WE’LL HAVE A GAY OLD TIME!
Elevation founder Tom Whitman is Top Shelf

When Tom Whitman first decided to hold a gay ski week in Mammoth Lakes, he sent out a single email through his events company, Tom Whitman Presents, thinking he might get a few dozen attendees. He got 250. Flash-forward fifteen years, and 2,500 revelers identifying as LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender and Queer), and even some who identify as plain old straight, will descend on Mammoth Mountain this year for the annual Elevation Gay Ski. It’s the third largest gay ski event in the country, surpassed only by events at Whistler and Aspen (with Aspen being the largest).

“We pretty much grew every year, with the one drought year [2014-15] being the exception,” said Whitman on Thursday, March 16 over a cup of coffee at Black Velvet. He became enamored with Mammoth in college, when he was a ski racer for UCLA. “I just loved it. And a year later, three of us—a gay guy who worked at Intrawest, myself, and a guy who worked at Out Magazine were talking about our love of skiing and how California didn’t really have a gay ski week like some other resorts. So we modeled the vibe of Elevation after the Whistler event. Friendly, gregarious guys and girls coming around from all over the country and the world.”

“Unlike some other LGBT events, its not just about going to a party,” says Whitman. “There’s an activity involved. It’s a destination.”

He says that attendees range from double-black-diamond skiers to bunny slope cruisers, and some come just for the apres-ski events and skip the slopes. However, “I’d say about 90-95 percent of people who attend go out on the hill.” Whitman has now expanded Elevation to events in Lake Tahoe and Park City, Utah, but the Mammoth event remains the big party. “I love it, so it doesn’t feel like that much work, but it is a ton of work,” he says with a smile. “We start planning 7-8 months before the event, booking talent and DJs. Between everybody, the tech crew, dancers, and performers, about 30 people” for five days of events.

“We’ve built such huge event despite the fact that there are challenges getting to Mammoth,” said Whitman. At Wednesday’s welcome party at Lakanuki, “I met a couple from Sydney, Australia, someone who came from Miami, some people spend 10-14 hours traveling just to get here.” And Whitman said that Mammoth has had a welcoming attitude toward the group from the event’s inception. “I have to commend the town and everybody for welcoming us from the beginning…over the years we have had some really great advocates.” He said that during one of the first years of the event, “when we were kind of getting big, there were two cops in front of me, and they were talking about Elevation. And they said, ‘That group is amazing, not one person got into a fight!’”

“Service industry staff in Mammoth also love Elevation. ‘I tell the businesses where we have our parties, ‘be prepared, we will drink more premium than anyone else, and you will run out of vodka!’” says Whitman.

Whitman also emphasized that all of Mammoth is welcome to attend the fabulous parties that Elevation puts on. “We definitely welcome locals who are not LGBT. It’s a welcoming event. We get big groups of guys and girls and couples coming up just because we have great music.”

Visit www.mammothgayski.com for a list of this weekend’s events and info on Elevation’s “zero attitude” core mission.

GOGO CELEBRATES HER 5TH

Gogo Lunch turned 5 last Saturday. From left: Partygoers Tallie Saenz, J.P. Farber, Rilynn Schneider, Frankie Farber, Gogo and Cora Johnson.

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

Counties and LADWP try to figure out what to do with all the runoff

Early spring runoff is already filling canals and open fields in Inyo County following of one of the wettest winters on record as the snow is just beginning to melt. And, there could be more runoff coming with spring rains. As of March 14, Sierra snowpack was at 217-percent of normal and predictions are for approximately 750,000-acre feet of runoff. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power customers’ need about 500,000-acre feet to get them through the year.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power provided the water numbers and explained to Inyo County Supervisors at its meeting Tuesday, March 14 what it, and they, can do about all the water. LADWP has been letting water spill out on the ground, literally. Water is running out onto fields and meadows in the Owens Valley, an early start on letting go of some excess water and it has released, or spread, 17,000-acre feet between Pleasant Valley and Tinnemaha Reservoir, another 5,000 between Tinnemaha and Hapwee Reservoir and another 4,000-acre feet south to slightly within Kern County and Indian Wells Valley.

The water will recharge the see WATER, page 21

Watershed:

To view a map of this week’s watershed, see page 15.
57 MILLION PENNIES FOR YOUR THOUGHTS?

It was with a palpable sense of deja vu that I took in Wednesday’s “Walk, Bike, Ride” workshop which preceded the Mammoth Town Council meeting.

There was a very bright consultant with his PowerPoint presentation and his archetypal starched casual look. There was the rapt attention of Council which pretended it had never seen a PowerPoint presentation before. There were the big dreams we’ve dreamed before but which, perhaps, Mr. Consultant was hoping we hadn’t dreamed, so he put ‘em in his report to help justify his exorbitant fee.

But what really stirred the deja vu was when Mr. Consultant talked about how we would pay for his THREE proposed 150-300 space parking garages, or the proposed $24 million town-wide gondola system with its $4 million annual operating budget.

He said we would simply have to create an EIFD (Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District).

An EIFD is the latest craze among consultants and politicians who are always struggling how to mask their appetite for taking and spending money.

Here’s how it generally works. The politicians set a tax baseline for a particular area. That’s the cap. If property values rise in that area, the difference between the old valuation (and tax collection) in that area and the new valuation (and projected tax collection) is siphoned off into an EIFD slush fund which can be used for neighborhood improvements.

The EIFD would have its own board, just like MLH and MLR and MLT and all the other non-governmental organizations we’ve created around here.

Here’s the catch. All sorts of different governmental agencies have a claim on property tax. The Water District, School District, County, Fire, etc. Schools are automatically exempt. Other agencies can choose to voluntarily participate, or not.

Here’s where the deja vu comes in. Two years, Mrs. Consultant (Jamie Licko of Centro, Inc.) came to town to talk about how to fix parking. Her presentation was voluntary. Other agencies could choose to voluntarily participate, or not.

It’s not about keeping one’s friends close and one’s enemies closer. It’s about keeping Dan Holler closest of all because Dan Holler knows how to make it rain!

-Lunch

The County and MCWD, when they finally weighed in, said no way, we’re not interested in sacrificing tax revenue to such a district.

Two years later, a consultant again comes in and makes a splashy proposal without doing his homework and consulting affected agencies. It’s as if consultants are afraid to do research which involves speaking to actual people. The whole thing is D.O.A. EIFDead. The consultant could’ve known that just by a cursory look at The Sheet archives.

Councilman John Wenworth followed that up and tried to be nice by saying, “There are a lot of great ideas in here.” It’s hard not to believe Sauser’s blunt truth as opposition to Wenworth’s fuzzy generality.

I decided to check the agenda packet for the meeting scheduled later that evening, and as is my custom, I glanced through the register of demands to see what bills the town had paid over the past two weeks.

There were seven bills from consultants totaling $197,974. Here’s the breakdown:

- Reinard Brandley for Mammoth/Yosemite Airport: $82,063
- Darin Dinsmore for Downtown revitalization: $24,863
- Alta for the Walk, Bike, Ride workshop: $3,950
- Michael Baker Intl for the CEQA work on the M.U.F.: $7,335
- HMC Architects for Police Facility: $9,000
- HMC Architects for M.U.F.: $68,250
- PCR for the CEQA work on Floor Area Ratio: $2,513

I then tracked payments for these entities dating back to last August. Along the way, I added payments made to EDS (Environmental Diversin Solutions) for its consulting regarding solid waste issues.

The result: The Town of Mammoth has spent approximately $575,000 on the above consulting work dating from approximately July 1, 2016 to March 1, 2017.

Approximately $200,000 was spent on the M.U.F. during that time, a project we haven’t even formally decided to build.

Dinsmore has smartly collected $50,000 on his contract already. He knows the score. Better collect on that contract now before someone starts spreading rumors about the emperor. Smart man.

It’s not about keeping one’s friends close and one’s enemies closer. It’s
SCT TBD

March 31 and April 1, 2017
Charles Brown Auditorium at the Tri-County Fairgrounds
7:00pm (Doors at 6:00pm) - Different films each night
$15 per screening/$10 kids (through 8th grade)

Tickets available at Eastside Sports and Inyo Council for the Arts* in Bishop and The Booky Joint in Mammoth Lakes
For more information visit www.inyo.org or call 760-933-5614

*Credit card orders will be processed at box office

“...a softhearted comedy freckled with dark reflections on the unsatisfactory nature of life and the thorns of love”
—The New York Times

Outside Mullingar
by John Patrick Shanley
directed by Susan Dalian
Starring
Mike Dostrow
Allison McDonnell Page
Chuck Scatolino
Jarrett Jackson

5 Nights Only!!

Edison Theatre
100 College Pl SW
Mammoth Lakes, CA
March 29 thru April 1 @ 7pm
April 2 @ 4pm

*Tickets $20 Students & Seniors $18*
Purchase tickets online at sierraclasicttheatre.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 24 & SATURDAY, MARCH 25
Silent Disco: 5:30-8:30PM
“It’s all in your head”
3 DJs and 3 Channels for FREE!
Join the silent dance party in The Village Plaza.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 – SATURDAY, MARCH 25
Roaming Magician & Jugglers: 4:00-8:00PM
Be amazed by our roaming jugglers and magic show!

FOR MORE EVENTS, SALES, SPECIALS, AND MORE, VISIT: VILLAGEATMAMMOTH.COM
Facebook: Village at Mammoth
Twitter: @VILLAGE_MAMMOTH
Instagram: @VILLAGE_AT_MAMMOTH
EDITORIAL
continued from page 2

about keeping Dan Holler closest of all, because Dan Holler knows how to make it rain! I also tracked payments made on the police building planning and construction. To date, the Town has paid Howard CDM (the general contractor) $1.1 million. The Town has also paid the Water District $90,000 for the permit fee and has paid HMC Architects about $150,000 since August. Though I can’t quite determine the breakdown between HMC’s police facility work and M.U.F. work, it’s safe to say the Town has laid out $1.25 million for the police facility project thus far. According to Rea, the approved (as of June 15, 2016) budget for the project was $3.07 million.

Here’s a blast from the past, courtesy of Dan Holler in October, 2015, which Rea has not tired of quoting: “We’ve made it very clear that we are not going to add the Mammoth Creek Inn expansion counting the same off-site parking. We are setting ourselves up for conflict, and at some point there will be no place for these guests to park and locals will be left with a horrible experience.”

If we continue down this path, the change from 0.75 FAR to 2.0 FAR will result in parking chaos, something that we created in the Village and won’t admit to. The notion that we can create parking years after the development is very shortsighted. If the plan is to establish parking early, through Assessment Districts, then The Town needs to identify these locations upfront. Part of the evaluation of both of these proposals (The Walk, Bike, Ride Action Plan and Minimum F.A.R.) needs to include the costs and how the parking locations are going to be obtained.

We are getting too far down the planning process to avoid such a critical component for each of the Walk, Bike, and Minimum F.A.R. proposals. To avoid the need for adequate parking... needed in our environment with our inherent issues just continues to compound the problem. Thank you for sharing this information with the appropriate parties at the appropriate time.

Thom Heller
Fire Marshall, Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District

2017/18 SEASON PASS SALE

4 MOUNTAINS, 4X THE FUN

Amp up your winter with unlimited skiing and riding at 4 extraordinary California mountain resorts. When you buy next winter’s pass now, you can ski/ride the rest of this season too, starting April 1 at Mammoth. Current season passholders receive exclusive savings – get an additional $50 off and pay last year’s price of $699 if you purchase now.

SAVE $100 • ONLY $749 BEFORE APRIL 4

CALI4NIAPASS.COM • 800.MAMMOTH

Some other news and notes ... Betsy Truax and Stu Brown have both been honored by the California Parks and Recreation Society District Seven. The Town of Mammoth Lakes won the “Outstanding Facility” award for Trails End Park. In addition, Brown won an award as being the most Outstanding Full-Time Employee.

In the press release announcing the award, Brown properly gave credit where it is due, citing Jane Baer as the driving force behind the creation of the skatepark.

The following letter was submitted by Fire Marshal Thom Heller to Community Development Director Sandra Moberly as public comment regarding the Floor Area Ratio (F.A.R.) issue.

Sandra,

I will be out of town this week, but would like to provide some comments to the Planning Commission concerning both the Walk, Bike, Ride and F.A.R. discussions. While my comments are not directly about either of these two items, my concerns center around the parking needs for both of these topics. Without the requirement for adequate parking for all projects going forward, both of these proposed items will result in failure. As we have seen this winter, demand for parking is at a premium between snow storage and occupancy rates.

We have seen residential projects lose enough parking by adopting zoning practices that have been applied to low elevation communities and still wonder why parking is not adequate. Examples are projects such as Juniper Crest, Mammoth Gateway, and most recently Hooper’s Rainbow project. As a result of inadequate parking spots, visitors are forced to find creative parking spots, many times interfering with roadways and causing potential hazards for others, let alone jeopardizing their own vehicle safety.

We are in the process of reviewing a new grocery store and while the calculation works out to 52 parking spots, they are only proposing 41. If they are permitted to use someone else’s parking spots, then that location will be underserved and the new location will benefit at the cost of another business. Even if (those businesses) are reimbursed for those spots, where are those displaced patrons going to park? We seem to be assembling a house of cards, and it is our guests and locals alike that are going to suffer.

We approved a bowling alley with off-site parking and now we are going to add the Mammoth Creek Inn expansion counting the same
FIFTH DOWN AND F.A.R. TO GO

By Giles

While PEDC weighs its decision on a minimum F.A.R for downtown, Grocery Outlet may look elsewhere

At Tuesday’s Mammoth Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) Meeting, commissioners decided not to make a recommendation to Town Council regarding a minimum Floor Area Ratio (F.A.R) for development projects within the Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML). This is the fourth time that the commission has postponed a vote on the matter and asked town staff for additional information about the topic.

According to a staff report from December 2016, F.A.R is equal to the total floor area of a building divided by the total area of the lot on which it is located. Imposing a minimum F.A.R would require developers to plan for off-site parking.

Staff presented several options that included imposing a minimum F.A.R of either 0.5 or 0.75 on all or portions of the downtown commercial districts, with most of the discussion focusing on the downtown district.

Planning and Economic Development Manager Sandra Moberly reported that the town is currently processing a design review application for a Grocery Outlet in Mammoth Lakes. The grocery chain is looking to develop on the 57 and 77 Old Mammoth Road. Currently, there is no minimum F.A.R requirement at that site, and the proposal is for a building with an F.A.R of 0.3.

Moberly said that a 0.75 minimum F.A.R were imposed, the site would have to be developed as a two-story building. Only twenty parking spaces could be accommodated on site, but requiring either underground parking or off-site parking.

Moberly reported that, if a 0.5 F.A.R were imposed, all of the parking requirements for the store could be met on site (if it were 2 stories).

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA) Vice President of Development Tom Hodges gave public comment at Tuesday’s meeting, saying MMSA supports a 0.75 minimum F.A.R across all commercial zones in the TOML. “We live in the highlight of strip malls of Southern California right now. We’ve got to take a stand here… every time we under-develop a site, we are committing to living with that decision for the next 50 years,” said Hodges.

Real estate broker Matthew Lehman told the Commission that imposing a minimum F.A.R would push out small property owners and businesses from the downtown corridor, ultimately pushing the town further away from its desired goal of a walkable main street.

A minimum F.A.R would require developers to create bulkhead space where they might otherwise provide outdoor parking. According to Lehman, underground parking is prohibitively expensive. “The quote I’ve heard is that it costs about $50,000 per parking space,” said Lehman. At Tuesday’s meeting, commissioners discussed the possibility of requiring in lieu parking fees from developers to provide commercial off-site parking within walking distance of Main Street. Lehman said, “If you build a store, you need that parking right away, not whenever it gets done.” Lehman said developers would be right to distrust the town’s promise that any in-lieu fees would be allocated to construct a parking structure. “Look at the Village. We have to finish that project. It’s just not practical to have your entire town laid out like Disneyland.”

Former TOML Mayor Kathy Cage expressed her concern that a minimum F.A.R would “ghettoize” the commercial districts in which it was imposed. She said that imposing a minimum F.A.R would increase the cost of renovations and construction in general. “What happens if those stick-in-the-mud, long-time property owners can’t afford to develop their properties? If there are no improvements made to existing properties on Main Street… then property values will decrease, and those people will be forced to sell, and big corporations will come in and develop a resort,” said Cage, who, along with her husband, owns and operates three small businesses on Main Street.

Mammoth Lakes Housing (MLH) Executive Director Jennifer Halferty warned Commissioners that it was unrealistic to equate a minimum F.A.R with affordable housing. “Unless you also create inclusionary requirements, there is no incentive to build affordable housing units on the second stories of these buildings,” Halferty pointed out that the minimum F.A.R discussion was focused on commercial zones, which are already zoned to allow nightly rentals, a far more lucrative investment.

Moberly said that Grocery Outlet is currently the only entity with a design review application pending. She said that the PEDC can recommend that Grocery Outlet’s application be exempt from any future zoning code amendment involving a minimum F.A.R, but that the decision will rest with Town Council, which will make a final decision in June at the earliest.

At Tuesday’s meeting, local architect Elliott Brainard warned the PEDC that retroactively enforcing a zoning code amendment could lead to litigation. “Talk to your legal counsel. The code is what it is on the application submission date… You don’t get to redact that permission if it’s been approved and applied for.”

Lehman, who represents 37 and 77 Old Mammoth Road, estimated that Grocery Outlet has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on the application process and said the group has yet to purchase the properties it seeks to develop. When asked if the PEDC’s decision to delay a recommendation until June would affect that sale, Lehman said, “They are getting a bad taste in their mouth about Mammoth Lakes. As long as this minimum F.A.R is out there, people looking to develop in town won’t know what they can and can’t do.”

MAMMOTH LAKES, CALIFORNIA

TOWN BULLETIN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING: REDS MEADOW ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Federal Highway’s Administration Central Federal Lands Highway Division (FHWA-CFLHD), in partnership with the USFS and Town of Mammoth Lakes will hold a public information meeting for the Reds Meadow Road Improvements Project on March 20, 2017 in Suite Z at 9am and 5pm. The meeting format will be open house, with an opportunity for the public to provide comments directly to the project team members. Following the open house, each team member will be on hand to answer questions.

RECREATION OPEN HOUSE

Mark your calendars for the annual Recreation Open House on Tuesday, March 28 at the Mammoth Elementary School from 5:00-7:00pm. The open house is a great opportunity to learn about Parks & Recreation Department summer programming, as well as gather information and register with other summer recreation providers. Attendees will receive a 5% discount coupon for registering for Parks & Recreation Department summer programs! Please contact Lindsey at (760) 965-3699 for more information.

WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department is reminding citizens that there is no street parking from November 1 through April 30. Vehicles found parked in violation of these ordinances are subject to receiving a parking citation and/or in some cases, vehicles may be impounded at the owner’s expense.

Meetings / Events:

March 21: Special Meeting of the Recreation Commission, Suite Z, 5:30 PM

April 4: Recreation Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 9:00 AM

April 5: Town Council Meeting, Suite Z, 6:00 PM

April 12: Planning and Economic Development Commission, Suite Z, 2:00 PM

Town e-News:

Town e-News is your direct source for Town news, events and announcements. Subscribe online under “NOTIFY ME” at www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov
PLAN FOR THE FUTURE
MUSD discusses upgrading Mammoth campuses

By Rea

The Mammoth Unified School District (MUSD) is looking to the future—both for its students, and its facilities. Superintendent Lois Klein held a community workshop on Tuesday, March 14 to discuss a vision for Mammoth schools that will be congruous with the changing paradigms of how students are learning, now and into the future.

“Learning has changed dramatically since 1980 and now we are really talking about flexible learning … kids solving problems working together. And that doesn’t take place so much in classrooms with … seats attached to the desks, and kids can’t move.”

MUSD has contracted with HMC Architects to help design the future of the school’s buildings—the firm presented a video of children learning in interactive environments, incorporating experiential education such as gardening into their curriculums.

The purpose of Tuesday’s meeting was to break participants out into three groups, each campus with a table of their own, to discuss visions for each of the campuses. Each table also had suggestions from the students themselves, written by classes of students from each school. The students suggestions were quite revealing—among the requests for classroom X-Boxes were overarching thoughts that students reiterated all the way from first graders through to high school seniors.

Quiet spaces, or calm-down spaces, were requested again and again. Research is growing on the positive effects mindfulness and meditation can have on students, especially those most prone to outbursts. CNN visited students at Robert W. Coleman Elementary School in West Baltimore, Maryland in 2016 and found that many students who formerly faced detention for acting out ended up visiting their “Mindful Moment Room” instead. Principal Carillian Thompson told CNN that she’d had zero student suspensions since the room was created.

Another big wish for Mammoth students: A greenhouse. “Numerous studies point to school gardens as a means of academic achievement, promising healthy lifestyles, demonstrating the principles of stewardship … and instilling a sense of place,” wrote Arden Buck-Sporer and Rachel Kathleen Pringle in “How to Grow a School Garden.”

Students also requested fresher food in the cafeterias (not really a facilities issue, per se, but another example of their wish to be more connected to their food). They also wanted indoor connections between the campuses, and the middle schoolbreakout table even suggested the idea of making one of those potential hallways into a greenhouse. Brandon Gullotti, a representative from HMC at that table, voiced a little skepticism about the idea, but said he’d look into it.

Natural lighting was another huge request from the students. “There should be no classroom without natural light,” said Greg Newbery.

Chris Taylor of HMC also suggested that students have more opportunity to be outside, even during the “three-fourths to two-thirds of the school year that is winter.” He suggested activating the courtyard at Mammoth High School with a sturdy covered patio that loaders could plow around in order to allow students more outside time during the winter.

“The school is designed for Pasadena, not snow country,” said Newbery, who served on the school board for 8 years. He said that 59 doors had to be dug out this winter, legally, because it is against the law to have doors blocked. Another suggestion from community members and students was to do away with the “useless doors” that dot the campuses.

MUSD plans to fund upgrades to the schools by introducing a bond measure onto the June, 2018 ballot. Klein said that 59 doors had to be dug out this winter, legally, because it is against the law to have doors blocked. Another suggestion from community members and students was to do away with the “useless doors” that dot the campuses.

RADIATION PREPARATION

The California National Guard 9th Civil Support Team spent the last week in Mammoth Lakes collaborating with Mammoth Lakes Fire Department (MLFD) and Mammoth Lakes Police Department on hazardous materials training. According to Deputy Commander Andreas Hanson, the team has recently spent time on response and mitigation tools.

On Thursday morning, they were conducting a joint drill with MLFD. The staged scenario involved an individual who had bragged about harboring hazardous material while out at the bar the night before, who was holed up in the tower behind MLFD Fire Station 2 on Old Mammoth Road.

According to Commander Hanson, the team hid very small quantities of radionuclide material, far too small to cause harm to humans, in the building. Hanson said that these annual drills promote camaraderie and communication between municipalities and National Guard crews.

WILL YOU BE MINE?

Anger over mining restrictions in Inyo County BLM areas

By James

Inyo County Supervisors are not pleased with the Bureau of Land Management’s recent mining withdrawal notice published in the Segregation Notice in the Federal Register December 20 2016. It places 270,000 acres in Inyo County within California Desert National Conservation Lands off-limits from metallic mineral mining for two years and the supervisors are not just concerned, they’re angry about the lack of concern such restrictions on mining present to the economy of Inyo County which has long had a history of such mining.

The Segregation Notice means there would be no new metallic mineral claims allowed within those two years. There will be a 90-day public scoping period and the board of supervisors will be considering the impact statement. And to make matters worse, it could result in the withdrawal of public land from mining metallic mineral for another twenty years.

Mining company representatives discussed their concerns at the board of supervisors meeting on Tuesday. Supervisors were told that restrictions would have a negative impact on the economy because the mining companies “hire locals” said one speaker. Angela Johnson, project geologist for Canadian-based Silver Standard, to the supervisors that “The state already has strict regulations on mining.” She noted that Silver Standard employees stayed in Lone Pine last summer while working on Phase I of the Perdido Project, which is looking to extract gold in the local mountains near the Nevada border in Inyo County. Johnson told the supervisors that “We brought a decent amount of money to town.”

Second District Supervisor Jeff Griffin said that county officials and staff consistently raised concerns about multiple land use with BLM during the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, including mineral extraction, and were told that we did not have to worry about that. He then said that the notice was “a bait and switch.”

Inyo County Supervisor Matt Kinsley, whose Fifth District is where Inyo County has had much of its mining claims and projects found the BLM notice baffling and that “This (metallic mineral extraction) disturbs something like .05 percent in all of Inyo County.”

County Intern Planner Cathreen Richards told the supervisors that the county maintains 105 miles of road within the withdrawal area drawn by BLM. It is unknown if these county roads are included in the disturbance cap baseline of 1 percent currently being allowed by BLM.

The supervisors approved a letter to the state director of the BLM about their concerns over what they consider a last-minute change in policy direction with the Notice of Proposed Withdrawal that took them by surprise given what they had been led to believe over the past several years. The letter also mentions the county’s concerns over its ability to maintain its roads within the affected areas as well under the disturbance cap guidelines proposed.

It is hoped by many who support the continuation of mining in Inyo County that with both a new Trump administration in Washington D.C., and a Republican-majority Congress, both promising to cut back regulations hindering economic growth, will result in the BLM Segregation Notice being greatly changed.
Paved with Local Gold

Mammoth wants to fix Red’s Meadow Road, needs help by Redline

The Red’s Meadow Road is deteriorating quickly. Built on the side of a steep hill, its two lanes are becoming one and drivers cannot see approaching vehicles. It is a Forest Service road but that agency doesn’t have the resources or money to repair it. If the road is not repaired quickly, it will degrade until there is nothing left. Ask Ski-run hikers, visitors would be denied access to the iconic Devil’s Postpile National Monument.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is planning to fix the road itself. It is applying for a Federal Lands Access Plan (FLAP) grant to help cover the estimated cost of the project, $23.5 million. The town would be responsible for a 11.47 percent match, or about $2.7 million.

This would be nearly the entire road work budget for the Forest Service, said Deb Schweizer, Public Information Officer for the Inyo National Forest. She added that the job is too small for the Department of Transportation, but too big for the Forest Service to handle. Schweizer said there’s no way the repairs will happen without a local entity stepping up.

There will be a public information/education meeting on March 20 from 9-11 a.m. and from 5-7 p.m. in Suite Z in Mammoth Lakes (above Starbucks).

The town is hoping to collaborate with other stakeholders like Mono, Madera and Inyo Counties, the Mono County Local Transportation Commission (LTFC), the Forest Service and the National Park Service.

Devis Postpile National Monument is in Madera County, but there is no vehicle access from the west side. Deputy Public Works Director of Madera County Jared Carter told The Sheet that every day, Mancos Pass has been approached by Scott Burns, Planning Director, and Mono County Principal Planner Gerry Le Francois. They’ve been talking about a grant to be submitted in May 2016 that the cost of maintenance for the road could be approximated at $1.5 million for twenty years. If ESTA wants to assist with maintenance costs it could raise fares on the Devil’s Postpile Shuttle an additional $1 to $1.50 (the current ticket price is $7 for adults and $4 for kids, unchanged since 2008).

Approximately 125,000 annual visitors travel to Red’s Meadow, Schweizer said. The access fee goes toward maintenance and upkeep of the Forest Service’s programs in Red’s Meadow.

There could also be a possible surcharge to the town’s road rehabilitation to pay for maintenance, too.

The Forest Service can’t afford to fix roads and the state isn’t farging much better. Road repairs are funded, primarily, through gas tax. Carter explained that the increasing popularity of fuel-efficient vehicles and electric cars means less gas sold and less tax revenue.

State legislators will be asking the public to pay for new roads and repairs with two new bills planned for the 2017-18 budget year. SB1 will raise as much as $4.3 billion annually to try and catch up with a projected $59 billion shortfall in transportation funding over the next 10 years.

Californians already pay 30 cents a gallon in excise tax, plus sales tax and another dime per gallon for cap and trade fees and another 18 cents in federal taxes. SB1 would raise excise tax another 12 cents for gasoline, 22 cents for diesel, and vehicle registration fees would rise from $43 to $88, plus an extra $100 for zero emission vehicles.

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I just don’t think that Crowley is ever going to be the next Carbondale.

-Mammoth Lakes resident and workshop participant

On Wednesday, March 15, Mammoth Lakes Housing (MLH) hosted Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML) staff, various board commissioners, Town Council members, Mono County planning staff, and community members at the Community Housing Action Plan Kick-Off event. The event, which was held at the Town/County Conference room, had such successful attendance that the audience spilled into the hallways.

Late last year, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA) provided MLH with funds for a Housing Needs Assessment update. The existing data regarding the status of housing within the Town of Mammoth Lakes has not been updated since 2011, before nightly rental booking agencies such as Airbnb were popularized in town and started sucking up long term housing stock.

WSW Consulting, the firm that oversaw the 2011 Housing Needs Assessment, has been contracted to update the data in that study and develop a Community Housing Action Plan to address the deficiency. WSW will conduct phone surveys, online surveys, and workshops to collect in Mammoth Lakes. Sullivan said she hopes to have a draft report published for community review and comment by the beginning of June.

Town Council member John Wentworth as well as Sullivan's team is focusing on reaching local entrepreneurs. "We need input from folks who are working two, three, four jobs to create a living for themselves here," Wentworth said on Wednesday.

MLH board member Bill Taylor recommended that the surveys and website include an option for translation into Spanish. Town Council member Bill Sawyer recommended the study be expanded to assess redevelopment opportunities in Long Valley communities such as Crowley Lake, Long Valley, Benton, and Sunny Slopes. Sullivan warned that, back in 2011, there was heavy community backlash to the idea of commuting. "People said they would choose to move away," said Sullivan.

One community member, who identified himself as a fifteen-year resident of Mammoth Lakes, warned that there is no role model resort town for Mammoth Lakes to look to. "I’ve lived in all of those places you’ve mentioned, and none have been successful at solving this problem... there is no perfect model out there, especially for the really isolated communities. I just don’t think Crowley is ever going to be the next Carbondale."

WSW Consultants is seeking community input about where they should look to collect data about housing needs. They are working on getting their websites running for next week. If you would like to have them speak at an event or have ideas, contact Wendy Sullivan at wendy@wswconsult.com.

BIG TURNOUT FOR HOUSING MEETING
Town, County team up on Housing Survey
By Giles

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ALMA MATER SNUBS THE DONALD
By Casselman

The Pennsylvania Gazette is today a bit of my college alumni magazine, although the name has a lineage that goes back to 1729 when it was first published as a news- paper. I’ve been a fan of Benjamin Franklin, the reader assume the name was somehow inappropriately borrowed from such a distinguished origin, I need to point out that my alma mater, the University of Pennsylvania, was founded by Mr. Franklin himself in 1740. Like so many other by league alumni publications, The Gazette is quite a lavish, thick, sophisticated and well-written effort, and I do look forward to reading its bi-monthly issues. Perhaps like most college graduates of a certain age, I usually find myself going to the back of each issue to read about the news of my classmates—the and the obituaries. Decades ago, my college used to list numerous short notes of those who had passed away, but the miracle of modern medicine has so far kept that number quite low. In fact, I am constantly amazed by the number of new and women who make it past 100. This winter, the magazine faced a certain crisis (the publication is usually set up a month or two in advance of printing) that would not only be peculiar to Penn, but would have confronted all other Ivy League universities and most, but not all, liberally minded colleges and universities across the nation. Like all institutions of higher learning, Penn is proud of its distinguished alumni. Amateurs who flaunt its alumni magazine to boast not a little about them. In my class alone, there are numerous figures who are today quite prominent and accomplished, including an uncounted number of best-selling novelists, a famous Broadway/TV series star, and a recipient of the Nobel Prize for medicine (28 Nobel laureates have been affiliated with Penn).

There is a certain rivalry among Ivy League schools, especially in their alumni who become cabinet officers and justices of the U.S. Supreme Court. As we know, Harvard, Yale and Princeton have dominated these posts for a very long time. Dartmouth (Treasury Secretaries Paulson and Geithner), Columbia and Brown have fewer, and Penn (until recently) trailed, along with Cornell, their fellow Ivy League schools.

On November 8, 2016, however, Penn hit the alumni jackpot. One of its own was elected president of the United States. Of course, Donald J. Trump then appeared on the cover of the next issue of its alumni magazine, with a glowing story of his life and his time at Penn (where he received a graduate degree from its acclaimed Wharton School of Finance and Commerce). Not.

I must report that The Pennsylvania Gazette barely noted Mr. Trump’s achievement, in spite of him being the only Penn graduate ever to be elected president, and then wrote about it only with a certain wistful ambiguity. I received the second issue since the election, and its letters to the editor pages were dominated with correspondence from Penn alumni expressing both indignation at the slight, or delight.

In full disclosure, I attended Wharton as an undergraduate, but after two years transferred to Penn’s College of Liberal Arts where I received my B.A. degree. I received early journalism experience there as a reporter for The Daily Pennsylvanian before reviving and editing its historic college humor magazine under a new name. Penn today is usually rated in the top five or ten universities in the U.S., but only Wharton School and a few of its graduate schools had such a high rating in those days (Nevertheless, it had then a distinguished faculty, including preeminent guest professors. Economist Peter Drucker, philosopher ArnoldToynbee, architect Louis Kahn, sociologist E. Digby Baltzell and novelist Philip Roth both taught there in my day). I realize that most Penn alumni, many of them living on the East Coast, did not vote for Donald Trump. I also know that the Penn administration and faculty are overwhelmingly liberal.

I have been aware for some time that Penn, like most colleges and universities, subscribes to what is usually called “political correctness.” Penn President Amy Gutmann recently affirmed the university as a “sanctuary” place (like a “sanctuary city”). Readers can draw their own conclusions about all of this, and should. It’s a free country. Recently, at another East Coast institution of higher learning, Middlebury College, one of America’s most distinguished thinkers, Charles Murray, was prevented from speaking because of his conservative views. It was only the latest incident in an alarming epidemic of anti-free speech demonstrations at colleges and universities across the nation.

In its current issue, The Gazette proudly announced the appointment of former Vice President Joe Biden to its faculty. It should be proud about that. But the editors of The Pennsylvania Gazette can only mumble a few ambivalent words about the election of Donald Trump as a graduate president at the University of the United States.

Ben Franklin would be ashamed of their lack of courtesy to the man and to the country.
BISHOP COUNCIL TALKS VALUES, AIRBNB

Residents express concern about safety; some neighbors say they feel “invaded” by free market lodging

By Lunch

The Bishop City Council played to a packed house on Monday night. Most present were there to support a “Values Statement” (see sidebar, next page) that they hoped Council would adopt.

Dr. Stephen Muchovej, who authored the statement, led off public comment on the agenda item. He is a 10-year resident of Bishop who moved here from New York City for a job (Owens Valley Radio Observatory) and decided to stay.

The motivation for the statement? Muchovej says he’s been harassed four times in the past 18 months and believes Bishop needs to reaffirm its values of mutual respect and inclusivity.

He said Council’s adoption of the statement “would let me know that these [incidents of harassment] are one-off events versus [an indication of] an atmosphere of intolerance.”

Council-member Karen Schwartz was completely supportive of adopting the statement in a resolution.

Other Council-members, while supportive of those making public comment, did not wish to pass an official resolution. Laura Smith said the proposed statement is a restatement of language which already governs the country, state and city. “It’s more about living it,” she said in an interview Wednesday. “That’s a louder statement than anything.”

Mayor Joe Pecsi ultimately offered a compromise, saying that while a resolution equates to law, and there are already many laws on the books which would make this redundant, a proclamation equates to a declaration of intent, and he was more than happy to have the city issue a proclamation embracing the points made in Muchovej’s draft.

Other Council members agreed and the audience expressed satisfaction with the outcome.

Airbnb

In other Council business, Council made a first attempt at addressing what promises to only become a larger issue going forward: short-term vacation rentals.

Associate City Planner Elaine Kabala said concerns expressed by local hotel owners prompted the initiation of the discussion.

She said current “Bed and Breakfast” rules call for a minimum one-acre lot size in R-1 districts, and the businesses are subject to conditional-use permits.

Inyo County code prohibits rentals of less than 30 days. Bishop code does not contain such language.

Kabala said there are 3-5 Airbnb purveyors currently operating in Bishop, and she reported having received no formal complaints thus far.

Karen and Ron McCoy are one such purveyor. They own a home at the end of Rome Drive and Ron McCoy said they rent to Airbnb guests approximately 10 to 15 nights a month.

They offer on-site parking and they are on-site hosts.

Karen McCoy said Airbnb is more tailored for the destination traveler looking for local flavor and experience. With the limited housing supply in Bishop, she thinks Airbnb is good for the city and offers a creative way to promote tourism and support the local economy.

Ron McCoy said he currently pays tax on income but he does not pay bed tax (yet), though he says he is open to that.

Chuck Kilpatrick, who lives on Sunset Drive, said he bought into his neighborhood based upon CC&Rs (covenants, conditions and restrictions) and privacy. The other day, he found out a neighbor was renting via Airbnb. “I look at it as a little bit of an invasion,” he said.

David Bhakta, owner of Holiday Inn Express, says it’s a free enterprise economy. But that said, people have

see BISHOP, page 10

By Lunch
BISHOP
continued from page 9

to live by the same rules. In his eyes, Airbnb = de facto hotel. “It’s like a duck, and we’ve got to treat it like a duck.”

Translation: purveyors need to live by hotel rules, charge bed tax, offer handicap access, et. al.

Bhakta says it would be a heckuva lot better investment to simply buy a condo complex and rent it out on a nightly basis if he didn’t actually have to abide by any rules and/or regulations.

City Attorney Ryan Jones had this to say: “I wouldn’t say it’s illegal now … but … BnBs are supposed to have CUPs [Conditional Use Permits]. I don’t think these Airbnb’s have acquired CUPs yet.”

Councilmember Laura Smith expressed the concern of losing housing stock to “business” which would mean less housing for local residents.

Mayor Pecsi said he liked the idea that the owner must be required to live on-site.

Kabala was directed by Council to do further research before it decides whether or not it wishes to put an ordinance together.

Plenty for everyone

Manager of the Aqueduct for the Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power James Yannotta addressed Bishop’s Council Monday to confirm what many have suspected—that there will be “plenty of water for everybody,” this year.

LADWP is projecting 750,000 acre-feet of water runoff this year, about double the average.

Despite the good news, Inyo County Supervisor Jeff Griffiths noted in his public comment that Supervisors still plan on suing LADWP over its intent to drill wells in West Bishop.

Griffiths said that while LADWP has the right to drill the wells per the LTWA (Long Term Water Agreement), Supes cite CEQA as the reason to demur given current groundwater levels based upon the latest drought.

CITY OF BISHOP
PROPOSED VALUES STATEMENT

Bishop, California is a city whose wealth derives in equal measure from the natural beauty of its surroundings and the strength and health of its diverse community.

We value our pristine natural setting for the asset that it is—one that is integral to our livelihood and to our well-being. It was here long before us and will be here long after we are gone. It is a resource that attracts the visitors who fuel our local economy, inspires all of us who live here, and provides the clean air and water that lead to healthy lifestyles.

We are committed to good stewardship of this land, so that generations to come will know this place as we have.

We value our community for the asset that it is—one that is integral to our livelihood and to our well-being. We are not the first to live here, nor will we be the last. A diverse and welcoming community is a resource that ensures prosperity on Main Street and provides a rich and supportive environment for all of us who live here. We are committed to good stewardship of our community, and to that end we declare that Bishop is:

Welcoming: all people, regardless of culture, race, nationality, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and abilities are welcome in Bishop.

Safe: Everyone should feel equally protected by our local law enforcement.

Neighborly: No one should feel singled out for persecution.

Compassionate: We are a community who cares for the needy, and understand that hard times can befall anyone.

Accepting: We recognize that intolerance leads to discrimination and discord, both of which threaten the health and safety of our community.

Brave: Fear threatens the diversity and strength of our community; we are a city dedicated to freedom from fear.

Trusting: We are a community based on mutual understanding, where people trust each other, but also trust their local government for its crucial role in providing for the health, safety and security of the entire community.

Respectful: We are a community that values human dignity and respect.

Proud and prosperous: People of all races, nationalities and cultures live and work together to bring pride and prosperity to our community.
Play It Safe

Protect yourself and your partner. Talk about testing, your status, condoms, and options like medicines that prevent and treat HIV. Get the facts and tips on how to start the conversation at: cdc.gov/ActAgainstAIDS/StartTalking

The Mono County Health Department offers FREE HIV/STD testing and condoms, and can assist people living with HIV and AIDS to access medication, medical care, and other services to optimize health. Call or drop in for an appointment.

Mono County Health Department

MAMMOTH LANES OFFICE
437 Old Mammoth Road
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
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BRIDGEPORT OFFICE
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OFF THE SLOPES

CAN’T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG? SOMETIMES!
The residents of Mammoth’s “International House” share food, culture and ... bathrooms

By Rea

When I walked into unit 113 in the Mammoth Estates Condominiums, 22-year-old Sumit Suthar met me at the door with a huge hug and the offer of slippers, as the smell of Kharai Chicken wafted through the house Suthar shares with six other roommates—from six different countries. Up until a couple weeks ago, seven countries were represented in “House 113,” as the roommates refer to it, but their roommate Chris Basco, 24, from the Philippines, had recently returned home after his U.S. J-1 Visa’s term had ended.

The rest of the roommates still have the flags from their countries artfully displayed on the wall of the Mammoth condo (which sports classic “ski town” décor, like a chairlift seat next to the wood stove and a lamp decorated with old skis, bindings still attached). Representing India are Suthar, from Mumbai, and Ashwin Anthony, 25, from Patna in the north of India (Anthony was the one cooking Kharai Chicken for my visit, both young men currently work in food service at the Westin). Ruslana Holovakha, 21, from Ukraine, just finished working as a hostess at the Westin Monache and plans to leave House 113 in about a week in order to do a bit of sightseeing before she returns home. Angus Malcon, 24, from New Zealand, apparently eschews the spotlight and was working out at the gym during the dinner party the housemates invited me to. Leo Castillo, 30 (Mexico), and Richell Luna, 23, (China), were unfortunately called in to work the night of my visit (both are cooks at the Westin).

The couple, according to their roommates, make incredible fusion food together. “You’ll have Asian food, and it’ll be wrapped in a tortilla,” said Patrick Sippel, 27, who is the token American in the international house and is possessed of a dry wit that makes it hard to tell when he’s joking until he cracks a sly smile.

Suthar assumed the role of ambassador during my visit, giving me a tour of the house, showing me photos of the roommates, asking if I needed anything. “He even elected himself Prime Minister,” Sippel says of Suthar, who clearly takes pride in the house, its occupants, and the multi-cultural vibe they have cultivated in House 113. It was Suthar who arranged the flags in a “V” shape on the wall, and his habits tend to dictate some of the practices of the community. “We don’t do a lot of partying, because Sumit doesn’t drink,” says Sippel, who says it’s nice to have the house as a kind of respite from the party atmosphere of a ski...
Sometimes we end up with an international embargo [when food goes missing in the fridge].

-Patrick Sippel

“Sometimes we end up with an international embargo, jokes Sippel in his deadpan.

For Sippel, living in House 113 sparked an entrepreneurial spirit—he started a business, Horseshoe Snow Removal, after witnessing the condo’s overloaded roof being shoveled one fateful evening. “I was sitting in the jacuzzi, and I saw somebody shoveling the roof, and I thought, ‘That’s got to be good money!’” says Sippel. He now employs about a dozen people, and though he often spends his summers in Los Angeles (before he was a business owner, he was a full-time ski instructor), he’s thinking about staying in Mammoth to see what work he might be able to do during the summer to keep his business running. He’s clearly a shrewd operator—he’s the only roommate in House 113 that owns a car, “so of course I told my roommates [during the snow storms in January and February], if you dig out my car, I’d be happy to give you a ride!”

The crew, unfortunately, is bound to part. After Holovakha leaves, Anthony takes off on May 1, and the couple—Castillo and Luna—also leave for their home countries at the end of May. Sippel is thinking of organizing another house in Mammoth, though the chances it’ll be as diverse as his current one are slim. As for their experience in Mammoth, they’ll take away friendships from one of the most formative periods of their lives. They’ve traveled together, shoveled together, cooked together, and all during one of the biggest winters Mammoth’s ever seen. “Right now I’m feeling like I’m in heaven,” says Suthar. “Because Mammoth has the highest snowpack in the country.”
A WORTHY MISSION
Students from Orange Lutheran High School clean up Owens Valley
By Bodine

MLT’S NEXT BIG THING?
A $270,000 VIDEO
Cutting edge virtual reality video will tell the story of Mammoth
By Rea

Mammoth Lakes Tourism’s Director of Marketing Whitney Lennon wants you to embrace the next new thing.

At the MLT Board meeting two weeks ago, she told the Board about this incredible new 360-degree virtual reality video that MLT was producing for use in trade shows and advertisements.

Lennon said that the drone was one-of-a-kind, had five cameras, and had never before flown at the altitude it reached to film MLT’s new promotional video.

According to Lennon, its operator, Dave DiLillo, said that it was the “most complicated project he’d ever worked on.” The sound technician for the project, John Hendicott, spoke on this drone’s cutting-edge technology at South by Southwest on Wednesday, March 15, in a lecture on “The Impact of Audio on the [Virtual Reality] Story.”

Lara Kaylor, Director of Communications for MLT, told The Sheet on Wednesday that “nobody else is really doing their [virtual reality] videos with audio yet, so it makes us stand out from the rest of the crowd.” That was Lennon’s main talking point as well—that “we have to be competitive in the marketplace. Google is saying virtual reality 360 [degree] ads are outperforming standard banners.”

The drone and its operators will come back in late summer, Kaylor said, to film the Eastern Sierra without snow in order to create a year-round experiential video. “Basically it takes somebody like Joe Schmo who is sitting on the couch and maybe can’t go ski Scotty’s, but they can have an experience of all the Mammoth activities though this video,” said Kaylor.

“It’s like they’ve dropped into the middle of the story of Mammoth Lakes.”

Kaylor described the virtual reality headsets that will be used to watch the video, saying that the viewing stations will have chairs because “the first time you do this, it can be kind of overwhelming… so it would be like all of a sudden they’re sitting on a mountain bike going down Kamikaze.” The whole point is to have a display at various trade shows so that folks can really get that Mammoth experience. “They’ll be able to visit, even if they’re sitting in a conference center in San Diego.”

“It’s like [being in] a video game, really,” said Lennon at the meeting. Of course, cutting-edge technology has a price. A steep price. $270,000. In addition, MLT will have to lease the virtual reality equipment (goggles) to view the video. As Kaylor explained, while MLT was ahead of the curve with the video, she suspected that the virtual reality goggle technology would continue to improve in the next several years, which is why MLT would be leasing that equipment for the trade shows as opposed to buying it.

Kaylor said the video will be primarily used at trade shows. “Yes. That’s the biggest draw point,” she said. “As well as the web site. It’ll be used in paid ad campaigns as well.”

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Students from Orange Lutheran High School in Orange, Orange County, nearly 200 of them, have ventured to the Owens Valley for the tenth time in five years, as a part of their church’s mission program. The city kids clean up community garden beds, help with construction and painting projects, serve lunch at the Methodist Church soup kitchen, meet the locals and spread the gospel. Drew Heim, Director of Student Life, said the field trips bring together kids that would normally not hang out together and drops them into an environment most had never experienced before. Photo above: Muddy Boezinger, Alexa Velasquez, Leib Lehner and Ma Fransen stand under a hoop house.

Photo above: Parker Killian, student at Orange Lutheran High School, found some new friends in the Owens Valley.
Mammoth’s new TechReaction work space held a soft opening on Saturday, March 11. Though the space won’t be officially open for several more weeks, Mammoth Mountain Senior Vice President of Business Development and Entrepreneur in Residence Rudy DeFelice told The Sheet that events are already being scheduled for the hip new space in the Sierra Center Mall.

Mammoth movers and shakers gathered on Saturday to nosh on charcuterie and sweets provided by 53 Kitchen & Cocktails and explore the new space, which was designed by Swedish-born, Seattle-based Sormeh Azad (Azad also designed the complimentary tech space at Mammoth’s Main Lodge, which will open around the same time as the downtown location). A Ping pong table (and workspaces that channel the game), potted succulents and funky lighting features recall big-city installations. “What we’d really like to do is have people from our market here every day of the week living the locals’ life,” DeFelice told The Sheet. Mammoth is offering add-on workspace packages to its lift tickets “so that people don’t always have to go home on Monday,” says DeFelice.
THE KILLER IN YOUR VENTS
Carbon monoxide danger lingers even as snow loads diminish

By Giles

On February 23, Mammoth Lakes resident Mike Lach was alerted to a noise no homeowner wants to hear: the hollow, electronic drone of a carbon monoxide detector going off in his house.

Lach rushed to find his teenage daughter, who was doing homework in her bedroom at the time. The alarm that was activated was the one immediately outside of her room.

"Had we not had a carbon monoxide device in the hallway outside of her room, we wouldn't have had any idea, and she would have just gone to bed," said Lach this week. "I got lucky because of a $70 device that I recently installed after a home inspector told me I needed one. Had he not come out or not told me I needed it, things could have ended up very differently."

Lach said that he had used the instruction manual to set the alarm so that it was programmed to go off if it detected concentrations of 50 or 60 parts per million of carbon monoxide in the air surrounding it. Lach said he opened doors and windows and had everyone leave the building. Some time after the alarm stopped going off, he re-entered his building. The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headache, nausea, disorientation, and drowsiness. While short term exposure to the gas at the concentrations reported by Lach may not pose an immediate health risk, he and his family could have been in danger if they had fallen asleep.

Lach said that subsequent inspection (by him) revealed that the source of the gas seemed to be a snow and ice covered vent on the side of his building, just above his daughter's first story bedroom. "Who thinks to worry about a vent that's fourteen feet off the ground? You shovel your roof, your chimney. I have to believe other people may be at risk of this happening in their homes."

According to Town of Mammoth Lakes Building Code Officer Tom Perry, carbon monoxide has unique properties that make it particularly dangerous. It is odorless, tasteless, and lighter than air. It tends to pool at the high points in homes and work its way downward from there.

"It's a byproduct of combustion and is produced by common household appliances such as wood stoves, pellet stoves, propane boilers, and running cars. Concentrations of 400 ppm are considered life threatening within 2 to 3 hours of exposure. The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headache, nausea, disorientation, and drowsiness. While short term exposure to the gas at the concentrations reported by Lach may not pose an immediate health risk, he and his family could have been in danger if they had fallen asleep."

According to the Center for Disease Control, carbon monoxide poisoning is the leading cause of death in house fires. It's a byproduct of combustion and is produced by common household appliances such as wood stoves, pellet stoves, propane boilers, and running cars. Concentrations of 400 ppm are considered life threatening within 2 to 3 hours of exposure. The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headache, nausea, disorientation, and drowsiness. While short term exposure to the gas at the concentrations reported by Lach may not pose an immediate health risk, he and his family could have been in danger if they had fallen asleep.

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Sierra Employment Services, Inc is hiring for the following positions:

- Janitor M $11-$13
- Class B Driver M $19
- Laundry Help M $14
- Machine Operator B $11
- Reservationist M $12-$15
- Housekeepers M/B $11-$18
- Cashier M $11-$18
- Const. Equip. Operator M $23-$27
- Pool & Spa Maintenace M $13-$15

Call 760.924.0523 or 760.873.8599
See our full job list online at www.SierraEmployment.com

Accountant or full charge bookkeeper needed for growing practice. Competitive pay, medical insurance, 401(k), profit sharing, flexible schedule. Send resume via email to butnerhoa@gmail.com or Fax resume to 760.538.0929

Part Time Admin/Design Assistant needed for busy Interior design firm in Mammoth Lakes. 20-25 hours per week. $16 per hour plus profit sharing. Basic Auto Cad and Adobe Photoshop required. Can be flexible with schedule. Please email resume to julie@designhbg.com

Stellar Brew is hiring for a full time brewer. Experience is preferred, training is provided. Fun work environment, great pay. Must be available to work in the afternoon. E-mail your resume to stellarbrew@gmail.com

Housekeepers ($11) Cooks Dishwashers Maintenance Worker

Please complete an application at 2298 Sierra Nevada Road or email your resume to mshadows@npgcable.com or call 760.924.1169 for more information.

Part Time Year Round Maintenance Required

- For complete job description go to mammothlakesfoundation.org and click on “Jobs” for more information.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is looking for Crossing Guards to work through the end of March. $17.96/hour plus benefits can be available before and after school, and during lunch. Apply at the Town Office, or visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Crowley Lake Fish Camp is hiring for the upcoming Spring and Summer Seasons! We have last paced retail clerk positions available in our shop and at our gate, and also need someone to work outdoors on our boat docks. Excellent customer service skills are a must, and fishing experience is a huge plus. You must be available to start immediately, and must be able to work weekends and Holidays. If you are interested in joining our team, please email a resume to crowleylakefishcamp@gmail.com or find an application on our website, crosslakefishcamp.com. For the Dock position, you may call Adam @ 760-920-5884.

Now Hiring FT & PT Shift Managers

The Old New York Deli & Bakery Co. is looking for outgoing and energetic people to join our team. Qualified candidates will have prior restaurant experience, excellent customer service skills, the ability to understand policies & procedures, and be available to work flexible hours & holidays. Salary DOE. Apply via e-mail (lisa.king@oldnewyork.com) or in person at 760.934.1023

Gomez’s Restaurant & Tequileria is looking for a Kitchen Mgr., as well as Line & Prep Cooks, and Dishwashers to start immediately. Good pay and plenty of hours are available for winter season and beyond for applicants who are interested. Please visit www.gomezs.com - you can email applications to info@gomezs.com, or stop in and speak with Rene or Chris.

Mammoth Brewing Company immediately hiring for warehouse/delivery drivers and beer packagers. Must have good driving record and be able to get a CDL license within 60 days of employment. Pay starts at $15 for packagers and $16 for delivery drivers. Apply at www.mammothbrewingco.com

Domino’s Pizza in now hiring full and part-time delivery drivers, starting at $25.00 per hour. Apply in person or online at Jobs.dominos.com

Office/Customer Service Assistant

Part-Time position is available with Insurance Scouts Agency, LLC. Apply online at www.zpizza.com, or apply in-person at mammothlakesfoundation.org.

Pizza Chef/Delivery Driver/Cashier

Pizza Pizzazz is hiring full and part-time. Apply online at www.zpizza.com, or by email - mammothlakes@zpizza.com

Norco 76 is hiring Full Time mini-cart cashier Apply in person or call (760) 934-3690

Food Cake Cafe “Full time position available ISO a cashier/smoothie barista, food & beverage experience preferred but not required. $10-$11.25hr DOE, look cook, full or part time, morning and afternoon shifts available, step by the cafe for an application. 452 old mammoth rd ste 10.

Juniper Springs Lodge is hiring Front Office Representatives for the remainder of the winter season. Please apply online at www.mammothresorts.com. Contact: Celeste contact Celeste@crystalinn.com or call 760-934-2414

Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl

Community Members Needed to Help Prevent the Lives of Local Children and Their Families

The First 5 Mono County Commission is seeking to fill one membership vacancy. Priority areas of the Commission include improving the health, development, and school readiness of children ages 0 to 5. Candidates who fall within any of the following categories are encouraged to apply: 1) Recipients of First 5 funded services to families with young children, 2) Representatives from the following groups: local child care resource or referral agencies or a local child care coordinating group; local organizations for prevention; or early intervention for families at risk; community-based organizations that have the goal of promoting early childhood development; and, local medical, pediatric, or obstetric associations or societies. If you are interested in being a part of the First 5 Mono County Commission, please send a letter of interest by 5:00 pm on March 31, 2017, to First 5 Mono County, PO Box 130, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 or to mdesbaillets@mymammothshuttle.com or call 760-924-7801 for more information

Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl

For Sale

- For sale – well-established local catering company. More information: 760.530.1500

For Hire

- Z-ZIPPERZ! Quality work, speedy service. Sportswear, pants, shorts, packs & duffles. Hours, call 760.573.4489

For Rent

- 3BD, 2BA home with south-facing Sherwens view. Spacious, bright, upgraded, W/D, wood stove, 3000 sq/ft. Available for $1500. Call 760.763.1193

WE’RE HIRING!

Join one of the most dynamic & growing companies in the Eastern Sierra.

MBC is looking for talented delivery drivers and production packagers. Must be 25yo+, and have a good driving record, strong work ethic in sometimes challenging climate. Must be able to lift heavy loads. Class B driver’s license is required for drivers (and rewarded with pay increase) within 2 months of employment.

Pay starts at $15/hr with the ability to advance within the company. MBC offers excellent benefits including health & dental plan, paid-time off, tickets to events like Bluesapalooza and Easter weekend “Beer Bus”, and to purchase beer & merchandise in our tasting room.

APPLY ONLINE: MammothBrewingCo.com
**BARS & MUSIC**

**Happy Hour**
- The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill. Pursuit of Happiness Hour, 3-6 p.m. Free. $2 off wine, $4 well drinks, $2 off specialty drinks. $5 Flatbread. Over the Top St.Pat’s Day Shindig.
- Outlaw Saloon. 4-7 p.m. daily and all night on Mondays.
- Roberto’s 4-9 p.m. every day.
- Austria Hof. 4-6 p.m. Sun.-Thurs. Fri.-Sat. 4-5 p.m.

**Whiskey Riff Rustic Bar & Lounge**
Unwind with daily drink and food specials 4-6 p.m. Half price sushi Mondays.

**Clocktower Cellar** Happy Hour 4:30-7 p.m. daily and all Sunday. $5 dollar menu items, drink specials.

**Petro’s Bistro Happy Hour** $22 pasta bolognese, salad and glass of wine. 500-6 p.m. Specials on cocktails, wine, beer and menu items.

**Happy Hour @ Sushi Rei.** 4-5 p.m. daily. Half off apps and $5 hand roll (small). Sundays are all-night happy hour. Late night happy hour Fri-Sat 9-11 p.m.

**Happy Hour @ The Bistro at Snowcreek,** 4:30-6:30 p.m. daily. Mammoth Tavern Happy Hour Tuesday-Sunday 3:30-5:30 p.m. Closed Mondays.

**Snowkey weekend Happy Hour** 4 p.m. in the bar only.

**Sid’s.** Patrick’s Happy Hour. 3-6 p.m. Mammoth’s famous Slocums Happy Hour. Mammoth’s famous Slocums Happy Hour, Mon thru Fri 4-7. Saturdays 4-5. Closed Sun.

**Giovanni’s Happy Hour**
- Happy hour. 4-6 p.m. Large pizza and a pitcher of beer gets you free wings.
- Black Velvet Coffee’s Happy Hour, from 4-6 every day. $7 glasses of wine.

**Morrison’s Happy Hour Daily**
- 4-6 p.m. $50 for two-person three course meal on Wednesdays.

**Friday, March 17/18**

- **Celtic Music performed by Wild Mountain Thyme** at the Imagination Lab., 621 W. Line St., Bishop. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Seating fills up quickly so please call 760.872.2446 to make your reservation. Light refreshments served. Donations appreciated.
- **Drunken Kung Fu** served. Donations appreciated.
- **St. Patrick’s Day Party @ Liberty** (Afro-Beat funk division. Live Music from The Kitchen Dwellers. Co-sponsored by Sierra Nevada Resort, Wave Rave, TFC Construction, Mammoth Fun Shop. Centennial flat exploration with Friends of the Inyo. Visit petroglyphs with the Sierra Club. Meet 10 a.m. at the Visitor Center, Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center. Trips depart from the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 11 a.m. RSVP at 760.924.5501 or meet at the USFS Welcome Center. Snowshoes provided.

**March 17-18**
- **March Magic event. Daniels and his psychic parrot, Luigi, will perform Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tix: $15/$12 seniors & students (online at www.mammothlakesrepertorytheatre.com) or $18 at door.**

**March 17-19**
- **Playhouse 395 presents: Mary Poppins.** 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tix: $18.90 for adults available on www.brownpapertickets.com.

**Friday, March 17**

- **St.Patty’s Dinner** courtesy of the June Lake Women’s Club. Location: J.L. Community Center. Time: 5:30 to 7. Cost: $10 per adult. There will also be music, raffles and libations.

**March 18-19**
- **The Progression Sessions** by Oakley at MMSA. Learn new tricks with female riders. Sign up at www.progressionsessionscamp.com.

**Saturday, March 18**

- **Mammoth Winter Biathlon at Tamarack XC Ski Center.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. No experience required to compete. Volunteers also needed. Visit www.mammothbiathlon.org for info.

**Tuesday, March 21/22**

- **David Grier, Grammy winner,** plays at the Inyo Council for the Arts. 7-9 p.m. Tix: $15. Visit ICA or call 760.873.8014.

**Thursday, March 23**

- **Alabama Hills Geology hike with ESA.** Meet 10 a.m. at the Visitor Center. Free to compete! Purses for winners. Alaska Hills Geology hike with ESA. Meet 10 a.m. at the Visitor Center. Free to compete! Purses for winners.
Broadband advisory committee

The Bishop City Council is accepting applications to fill three stakeholder positions on the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Council: One representing the public sector, one representing the private sector, and one representing Tribal interests. The terms of these positions are for two years.

The Advisory Council will be charged with providing the Consortium Board of Directors clear direction to help guide its efforts to ensure that a high quality of broadband technology is brought to the local economy and improving digital literacy.

If you are interested in serving on the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium in one of the above-mentioned stakeholder categories, please submit your request for appointment on or before 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 17, 2017, to the Bishop City Council at 377 West Line Street, Bishop, California 93514. For further information, call (760) 873-5863.

Help restore off-road damage in Death Valley

Visitors from around the world complain about off-road vehicle tracks marred the beauty of Death Valley National Park. The National Park Service seeks public support for a grant application that would help fund restoration of these damaged areas.

Death Valley National Park has applied for a grant from the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks. The requested grant would help support a three-year project to restore damage done by off-road drivers throughout the park.

Public opinion is a significant factor in the grant evaluation process. The public can show their support at an Open House Time at http://ovhparks.ca.gov or by writing to California State Parks, OHMVR Division, 1725 23rd Street, Sacramento, CA 95816. Attention: Grants Manager. Comments are accepted until April 7, 2017.

Backcountry horsemen gather

Coming home to the Mule Capital of the World, the Backcountry Horsemen Rendezvous will feature Free Clinics, Western Art Show, Packers Scramble, Kids Activities, and more.

The event will also feature Dave Stamey’s live in concert on Friday. If you haven’t heard this cowboy poet in person, you are missing out on an amazing experience. Many of his songs capture the beauty of being a high country horseman right here in the Eastern Sierra. March 17-19 at the Bishop Tri-County Fairgrounds. Dave Stamey: Days at 8 p.m. on Friday, and a beer, wine cheese tasting will be held 3-5 p.m. on Saturday. Visit www.bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous for info.

TOWN STUFF

Monday, March 20/ Inyo Associates meet this month at the Sierra Adventure Center in Big Pine. 5:30 p.m. RSVP: 760.876.4444.

Notice of public workshop re Red’s Meadow Road improvements. Times: a 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Location: Site Z, Minaret Mall. The meeting format will be open house, with an opportunity for the public to provide comments directly to the project team members.

Tuesday, March 21/ Community Reads: Book Discussion @ Spellbinder Books. Join the Spellbinder “Teen Reads” book club to discuss the novel Hoot by Carl Hiassen. 7-8 p.m. at 124 Main St. Bishop.

Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce Power Lunch. 12 p.m. Speaker: Tom Painter, scientist at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will give a presentation about his team’s new snow measurement technology. Location: Mammoth Techreration, co-working space at Sierra Center Mall. Tickets are $20 for Chamber members, $30 for non-members.

Special Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission Meeting. Time: 1:30 p.m. Location: Site Z, Minaret Mall. Sierra Club monthly meeting @ Crowley Lake Community Center, 482 S. Landling Rd. Optional potluck at 6:15, lecture at 7. “Monarchs, Milkweed and Citizen Science,” with Rachel Williams, wildlife biologist. Everyone welcome.

Toddler Time @ Mammoth Community Center with Angela and Victoria, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

March 21-24/ MakerSpace at the Mammoth Lakes Library. Tuesdays: 2-6 p.m. for elementary aged children; Wednesdays 2-6 p.m. for middle school; Thursdays 1-6 p.m. all ages; Fridays 10 a.m.-noon for adults.

UPCOMING

Thursday, March 23/ Cody Tuttle is the featured speaker at ESA’s Mammoth Winter Adventure Series. Turtle’s topic: Untouchable: Earthquakes and Paragliding in the Himalaya. Location: USFS Welcome Center. Doors 6 p.m. Program 7 p.m. Cost $10, includes a local beer.

Board of Education regular meeting, 6-8 p.m. Mammoth High School multi-purpose room.

Friday, March 24/ Film screening of “The Cats of Mirikitani” @ the Imagination Lab in Bishop. 6:21 West Line St. (upstairs). Info: 760.872.2446. 7 p.m. Free.

Saturday, March 25/ Community Reads: The Miracle Migration, Owens Lake. Join local bird expert Mike Prather to witness the annual migration of Owens Lake. Space is limited. Call ICA for info and to RSVP: 760.873.8014.

Monday, March 27/ Bishop City Council Meeting. 6 p.m. 377 W. Line St. Questions: 760.873.5863.

Wednesday, March 29/ Visit California’s fascinating and extremely informative Global Ready China Seminar. The seminar is $30 and will be held from 9:30am to 12:30pm on Wednesday, March 29th in the Sierra Evolve Center at 452 Old Mammoth Road in Mammoth Lakes. Light breakfast and refreshments are included. Please register at industry: visitcalifornia.com/GlobalReady.

Sierra Classic Theatre limited five-day run begins for its production of John Patrick Shanley’s “Outside Mullingar” to be staged at Edison Theatre in Mammoth. Showtimes 7 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. Tic $20. Students/seniors $18.

AT THE MOVIES

Minaret Cinemas


For movie times, call 760.934.3131 or visit mammothlakesmovies.com. Custom- er appreciation nights on Tuesdays. All seats, all shows $6

Rec Department open house

The Recreation Department would like to invite you to the 3rd Annual Summer Recreation Open House on March 23 from 5-7 p.m. at the Mammoth Elementary School MPR. The event is free.

Attendees of the open house will also receive a coupon code valid for 5% off one transaction (no limit on number of programs in the transaction) for registering for Parks & Recreation Department summer programs! Please contact Lindsey at 760.965.3699 for more information, or to register your organization for the event.

Registration for summer programs will open on April 3. Stay tuned for more details on registration.

Archaeology projects at Manzanar

Join Manzanar National Historic Site staff to assist with historic preservation projects anytime from March 24-29.

Spend a day outside learning, working and preserving. Projects include raking, digging, removing brush and vegetation, painting rocks, mixing and placing concrete. Space is limited, RSVP 760-878-2194, ext. 3312 or email katherine_busch@partner.nps.gov.

Discussion on Reds Meadow Road

The Federal Highways Administration Central Federal Lands Highway Division (FHWA-CFLHD), in partnership with the United States Forest Service and Town of Mammoth Lakes, will hold a public information meeting to discuss the completed Planning and Environmental Linkages Study (PEL), conceptual design, and the NEPA/CQA analysis and documentation currently underway for the Reds Meadow Road Improvements Project. Following the presentation, project staff will be on hand to answer questions.

Information gathered at the public open house will be used in conjunction with feedback received as part of the stakeholder meetings and agency coordination to help guide future efforts on the project.

The roadway is currently in a deteriorated state, and the steep one-lane roadway in the upper 2.5 miles hinders user mobility as opposing vehicular traffic cannot readily and safely pass each other. The resulting conditions include long queues of waiting vehicles and ongoing safety concerns. A PEL study and conceptual design were completed in late 2016. The project is now moving into the NEPA/CQA clearance phase. Project development with technical analysis and documentation both underway.

Questions or comments regarding the public meeting can be directed to: Wendy Longley Project Manager FHWA-CFLHD 720.963.3394 Wendy.Longley@dot.gov
Notice of Petition to Administer Estate of Darrell Gene Clark (Amended)

The Petition for Probate has been filed by Harmony Moore in the Superior Court of County of Mono, Mono County Superior Court Case No. PR2013-399.

The Petition for Probate requests that Harmony Moore be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests that the personal representative continue to administer the Independent Administration of Estates Act.

The personal representative will take possession of any property belonging to the decedent. The personal representative will also make sure that any property necessary for the administration of the estate is preserved. The personal representative will also have the authority to sell property and make distributions.

A hearing on the petition will be held in Mono County Superior Court as follows: Date: April 13th, 2017, Time: 9:30 a.m. The address of the court: 100 Thompson’s Way, Mammoth Lakes, California 93546.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections. The hearing is set for the court due to the court.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative. The personal representative will return the claims that are not timely made or have not been verified.

If you are a party interested in the estate, you may file a written statement with the court and send a copy to the personal representative.

If you are not a party interested in the estate, you may have a personal representative appointed for the estate by the court.

If the bond passes, the primary focus will be on Mammoth High School and Mammoth Elementary School. That doesn’t mean that Mammoth Middle School is getting left behind—they just have to be more creative.

Principal Annie Rinaldi told her table that she had recently applied for a $55,000 grant for modular, flexible furniture so that they could change their seating arrangements at will depending on what they were participating in. “Don’t rule us out” just because the other two campuses are in the process of that type of furniture, said Newbry.

The next public meeting on the facilities master plan will be the Mammoth Unified School District Board meeting on Thursday, April 27 at 6 p.m. in the Mammoth High School multi-purpose room. “At this time, HMC Architects will present the updated master plan, along with the timeline as well as share concepts being developed,” wrote Klein.
aquifer, Yannotta said. "We're going to minimize pumping as much as we can," he added. The water graciously spilled by LADWP on its own land, much of it that it leases to ranchers, will not count against lessee's allotment.

LADWP is anticipating Crowley Lake filling up soon and the water must go somewhere. James Yannotta said the last thing LADWP wants to do is overflow the Long Valley Dam, for fear of disturbing the endangered tuu chub habitat downstream.

Crowley can hold about 90,000-acre feet. Maximum capacity for the LADWP aqueduct is about 9,000-acre feet and Yannotta said there could be as much as 1,000-acre feet coming into the aqueduct.

In the other two historically big winters, 1968-69 and 1982-83, LADWP spread more than 100,000-acre feet. The key, Yannotta said, is to not spread too much and saturate the soil.

Mike Prather, Inyo County Water Commissioner and a founding father of the Owens Valley Audubon Society said there is, visibly, water on the lake surface and more than what is used for dust mitigation. Some early runoff is starting to collect at the low spot in the middle of the lake, but this is a salty, brine pool. This water can be seen from the highway.

He added "there's plenty of room" out on the lake for more water. It hasn't been determined if extra water in the lake may disrupt some of the dust mitigation equipment, Yannotta said.

Prather added that water on the lake does not equate to bird habitat.

From public comment received during Inyo County Water Commission meetings, several areas in the Owens Valley have been identified to spread LADWP's extra water.

Laws area should get as much water as possible. The industrial area and home of the Laws Railroad Museum is in an unfortunate spot and little water has graced these parcels. The McNally Ditches near Laws only have water during wet years and so have not seen much water in the past 5 years and could use a dousing. The Five Bridges area, northeast of Bishop, has been impacted by aggregate mining in the area and suffered vegetation loss. The Fish Springs Hatchery, south of Big Pine pumps water all day every day and the surrounding areas have suffered.

With water comes bugs. Supervisor Jeff Griffiths said his constituents are concerned about the swarms of mosquitoes that are sure to accompany the large runoff. Yannotta said LADWP would be working with local vector control.

Supervisor Rick Pucci said the public needs to be educated on what's going to happen. He said the public probably isn't as concerned with how much water will come down, as LADWP has been talking about during the meeting, as much as what to do with it. "People are going to have to participate if they like it or not," Pucci said.
THREE CHEERS FOR CUPCAKES
Kids turn out to say Happy Birthday to Bucky, June Mountain’s mascot, on Saturday, March 11

Photos by Rea

Photos, clockwise from top left: Hailey was chosen to blow out Bucky’s candles for him. Ellie Grossman, 5, and Harvey Greshler, 4, choose their cupcakes. Maribeth Kramer and Eveanna get their grub on (especially Eveanna). Ernesto Gamboa, of Costa Rica, is the man of the hour (he’s the one in charge of the cupcakes). Kids scream and shout for Bucky. Charli and Sam Wolf, both of Simi Valley, share the same birthday and got to celebrate with Bucky and Woolly on Saturday.

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Photos, above: Melydia March and son Nico, 4, of June Lake, celebrate with party hats. Emma Ross, 11, and Grimm Gain, 5, both of June Lake, get all the goodies.
GET ONBOARD THE COOLEST SUMMER JOB IN MAMMOTH

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Earn a certificate recognized by local businesses!

**Monday Sessions at Walker Wellness Center:**
Module 1 - 3/27 | Module 2 - 4/10 | Module 3 - 4/24 | Module 4 - 5/1

**Wednesday Sessions at Mammoth Lakes Library:**
Module 1 - 3/29 | Module 2 - 4/12 | Module 3 - 4/26 | Module 4 - 5/3

**Saturday Sessions at Mammoth Lakes Library:**
Module 1 - 4/1 | Module 2 - 4/15 | Module 3 - 4/29 | Module 4 - 5/6

ALL SESSIONS ARE 12:30PM - 4:00PM
TRANSLATION SERVICES & CHILD CARE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE
(With advanced notice, call to arrange.)

Sponsored by Mono County Office of Education and Mono County Department of Social Services
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 760.934.0031
EMAIL: tnguyen@monocoe.org | dschnadt@monocoe.org

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