

# Board of Supervisors Update February 2016



Lower Twin Lakes, Bridgeport (Alicia Vennos, Mono County Tourism)

---

## CAO's Desk

**Welcome, Dave Butters!**

Dave joined the county team as Human Resources Director just last week, but he's no



stranger to the Eastern Sierra. A Southern California native, Dave spent much of his 19 years in Human Resources management in North Carolina and, more recently, Georgia. He still managed to visit Mono County every summer to enjoy bike riding, hiking and oil painting in the mountains. Dave and his wife, Linda, have been married 41 years and their son Brian lives in Bridgeport and works in the county's finance department.

**Coffee with the CAO:** 8 a.m. 2/24 in Mammoth (BOS conference room), 2/25 in Bridgeport (Memorial Hall)

---

## Department News

### Animal Control

#### Adoption Success!

As of February 7, Mono County shelters were down to just three adoptable cats and four dogs. To see photos of adoptable pets, visit [Animal Control's Facebook page](#).

#### Praise for AC Staff

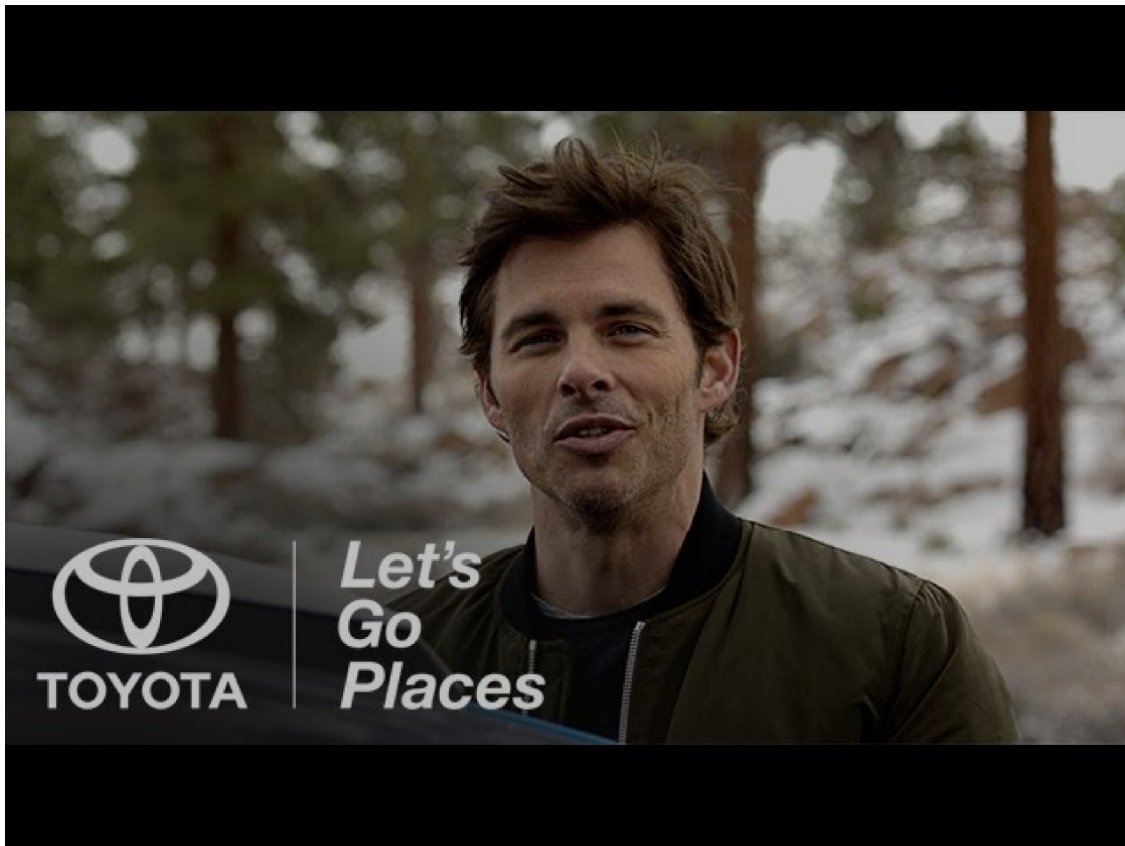
The following comment came through the county website: *Today we had the pleasure of dealing with Angela Nolan and Will Clayton regarding a dog bite. Will Clayton came out to examine the rabies certificate and to deliver the quarantine notice. We would like to compliment Angela and Will on their professionalism, courtesy and patience on handling this matter. While we hope to never deal with them again (!!) in a situation such as this, it is wonderful to know the caliber of people Mono County Animal Control employs.*

### Behavioral Health

Director Robin Roberts was featured on the California State Association of Counties' blog, and also interviewed on San Francisco's KCBS. Read her work about the [Psychological Effects of California's Long-Term Drought](#).

### Economic Development

#### Film



Two Toyota ads featuring actor James Marsden filmed in Mono County are currently airing. Here's Part I, filmed in Sunny Slopes (view [Part II](#), filmed at Reds Lake/Mammoth Mountain here). Alicia Vennos reports that "with scouting and filming time included, the production was here for three weeks and booked 110 room nights for several nights. Local spending is estimated to be over \$400,000, probably more!

Big shout out to our ED, Tourism and Film Commissioner, Steve Morrison – it was definitely intense and he handled everything thrown his way beautifully and professionally. Also, big thanks to Sheriff Braun and her team, and to Jeff Walters and Brett McCurry for all their help and assistance. There were many, many local businesses and residents who were extraordinarily helpful with the production – from Tom's Place and MMSA to the Westin and Cleland Hoff with Film Mammoth, but I wanted you to know that without the exceptional assistance from Isabel Kusumoto and Lawson Reif with the Inyo National Forest, the production would not have happened here."

### **Tourism & Economic Development**

- Mono County Tourism was selected as a finalist for the [Visit California Poppy Awards](#) for "Best Social Media Campaign." The Visit California Poppy Awards are a biennial contest that honors the best and brightest of California tourism promotion and marketing excellence. The winner will be selected at the Visit California Outlook Forum in San Francisco February 23.
- Mono County was selected by the California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED) as a 2016 Regional Ambassador! CALED launched the Regional Ambassador program as a way to provide local training and networking opportunities for economic developers in their California region. This is also an exciting way for CALED to support our members and highlight regional leaders. An event in Mono

County is currently being planned for the spring of 2016.

#### Media/PR

- Lonely Planet: "[Highs and Lows of the 395: Road Tripping Down California's Highway of Superlatives](#)"
- Matador Network: "[10 Photos to Inspire You To Drive California's Route 395](#)"
- Travel Letters: "[The Travelettes Guide To California's Route 395](#)"

#### Economic Development, Tourism & Film Commission

The Mono County Economic Development, Tourism, and Film Commission awarded the following applicants with grant funding from the Community Event Marketing Fund. The funds will assist local non-profits to promote their respective community events to markets outside the Eastern Sierra in order to help drive overnight visitation to our communities primarily in the shoulder season. The total amount available and awarded was \$26,789.00.

\$3,000.00	Kite Festival in Antelope Valley	Northern Mono Chamber of Commerce
\$3,000.00	Birding in our Valley	Northern Mono Chamber of Commerce
\$3,271.45	Bridgeport Fish Fest	Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce
\$2,500.00	Bridgeport Trout Tournament	Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation
\$2,500.00	Bridgeport Founder's Day	Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce
\$1,017.55	Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua	Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association
\$3,000.00	June Lake Jam Fest	Mono Arts Council
\$500.00	Graniteman Challenge	High Sierra Tri Club
\$2,000.00	Eastern Sierra Arts Festival	Mono Arts Council
\$2,000.00	Mammoth Gran Fondo	Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation
\$2,000.00	ML Event & Wedding Expo	Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce
\$2,000.00	Oktoberfest	Mammoth Medical Missions

## Public Health/Emergency Medical Services

Mono County EMS is now approved as an EMT training and EMS continuing education service provider--a big benefit to our local fire departments in need of trained EMTs. Many thanks to Rob DeForrest and team for their hard work!

## Probation

Chief Probation Officer Karin Humiston sent this update.

For the year 2015, many awards were bestowed upon on high performing employees:

**Erin Knight, PAII, Meritorious Service** – Erin is the Drug Court Coordinator for our County with two drug courts in north and south county

**Susie Mohling, Administrator's Award** – Susie oversees multiple funds and grants, has brought online a new collections procedure and implemented an online payment system

**Jazmin Puga-Sosa, Probation Officer of the Year, 2015** – Jazmin has acted as a PO III for a year when we had two employees out ill. She has systematized multiple processes and ensured continuity for juvenile and adult procedures.

**Dylan Whitmore, Meritorious Service** – Dylan is the Superior Court Liaison. He has brought stability by his presence in court for all justice entities as well as participates and oversees Drug Court

**Jon Himmelhoch, Meritorious and Trainer's Award** – Jon oversees multiple caseloads as well is the Range

Master for Mono Probation and Inyo. He brings a great deal of experience and energy to this labor intensive position

**Curtis Hill, Meritorious Award** – Curtis has been key in the new case management system brought online and the monitoring of the grant that allowed such a change. The grant has enabled us to digitalize many of our systems using mobility devices thereby providing more information faster and ensuring the safety of officers and citizens.

**Erin Van Kampen, Meritorious Award** – Erin maintains the largest caseload of adult offenders. She is also the county's Motivational Interviewing instructor, providing up to date training using this evidence based practice.

**Orlando Mejia, Meritorious Award** – Orlando is the juvenile probation officer. He has implemented many evidence based practices which has reduced the number of youth being supervised, has reduced the number of youth detained by 80% and remains active in youth activities such as cognitive based methodologies and supervising US Forest Service Crews in Mono County.

- Mono County Probation has been awarded a federal grant for three years to assist with the operation of Drug Court. Further, Mono County has received a Technical Assistance Grant from the National Drug Court Institute Drug Court Training, Adult Drug Court Planning Initiative. The Mono County Justice Partnership shall participate in this training.
- Mono County Probation will also oversee a leadership series designed for Integrative Management and Leadership through grant funding. The course covers multiple months and curriculum including productive teams, effective supervision and communication, strategic planning and many other subjects. Several seats are open for county managers.
- Mono County Probation was awarded the second year funding for the Racial and Ethnic Disparity grant which targets systems so as to ensure implicit bias awareness and evidence based practices are designed and implemented. AP Stacie Casabian has been diligently working on this process and collaborating with multiple departments, agencies and contracted consultants.

And finally, very exciting news, Officer Whitmore and his wife are expecting their second child in 2016!

## Social Services

### Workforce Education Classes

The Mono County Office of Education and the Social Services Department are teaming up on a series of free classes to help local job seekers. Topics include career development, job search, interviewing and professionalism. Get details and the full brochure [here](#).




SPRING 2016 PROGRAMS

### Earn a Certificate Recognized by Local Businesses

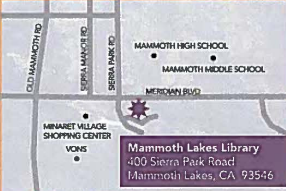
- Interact with local business leaders.
- Build relationships to help you accomplish your goals.
- Develop technology skills.
- This program is **free** and open to the community!
- Translation and child care provided\*

Registration preferred by February 22, 2016  
Call 760.934.0031 or email [tnghuyen@monocoe.org](mailto:tnghuyen@monocoe.org)

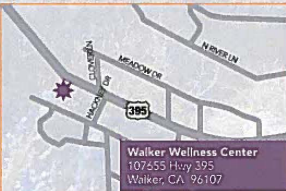
\*Child care and language translation services will be provided free of charge with advance notice. Call to arrange.  
\*Cuidado de niños y servicio de idioma serán ofrecidos sin costo, con aviso previo. Por favor llamen si están interesados.





Two locations available:  
Mammoth Lakes & Walker/Coleville



Mammoth Lakes Library  
400 Sierra Park Road  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546



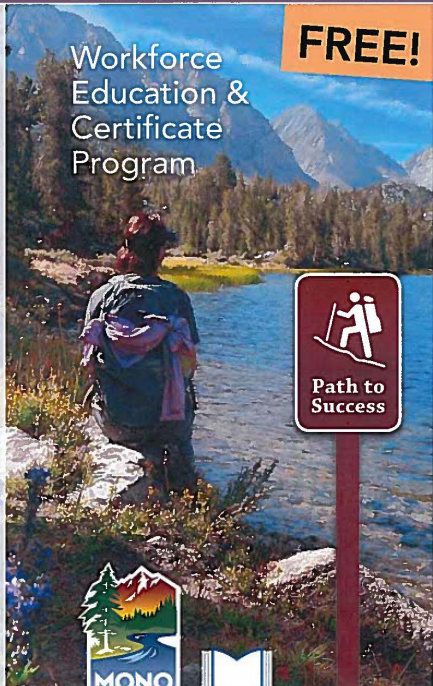


Walker Wellness Center  
107551 Hwy 395  
Walker, CA 96107

Mono County Office of Education  
Mono County Department of Social Services  
Phone: 760.934.0031  
E-mail: [tnghuyen@monocoe.org](mailto:tnghuyen@monocoe.org)

### Workforce Education & Certificate Program

FREE!

Free translation services and child care provided.  
Cuidado de niños y servicio de idioma serán ofrecidos sin costo.

**Parenting Classes Coming in March**

Wild Iris is offering FREE 6- and 8-week ["positive parenting" classes](#) in Bishop and Mammoth starting the end of March. Classes available in English and Spanish.

**Veteran Service Program Changes**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced a number of changes to make participation in the [Veterans Choice Program](#) easier and more convenient for Veterans who need to use it. The move, which streamlines eligibility requirements, follows feedback from Veterans along with organizations working on their behalf. Veterans seeking to use the Veterans Choice Program or wanting to know more about it, can call 1-866-606-8198 to confirm their eligibility and to schedule an appointment. For more information, contact the local Veteran Service Office at 760-873-7850 or [icvso@inyocounty.us](mailto:icvso@inyocounty.us).

**New Earned Income Tax Credit**

Governor Jerry Brown and the Legislature created the first-ever California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC). California joins 24 other states and the District of Columbia in adopting a state EITC to supplement the federal EITC. Visit <http://caleitc4me.org/> for more information.

**What is the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC)?**

- CalEITC is a cash back tax credit that puts money back into the pockets of California’s working families and individuals, available for the first-time this tax season.
- The CalEITC could boost income for an estimated 600,000 eligible families.

**Am I Eligible?**

You may be eligible for the CalEITC if:

- You have earned income within certain limits (see chart below), AND
- You, your spouse, and any qualifying children each have a social security number (SSN), AND
- You do not use the “married/RDP filing separate” filing status, AND
- You lived in California for more than half the tax year

Review the chart below to see if you may be eligible and how much you may qualify for.

Number of Children	Maximum Income	CalEITC*	Federal EITC*
None	\$6,850	\$214	\$503
1	\$9,880	\$1,428	\$3,359
2	\$13,870	\$2,358	\$5,548
3 or more	\$13,870	\$2,653	\$6,242



Good Samaritans! Tom Perry and Greg Newbry helped a wayward visitor dig out after a big January storm. (Jami Peterson photo)

## Local News

**Inyo National Forest Over Snow Vehicle Workshop**

The Inyo National Forest is offering an Over Snow Vehicle (OSV) Workshop to hear ideas about the management of snowmobiles and winter recreation on the forest.

The workshop will be on **Tuesday, February 23, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Town of Mammoth Lakes Council Chambers (Suite Z)**, Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. Suite Z is on the second floor, upstairs from Starbucks.

The forest is required to formalize their OSV plan through environmental analysis as part of the 2005 Travel Management Rule. Prior to scoping, the forest is asking for input regarding where snowmobile use is currently, where it should be, as well as how to best integrate snowmobiling with the suite of winter recreational opportunities available on the forest.

This is an informal open house designed to foster conversation and ideas. Forest Service staff will use these conversations to better inform the proposed action. Forest Service staff will have a series of maps for participants to review. Participants can stay throughout the open house or stop by as time allows.

Submit your comments about snowmobiling [here](#).

---

## State News

[RCRC Barbed Wire](#)

[CSAC Bulletin](#)

---

---

*Send your department news by February 26 for inclusion in the March newsletter.*