



## Animal Control

**Animal Control rescues baby Mountain Lion** – The Animal Control crew rescued a baby Mountain Lion and safely transported it to the hands of state officials. Unfortunately, the CAO was not allowed to adopt it. Check out a video of the lion here: <http://youtu.be/imTgRUSe0s0>

CONTACT: Angelle Nolan, (760) 932-5582

## Community Development

**June Lake CAC** – At Tuesday’s meeting, the June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee met under difficult circumstances with the recent loss of its long-time Chairman BZ Miller. Brief comments and thoughts were shared regarding BZ’s leadership; his contributions to Mono County and its citizens; and the enormous impact his passing will have on the community. Jim Leddy read an eloquent letter of tribute from Supervisor Alpers, shared his own personal thoughts, and shared Board comments from earlier in the day, including the adjournment of the BOS meeting in BZ Miller’s honor. It was announced that a **service for BZ Miller is scheduled for 1:00 pm, this Saturday on June Mountain.**

The JLCAC received an enlightening presentation on the 2014-15 assessment roll from assessor Bob Musil, a trials committee report from Jill Starks, an overview of the Inyo Forest Plan Revision from Deb Schweizer and an update on June Lake events from Ralph Lockhart. Paul McCahon reported on the fuel reduction program, and Carl Williams announced that the June Mountain Ski Area is scheduled to open in December with the intention of continuing its operation and management initiatives from last year, including kids 12 and under skiing for free. Carl also announced efforts to collaborate with the June Lake PUD and the Rodeo Grounds property owner in conducting a joint water basin study for the June Lake Area. Alice Suszynski reported on gateway sign progress, and Courtney Weiche provided an update on community planning matters, including the status of the Hwy 395 scenic byway study.

**Antelope Valley RPAC** – At Thursday’s meeting, Supervisor Fesko provided a Supervisor’s report, Doug Power gave an update on Mountain Warfare Training Center activities, and the Mountain Gate projects status was reviewed by Arden Gerbig. An update report was provided on Humboldt-Toiyabe Forest operations by Jeff Ulrich, and Gerry LeFrancois reviewed the proposed resource efficiency plan, provided an update on the main street design process, and discussed possible trail plan additions.

CONTACT: Scott Burns, (760) 932-5423

## County Administrator’s Office

**June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee** – On Tuesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>, CAO attended the JLCAC and read a letter penned by 3<sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor Tim Alpers. Tragically, BZ Miller, long time Chair and even longer term active citizen of June Lake was killed in a freak accident. The attendees of the meeting shared their heartfelt tribute and appreciation of BZ. There will be a Memorial Service on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at June Mountain. It will be from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Arrive early to be taken up the hill by Chair lift.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Sierra Nevada Conference brings many visitors to Bridgeport and Mono County** – Thank you to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, on which sits our own Supervisor Byng Hunt, for bringing their annual meeting to Mono County. The group held their annual meeting in Bridgeport and offered tours for their Board and community leaders from across Mono County. They also had a great reception on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> which the CAO and Supervisor Hunt attended along with Tony Dublino, Scott Burns and the staff of SNC along with their Board.

Secretary of Natural Resources for the State of California, John Laird attended the reception and appreciated all that Mono County had to offer.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**CSAC provides end of session video**- CSAC Executive Director Matt Cate has produced the following YouTube video to summarize the end of the State legislative Session. Also, attached to the Board Update is the write up from CSAC's staff on some issues that impact counties.

Watch the video at: [http://youtu.be/izghA3 -Nog](http://youtu.be/izghA3-Nog)

CONTACT: David Liebler, (916) 327-7500 Ext 530

**September North County Employee Roundtable** – Thank you to the 15 folks who attending the September 5<sup>th</sup> Roundtable. We met over at Annex 3 and touched upon Budget, North County office re-organization ideas and the ongoing efforts to address employee commute questions.

**Reminder for next week** – **September South County Employee Roundtable** – Thursday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am at Board of Supervisors Chambers in Sierra Center Mall! Coffee and donuts always a staple!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**The Strategic Plan moving forward!** – Thank you to the 10 who attended the Ambassador Prep session. Some of our ambassadors had last minute obligations so we will complete final training on September 18<sup>th</sup> in Lee Vining. We reviewed the material which will be sent out to employees prior to the Ambassadors coming to a department staff meeting near you. These sessions will be both for those who attended May 1<sup>st</sup> and those that missed that event.

These ambassador visits will be your opportunity to add in thoughts to the draft plan. Stay Tuned!

Thank you again for your participation.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Budget available online** – The FY 2014-2015 is now available online at:

[http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/auditor\\_-\\_controller/page/3210/fy\\_2014-15\\_proposed\\_final\\_budget.pdf](http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/auditor_-_controller/page/3210/fy_2014-15_proposed_final_budget.pdf)

This document will be the focus of the September 16<sup>th</sup> Budget hearing at the Board of Supervisors meeting in Mammoth and currently reflects every effort to balance our resources with our service needs. The discussion on the 16<sup>th</sup> will focus on any changes which can be made if additional resources become available.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy (707) 529-4510 or Leslie Chapman, (707) 932-5494

## **Economic Development**

**Fall Colors** are starting to brighten up the landscape and our visitors are hungry for photos and updates. We would greatly appreciate current photo submissions from everyone -- Board members, county staff, residents -- from all districts through the end of October in order to provide the best possible county-wide info and to help increase visitation in the slower shoulder season. We will ensure photo credit is acknowledged! Once again we are working



closely with [www.CaliforniaFallColor.com](http://www.CaliforniaFallColor.com) – check it out to see our first report of the season. Feel free to share photos via Facebook, Instagram or by sending it via email to either Alicia at [avennos@mono.ca.gov](mailto:avennos@mono.ca.gov) or Liz at [eerdelyi@mono.ca.gov](mailto:eerdelyi@mono.ca.gov).

**2015 Eastern Sierra Visitor Guide** – We are beginning the process of editing and revising our annual Mono County Visitor Guide. All feedback appreciated! Please scroll through the online version (click here: <http://bit.ly/1reM8wk>) and

submit any comments and suggestions to [avennos@mono.ca.gov](mailto:avennos@mono.ca.gov).

**Local Events are a plenty!** Make sure you get out and enjoy the local events happening this weekend.

- **Fall Century and Grand Fondo** – Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, The Village at Mammoth Lakes [www.fallcentury.org/](http://www.fallcentury.org/)
- **Benton Hot Springs 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration** – Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, Benton [www.historicbentonhotsprings.com/](http://www.historicbentonhotsprings.com/)



- **Free Fishing Day in Mono County** - Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, Mono County (all rules & regulations apply, just no need to purchase a license!)
- **Friends of the Inyo Trails Day** – Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, Virginia Lakes – meet at 9am at the Virginia Lakes Trailhead to help clean & protect an Eastern Sierra gem!
- **Hop’n’Sage Festival** – Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, Mammoth Brewing Company  
[www.mammothbrewingco.com/events](http://www.mammothbrewingco.com/events)
- **Tioga Pass Run** – Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Lee Vining/ Tioga Pass  
[www.monolake.org/visit/tiogapassrun](http://www.monolake.org/visit/tiogapassrun)
- **Whoa Nelli Deli Concert Series** - Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Tioga Gas Mart, Lee Vining  
[www.whoanelliedeli.com/](http://www.whoanelliedeli.com/)

CONTACT: Liz Erdelyi, (760) 924-1738

## **Probation**

**Probation staff attends the Tri-County Fair** – Mono County had five Probation Officers for three days at the fair. Their presence helps ensure that both probationers attending are on good behavior as well as provide networking with other agencies present. Many public agencies have booths at the fair to raise awareness of services. Probation will consider this next year.

The Probation crew is in this picture doing their version YMCA (actually spelling MONO)

CONTACT: Karin Humiston, (760) 932-5570



## **Public Health**

**CSA 1 offers many different classes for community – Yoga – Ukulele – ESL – Nordic Dryland – AED/CPR all available** -Attached with the Board Update is the fliers for the upcoming classes. They provide tremendous opportunities to build skills and have greater activity!

CONTACT: Isabel S. Connolly, (760) 935-4089

## **Public Works**

**The Mono City Emergency Access Road is nearing completion** - Three push-able gates have been installed, signs have been installed, reclamation work has been completed, and a short section of road was constructed as per plan. Public Works is waiting for BLM to provide the final design of the paved

road apron at highway 167. Once that has been determined the apron can be constructed and would finish the project. In the meantime the road is currently operational should there be an emergency requiring its use.

CONTACT: Jeff Walters, (760) 932-5459

## **Social Services**

**VA Expands Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) Contracts to Provide Access to Primary Care – (Press Release from the Inyo-Mono Veterans Services office)** -- The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced that primary care has been added to the services available to Veterans through VA's Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) contracts, a key and evolving part of the non-VA medical care program. Eligible Veterans are already able to access inpatient specialty care, outpatient specialty care, mental health care, limited emergency care and limited newborn care for female Veterans following childbirth under PC3.

This modification supports [VA's Accelerated Care Initiative](#), helping to move Veterans off of waitlists and into care. Additionally, reduced commuting standards will require that contracted providers schedule appointments closer to the Veterans' homes. The initial PC3 contracts were awarded in September 2013 to Tri-West and HealthNet and have been used as part of the non-VA medical care program to purchase care in the community.

VA Medical Centers have the ability to purchase non-VA medical care for Veterans through contracted medical providers when they cannot readily provide the needed care due to geographic inaccessibility or limited capacity. This additional option is available to purchase non-VA medical care when required Veteran care services are unavailable within the VA medical facility, or when Veterans benefit from receiving the needed care nearer to their homes. In addition, VA is reviewing how PC3 may be used to help implement the newly enacted Veterans Choice, Access, and Accountability Act of 2014.

Eligible veterans VA primary care provider **MUST** request the care at a non-VA facility or healthcare provider based on lack of available specialists, long wait times, **geographic inaccessibility** or other factors. The care would only be for service(s) and number of visits described on the authorization. If follow-up appointments or procedures outside of the original authorization are requested by the non-VA provider a new authorization **MUST** be requested and authorized to be paid for by the VA.

Non-VA facility acceptance of authorization is agreement to accept VA payment as payment in full. They may not bill the veteran or any other party for any portion of the care authorized by the VA. Prescriptions will be filled by the VA and may only be filled by a non-VA pharmacy to obtain a 10-day supply when the medication is needed promptly to treat an emergent or urgent medical condition. VA will not reimburse for any medications that are not on the VA national formulary listing. If a prescription for a medical device or appliance is requested, it will be supplied or ordered by VA staff based on veteran's eligibility.

CONTACT: Veteran Service Office at 760-873-7850 or [icvso@inyocounty.us](mailto:icvso@inyocounty.us)

**Inmate Medi-Cal Program** - Currently, counties absorb 100 percent of the healthcare costs of county inmates. Depending on the health of inmates, this can cost counties thousands of dollars annually. The

Voluntary Medi-Cal County Inmate reimbursement programs allow for the claiming of federal funds for various hospital services provided to Medi-Cal eligible inmates. Federal law prohibits claiming Medicaid (called Medi-Cal in California) funds for healthcare services provided to inmates residing *in* correctional facilities. This prohibition does not apply when an inmate receives services at a medical facility **located off the grounds of the correctional facility** if the service provided is included in the State's Medicaid Plan and the inmate is Medicaid eligible.

While the legislation allowing for the Medi-Cal County Inmate reimbursement programs has been on the books for some time, counties in California are still awaiting the State of California to finalize claiming protocols so that claiming may begin. Once that occurs, Mono County can start claiming, and claims will be processed *retroactively* to 2010 for eligible adult jail inmates and retro to 2012 for juveniles.

**The Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Justice-Involved Populations** - Community Oriented Correctional Health Services (COCHS) has produced a **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)** document addressing many of the issues being raised on how the ACA may affect coverage of persons involved in the justice system. Below are excerpts from the FAQ document:

**1. Can Medicaid pay for any health care services provided within jails or prisons?**

No. Under the ACA (and prior to the ACA), no health care services provided to detainees or inmates in jails or prisons are paid for by Medicaid. Those services are paid for the same way they were prior to the enactment of the ACA.

**2. For individuals covered by Medicaid in the community, what happens to that coverage when they enter a jail or prison? Does anything change as a result of the ACA?**

Depending on the laws of a particular state, when an individual enters a jail or prison their Medicaid is either suspended or terminated, and no health care services provided in the jail or prison can be covered by Medicaid. Suspension or termination varies state by state. The ACA does not change any law relative to this policy. (Note: In California, when an individual enters a jail their Medicaid is terminated).

**3. Has the ACA changed the inpatient hospital benefit for detainees or inmates of jails or prisons?**

No. Care received by detainees or inmates in a community hospital (outside the jail or prison) for a period of more than 24 hours can be billed to Medicaid provided these individuals are eligible. This is not new under the ACA. It remains the same as prior to the ACA, with the distinction being that the overall pool of people who may now be eligible for Medicaid may be larger if a state opts for Medicaid expansion. (Note: In California, the claiming protocol for the Voluntary Jail Inmate Medi-Cal Program is still being worked out, and no claiming has occurred. However when it does occur, claims are allowed to be retroactive to the year 2010 for eligible adults).

Medicaid cannot pay for health care services for detainees and inmates in jails or prisons who visit a community hospital for less than 24 hours. That also remains the same as prior to the ACA.

**4. Do states, cities or counties benefit from the ACA expansion relative to the justice-involved population?**

While it is still too early to understand the full financial impact of the ACA, including the impact of potentially billing Medicaid for more people in a jail or prison who receive care in a community hospital for a period of more than 24 hours, we do know incarceration rates in the United States have dramatically increased since the 1970s and health outcomes are poor for justice-involved individuals.

Providing individuals with access to comprehensive health services when they return to their community is cost effective at the state and local level. High rates of re-incarceration exact heavy costs on society. Access to regular health care is essential to the successful return of jail-involved individuals to their communities. Without it, these people are at greater risk of falling through the cracks and committing new crimes -- jeopardizing public safety and public health, and increasing public spending on incarceration.

**5. Are incarcerated individuals eligible for Health Insurance Exchanges?**

Incarcerated individuals are not eligible to be enrolled in a qualified health plan in an Exchange unless they are still pending disposition of charges while in jail (during this period they are presumed to be innocent).

Statutory language is specifically included in the ACA exempting incarcerated individuals from an exchange and also from the individual mandate, which requires individuals to maintain health insurance coverage starting January 1, 2014 or be subject to a penalty tax.

See [http://www.cochs.org/files/ACA/COCHS\\_FAQ\\_ACA.pdf](http://www.cochs.org/files/ACA/COCHS_FAQ_ACA.pdf) for more information.

Contact: Kathy Peterson, 760-924-1763

### **Sheriff's Office**

1. A traffic stop over the weekend led to the arrest of two suspects in a stolen vehicle. The suspects were wanted out of the Palm Springs area for a recent home invasion robbery. The suspects will be charged for various local charges along with having to stand trial in Palm Springs for robbery, etc. (Mono county is not immune to the criminal element).
2. Chief Deputy Coroner Lt. West will be attending the autopsy in Orange County Friday relating to the recent death in Mammoth Lakes.

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