



DAILY MINER

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STREAKING

ACROSS THE WESTERN SKY

Google Images/Courtesy

This light across the sky Wednesday night is believed to be from a Chinese rocket.

Chinese rocket, not space invaders, likely cause of Wednesday night light show

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KINGMAN – If you were outdoors and looking up around 9:45 Wednesday night, you probably witnessed a bright streak of light crossing the Kingman skyline.

Conspiracies of alien invasions or downed airliners aside, the stream of light seen across the Western U.S. is believed to be the re-entry of the Chinese rocket.

According to The Arizona

Republic, Johnathan McDowell, an astronomer with the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, said the streak of light was from the re-entry of a Chinese rocket launched on June 25. Based on tracking data, McDowell said, the rocket re-entered about 9:40 p.m. over Utah.

“Observation reports from Utah indicate the second stage from the first Chang Zheng 7 rocket,” he tweeted.

But what was witnessed in Kingman had a southwest to northeast trajectory and started

at about 9:45 p.m. Although it looked like it was only a few miles above town, the debris was seen in Southern California, Las Vegas and Utah.

According to the Las Vegas Review Journal, the rocket re-entered the atmosphere near California late Wednesday night around the same time many people shared video on social media of a mysterious bright object streaking across the night sky.

U.S. Strategic Command spokeswoman Julie Ziegenhorn wouldn't say if the rocket ever

posed danger to people on the ground. She says the command often sees re-entries.

Ziegenhorn tells The Associated Press the Chinese CZ-7 rocket re-entered the atmosphere around 9:36 p.m. Pacific time. That's about the same time social media lit up with reports from Nevada, Utah and California of a small fireball streaking across the sky.

Ziegenhorn referred all other questions about the rocket to Chinese authorities.

See **STREAK, 3A**



RICK ARMSTRONG

Supervisor hopeful: I'll rein in spending

Armstrong says county is wasting millions

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KINGMAN – One candidate facing off against current Mohave County Board of Supervisor Chairwoman Jean Bishop is peeved about government spending.

Golden Valley Republican Rick Armstrong is looking to fill Bishop's District 4 supervisor spot and he's headstrong about not wasting tax dollars.

Armstrong, manager of Superior Tires on Highway 68 in Golden Valley, along with his wife and kids, have been Mohave County residents for 15 years. He's served in both the U.S. Army and Navy. He's also a member of the Northern Arizona Militia, Oath Keepers and Neighborhood Watch.

Out of control spending is what forced him to run for office. It's his biggest priority and he feels put off by the board.

“When I would ask (Bishop) why she voted a certain way on taxes or spending, I would either be ignored or told I just don't understand,” he said. “This is unacceptable.”

He said he was told by Bishop if he didn't like the way things were going, he should run for office. So now he is.

“I feel you are either part of the problem or part of the solution,” he said. “To sit idly by and allow the out of control spending and taxation without justification to continue made me part of the problem. By getting elected and changing the status quo it makes me part of the solution.”

He also feels strongly about the issue of dwindling water resources.

“We need to work with the legislators in getting control of our water,” he said. “Stop allowing our water aquifers to be drained dry to grow crops, like alfalfa, that are not benefiting the local economy and use a huge amount of water to grow.”

See **WASTE, 3A**

Registration for Aug. 30 primary ends Monday

U.S. Senate, county and city elections will be on ballot

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KINGMAN – Time is running out to weed out candidates in the latest elections.

Monday is the last day to register to vote in the Arizona primary election on Aug. 30.

This is the election that will narrow down choices for U.S. and state senators and representatives, Mohave County Board of supervisors, sheriff, county recorder, county assessor, mayor and city council.

This is a semi-open primary. Unlike the Presidential Preference Election in March that left a sour taste in the mouths of millions of Arizona voters, anyone can vote regardless of their party affiliation.

“They will remember they weren't allowed to vote in the presidential preference (election) if they were non-partisan or independent,” said Kim Stewart, administrative supervisor for Voter Registration. “We want to make sure this isn't the case in the primary.”

“Everybody gets to

vote. That's what we need to get out,” she said.

Voters will need to pick a party ballot. They have to choose either Republican, Democrat or Green Party. Libertarians have closed their primary.

Voters should be aware of what ballot they grab.

Mohave County has a strong Republican presence and some offices have only Republican candidates vying for a spot. Mohave County sheriff and supervisor for District 4 are two examples.

Stewart said voters should go to the county website to verify the parties of candidates and the positions they're running for.

“Once they're issued a ballot, they can't change their mind,” she said.

Stewart said that although no presidential candidates are on this ballot, many other important races will be decided. Early ballots will be mailed out Aug. 3. Most voters should have them by the end of that week.

Check your registration card and make sure your name and address are current. Notify Voter

See **VOTE, 3A**

TOURNAMENT HEATS UP



JC AMBERLYN/Miner

Serena Hopkins of the Torrance, Calif., Pride on the diamond Thursday during the ASA 12U Girls Fast Pitch Western National Championship at Centennial Park. The tournament continues today and Saturday, with the championship round slated to start at 6 p.m. Saturday. For more on the tournament, see Page 14A.

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