



## Agricultural Commissioner

**Inyo-Mono Agricultural Building to be dedicated on November 14<sup>th</sup>** – Inyo-Mono Agricultural Commissioner **Nathan D. Reade**, announced the celebration of the completion of the Inyo/Mono Agriculture Department long awaited maintenance building. In addition to celebrating the completion of this long awaited and much needed facility; the building will be named after retired Agricultural Commissioner **George L. Milovich**.

**DATE:** Friday November 14, 2014  
**TIME:** 3:30 P.M.  
**LOCATION:** 218 Wye Road, Bishop CA 93514

**CONTACT:** Jennifer Sarten, (760) 873-7860

## Board of Supervisors

**Supervisor Alpers boosts High School floor at recent Rotary meeting** – **Supervisor Tim Alpers** attended the Mammoth Noon Time Rotary meeting on November 6<sup>th</sup> and as part of a joint presentation to the group talked up the need to put in a new floor at Mammoth High School. Supervisor Alpers was joined by Lou Margulies, President of the Boosters, and School Superintendent Lois Klein who made the case to replace the aging floor.

The investment in a new floor will be a value-add not only for the students but for the many community groups which use the gymnasium as a community event center.

**CONTACT:** Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

## Clerk-Recorder's Office



**Huge Thank you to the great work on Election night by the E-Team!!** Thank you to **Bob Musil, Renn Nolan, Dorothy Cummins, Shannon Kendall, Nate Greenberg, Jami Peterson, Joe Blanchard, Cameron Car, Ruth Hanson, and Stacie Klemm** for their efforts to ensure the administration of democracy happened in Mono County!

The Intrepid Election Crew stayed up until 5:00am on Wednesday ensuring that every vote was counted and it was great effort for the new Team.

I'd put our **E-TEAM** up against these guys any day!!

**CONTACT:** Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510



## County Administrator's Office

**Creating Your Playbook: Four Steps to Create a Positive Workplace Training being offered on December 4<sup>th</sup>** - We spend most of our waking hours at work; yet we spend little time creating a positive and engaging environment.

In this session you will learn:

- The importance of a positive work environment.
- Four basic principles of creating a positive work environment.
- Actions you can take with your coworkers and customers/clients to create a positive and engaging work environment.

This “catch the energy” session is based on the principles that are in action each day at the world famous “Pikes Place Fish Market” in Seattle, WA.

Trindel Insurance Fund presents this engaging and enlightening program for all employees and critical for anyone in a leadership role. After this session you will be confident in your ability to create a more engaging and positive work environment.

**Thursday, December 4, 2014**  
**Lee Vining Community Center**  
**9:00 a.m. – 11:30 am**

**Space in this class is limited to the first 40 RSVPs** – Please save your spot with me via email [smesserlian@mono.ca.gov](mailto:smesserlian@mono.ca.gov). **You must have department head approval to attend.**

CONTACT: Sarah Messerlian, CAO Office Manager, (760) 932-5405

**Employee commute survey completed** – 154 people from 8 agencies weighed in on the survey for the Employee commute interest. After reviewing the results with Eastern Sierra Transit Director John Helm, there appears to be 54 people who are interested in further discussion. A follow up survey to those folks who volunteered their email address will go out shortly and we hope we can stir up enough folks for both a Bishop to Mammoth Van pool as well as an Antelope Valley to Bridgeport service.

Thank you for your participation. If you signed up to be contacted, you will be getting a link to the survey in the next week.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**All staff Holiday Party to be held on December 17th in Lee Vining!** It's always good to mix it up a bit so this year rather than having our split staff North and South holiday party – we are going to host the first all staff Holiday party!



On December 17<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 pm to 4:00pm we will have our annual potluck and employee appreciation event. We are making it later in the day for folks to be able to travel and enjoy the fellowship of all of the employees who can make it.

This event will be a late lunch and give folks the time to enjoy each other meet some new faces. Department heads will be helping underwrite the cost of the event. Stay tuned for more details and pencil in December 17<sup>th</sup> for a time to come together in Lee Vining!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**The Strategic Plan moving forward!** – On November 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm we will be consolidating the feedback from departments and creating the latest draft. Come on by as we are focusing all of your thoughts into the latest version!!

**Next Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting will be Thursday November 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at the Lee Vining Community Center. We will be reviewing feedback and integrating into the Draft.**

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Economic Development**

**Scaring up a stronger economy?** –Check out Economic development’s Alicia Vennos as she got into the Halloween Spirit to welcome folks into the Mammoth area. Thank you to Chairman Johnston for the photo!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy (707) 529-4510

**Probation**

**Trick or Treaters also found Probation officers last week** – Check out a couple of pictures of the Bridgeport Elementary kids who visited the offices of Probation. Thank you to the staff of Probation and other departments who helped greet the students on the spooky day!

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



## **Public Health**

The Mono County Health Department is participating with counties throughout the State in a campaign called “Healthy Stores, Healthy Communities.” - To help focus that campaign, we conducted 30 face-to-face interviews with Mono County market owners and managers regarding the challenges of providing healthy food/snack items in a rural environment. A second purpose of the interviews was to better understand newer tobacco products on the market such as flavored products and electronic cigarettes and who is selling and purchasing the products.

With the survey complete, Public Health will now work on creating a food retailer conference to bring the retailers together to solve some of the problems identified by the interviews. Collaborative partners will include Economic Development, Toiyabe Indian Health Project and IMACA.

CONTACT: Nancy Mahannah, (760)924-4621

## **Public Works**

**Mono City Emergency Road completed – Public Works sends thanks to those that helped it happen!**

“I wanted to personally acknowledge and thank many Mono County staff, other organizations and individuals who contributed to the completion of the Mono City Emergency Egress Road:

As most of you know the Mono City Emergency Egress Road had been “in the works” for many, many years. With final work to be completed early next week this project will offer the residents of Mono City another way out in an emergency. The following individuals have assisted with the design, permitting, construction and coordination:

### **Community Development**

Scott Burns  
Heather deBethizy  
Scott Burns

### **Public Works**

Brett McCurry  
Garrett Higerd  
Paul Roten  
Jason Small  
Eric Duro  
Shelley Goff  
Mike Rhodes  
Jerry VandeBrake  
Jerry Mosley  
Phil Touchstone  
Evan Nikirk  
Mary Clark  
Terry Underwood  
Judy Curti



**County Counsel**

Marshall Rudolph  
Stacey Simon

**Also contributed**

Calfire - Chris Hardy  
BLM - Larry Primosch and Steve Nelson  
Caltrans - Mark Reistetter  
Triad/Holmes Associates - Matt Schober  
All the residents of Mono City for their valuable input  
And of course the Board of Supervisors including Tim Alpers and Tim Hansen

If I left someone off the list I am sorry but this was truly a coordinated effort with many players taking part. Thanks to all of you!

Regards,



Jeff Walters  
Public Works Director/Director of Road Operations and Fleet Services  
Mono County  
(760) 932-5459

**Sheriff's Office**

1. With the decision to not hire our PSO applicant due to background issues this week, we will be moving forward with advertising for the Public Safety Officer position that was approved by the Board. Our office will work with Stacie Klemm in this process.
2. Our office participated in two of the Law Enforcement funerals that were held in Sacramento.
3. We did a RIMS merge with MLPD this week. There are computer data issues that have to be ironed out, but no major glitches occurred.
4. We had a meeting with the IT Dept and John Nielsen regarding radio communications issues that are still occurring. We directed John N. to attempt to determine what is actually causing the interference. This is a major officer safety issue due to lack of radio channels working properly. John. N. believes it could be an antenna issue or interference from other radio equipment recently installed in the area. This was given to John N. as this must be solved as soon as possible.

CONTACT: Ralph Obenberger, (760) 932-7549

**Social Services**

**Inyo-Mono Veterans Services Announces new programs for regions Veterans - The Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act (VACAA) of 2014 launched** - VA has signed contracts with two private health care companies to help VA administer the Veterans Choice Program (Choice Program) under

VACAA. The Choice Program is a new, temporary benefit allowing some Veterans to receive health care in their communities rather than waiting for a VA appointment or traveling to a VA facility. It does not impact your existing VA health care or any other VA benefit you may be receiving. Implementation of this benefit began on November 5, as required by law. A call center is now operational to answer your questions and verify your eligibility for this program.



As part of this new program, they will be issuing a Veterans Choice Card to every Veteran who is potentially eligible for the new, temporary health benefit. The Choice Card allows Veterans to elect to receive care outside of VA when they qualify for the new program based on the distance of their residence from a VA care facility, or when wait times for VA health care exceed the standards established in law. The Choice Card does not replace the identification card you already use to access other VA benefits; please do not throw away that identification card.

The Choice Card will be issued in three phases. The first group of Choice Cards along with a letter explaining eligibility for this program is currently being sent to Veterans who may live more than 40 miles from a VA facility. The next group of Choice Cards and letters will be sent shortly thereafter to those Veterans who are currently waiting for an appointment longer than 30-days from their preferred date or the date determined to be medically necessary by their physician.

The final group of Choice Cards and letters will be sent between December 2014 and January 2015 to the remainder of all Veterans enrolled for VA health care who may be eligible for the Choice Program in the future.

Please visit Web site at [www.va.gov/opa/choiceact](http://www.va.gov/opa/choiceact) for helpful information on Choice Program eligibility, or contact your local Veteran Service Office at 760-873-7850.

CONTACT: Yvette Mason, (760) 873-7850, [icvso@inyocounty.us](mailto:icvso@inyocounty.us)

## Single Audit Success!



**WHO'S AWESOME?**  
YOU'RE AWESOME

**Congratulations** to Social Services Eligibility and Fiscal Staff for passing the *Single Audit with 100% success!* *The on-site audit included review of numerous transactions, including over 40 Medi-Cal cases.*

*The Single Audit*, also known as the OMB A-133 *audit*, is a rigorous, organization-wide *audit* or examination of an entity that expends \$500,000 or more of Federal assistance (commonly known as Federal funds, Federal grants, or Federal awards) received for its operations. The audit is performed by an independent certified public accountant and encompasses both financial

and compliance components. Thank you to Social Services staff for knockin' it out of the ball park!

Contact: Kathy Peterson, 760-924-1763

**Antelope Valley Senior Center Staff & Volunteers make it work!**

Antelope Valley Senior Center staff members *Sandi Rustan* and *Pat Espinosa*, along with dedicated CERT team volunteers, continue to make it work for seniors and others in the north county who rely on their services. Thank you for your teamwork and can-do spirit during the temporary leave of absence of cherished Senior Center Cook, *Moises Cornejo*.

**Thank you!**

Contact: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763

**Reminder!! -- Mono County Social Services continues to need Foster Parents** and we are hosting an orientation meeting coming up on:

**Tuesday, November 18, 2014 5:30pm- 7:00pm at the Benton Community Center.**

Many prospective foster parents are interested in becoming a parent, but can't commit to providing long term care or adoption. That's okay! Mono County needs foster parents of all types; those who can care for a child short-term, on an emergency only basis, as well as those who can provide long-term care. Children come into foster care when their birth families are unable to care for them for a variety of reasons. We provide support & training for you to be a successful foster parent.

**Learn more by attending the upcoming Foster Parent Orientation Meeting, November 18, 2014 5:30pm – 7:00pm at the Benton Community Center.**



If you can, please forward the attached flyers to someone you think might be interested; or post the flyers so others may have a chance to see it. Thank you so much for considering this opportunity to help children and families in Mono County!

CONTACT: Marlo Preis, (760) 924-1793 or [mpreis@mono.ca.gov](mailto:mpreis@mono.ca.gov) to RSVP.

**Social Services working to strengthen Red Cross services in Mono County** – As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen disaster response and Preparedness, the County received the attached email below from the Red Cross. Thanks to the Social Services team, Mono County is working to ensure that the Red Cross always has Mono County as a focus.

From the email below from Jon Brown, *Disaster Program Manager, Territory 1*, American Red Cross Los Angeles Region, it is good to see the relationship building occurring.

“Good Morning Mr. Leddy,

My name is Jon Brown and I am the Disaster Program Manager for American Red Cross Los Angeles Region. I am writing to you today because this past weekend I had the pleasure of spending some time with Ms. Cathy Young. She took the time to organize two presentations where we were able to offer personal preparedness training to the citizens of Mono County as well as the new CERT academy. It was a great opportunity and Cathy worked hard to make sure it was publicized. I can’t tell you how happy our young AmeriCorps presenter was when we were driving through Bishop and she heard the radio advertisement for her presentation.

Additionally, Cathy had requested we bring 20 new ADA cots and 100 blankets to add to Mono County sheltering trailers. Upon inspection of the trailers and sheltering guides, I was very impressed. Cathy and her fantastic team of sheltering managers are setting the precedent for others in our territory. The trailers were well stocked, organized, strategically positioned, and maintained. Here in the Los Angeles area we are striving to accomplish what Mono County has done.

I just wanted to reach out and tell you how thankful I am that your team is passionate and motivated about emergency preparedness and sheltering. It is wonderful to see and I look forward to growing our already great relationship with Mono County.

Best,

Jon Brown  
*Disaster Program Manager, Territory 1*  
American Red Cross Los Angeles Region  
6800 Owensmouth Ave. Suite 150  
Canoga Park, CA 91303  
(818) 593-3526 – Office  
(213) 407-8316 – Mobile”

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763

**Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action is now accepting applications for the 2014 Holiday Food Basket program** available to low income households throughout Inyo and Mono Counties Applications are available online or at the Lone Pine, Bishop or Mammoth Lakes office. All applications are due to the IMACA main office in Bishop by Friday Nov 14. Faxed application we be accepted.

CONTACT: Ashley Diaz, (760) 873-8557 or stop by the IMACA office, 224 S. Main St., Bishop CA 93514 or the IMACA website, [www.imaca.net](http://www.imaca.net)