# Trustees to discuss school sale on Tuesday

**Staff Reports**

A decision on the sale of old Kingsbury Middle School will top the agenda when Douglas County School District trustees meet Tuesday at Stateline.

The school board's August meeting begins at 3:30 p.m. at the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority Visitor Center, 169 U.S. Highway 50. The Kingsbury Middle School item is scheduled to be taken up at 4:10 p.m.

An offer from Glenbrook-based Lake Parkway LLC to purchase the property at 1900 Echo Drive at a price of $3.15 million was originally approved by trustees in July 2016. The deadline to close escrow expired on Monday, however, and trustees must now consider whether to approve or deny another extension.

Moore

The school was open from 1976 until 2008, when it was closed due to declining enrollment. The property was originally put up for sale in January 2012.

A 19-day extension of the deadline to close escrow was approved by trustees during their special meeting July 24 in Minden. School Board President Thomas Moore indicated afterward that no additional extensions would be granted.

"We will either finish closure of escrow or put it back on the market," Moore said afterward.

More than two dozen people showed up that meeting to express their disapproval of the zoning change to use the property for an affordable housing project.

Among the meeting's consent agenda items are the second hearing of a graduation requirements policy, a policy regarding the reporting student progress and approval of Linda Fields as vice-principal at Carson Valley Middle School.

A public comment period is scheduled for 6 p.m.

**Note:** Times for agenda items are estimated. Generally speaking, an item will be heard no earlier than the time indicated, however, items may be taken out of order and trustees may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. Trustees may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item at any time.

# Identities released in skydiving deaths

**Staff Reports**

Two tandem skydivers killed on Thursday morning were identified as guide Ashlie Caceras, 43, of Lodi, Calif., and David Becker, 21, of Sankt Martin, Germany.

The parachutists reportedly fell to their deaths at Minden-Tahoe Airport on Thursday morning.

The incident was first reported at 10:15 a.m. Thursday. Both skydivers were found dead near the entrance to the Douglas County Maintenance Yard off Heybourne Road.

Initial investigation revealede that the two skydivers were attached by single harness to a single parachute, according to Douglas County Sheriff's Capt. Jim Halsey. "They appear to have participated in a tandem jump with a single parachute as part of an activity from Skydive Lake Tahoe, a commercial skydive tour business," Halsey said. He said there was a secondary parachute.

The Federal Aviation Administration and the Douglas County Sheriff's Office are conducting the investigation, Halsey said.

Heybourne Road was closed while the investigation was being conducted by the FAA. Federal investigators arrived at the scene at 11:45 a.m.

This is the second parachute-related incident at the airport in a week. On July 27, onlookers reported seeing a parachutist fall only to discover it was a cut away secondary parachute.

No one was injured in that incident.

The last fatal skydiving death at Minden-Tahoe occurred March 23, 2008, when Skydive Tahoe co-owner Wes Harberts' parachute malfunctioned.

In 2016, the U.S. Parachute Association recorded 21 fatal skydiving accidents in the U.S. out of roughly 3.2 million jumps.

# MEFIYI helps students learn life skills

**by Amy Alonzo**
The Record-Courier

Douglas County middle and high school students have an opportunity to get a leg up on entering the workforce.

The nonprofit organization Me-For-Incredible-Youth (MEFIYI), led by former NFL wide receiver/return specialist JoJo Townsell and his wife, Suzi, is offering a Reward Life Skills Club for sixth-through 12th-graders interested in developing skills for entering the workforce.

"Our goal is to help them make a transition to high school [and then] mentor them through high school," he said. "We're trying to get our kids work-ready."

This past year MEFIYI introduced a job readiness skills program to students at Carson Valley and Pau-Wa-Lu middle Schools. The program featured guest speakers from organizations including the Family Support Council and the University of Nevada.

Students participating in the program learn soft skills such as punctuality and setting goals, as well as hard skills including how to responsibly post to social media and how to create a student profile they can later convert to a resume.

This past school year, nearly 90 students participated in the Reward Club program at the middle school level. In the fall, the club is expanding to the high school and Townsell hopes to see the club meet between eight and 10 times per semester.

Schools set their own program times, but they are usually offered during lunch, Townsell said.

Although the club is geared toward student-athletes, Townsell said he views all students as student-athletes.

"Any student is welcome," he said. "If you feel you're a student athlete, come. If you don't feel you're a student athlete, come."

As part of this fall's program he hopes to incorporate internships and hands-on learning opportunities for students.

"There's a great deal of opportunity here in the Carson Valley and we want our students to know that," he said. "We have had businesses come to us letting us know how they support the kids. It's our job to let the kids about it."

SPECIAL TO THE R-C

MEFIYI organizer JoJo Townsell speaks to a group of students during a meeting.

## EIGHTH ANNUAL ALL 4 CHARITY KING CRAB, STEAK COOKOUT ON FRIDAY

The eighth annual "All 4 Charity" King Crab Feed & Steak Cookout will be held on Friday at 6 p.m. at the Douglas County Community & Senior Center.

The event has raised $150,000 and donated all funds to many worthy Douglas County Programs. Proceeds from the Friday event this year will support Me for Incredible Youth (MEFIYI) and Douglas High School's volleyball program.

MEFIYI's REWARD Club Program provides life skills, sports education and job-career training for middle school and high school student-athletes.

The Big Heart Rock and Roll Band will provide an acoustic classic rock entertainment that will include raffle, silent and live auction. Tickets are $40 for either the one-pound king crab or 12-ounce ribeye steak dinner. Online tickets are available or may be purchased at Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce. Send an email to mefiyirewards@gmail.com or call 775-781-5954 for information.

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