1) viruses. The H1N1 strain appears to be the predominant strain so far this flu season and is one that is contained in the current flu vaccine. Of the specimens tested this season nationwide, 99.9% match components in the 2013-2014 influenza vaccine. So, the vaccine is essentially a perfect match for circulating strains.

Those at highest risk - the elderly, pregnant women, infants, or those with other health conditions such as obesity, heart disease, and high blood pressure - who show flu symptoms should contact their physician immediately in order to get the most effective treatment. Symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches and fatigue.

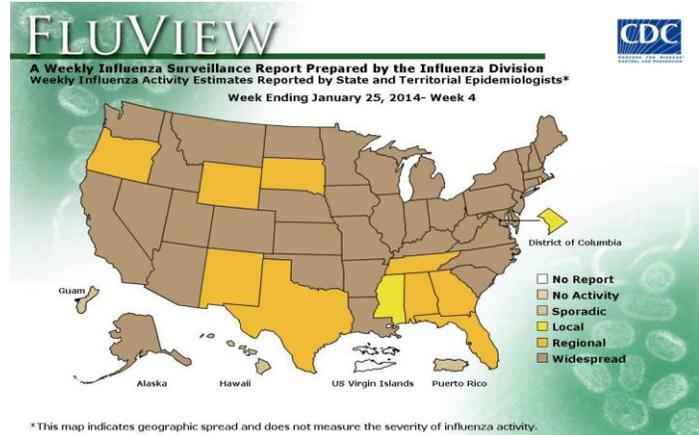
Once again we urge all persons over 6 months of age to get vaccinated, because it is the best defense against influenza. Particularly, those who are young or middle-aged should get vaccinated immediately, as this age group is being hit hard. It is not too late! Influenza vaccine remains available through healthcare providers, pharmacies, and the Health Department.

CONTACT: Dr. Richard O. Johnson, M.D., MPH, (760) 914-0496

## **Public Works**

**Roads getting Public Works attention even with lack of snow** - The Road Division of Public Works has been busy with many projects including crack sealing. Applying crack sealer helps to preserve the road, improves the “feel” as you drive on the pavement and minimizes water from working its way under the road surface. The following roads have had crack sealer applied during the cool winter days (which is the best time to apply this material):

- Lower Rock Creek Road
- Crowley Lake Drive
- Eastside Lane



The following road is scheduled to have crack sealer applied:

Benton Crossing Road

CONTACT: Jeff Walters, (760) 932-5459

**Walker Career Center sees needed improvements** - The Facilities division recently completed two small projects one at the Walker Career Center designed to improve security as well as the overall look of the room. The work was completed by Facilities resident master craftsman **John Hauter** who did a great job making the finished product look great. This Social Services project was grant funded.

Additionally, Annex I was having problems with the coil on the Boiler system which required a system shutdown and repair of the coil. It should be noted that a coil failure equals no heat! So, Jason Davenport our resident boiler expert completed this work after hours and had the system operating and up to temperature on Monday morning when the employee's returned.

CONTACT: Joe Blanchard, (760) 932-5443

## Social Services

**Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging (ESAAA) Looking to Fill Advisory Council Vacancies** - ESAAA is currently recruiting to fill Advisory Council Member vacancies on the ESAAA Advisory Council. The council is actively seeking participation from Mono County residents. The Advisory Committee provides

advice and consultation on issues affecting the provision of services provided locally to older individuals. Meetings are held quarterly, three of which are held in locations throughout Inyo County and one in Mono County. If you are interested in becoming a member, please complete the attached *Letter of Interest* form, and fax to Gina Ellis at Fax: (760) 873-6505.

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, 760/924-1763 or Gina Ellis, Inyo HHS (760) 873-3305

## Sheriff's Office

1. Staff attended an 'Every 15 minute' meeting for the program that will be handled in Mammoth Lakes in the spring.
2. The Sheriff attended the California State Sheriff's Association Board Meeting. Sheriff's from across the State met with Governor Brown most of the afternoon. In addition, there were discussions with the FBI, Secret Service, BSCC, POST, Calif. Police Chiefs, and several others. Good information was obtained relating to a variety of topics.

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

