

The Inyo Register

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County, city pass 'urgency' no-fault eviction laws

Stop-gap measures could prevent unjust evictions through holidays

By Terrance Vestal
Managing Editor

Both the Inyo County Board of Supervisors and the Bishop City Council passed "urgency" ordinances Tuesday over concerns that some residents could be unfairly evicted from their homes before a state law becomes effective Jan. 1, 2020.

Because of their "urgency" status both ordinances went into effect after they were passed. During recent meetings of both entities, Primrose Lane Apartments resident Nicholas Bartlett said tenants at the complex received notices of steep increases in rent and then notices of eviction with a Dec. 14 deadline.

The notices were issued about the same time the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 1482, the Tenant Protection Act of 2019. California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the bill in Oct. 8 but the law doesn't go into effect until Jan. 1, 2020.

Bartlett contends the timing of the notices sent to residents was no coincidence.

Similar complaints also have been heard from the Pine Creek apartment complex in Kovana.

After hearing from Bartlett and others, both governmental bodies decided to take up the issue.

At Tuesday's board meeting, Deputy Inyo County Attorney Grace Chuchla, who expedited research into the ordinance, said the county law, which mirrors the Bishop law, only imposes "for-cause" eviction standards. Neither ordinance addresses rent control, which is covered by the state law. They don't impact "just-cause" evictions, such as a tenant violating a rental contract or failing to pay rent, either.

"The law nor the ordinance does not bar all evictions," she said. Chuchla said the ordinance could be invoked by a tenant who has received

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QUOTE OF THE DAY
 "Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please."
 - Mark Twain

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RCRC gives to county groups

The Rural County Representatives of California through rural community and business leaders from across the state raised \$61,500 for five Inyo County charities at RCRC's 2019 annual meeting. Pictured here, with Lone Pine FFA students, are, left, Inyo County Supervisor and RCRC Chairman Matt Kingsley, Suzy Patton, and Krista Sullivan,

both Lone Pine School Board members, and right, Scotty Kemp, school board member, and Brenda Lacy, FFA teacher. Checks were presented to the groups at an Inyo Associates meeting Monday. For more photos from this event, see page 11.

Photo by Justin Caporusso/RCRC

Plane, plane go away

Inyo County dealing with aircraft encroaching on right-of way

By Terrance Vestal
Managing Editor

Inyo County Public Works Director Mike Errante said a bi-plane, that's been parked at the intersection of Laws Poleta and Poleta east of Bishop is gaining notoriety as well as annoyances.

Inyo County Sheriff's deputies on Oct. 22 responded to a report of an emergency landing of a single-engine bi-plane near the Owens Valley River by Bishop. Neither the pilot nor passenger suffered any injuries. Apparently the engine seized, which forced it down.

"After it was towed from the site of the forced landing, it hasn't moved since. We finally got a hold of the owner," Errante said. "He filled out a per-

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This bi-plane was forced to land south of the Bishop Airport on Oct. 22 due to engine trouble. It was towed to the intersection of Las Poleta and Poleta and has become an impromptu tourist attraction with people climbing on the craft and taking pictures. Inyo County is working on getting a hold of the owner to get the plane moved but has not had much luck.

Photo by Terrance Vestal

'Tis the season to Stuff a Bus

Salvation Army, ESTA, and KIBS Coats for Kids will be at Kmart Saturday

By Kristina Blum Justice
Register Staff

Eastern Sierra Transit Authority has one big goal this holiday season - to completely stuff one of its buses with food donations for the Salvation Army food pantry - and the community is invited to help them Stuff a Bus.

"We're really excited about this year's Stuff a Bus," said Dawn Vidal, administrative specialist for ESTA and coordinator for the Stuff a Bus pro-

gram. "This is our 13th annual Stuff a Bus, which helps support the Salvation Army's food pantry, which is really important because they help everyone, from individuals who are possibly homeless to whole families that just need a hand up. This is such an impactful program."

An ESTA bus will be parked in front of Kmart in Bishop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 23. The community is invited to stop by, say hi, and donate non-perishable food items to help completely fill the bus with food that will be distributed to those in need, right here in the Eastern Sierra.

Anyone who is not able to make a donation See STUFF A BUS ▶ Page 5



The Eastern Sierra Transit Authority will be hosting Stuff a Bus in front of Kmart in Bishop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 23.

Photo courtesy of Eastern Sierra Transit Authority

New probation regs proposed

Draft legislation would increase age eligibility for juvenile services

By Terrance Vestal
Managing Editor

The Chief Probation Officers of California late last week introduced proposed legislation that will "elevate the juvenile justice system through trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate, and evidence-based approaches serving young people in our communities," according to a draft of the Elevate Justice Act.

The act would require the development of individualized treatment and rehabilitation plans, utilize strategies to further limit the use of detention, expand probation practices that address racial and ethnic disparities, raise the age for juvenile court jurisdiction to the age of 19, and "further protect public safety by addressing the risk and need factors of young people with the age appropriate intensive services within the juvenile justice system."

Inyo County Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson said statewide the probation system has been progressive for the last 15 years regarding the juvenile and the adult justice systems.

"We're especially proud of our juvenile work for the past 10 years," Thomson told the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

Statewide, Thomson said there has been a 50 percent reduction in juvenile arrests and juvenile hall detentions have decreased by 65 percent.

The changes proposed will take "a lot of heavy lifting but I think that the policies and best practices are something the state can get behind," he said.

One of the highlights of the draft legislation includes elevating the age for juvenile court jurisdiction to include all teenagers allowing for 18 and 19-year-olds the benefits of intensive rehabilitative programming within juvenile justice. This would include young adults who

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FACES & PLACES

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10A

Giving to those who serve RCRC DONATES MORE THAN \$60,000 TO AREA NON-PROFITS



During the Inyo Associates meeting Monday, area non-profits were officially presented checks from money raised by the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC). Pictured here are Inyo County Fifth District Supervisor and RCRC Chairman Matt Kingsley, Southern Inyo Fire Protection Fire Chief Carl Dennett and his wife, Susie.

Photos by Justin Caporaso/RCRC



Matt Kingsley presents a check to the Southern Inyo Hospital Salvation group, including Southern Inyo Healthcare District CEO Peter Spiers, Anne Bramhall, Salvation secretary, Linda Tucker, Salvation president, and Anita Sonke, Salvation treasurer.



John Camphouse, right, representing United Methodist Social Services, with his daughter-in-law, Anna Camphouse, accepted a check for \$12,300 from the RCRC.



Southern Inyo Healthcare District CEO Peter Spiers, Kat Greenman of Sierra Wave and John Camphouse smile for the camera at the Inyo Associates meeting.



Inyo County Board of Supervisors Dan Totteroh, Matt Kingsley, Jeff Griffiths and Rick Pucci pose with the \$61,500 check on Tuesday, the total amount contributed to Inyo County by the RCRC.



Matt Kingsley presents a check to Healthy Communities of Southern Inyo Board of Directors Jaque Hickman, Kayla DeForest, Susan Lutze, Lynne Bunn and Mary Roper. Directors, Jill Patton and K.C. Wylie weren't present at the event.



Matt Kingsley, Anita Sonke and Jeff Griffiths visit during the event.

DID YOU KNOW? Inyo Associates

Inyo Associates was started by Father John Crowley in 1935 as a way for county residents and representative from local government agencies to share information and insights in an informal setting.

After almost 85 years, Inyo Associates continues to be the independent and vibrant group that draws prominent individuals with business, community and political backgrounds who strive to find common solutions to common problems throughout the county.

The group's monthly gatherings are open to the public. For more information, call the Bishop Chamber at (760) 873-8405.

"HOLIDAY HOEDOWN"

2019 Community Christmas Events






Main Street Parade-12/7
Starts at 4:30 pm at High Country Lumber, ends at Bishop City Park for Tree Lighting Ceremony. Rotary Santa Mile Run starts at 5:45 at Bishop Chamber.

Street of Lights Party-12/7
Downtown shops open until 8pm. Music, refreshments, warming fires & fun. Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus at Bishop Chamber. Visit participating merchants to enter raffle - \$500 local shopping spree is top prize.

Railroad Express-12/14
10am-3pm at Lums Museum. Train Rides, crafts, ornament making, wagon rides, visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus. Tickets: \$10 for kids ages 3-12, \$15 over 12.

Chamber Holiday Mixer-12/19
5:30-7:30 pm at High Country Lumber. Complimentary appetizer, no-host bar, raffle prizes and great company!

Contact Bishop Chamber of Commerce for more information - (760)873-8405
www.bishopchamberofcommerce.com

Photos Courtesy of Debra Wolf, The Bishop Star Photographs