



MONO COUNTY  
**SHERIFF**

911

P.O. Box 616 / 100 BRYANT STREET • BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517 • (760) 932-7549 / FAX (760) 932-7435

*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/Coroner

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

TO: All Media Outlets  
FROM: Shannon Kendall, PIO  
DATE: February 25, 2009  
RE: Property Recovered in Burglaries

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On February 22, 2009, Terry Lee Bouch, age 50 of Bishop, CA was arrested by the Bishop CHP when they discovered that he was in possession of a loaded firearm on his person. When the handgun was run, it came back to being a stolen gun out of Mono County back in December 2008.

Mono County Sheriff's investigators were notified of the arrest and firearm recovery and after a crime scene investigation of the suspect's vehicle and residence it was determined that he might be responsible for numerous burglaries in Mono County.

On Monday, February 23, 2009 a search of Bouch's residence by Mono County Sheriff, Inyo County Sheriff and the Bishop Police Department led to the recovery of stolen property from more than a dozen reported burglaries in Mono County over the last several years. Items recovered included firearms, power tools, construction equipment and home furnishings estimated to be worth \$25,000 - \$30,000. Inyo County Sheriff and the Bishop Police Department also recovered items related to burglaries in their area.

The investigation continues as more property is recovered from other Mono County burglaries and is being identified by the victims.



*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/Coroner

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

To: All Media  
From: Shannon Kendall, PIO  
Source: Investigator John Estridge  
Date: April 23, 2009

### **THE IMPORTANCE OF DOCUMENTING YOUR PROPERTY**

The Mono County Sheriff's Department would like to remind all visitors and citizen's of Mono County the importance of documenting your property. Items such as firearms, power tools, televisions, computers, and appliances all have serial numbers which should be recorded and stored in a secure location such as a fire safe. Valuables such as hand tools and other non-serialized items can be engraved with a driver's license number (never use your social security number). All items as well as your entire residence should be video taped in case needed by law enforcement or for insurance purposes.

During a recent burglary case, many power tools and other items were returned to their rightful owners because they had significant markings on them or the serial numbers had been recorded. Many other very expensive items believed to be stolen may never be returned because the owners can not be identified.

A surprising fact is how many thefts of construction tools go unreported. It is very easy to say to yourself "what difference does it make; I'll never see my tools again". Recording serial numbers and reporting thefts will greatly assist law enforcement in returning your property if it is stolen.

Thank you for your assistance in keeping Mono County a safe place to work and play.



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To: All Media Outlets  
From: Shannon Kendall, PIO  
Source: Sgt. Jeff Beard  
Date: May 2, 2009  
RE: **MISSING AIRCRAFT LOCATED**

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Yesterday, at approximately 2:20 p.m. a U.S. Air Force Pavehawk helicopter crew from Nellis AFB located and verified an aircraft debris field approximately 10-12 miles northeast of Mammoth Lakes on the east side of Highway 395. The debris was consequently confirmed as the aircraft that had been reported overdue on April 24, 2009.

This small aircraft had been en route from Tonopah, NV to Modesto, CA on April 24, 2009 when it was reported missing by the Air Force Rescue Coordinator Center. A full scale search was initiated early Saturday morning (April 25, 2009) in southern Mono County. The search efforts were comprised of the Mono County Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue Team, California Emergency Management Agency and the Civil Air Patrol (California & Nevada).

Two individuals lost their lives in this tragic accident: Allan Raymond Melendy, age 67 of Canon City, Colorado and Mary Elizabeth Hayden, age 63 of Canon City, Colorado. The cause and manner of this crash is currently under investigation. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is expected to arrive in Mono County today to start investigating the cause of the crash.

Additional information will be released as it becomes available.



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Undersheriff

To: Media Outlets  
From: Shannon Kendall, PIO  
Date: May 5, 2009  
RE: Fire South of Bridgeport

On Tuesday, May 05, 2009 CHP received a call from a truck driver passing through highway 395 near the Virginia Creek Settlement outside of Bridgeport, CA who observed what appeared to be a tree on fire. The Mono County Sheriff's Department Dispatch requested fire crews to respond at approximately 12:05 p.m. Bridgeport Fire Department, Lee Vining Fire Department, Toiyabe National Forest and Bureau of Land Management responded to the area and discovered shrubs and the surrounding area on fire.

The crews successfully extinguished the fire by approximately 3:25 p.m. No one was injured in the fire nor was there any loss of property. The cause of the fire is unknown and is under investigation by BLM.



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**PRESS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET**

TYPE OF INCIDENT: DEATH INVESTIGATION  
DATE/TIME OCCURRED: 05-12-2009 AT 11:30 A.M.  
LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE: Turn out on Highway 108 next to West Walker River  
VICTIM: James Darrell Braden  
VICTIM'S ADDRESS: MISSION VIEJO, CA  
AGE: 41  
OCCUPATION: COMPUTER PROGRAMMER

**SUMMARY OF INCIDENT:**

ON SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2009 JAMES BRADEN DROVE TO GARDNERVILLE, NV TO VISIT WITH FAMILY. AT THE TIME OF HIS VISIT, HE WAS APPARENTLY SUICIDAL DUE TO RECENT MARITAL PROBLEMS. SOMETIME ON MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009, HE DROVE FROM GARDNERVILLE TO A TURN OUT ON HIGHWAY 108 NEXT TO THE WALKER RIVER AND USED A HANDGUN TO COMMIT SUICIDE. ON TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2009 FAMILY MEMBERS WENT SEARCHING FOR BRADEN AND FOUND HIM AT THE ABOVE LOCATION. THE MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT WAS NOTIFIED AND RESPONDED TO THE LOCATION WHERE BRADEN WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD AT THE SCENE. THE MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT IS INVESTIGATING.

SOURCE: RICK HAHN, DEPUTY  
PREPARED BY: SHANNON KENDALL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER  
DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2009 AT 8:00 A.M.



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To: Media Outlets  
From: Shannon Kendall, PIO  
Source: Sgt. Phil West, Mono County Sheriff's Department  
RE: California Peace Officers' Memorial  
Date: May 14, 2009

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**LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TAKES PART IN CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL**

Every year around this time, the California Peace Officers' Memorial Service is held at the Capitol in Sacramento, CA. This year the service took place on Friday, May 9, 2009. The main purpose of this Memorial is to honor all peace officers killed in the line of duty, as well as all family members of those killed. The names of those killed in the line of duty, get placed onto the memorial each year. After the California service each year, the ceremony heads to Washington D.C. for the National Peace Officers' Memorial which will take place Friday, May 15, 2009.

Part of the tradition of this annual memorial service is the mounted patrol (horses/mules and riders) from agencies all over California. This year there were 80 mounts and riders. The mounts are always a huge crowd pleaser with spectators and even families of the fallen officers taking tons of pictures to capture the event. The Sacramento Police Department's Mounted Unit was gracious enough to host a boarding facility for all the mounts from around the state of California. This was greatly appreciated.

Locally, we had four officers involved in the Memorial this year. Investigator Craig Oyster and his mount Norco from Inyo County Sheriff's Department, Sgt. Marc Moscovitz and his mount Flammable from Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Officer Andy Lehr and his mount Easy, also from Mammoth Lakes Police Department and finally Sgt. Phil West and his mount Abby from the Mono County Sheriff's Department.

Although it takes a tremendous amount of time and effort to participate in such an event, all the officers from our area that took part considered it a privilege to honor all the fallen officers. They look forward to attending each year and do so with great pride.



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Undersheriff

To: All Media Outlets

From: Shannon Kendall, PIO

Date: May 20, 2009

RE: **Mono County Sheriff's Department takes Part in "Field of Dreams"**

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On May 15, 2009, the community of Bridgeport in conjunction with the North Valley Chapter of the California Deer Association came together for the first annual "Bridgeport Community Field of Dreams 2009". This event was created to provide a weekend of fishing memories for special needs children. The event hosted seven kids altogether (along with six parents/guardians); kids that were absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to spend their weekend in the Eastern Sierras doing things they've only dreamed of.

The event, which took weeks to coordinate and plan, was headed up by Rey and Kat Robles, Ron and Paulette Sheffield, Perry Pasquale and Co-Chairman of CDA, Larry Crabtree. Local businesses provided a lot of support for the event including access to motels, restaurants, etc. There were several businesses that were kind enough to donate to the event: Rey Robles donated boats and a guided fishing trip through Stay Bent Fishing Guide Service, the California Deer Association donated hats, backpacks, flashlights and other cool stuff. Rhino's Bar and Grill donated a pizza dinner for the crew when they arrived to town on Friday evening. Virginia Creek Settlement and Hay's Street Café donated breakfast on Saturday morning, Albert's Meat Market and the General Store provided sack lunches to everyone and Jolly Kone provided breakfast and shirts on Sunday morning. There was fishing equipment donated by the Sheriff's Department, Ken's Sporting Goods, and Bridgeport Reservoir Marina. Bi-County Ambulance Service Rep, Alex Bumpus, donated new fishing rods with reels & line to all of the kids.

The Mono County Sheriff's Department was honored to participate in this event. Rey "Mundo" Robles, a Public Safety Officer with the Sheriff's Department and Mono County Sheriff's Safety Officer, Pam Treadwell with her patrol boat, were on hand to help get kids, parents, and equipment out to the fishing hot spots. Rey's wife Kat, took tons of pictures and had a blast doing it. The Sheriff's Department gave out t-shirts, whistles, key chains, nail clippers, juice and cookies. The kids had fun returning to the shore and cleaning their fish. Every child caught fish, with over 50 fish caught that day!

That evening everyone met at Casa Michaela's for an all you could eat dinner followed by a camp fire and fun and the Robles House.

The event was a huge success due to all the hours, days and weeks of planning and preparation from everyone involved. The Mono County Sheriff's Department was truly privileged to be associated with this event. It's events like these that make living in a small community truly rewarding. A special thanks to Rey Robles and Pam Treadwell of our Department – and to *everyone* who contributed to this selfless, worthwhile event.



*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/Coroner

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

## **PRESS RELEASE**

On 07/01/2009 at 8:45 p.m. the Mono County Sheriff's Department received a report of a partially submerged boat on Bridgeport Reservoir. Personnel from Mono County Sheriff's Department, Bridgeport Fire Department and Mono County Paramedics responded to Bridgeport Reservoir and commenced searching for the partially submerged boat.

During the search for the boat, the responders were contacted by an adult female reporting her husband overdue from a fishing outing. The responders located the boat anchored approximately 60 yards from the shore.

A Sheriff's Deputy swam to the boat and found the boat to be unoccupied. The boat was moved to shore and a search for the occupant began. The search for the occupant lasted until midnight. The search was suspended until 6:00a.m.on 07/02/2009.

On 07/02/2009 personnel from Mono County Sheriff's Department, Mono County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team and mutual aid resources from Toiyabe National Forest Bridgeport Ranger District responded to Bridgeport Reservoir and resumed the search efforts.

The search continues at this time and additional resources have been requested from San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department to assist with the search efforts.

The name of the missing boater will not be released at this time. Further information will be released as it becomes available.

This press release was prepared by: Sergeant Jeff Beard  
Date: May 1, 2009  
Time: 2120 hours



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Sheriff/Coroner

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

To: All Media  
From: Jennifer Hansen  
Source: Deputy Pete DeGeorge  
Date: July 9, 2009

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

On 07/08/2009 at approximately 4:30 pm, the Mono County Sheriff's Department received a report of a possible downed aircraft in the Twin Lakes area of Mammoth Lakes. Personnel from the Mono County Sheriff's Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department, Mono County Paramedics, and the Mono County Search and Rescue team responded to Twin Lakes and commenced a search for the downed aircraft. The aircraft was located above Twin Lakes Resort and the occupants were found to be deceased.

The aircraft was traveling from Phoenix, AZ enroute to Washington. The aircraft landed at the Mammoth/Yosemite airport to refuel. Upon takeoff, it was report that the aircraft flying very low. It apparently then tried to turn to get out of the area and then hit some trees and crashed. The FAA and NTSB are in the area as of 07/09/2009 to determine what caused the crash. Further details are pending the investigation. Names will be released pending notification of next of kin.



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Undersheriff

To: All Media  
From: Jennifer Hansen  
Source: Deputy Pete DeGeorge  
Date: September 2, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On 08/30/2009, the Mono County Sheriff's Department received a call of a possible deceased climber on the third pillar of Mount Dana. The victim was identified as Jeffrey Robert Maurer. He was a long time employee of the park service out of Yosemite. He and a friend were climbing the route known as Lenticular Limbo on the third pillar of Mount Dana at an approximate altitude of 10,000 feet. He was the lead climber and was placing five pieces of protection up along their route. The friend felt golf ball sized rocks falling around and realized he was falling. Climbers on another route heard the cries for help and went to the location. One climber hiked out to call for help. Personnel from the Mono County Sheriff's Department, the Mono County Search and Rescue team, and the Yosemite Search and Rescue team responded to Lee Vining Airport awaiting assistance of a CHP helicopter to fly the teams to the location of the fallen climber. The helicopter was unable to land due to high winds. Ground teams accessed the area in the afternoon, but were unable to reach the victim due to steep, loose terrain and the late time of day.

On 08/31/2009, the Mono County Search and Rescue ground team reached the victim. The Yosemite helicopter was unable to land near the victim due to high winds. It transported personnel from Mono County and Yosemite Search and Rescue teams to the top of the third pillar where they conducted a raising operation and recovered the body that afternoon. The death is thought to be accidental and is under investigation by the Mono County Sheriff's Department.



*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/ Coroner

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

**To: All Press Outlets**

**From: Ralph Obenberger, Undersheriff**

**Date: October 14, 2009**

**RE: Mono County Jail Flooding Causes Inmate Evacuation**

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During the week of October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 the Mono County Jail and Administration Facility in Bridgeport, working with Mono County Public Works and a local roofing contractor, began a long overdue roofing project which was to install a new roof over the entire complex. The initial work done was the removal of the old existing roof down to the concrete slabs. Knowing that a large winter storm was forecasted, attempts were made to cover the exposed roof and to minimize the possibility of water/snow compromising the interior of the facility.

On the morning of Tuesday October 13, 2009 a large early season winter storm moved into Mono County bringing snow, heavy rain and high winds. At approximately 10:30 A.M. the first signs of water entering the Jail and Administration facility were noticed. Soon after that it was obvious that the attempted procedures to minimize the water from entering the interior of the facility were not working. By late morning the decision was made to evacuate all inmates to another jail facility for their safety and well being.

In a meeting with Mono County Superior Court Judge Stan Eller, it was determined that a small number of inmates, with minor offenses and/or sentences, would either be released on their own recognizance or be re-sentenced to serve their time at a later date. The other inmates that remain in custody would have to be relocated to another facility, as the Sheriff deems it necessary.

A security team from the Mono County Sheriff's Department was assembled and shortly after 12:00 P.M. all inmates, with the exception of two whose cells were not affected by the water at this point, were moved over the Bridgeport Memorial Hall which was now being utilized as a temporary housing location.

Contact was made to the Inyo County Sheriff's Department, Washoe County Sheriff's Department and Douglas County Sheriff's Department, to determine which of their facilities could assist in housing upwards of thirty inmates for an undermined amount of time. Each Department agreed to house our inmates, with each having a limited amount of space due to their own inmate population issues. It was determined to move all

inmates, who were to remain in custody due to the fact they could not be re-sentenced or released on their own recognizance, to the Inyo County Sheriff's Department facility in Independence.

At approximately 3:00 P.M., numerous Mono County Sheriffs Department units, along with several units from the California Highway Patrol, transported twenty two inmates to the Inyo County Jail Facility in Independence without incident, thus leaving the Mono County Jail Facility vacant.

During this incident Mono County Public Works employees, along with Sheriff's Department employees, worked to minimize further interior damage to the facility. Late in the evening, two outside companies were also called in to also assist in cleanup operations. Mono County Information Technologies employees worked throughout the day and evening maintaining integrity for the various computer systems necessary for the Sheriff's Department to conduct business relating to the 911 system and records department.

The California State Office of Emergency Services was contacted for a portable communications trailer for possible use if the situation worsens, along with a transport vehicle that might be needed due to transportation from Inyo County to Mono County Courts.

All court proceedings for inmates, both in custody and released, will still be conducted in Mono County Superior Courts as scheduled. At this time all relatives of inmates should contact the Inyo County Jail Facility for visitation or information.

The Mono County Sheriff's Department dispatch is fully operational. All 911 emergency calls and any routine calls using the business line(s) to the Sheriff's Department will be handled per usual through the Bridgeport Facility.

At this time it is unknown when the Mono County Jail Facility will re-open.

*The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff's Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.*



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*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

**To: All Press Outlets**

**From: Ralph Obenberger, Undersheriff**

**Date: October 16, 2009**

**RE: Update On Mono County Jail Flooding**

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As of Friday October 16, 2009 the Mono County Jail is still non-operational and is closed. The rehabilitation of the facility is on-going and moving forward, although it is expected to take a minimum of two to three weeks to possibly house inmates once again in Bridgeport.

Due to the Mono County inmates being housed in the Inyo County Jail Facility, Inyo County Jail is at or close to maximum capacity. Because of this, Mono County has now moved a number of inmates to the El Dorado County Jail Facility that is located in South Lake Tahoe. New arrests will still be initially booked at the Inyo County Jail, but will more than likely be moved to the El Dorado Jail soon after that.

Any one with questions regarding inmates can call the Mono County Jail at 760-932-7549.

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*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

**To: All Press Outlets**

**From: Jennifer Hansen**

**Date: November 3, 2009**

**RE: Update on Mono County Jail Flooding**

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As of Tuesday, November 3, 2009, the Mono County Jail is still closed. The rehabilitation to the interior of the facility is on schedule and nearing completion. Dispatch operations are currently on schedule to move back into the facility on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Inmates will begin to be transported back to the jail from El Dorado County on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. All the primary work will be complete and the facility is on schedule to be operational on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone with questions regarding inmates can call the Mono County Jail at 760-932-7549.

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*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/Coroner

**MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**- PRESS RELEASE -**

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

Date: December 11, 2009  
RE: Missing Person: Jay Lafontaine  
From: Jennifer Hansen

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On December 4, 2009 Mr. Jay Lafontaine from Pleasanton, CA, was reported overdue from a camping trip in which he was to visit both Bodie and Death Valley. He was expected to return home on December 2. On November 27, he called his wife stating he was driving to Bodie where he would spend the night and then continue on to Death Valley. This was the last contact the family had with him. Mono County Sheriff's Department was contacted by the Pleasanton Police Department to be on the lookout for him. In the initial search, Mono County Sheriff's Deputies searched the area by vehicle and did not locate him.

On December 10, 2009, the Mono County Sheriff's Department, with the assistance of CHP and their helicopter, continued their search of the area around Bodie and found the black Jeep Wrangler of Mr. Jay Lafontaine on the U.S. Forest Service Road #169 which was stuck in the snow. The Jeep was not occupied by Mr. Lafontaine initiating a search and rescue to locate him. Mono County Sheriff's Deputies, with the assistance of Mono County Sheriff Search and Rescue team members and Mineral County, NV, Search and Rescue team members, deployed snowmobiles to search the area around where the Jeep was located.

Mono County Sheriff Search and Rescue team members found Mr. Lafontaine deceased approximately 2.5 miles from his vehicle on U.S. Forest Service Road #169. Mr. Lafontaine was the apparent victim of hypothermia. The exact cause of death is still under investigation.

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**MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

**To: All News Outlets**

**From: Ralph Obenberger, Undersheriff**

**Date: December 23, 2009**

**RE: Traffic Stop Leads To Gift Cards & Narcotic Chemicals Being Seized**

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On Tuesday, December 22, 2009 at approximately 4:53 PM a Mono County Deputy conducted a routine traffic stop on a vehicle in the area of Highway 395 just south of Hot Creek Road for expired registration. The Deputy contacted the driver, identified on scene as Miss Marianne Uribe age 49 a resident of Richmond Michigan and the passenger Mr. Earl Steven Williams age 55 a resident of Tempe Arizona, and explained the reason for the traffic stop.

Mono County Dispatch confirmed three outstanding warrants for Miss Uribe for charges such as narcotics and traffic violations; they were unable to confirm any positive identification for Mr. Williams under the name and date of birth that he had given to the deputy.

During the investigation, deputies found over 350 'gift cards' with a face value in excess of \$31,000.00 which were located in the vehicle and in the personal possession of Mr. Williams. These gift cards were from various retailers, but a majority of them were from 'Walmart' stores. They also found in the vehicle numerous chemicals that are associated with the manufacturing of methamphetamine.

Long Valley Fire Chief Fred Stump responded to the Sheriff Sub-station and checked the chemicals and containers for any leaks or potential hazardous material situations. He found the containers intact and suggested the chemicals be stored separately for safety purposes.

Both suspects were arrested and transported to the Bridgeport Sheriff Station for booking. They will face charges ranging from possession of chemicals to manufacture methamphetamine, possession of narcotics, false identification to a peace officer, various traffic violations, and possibly stolen property; Investigators are still trying to determine if they can confirm that the 'gift cards' are stolen or legitimately obtained.

During the booking process it was determined via fingerprints that Mr. Williams, was actually Mr. Howard Dale Williams and is a Parole At Large and has an outstanding warrant out of the Sacramento area. During the booking process it was discovered that Miss Uribe had also hidden a plastic baggie of what appeared to be methamphetamine in her bra.

**GIFT CARD FRAUD WARNING:**

The Mono County Sheriff's Department wants to inform the citizens and visitors of Mono County that gift card fraud is happening all over the country. The fraud itself occurs when a suspect illegally obtains the security code for a gift card and places the card back onto the sales rack/display at the establishment – the suspect does not purchase the card, but the card is later purchased by an unsuspecting customer. The suspect is able to monitor the card via the internet to determine when the card has been activated, at which time the suspect then having the security code for the card makes fraudulent purchases before the legitimate patron spends or uses his/her gift card. Individuals can view previous news stories regarding gift card fraud that are available at the links below and/or they can do an internet search for further information.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETLpVTKBFMg&NR=1>

OR

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvUinYHHreY>

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*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

**8To:** All Press Outlets

**From:** Ralph Obenberger, Undersheriff

**Date:** April 2, 2009

**RE:** Boating and Fishing Season Almost Upon Us

The Fishing Season is almost upon the Eastern Sierra with opening day set for April 25<sup>th</sup>. With the influx of boaters on Mono County Waterways, the Mono County Sheriff's Department would like to remind boaters, float tubers, water skiers, etc. to think safety when enjoying their water activities this year.

The Mono County Sheriff's Department continues to operate a Boating Law Enforcement Program under grant funding from the State of California along with other funds from Mono County itself. We currently operate three patrol boats: one on Crowley Lake, one on Topaz Lake and the third roams the entire county's waterways.

Please use caution and common sense when operation any type of water craft for your safety, along with other individuals that may be on the water. Most watercraft must be registered, al motorboats, including sailboats longer than 8 feet with engines, must have a valid boating sticker and CF number displayed if used on California waters. Please consider these tips for your safety and enjoyment of Mono County waterways:

- Carry approved safety equipment – especially life vests for all passengers. Personal floatation devices (PFD's) must be worn by children 11 years of age or younger.
- Weather changes quickly in the mountains, know when to come ashore, before heavy rains or a thunderstorm hits.
- Know the Boating Rules of the Road. Powerboats should yield right of way to canoes, kayaks, and sailboats. However, non-motorized boaters should steer with courtesy and should be as visible as possible.
- All boaters should stay clear of fishing lines, swimming beaches, and dams.
- Observe posted speed limits, and go slower when there are other boats about. Know how your wake will affect other boaters and anglers.

- Please be respectful of our waters and land. Don't spill fuel or oil, and take all bottles, cans, and trash back to be recycled.
- Finally, don't boat under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or while sleepy. Live to boat again.

We would like to remind everyone that the Quagga Mussel has been detected in various Mono County Waterways. Please refer to the following websites for information dealing with these mussels and how you as a boat owner can help stop the spread of these animals in Mono County waterways.

Dept. of Fish and Game - <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel>

Los Angeles Water and Power - <http://ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp010475.jsp>

US Geological Survey - <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.asp?speciesID=95>

*The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff's Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.*



MONO COUNTY  
**SHERIFF**

**911**

P.O. Box 616 / 100 BRYANT STREET • BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517 • (760) 932-7549 / FAX (760) 932-7435

*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/Coroner

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

**To: All Local Media**

**From: Shannon Kendall, PIO**

**Date: March 12, 2009**

**RE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LOCAL LOSES DOG TO MOUNTAIN LION NEAR TRAVERTINE**

On Sunday afternoon, March 8, 2009, Bridgeport local and Librarian Abbey Bridges was taking a hike with her dog near the Travertine Hot Springs area outside of Bridgeport, CA. During the hike, the dog walked away from Bridges and over by some Pinion trees. Bridges suddenly heard her dog getting attacked and killed. Later, taking friends with her, Bridges went out to search for her dog and found large mountain lion tracks in the area. She also found her dog's remains nearby.

The mountain lion has been seen by other local individuals during the daytime on Masonic Road and at the Bridgeport Airport on the runway. Individuals are advised to be aware of the possibility of seeing the mountain lion if they are out walking around the Bridgeport area, especially if dogs are on the walk. Mountain lions are extremely dangerous and should never be approached. If anyone sees a mountain lion that is a threat to public safety, don't hesitate to contact the Sheriff's Department who can respond and will notify the Department of Fish and Game as well.

The Mono County Sheriff's Department offers their condolences to Ms. Bridges over the loss of her dog.



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*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/Coroner

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

**TO: MAMMOTH TIMES**  
**FROM: SHANNON KENDALL, PIO**  
**SOURCE: SGT. JEFF BEARD**  
**DATE: March 16, 2009**

**MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE GRANT PROGRAM  
APPLICATION AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW/COMMENTS**

The proposed 2009 Off-Highway Vehicle Grant application for the Mono County Sheriff's Department is available for public review and comment at the Mono County Sheriff's Department located at 100 Bryant Street in Bridgeport, Ca. The application may be viewed at [www.ohv.parks.ca.gov](http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov), click on the GRANTS tab and follow the links. The application may be viewed and comments may be received until April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009. If you have questions regarding the application, contact Sergeant Jeff Beard at (760)-932-7549 ext.114