

Man Drowns In EB Lake

Sentinel Staff

The New Mexico State Police Search and Recovery Team was called out to Elephant Butte Lake State Park Sunday, June 13 in response to a possible drowning. The Search and Recovery Team arrived on the scene shortly after 3 p.m. and conducted a shore pattern search.

Within the first hour of searching, a member of the Search and Recovery Team was able to locate the victim. A 24-year-old male was found in a depth of approximately 12 feet of water and was pronounced deceased at the scene by the Office of the Medical Investigator.

The man was said to have been wading in the water when he lost his footing and went under.

New Mexico State Park Rangers are leading the investigation of this drowning. For additional information, contact the New Mexico State Parks Division.

EB Reviews Open City Positions

By Chuck Wentworth
SENTINEL

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In addition to approving a resolution advancing an upgrade set for Mescal Loop and endorsing a contract for engineering services June 16, Elephant Butte City Council members okayed an amended resolution regarding local elections, discussed posts available on the board this coming November, and agreed to consider pay/stipend increases for future members of the council.



BLM WORKSHOP - Elephant Butte Mayor Edna Trager said a public workshop with Bureau of Land Management officials was in the process of being scheduled June 16. This meeting will focus on the staging of large events and permitting processes required for such gatherings.

OPEN SEATS SET FOR ELECTION

As noted, council members joined in unanimous approval of Resolution No. 20-21-125, which reaffirmed that four positions on the board would be included on Sierra County's general election ballot November 2. This measure amended a previous resolution to include a two-year councilor post, alongside two other four year commission posts and the four-year mayor's position on the upcoming ballot.

The amendment became necessary following last month's announcement by councilor Gerald LaFont that he would be stepping away from the board effective July 1.

With this measure addressed, councilors later turned to an additional need to seat a temporary replacement for LaFont. Board members agreed they would look to fill this vacancy in the coming weeks, and acknowledged the appointed individual would be asked to serve until the November election process is complete.

Council discussion also included a need to fill present vacancies on the Lodgers Tax Board and Planning and Zoning Commission, as well as to secure members for a newly established

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SIERRA COUNTY SENTINEL

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Dam Site Marina Moves



(SENTINEL Photo/Adrian Chavez)

On the morning of Wednesday, June 15 Lago Retail Inc. moved part of the Damsite Marina across the Elephant hill to its new location in front of the dam. The move will allow the marina to stay operational despite the lakes water levels dropping. Lago Retail Inc. hopes to have the move finished by the 4th of July weekend.

County Opposes Biden's 30x30

By Chuck Wentworth
SENTINEL

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Among agenda items that included recognition of Sheriff's Deputy Marina Requejo for actions above the call of duty, the approval of road projects and several special presentations June 15, Sierra County Commissioners joined in rebuffing a proposed conservation program initiated by US President Joe Biden earlier this year.

The so-called 30x30 initiative began with an executive order issued shortly after the President took office, which would reportedly seek to reverse negative impacts associated with biodiversity decline and climate change. The President's plan aims to conserve at least 30-percent of US lands and freshwater, and 30-percent of US territorial ocean areas by 2030.

A subsequent report issued by the Biden administration suggested the establishment of an "America the Beautiful Campaign," which would center upon locally led efforts to conserve and restore US lands and waters in the coming decade.

While the President's initiative would ostensibly seek to conserve and protect US land and waters, Sierra County Commissioners expressed concerns that the effort instead poses significant questions pertaining to public access and future management for neighboring communities and all Americans.

County attorney Dave Pato introduced a proposed resolution

(COUNTY' Continued On Page A2)



ABOVE AND BEYOND - Sierra County Sheriff's Deputy Marina Requejo was formally recognized by Sheriff Glenn Hamilton and members of the Sierra County Commission June 15, for taking precautionary steps that in all likelihood saved the life of a local resident unknowingly suffering symptoms of a stroke. Requejo was presented with the Sheriff's Departments Life Saving Award, for her persistent efforts in obtaining prompt medical care for the individual, who was initially engaged during her response to a traffic incident. Sheriff Hamilton explained how Requejo perceived that something might be medically amiss with the individual. Rather than just following through with standard processes, she acted upon her concerns and assured the individual was transported to SVH, where an emergency air-ambulance transfer was ordered and the potentially life threatening issue was successfully treated.

Enjoying T-or-C's Open Market



(SENTINEL Photos/Chuck Wentworth)

After successfully resuming their customary summer schedule June 5, members of the Sierra County Farmers Market were back in force to welcome a steady stream of patrons once again Saturday morning, June 12. With bushels full of fresh farm-to-table produce, artisan honey and a variety of other interesting products and crafts, the Saturday gathering provided both wise organic shoppers and curious patrons a bountiful display to peruse under shady respites at Truth or Consequences Ralph Edwards Park.

REPAIR MADE: Electric Repair Buys Time

By Chuck Wentworth
SENTINEL

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Last week's issue of the Sentinel featured an announcement from the City of Truth or Consequences urging electric customers to practice conservation measures, as one of the municipality's two main transformers was in need of repair and struggling to meet ever growing summer demands.

Tuesday morning, June 15, T-or-C authorities issued a followup press release announcing a successful repair of the ailing transformer, and advising electric customers that conservation measures would no longer be required.

Prompting the city's initial announcement was a reported delay in the arrival of officials contracted to effect necessary repairs. This, along with uncertainty about the potential of a complete transformer failure and rising summer temperatures further reinforced city manager Bruce Swingle's call for customers to cut back daily use during the June 9 city commission meeting.

Fortunately, crew members with the Foxboro, Massachusetts based American Electrical Testing (AET) made arrangements to fly in to Sierra County Saturday, June 12 and were able to successfully address problems being experienced with the municipality's transformer during the day Sunday, June 13.

Electric Department Director Bo Easley said the AET team performed necessary tests on a "tap

(REPAIR' Continued On Page A6)

Spaceport America Site For Testing

By Alice Carruth

In a series of flights between June 1 and 6, Stratodynamics Inc. of Lewes, Delaware, launched its HiDRON stratospheric glider from a high-altitude balloon at Spaceport America in Sierra County, New Mexico, carrying technology supported by NASA's Flight Opportunities program for the first time. Flying aboard were technologies developed by the University of Kentucky in Lexington and NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia that aim to help researchers improve turbulence detection capabilities.

"Currently, commercial aviation relies on meteorology and pilot reporting to predict and communicate areas of turbulence that other piloted aircraft might encounter," said Sean Bailey, principal investigator for a wind probe from the University of Kentucky. "So, we hope to fill gaps in currently available methods of turbulence detection, which should benefit unpiloted drones, low-Earth orbit spacecraft, and aviation overall."

(SPACEPORT' Continued On Page A2)

QUIET MOMENTS

Lord, according to the riches of Your glory, grant the father's in the world to be strengthened with power through Your spirit in their inner being, so that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith- that they may be rooted and grounded in love, have strength to comprehend with all the saints and to know the love of Christ. Lord, help them to prosper and be in good health so that they may take care of their families as we enjoy this time to celebrate them. Amen

Weather Sierra County
SOURCE: National Weather Service
Lake Levels
Lake Elevation
(6-18-21): 4,311.87 ft.
(1 Year ago): 4,329.28 ft.

SOURCE: National Weather Service

	HIGH	LOW
June 11	105	69
June 12	106	71
June 13	104	72
June 14	102	72
June 15	99	72
June 16	99	73
June 17	98	72

Extended Forecast

Friday, June 18 Sunny - high 102 , low 70	Tuesday, June 22 Partly Cloudy - high 98 , low 74
Saturday, June 19 Mostly Sunny - high 103 , low 75	Wednesday, June 23 Partly Cloudy - high 100 , low 74
Sunday, June 20 Mostly Sunny - high 106 , low 77	Thursday, June 24 Mostly Sunny - high 102 , low 74
Monday, June 21 Mostly Sunny - high 102 , low 73	Friday, June 25 Mostly Sunny - high 103 , low 74

