



## County Administrator's Office



# Marine Corps Family Holiday

**Eastern Sierra Community Bank and the SOS – Supporting Our Soldiers** - We Support ALL Branches of the Military! Would like to show their support of our local Marine Corps and Families!

We will be putting together three (3) different gift baskets

- MAN
- WOMAN
- CHILD

If you would like to participate all you have to do is pick up some kind of gift (No need to wrap it)

***\*Think relaxing \* Think food \* Think games\*Think movies\*Think books\****

Get it to the Bridgeport Branch by Thursday, December 11, 2014

We will put the baskets together - THE MORE THE MERRIER!!

CONTACT: Janelle at Eastern Sierra Bank, (760) 932-7926

**COOKIES FOR SINGLE MARINES AND ALL PERSONNEL** – See attached Flier but reminder that when baking your Christmas goodies, bake a couple dozen more and drop off at:

***Eastern Sierra Community Bank***

***Bridgeport Branch***

***Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>***

Before 11:00 AM

CONTACT: Janelle, (760)932-7926

**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:

# Reminder!

- 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, Risk Manager, (760) 932-5405

**South County November Employee Round Table** – Thank you to the 12 employees who showed up for the South County Employee Round Table. This was not the normal meeting day but we still had a chance to talk about county issues. For some unknown reason there was a lot of discussion of how to deep fry a turkey...

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, the Ambassadors and Steering Committee Crew met and shared the feedback from the first wave of department meetings. We were joined via phone by Beth Conley who is taking that feedback and incorporating into the next draft. Below we have some additional meetings coming up.

We are keeping the focus on taking your ideas and getting them into the Draft. Once we have been through in hearing from all of you we go to the Board and then to the community for additional input. It is moving along and the information and participation is critical.

Here are some additional Department or program meeting where we are still getting great feedback:

| <u>Dept/Program</u>                        | <u>Ambassadors</u>   |
|--|----------------------|
| 1) <i>Facilities</i>                       | <i>Erin/Jason</i>    |
| 2) <i>Benton Landfill</i>                  | <i>Erin/Dylan</i>    |
| 3) <i>EMS</i>                              | <i>Stacie K./Ted</i> |
| 4) <i>Community Development</i>            | <i>Megan/Kirk</i>    |
| 5) <i>Clerk's Office/Assessor's Office</i> | <i>Megan/Kirk</i>    |
| 6) <i>Benton Road Shop</i>                 | <i>Erin/Dylan</i>    |
| 7) <i>District Attorney</i>                | <i>Stacie K.</i>     |



**Next Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting will be Thursday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at the Lee Vining Community Center.**

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

## Economic Development

With snow in the forecast, and some recent and wonderful media exposure, we are grateful. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

- Sunset Magazine's travel feature in the December issue is a 3-page spread all about June Lake! Full article attached.
- Below is an article in Prima Pagina (38,000 copies daily in Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy) from Italian travel writer, Paolo Ferrari, who was hosted by Mammoth Lakes Tourism on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Alicia Vennos had the pleasure of driving the June Lake Loop with Paolo and spending an hour at Mono Lake on an interpretive tour by Mono Lake Committee's enthusiastic and professional guide, Robbie Di Paolo, (whose name alone impressed Paolo!).



**TURISMO** Un territorio splendido, circondato dalle vette della Sierra Nevada, un autentico paradiso per gli amanti del birdwatching e i fotografi, che in inverno si trasforma nella più accogliente delle località sciistiche californiane

# Mono e June Lake, la magia dell'Eastern Sierra

di Paolo Ferrari

Situata a circa 315 miglia a nord di Los Angeles, e 200 km a est di San Francisco, la Contea di Mono è una delle più belle dell'impero del Yosemite National Park, nella California centro-orientale. È un territorio molto spettacolare circondato com'è dalle poderose catene montuose che formano l'Eastern Sierra, ed è attraversato dalla US highway 395, nominata Highway Scenic, grazie agli splendidi panorami che regala agli automobilisti che la percorrono. Al centro della Contea, che confina con l'Arizona, troviamo Mono Lake, uno dei più antichi laghi dell'emisfero occidentale di raso circa un milione di anni fa, praticamente un immenso mare interno, di 66 chilometri quadrati di superficie, dal quale emergono decine di "torri" di tufo (o trati) di gabbie di calcare (o borati), create quando le sorgenti di acqua dolce, si sono mescolate con le acque alcaline del lago. Il risultato è uno specchio d'acqua 2,5 volte più salato dell'Oceano, dove vivono milioni di microscopici gamberi che attirano circa due milioni di uccelli migratori ogni anno. La Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area è un parco naturalistico molto conosciuto ed apprezzato, che culmina in riva al Mono Lake con una suggestiva passerella pedonale molto agevole che si snoda tra le spettacolari torri di tufo. La riserva Steno di Mono Lake Tufa, si trova più o meno a metà strada tra il Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort e lo Yosemite National Park. L'alto livello di salinità e l'accesa attività delle acque del Mono Lake, impedisce a qualunque tipo di pesce di vivere, e così la sua intera catena alimentare è costituita da popolazione di gamberi e alghe planctoniche, che si riproducono durante l'inverno, mentre a primavera,



con la loro fotosintesi, colorano l'acqua di un verde intenso. A poca distanza da Mono Lake, troviamo la seducente stazione turistica di June Mountain, circondata da alcuni pittoreschi laghetti alpini. Intorno a questa località, si trovano decine di sentieri per escursioni più o meno facili, caratterizzate da panorami di rara bellezza, partendo dalla Piccola valle dei laghi di Black Creek Canyon, fino al Crystal Lake Trail, che ci porta verso il vicino ski resort di Mammoth Lakes, la terra località sciistica più frequentata degli USA, con circa 12 milioni di visitatori annui. In inverno, anche June Mountain rivela una natura vivante agli sport invernali, e si trasforma nella più accogliente località sciistica per famiglie dell'intera California, dove i giovani sciatori e gli snowboarder in età al di sotto dei 12 anni, hanno diritto alla gratuità agli impianti di risalita. La June Mountain Ski Area aprirà la stagione sciistica, il 15 dicembre prossimo, con una vasta offerta di opportunità che vanno dallo sci alpino e dallo snowboard, alla motoslitta, le escursioni con le racchette da neve,

le discese con lo slittino, lo sci di fondo (orto del ricicciamento di Lonely Planet che ha incluso, la June Ski Area, in coppia con la vicina Mammoth Lake, nel numero delle top-destination degli USA nel 2013), va ricordato che, dalla prossima stagione, gli impianti di risalita di June Lake Ski Area, Mammoth Mountain, Bear Mountain, Snow Summit, i quattro resort più conosciuti delle montagne californiane, saranno accessibili con un solo biglietto. Si chiama California Pass, definito il miglior valore aggiunto possibile per sciatori, famiglie, skitourer e snowboarder dell'Ovest degli Stati Uniti, che mette insieme la comodità di Big Bear, con l'esperienza di biocontorni di Mammoth, e la versatilità di June Mountain, e Snow Summit. Il nuovo ticket permette di sciarare su quattro montagne, che mettono a disposizione circa 2.500 ettari di area sciabile, un distretto complessivo di 2.500 metri, di impianti di risalita, 15 snow park con 6 half pipe e due Super Pipe. E... scitate se il poco, fatto e prenotazioni: tel. +1 800 8427622 - www.MonoCounty.org



- Last year we worked on locations for an independent short feature "The Hypnotist" which is now on the Film Festival circuit. Here's the trailer, and the director, Jon Braver, says he is constantly asked "Where IS that place??" -- <http://www.thehypnotistmovie.com/>. Jon Braver has been invited to submit the film for the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival, coming up this May.

- Another independent short called "Lay In Wait" was filmed almost completely in June Lake over a year ago – view trailer: <http://www.jonokino.com/#f-i-l-m-s> The director, Jonathan Ade, has also been invited to submit it as an entry in the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival.

- Our recent Facebook post showing a monster brown trout exploded, generating a reach of over 225,000! Here is the post and the impact:

- On Thursday, November, 20, 2014, Alicia Vennos attended a meeting at the City of Bishop to explore opportunities for regional economic development, related to the ongoing update of the Bishop Economic Development Element. As part of this update, Bishop residents have indicated strong support for efforts to expand marketing of the eastern Sierra region as a whole. Meeting participants included representatives from the Mammoth and Bishop Chambers of Commerce, the Mono County Planning and Economic Development Departments, Mammoth Lakes Planning

**THE HYPNOTIST**

Based on the overwhelming success of *Delusion*, Jon Braver and his madly talented team are now developing exciting original scripts and concepts for film. Their first short film "The Hypnotist" is now complete and is making the rounds in the festival circuit. As well, a film franchise based on the *Delusion* story is in the works.

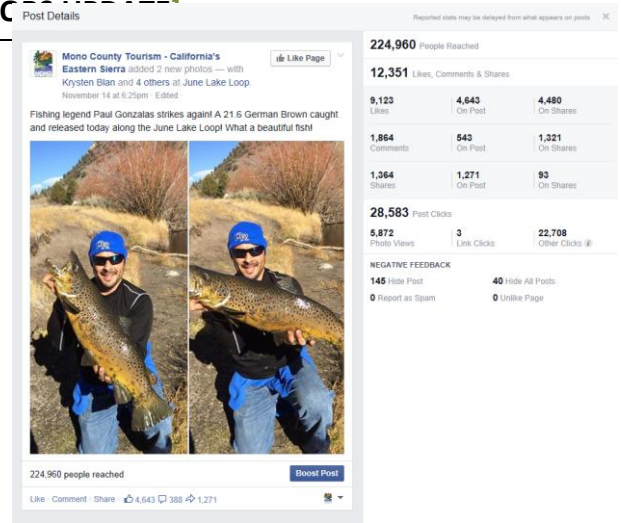
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
TELLURIDE HORROR SHOW  
FILM FESTIVAL

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
FILMQUEST  
2014



Department, the City of Bishop, Bishop’s economic development consultant (BBC Research and Consulting out of Denver), and the Inyo County Planning Department. It was a positive discussion and the group intends to meet again in the new year.

- The Yosemite Sustainability Conference, Dec. 8-10, will be attended by Jeff Simpson. For more information:



<http://www.yosemitgatewaypartners.org/yosemite-sustainability-conference/speakers-facilitators/>

CONTACT: **Alicia Vennos, 760-924-1743**



**Social Services**

**Open Enrollment is Open!** Open enrollment for 2015 health insurance plans through Covered California begins Nov. 15, 2014, and ends Feb. 15, 2015. More than 1.3 million Californians chose health insurance through Covered California during its historic first open-enrollment period, for coverage in 2014. Millions of others learned that they qualified for free or low-cost health coverage through Medi-Cal. Covered California will later announce adult and family dental options available through Covered California, along with health insurance options for small businesses.



Consumers can now use the 2015 Shop and Compare Tool on the Covered California website, at [www.CoveredCA.com/shopandcompare/#calculator](http://www.CoveredCA.com/shopandcompare/#calculator), to look at plans and products in our area and to get a preliminary estimate of costs and premium assistance. Medi-Cal enrollment for those with qualifying incomes is available year-round. To see if you qualify for Medi-Cal, or for questions in about health insurance coverage in general, call our office at 760-924-1770. We’re happy to help!

CONTACT: Francie Avitia, Program Manager, (760) 924-1789

**Health Reform Resources** - Answers to ACA Questions: On the eve of the second open enrollment period for the



Affordable Care Act, the Kaiser Family Foundation released an updated collection of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQs) providing detailed answers for consumers, and the navigators and brokers who assist them. The searchable collection includes nearly 300 up-to-date responses, answering new questions about plan renewal, cancellations, and continuing financial assistance.

The FAQs also offer guidance for understanding 2014 federal income taxes in the context of the health law, addressing potential penalties for not obtaining coverage, exemptions to the individual mandate, and other subjects. Answers have been updated to key questions about how the law applies to the marketplace and Medicaid eligibility, and offers guidance for immigrants, people with variable incomes and others in special situations.

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, 760-924-1763

**Staff from Reno Veterans Administration coming to Bishop - December 6, 2014, 9:30 to 12:00 pm**, Bishop City Hall. Information will be provided on medical and mental health services in Reno, NV, and in our local town! Registration for My Health-e-Vet & E-benefits.



**Please RSVP to [icvso@inyocounty.us](mailto:icvso@inyocounty.us) or call 760-873-7850.**

## **Veterans and their families; this is a one-time event. Please be there!**

CONTACT: Yvette Mason, 760/873-7850

**INYO MONO ADVOCATES FOR COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.** - Announces a **REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS** for **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** To Represent the **Private Sectors** -- The Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc. (IMACA) Board of Directors is soliciting nominations from interested Mono County residents to represent the following area on the IMACA Board of Directors.

**PRIVATE REPRESENTATIVE Needed** – 1 (Inyo County) --To represent the Private Sector qualified nominees will be considered that represent the interests of business, industry, labor, religious, welfare, education, private social services, or other community interests. The nominee must work or live in the designated county.

For more information, or a candidate interest packet, please contact Ashley Diaz at (760) 873-8557 or [hr@imaca.net](mailto:hr@imaca.net) or stop by the IMACA office, 224 S. Main St., Bishop CA 93514.

**INYO MONO ADVOCATES FOR COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.** Announces a **REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS** for **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** To Represent the **Low Income Sectors** - The Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc. (IMACA) Board of Directors is soliciting nominations from interested Mono County residents to represent the following area on the IMACA Board of Directors.

**LOW INCOME REPRESENTATIVE Needed** – 1 (Mono County) - To represent the Low Income Sector, qualified nominees need not be low-income themselves, but shall have a thorough knowledge and

understanding of the causes of poverty and needs of low-income individuals within the county. The nominee must work or live in the designated county.

For more information, or a candidate interest packet, please contact Ashley Diaz at (760) 873-8778 or [hr@imaca.net](mailto:hr@imaca.net) or stop by the IMACA office, 224 S. Main St., Bishop CA 93514