UNION TIME
Sheriff deputies bargain for a better deal
By Bodine

There may now be more cops on the streets in Mono County, thanks to a new contract. For several years the county has struggled to recruit and retain Mono County Sheriff’s Deputies due to low salaries as compared with neighboring law enforcement agencies like Mammoth and Bishop police departments. In May 2016, Sheriff Ingrid Braun had to reduce patrol hours to 12 hours a day, noon to midnight down from 6 a.m. to midnight, because of a lack of personnel. Braun said she hoped to reinstate the 18-hour patrols after the newest hire has been trained.

“The pay increases will apply to any new hires ...This should help with recruiting, as it makes us more competitive with neighboring agencies,” Braun stated in an email on Tuesday, April 11. “Also, reducing the pension (PERS) contribution from 16% to 12% will be more attractive to lateral hires.” A lateral hire is a fully trained deputy that is coming from another department, not a new recruit from the academy. There are currently 15 deputies and five vacant deputy positions.

Mono County and the Deputy Sheriff’s Association, which represents Mono County Sheriff Deputies, have reached a new five-year contract agreement that will raise base pay by 5 percent. The contract includes cost of living increases and a decrease in employee contributions to the California Public Employees’ Retirement System, CalPERS, from 16 to 12 percent.

There were concessions, too. Holiday pay has been reduced from 10 to 7 percent, hazard pay and uniform allowances have been eliminated and there will no longer be sick leave cash-outs. Instead that pay will count as service credit.

Deputies will be able to take
see COP, page 8

ASPN WEST
MMSA sells to Aspen-KSL
By Lunch

Mammoth Resorts, comprised of Mammoth Mountain, Ski Area, June Mountain Ski Area, Bear Mountain and Snow Summit, entered into a “definitive and binding agreement to sell” to this week according to Mammoth Resorts Chairman and CEO Rusty Gregory.

The buyer: A partnership consisting of Aspen Skiing and KSL Capital Partners. Gregory said the transaction is subject to regulatory approval and is expected to close in the next 3 to 4 months.

The move accelerates the consolidation within the industry and positions Aspen-KSL to challenge Vail Resorts for industry leadership. Vail’s holdings include Vail, Whistler, Breckenridge and Heavenly among its 14 resorts.

In California, Vail also owns Northstar-at-Tahoe and Kirkwood.

While Gregory said the deal is a private transaction and would not reveal the price, reliable industry sources said the price tag is “approaching $800 million.”

Gregory will remain in his current position, and he said the ownership change “will not affect the employment status for anyone.”

Gregory will have the option to retain an ownership stake in the larger business which has been created. He said the senior executives of all the resorts in the new company will be getting together soon to develop a larger company strategy.

Earlier in the week, Aspen Skiing (owner and operator of the four mountains of Aspen Snowmass: Aspen, Snowmass, Aspen Highlands and Buttermilk) and KSL (owner and operator of Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows) purchased Intrawest for $1.5 billion.

Intrawest had been the owner of Tremblant (Quebec), Steamboat, Winter Park, Blue (Ontario), Stratton and Snowshoe (West Virginia) resorts, in addition to the 15% it still had in Mammoth.

Aspen Skiing is owned by Henry Crown and Company, a privately held, family-owned firm whose founder was industrialist and billionaire Henry Crown.

KSL’s founder is Mike Shannon, a former CEO of Vail. KSL’s CEO is Eric Resnick, another Vail alum (a former Vice-President of Strategic Planning from 1996-2001).

According to a story which appeared this week in the Denver Post, KSL has raised $7.5 billion over the past decade for 30 hotel and resort investments and is planning a $1 billion base-area redevelopment at Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows.

Gregory said the sale of
see ASPEN, page 2

GHOST TOWN POW
Eastside local brings urban skiing to Bodie
By Giles


The Shee caught up with LaPlante after school this week. He had just returned from competing in the Junior World Freestyle Championships in Italy. At 15, he is the youngest member of the U.S. Ski Team. He competes and trains often at Mammoth Mountain and hopes to qualify for the 2022 Olympics. Early last month, LaPlante was looking at images of the Sierra covered in record snowpack and scouting places to film and ski. He came across Bodie, where he had previously camped with his family, and saw the town was completely covered in snow. “Doing interesting urban ski projects helps progress the sport... and I’d definitely never skied a ghost town before,” said LaPlante this week.

Matthew Green, Chief see BODIE, page 10

Genesis /p. 5/
Church of busted! /p. 4/
Oster on real estate /p. 12/
Alabama jammers /p. 16/
Manhunt /p. 22/

PHOTO: CELIN SERBO, COURTESY OF RED BULL
Mammoth Resorts was the culmination of a year-long process which involved various suitors.

Starwood Capital, which acquired Mammoth for $365 million back in 2005, will have no investment stake going forward.

This year, Gregory said Mammoth Resorts hosted two million skier visits and will boast operating earnings of between $85 and $90 million.

The new company and its affiliated resorts generated 7 million skier visits last year.

When asked how Mammoth’s sales price might affect local real estate values, Gregory smiled and said, “Look to your local real estate professionals for their opinion [on that] … but the future is increasingly bright and thick with opportunity.”

One such local real estate professional, Stephanie Cook, owner of the Mammoth Realty Group, said the deal will spark “new energy” and “give everybody a whole new animation, new ideas. People won’t be as afraid to spend money. I anticipate some increase in real estate prices - as much as 40%.”

Chuck Lande, CEO of the Chadmar Group, the developer of Snowcreek, observed, “They [Aspen-KSL] paid a rich price, but they’re committed, dead-ass committed, to the capital program … in order to make it work, they’re going to invest and build and create a seven-day resort … as you know, I drank the Kool-Aid a long time ago. This, to me, means they’re going to be committed as we are.”

Two months ago, Lande told The Sheet, “Mammoth Lakes is the best development opportunity in the country.”

Upon hearing news of the sale, an enthused Sierra Nevada Resort owner Jim Demetriades called Gregory and offered to buy him “a thousand dinners.”

Matthew Lehman of Matthew Lehman Real Estate said, “With Vail growing [recent acquisitions of Whistler, Stowe], it became a matter of them absorbing you, or you competing. This [the sale to Aspen-KSL] is us competing.”

Lehman noted that Mammoth’s commercial real estate market, which has been stagnant for the past decade, has seen a lot of activity over the past few months, particularly the leasing of empty space and a willingness to pay higher rates. On the vacant development pieces, he said, “We’re seeing activity and offers.”

Kirk Stapp of the Mammoth Lakes Housing Board said he is hopeful regarding the new resort owner’s attitude towards workforce housing, noting that affordable housing has always been a priority in Aspen. “They’ve never ignored the problem,” he said. “My fingers are crossed that they bring the same attitude here … it’s an infrastructure need and has to be on the table 24/7.”

Gregory plans to address the community on Monday at 5 p.m. at the Mountainside Conference Center inside Main Lodge.

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For a subscription to The Sheet contact Lunch at his above e-mail address, or call the office. Issues are mailed out bi-weekly. Cost is $65/year.

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CELEBRATE EASTER WEEKEND WITH

The Village
AT MAMMOTH

Saturday, April 15
3:00-6:00 PM: Stilt Circus *
3:30-4:30 PM: Woolly’s Parade
Join Woolly and friends from Ski and Snowboard School for music, dancing, face-painting and a parade in The Village. A must-attend kids event for all ages.

Sunday, April 16
3:00-6:00 PM: Stilt Circus *
3:30-4:30 PM: Easter Parade
Celebrate Easter with an exciting parade in The Village, featuring a special visit from the Easter Bunny and Woolly, and candy and Easter party favor giveaways!

*Stilt Circus times subject to change.

FOR MORE EVENTS, SALES, SPECIALS, AND MORE, VISIT: VILLAGEATMAMMOTH.COM

Facebook: Village at Mammoth Instagram: @VILLAGE_MAMMOTH Twitter: @VILLAGE_AT_MAMMOTH
THE CHURCH OF BUSTED
Local detained, charged with embezzlement and theft
By Giles

On April 3, Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) arrested 27-year-old Mammoth Lakes Resident Christopher “Christo” Ryan Patrick. Patrick was charged with 2 misdemeanor counts of embezzlement and entering a non-commercial dwelling. He was also charged with 3 felonies: burglary, receiving known stolen property, and theft from an elder. He is being held at the Bridgeport Jail. Bail is set at $20,000.

According to Hannah DeGoey, Executive Assistant to MLPD Chief Al Davis, the arrest was made after MLPD received an anonymous tip that several individuals were living in a home on Snowridge Lane in Mammoth Lakes without the property owner’s permission. The property owner told police that he had not authorized anyone to be in the home. During the investigation, it was determined that Patrick had moved into the residence and had been unlawfully occupying it for 10 months. He was also unlawfully renting rooms to several other tenants.

DeGoey confirmed this week that the property owner and victim of the crimes is over the age of 65. “Subletting is a civil issue; what’s criminal here is illegally residing in the home, removing and/or destroying the victim’s property from the residence, and entering the structure with the intent to commit a crime,” said DeGoey.

In an interview this week, Patrick said, “I saw the housing crisis this winter, and all of the storms, and that’s the reason they [the other occupants] were staying there. If they hadn’t needed a place to stay, I wouldn’t have had anyone there.” Patrick said that he started The Church of Fun out of good will and that he doesn’t think his arrest will end The Church of Fun. “If I have to do the paperwork and start a new church, I’ll call it ‘The Church of Turn the Other Cheek.’”

Patrick also said he completed several service projects over the last year while acting as The Church of Fun. He collected burritos and other leftover food from local restaurants and distributed them to people living on public lands off of the Green Church Road and behind Shady Rest Park. “I met a lot of people who were homeless and eating ramen,” said Patrick. “I wanted to get them some real food.” Patrick said he completed a landscaping project for a local older woman and catered an event. In both cases, he says he worked for free but offered the option of a donation to the people who received help.

“This was a really dumb mistake. This started with good will. It was about feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, and doing good,” said Patrick.

DeGoey said the investigation is ongoing. “We know that The Church of Fun does not have a TOML business license and it’s possible that at least one roommate made the rent checks out to The Church of Fun.” Anyone with information regarding donations to The Church of Fun “is asked to contact Sergeant Hugelman with the MLPD at 760.963.3706.”

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Ed. note: Christo bears no relation to the artist Christo, though one can imagine they'd be sympatico.

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COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
Recreational Marijuana Workshop
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 @ 6-8 PM
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER (SUITE Z)
437 Old Mammoth Rd.

Come learn about Prop 64, and how the Town plans to implement this Proposition — the legalization of recreational marijuana — in Mammoth Lakes.

At the workshop, staff will provide a summary of what the passage of Prop 64 means for the public, the types of activities that are currently permitted, how the Town proposes to regulate the sale and cultivation of recreational marijuana, potential future tax implications, and timing for implementation of the proposed regulations.

The Town will be seeking public feedback regarding the proposal.

www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov • (760) 965.3603

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EASTER FUN
EGG’CELLENT

From on-mountain egg hunts and Sunday service with a Sierra view, to helmet decorating and special parades in The Village with Woolly and crew, there’s tons of fun festivities for the whole family to hop around all weekend long.

APRIL 15 & 16

FIND THE FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ONLINE
MAMMOTHMOUNTAIN.COM

Mammoth

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THE SHEET I Saturday, April 15, 2017
www.thesheetnews.com

THE SHEET
The record snow fall of the 2016-17 season is going to melt and cause record flooding. Dams at local reservoirs will most likely overflow, fields will flood and rivers and streams will be at capacity.

“It’s not a question of if, but when,” Inyo County Supervisor Mark Tillemans said Monday, April 10. Unfortunately, when and how much are dependent on the weather. If temperatures stay cool, the runoff will be slow and, hopefully, manageable. If temperatures flare up like they did in March, the runoff will likely be of some concern.

The impending rapture has been dubbed the, ‘Here it Comes Emergency’ by Inyo County.

The local water gatekeeper, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, met with Inyo County on Friday, April 7 to discuss plans for how the two entities will deal with so much water. Prior to Friday’s meeting, LADWP had been tight-lipped on the details of what it plans to do. At the meeting, the agency laid out a plan and even brought along representatives from L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti’s office.

LADWP has already taken some steps to curb the massive runoff by letting water flood meadows and pasture land in the Owens Valley. However, that practice will eventually saturate the soil and the subsequent flooding will do more harm than good, said Aqueduct Manager James Yannotta at an Inyo Supervisor meeting on March 14. About 26,000 Acres feet (AF) of water has already been let go in Owens Valley fields.

In anticipation of the heavy runoff, LADWP is lowering Crowley Lake to 90,000 AF, down from 120,000 AF in March, and far from its capacity of 183,000 AF.

There is an anticipated 750,000 AF of runoff coming to the valley this year. LADWP says no water will be taken from the tributaries of Mono Lake in order to save room in the aqueduct. The Mono Lake Committee expects this will trigger a four-foot rise in the lake’s water level.

The 100 square-mile Owens Dry Lake is the logical place for the water to go, but too much water will destroy the dust mitigation infrastructure and equipment LADWP has put into place at that site, Supervisor Matt Kingsley said. There is also a Borax mine on the lake that would take two years to rebuild, Kingsley estimated, if it flooded.

“We never thought we’d have to figure out what to do with so much water (on the Dry Lake),” Kingsley added.

The water that won’t fit in the aqueduct or be spread on the Owens Valley floor will wind up in the Owens Dry Lake. According to a LADWP press release from April 12, the excess water, “is expected to cause significant flood damage to dust control infrastructure... Damage to these dust control areas may result in increased air pollution that could threaten the health of the public after the runoff evaporates in 12 to 18 months.”

Inyo County Water Director Bob Harrington said there are many variables in determining when the water will come to the valley. The county is looking at the only other comparable snow years in recent memory, ’69 and ’83, to see what happened. Correlations between temperature and runoff are being studied, as well. Temperature and the weather are another unknown in the runoff equation. A cool summer could mean slower, manageable runoff. Luckily, heavy runoff caused by high temperatures or high-altitude rain, can be anticipated in advance.

Harrington said it has yet to be determined whose responsibility and authority the water is, LADWP’s or Inyo County’s.

That doesn’t mean Inyo County will simply bow out of assisting with mitigation and damages, but the logistics of who or what will pay for a water-related emergency will be hashed out later, Supervisor Dan Totheroh explained. He said the county and LADWP have not yet discussed how to inform the public should flooding be imminent, Kingsley said.

Tillemans noted that it was a rare opportunity to have representatives from Garcetti’s office at the meeting, and the exchange opened a door. Tillemans said he wanted to ask about the new ranch and commercial leases, but this was not the most opportune time.

A kayaker well-prepared for the expected historic flows at the Lower Owens River.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Mammoth Creek Park

Join us on Friday, April 14 for our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Mammoth Creek Park (be prepared to search in the snow!). The event will run from 3:00-4:00pm, with the egg hunt beginning promptly at 3:15pm. Don’t forget to bring a basket or bag to collect eggs!

Open Letter to our Community Members

The Town Council, Police Department and Town Management have received a number of comments, expressions of concern and questions related to federal immigration policy and the role of local government. The Town’s position on working with our residents and visitors has not changed. We will continue to provide Town services and programs to all. We do not check on resident status for programs. The same standards apply today that have applied in the past. The Town has not and does not intend to take any proactive approach to enforce federal laws, and as in the case of detaining immigrants we refer them to the legal authority to do so. This federal law is outside of the role of local law enforcement.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Mammoth Creek Park

Deluge of runoff coming to Eastside

By Bodine

A kayaker well-prepared for the expected historic flows at the Lower Owens River.
Spring runoff will soon fill canals, creeks, reservoirs and open ground in the Eastern Sierra. The water will pool up and become ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes. With an historic amount of water comes an historic amount of mosquitoes. The bug swarms probably won’t blot out the sun, but that might depend on where you’re standing.

Nathan Reade, Inyo-Mono Agricultural Commissioner said his office started planning for the mosquitoes after the first round of storms in January. Mosquito Abatement is under the umbrella of the Commissioner’s Office. Reade has been talking to retired local Mosquito Abatement managers and pouring over maps of runoff and water spreading from the only other snow years bigger than 2017; 1969 and 1983. This year, there’s more standing water than there was in the ‘70s and ‘80s. Since 2006, the Lower Owens River Project has restored and re-watered 62 miles of waterway in Inyo County. The project also supports 1,800 acres of wildlife habitat by providing water for small lakes and ponds.

Inyo County Mosquito Abatement has been stockpiling pesticides in anticipation of mosquito season, Reade said.

Mosquito Abatement has a record five seasonal employees for this year and they’re already working. The extra hands may make up for the lack of experience and knowledge on staff this year, Reade explained. The manager’s position has not been filled following the retirement of Chris Wickham, but Mosquito Control Technician Rob Miller has been working for Mosquito Abatement for more than 17 seasons.

Reade said the department would still face challenges if there were 50 people working this year, as there are going to be an unprecedented number of places for the bugs to live and reproduce. According to Rosemary Drisdelle’s, Malaria Killed Half the People That Ever Lived, and related articles from the BBC, mosquitos have killed more people throughout human history than anything else including war, famine, and drought.

Inyo Mosquito Abatement might have to call for aerial bombardment of the vectors if diseases are detected. Mosquitos carry West Nile virus and Zika along with yellow fever, malaria and dengue. The last confirmed case of West Nile-carrying mosquitoes in Inyo County was in 2011. There has not been a human case of West Nile but there also has not been this much water in a long time.

The first California mosquito to test positive for Zika was found in 2011. There is no vaccine for the virus that can cause birth defects. West Nile mosquitoes are typically found from July to August. There are also flood water mosquitoes that are aggressive, they swarm and chase, but do not carry West Nile. Mosquitos have a limited life span, 10 days for males and 50 days for females. In the summer, mosquito’s life spans shorten, but there are more hatches. In the fall, they live longer but have fewer hatches.

Mosquito Abatement has been trapping for Zika virus-carrying mosquitoes but have found none. However, Zika came on the scene in the US during the drought and the mosquitoes may move from up and East from the lowlands. Reade said hopefully the mosquitoes that carry Zika, Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus, won’t survive in Inyo and Mono Counties’ high desert and mountainous environment. Reade added that Zika mosquitoes have been spotted as far north as Long Island on the East Coast.

There is approximately $65,000 set aside to fight mosquitoes in Inyo and Mono Counties this year. Reade said more money could be spent, but given the incredible amount of habitat, more money will only go so far. It’s uncertain whether the LADWP disaster declaration will cover any additional costs. The abatement has already begun. It attacks prime habitat that includes private property and are willing to investigate and fog someone’s land or backyard.

For more information go to www.inyomonoagriculture.com.
The Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County wish to build a joint-use office building to house government workers. They say it will save you money.

But, you won’t get to vote on it, and you’ll be paying for it for the next 35 years.

IS THIS A GOOD IDEA?

TELL THEM IN PERSON

APRIL 18TH AT 5:45 PM
at the Mono County Board of Supervisors Meeting
Meeting will be held at the Minaret Mall
437 Old Mammoth Rd, Suite Z in Mammoth Lakes.

MAKE IT SOCIAL

Post your ideas, concerns and comments to The Sheets Facebook page
facebook.com/TheSheetNews

CONTACT YOUR MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Larry Johnston: 760-924-1806 ljohnston@mono.ca.gov
Fred Stump: 760-924-1783 fstump@mono.ca.gov
Bob Gardner 909-325-0999 bgardner@mono.ca.gov
John Peters: 775-671-7126 jpeters@mono.ca.gov
Stacy Corless: 760-920-0190 scorless@mono.ca.gov

The Sheet brings this to you as a public service announcement.
Some Inyo County employees have recently reached a new contract agreement, as well. On April 4, Inyo County Correctional Officers Association, Non-Represented Employees, and Management Employees reached a deal similar to that of the Mono deputies. There will be COLAs, sick leave buy outs will be eliminated.

“It was an easy negotiation” Chris Connolly, President of the County’s Deputy Sheriffs Association stated in a press release. “Our members feel the County showed us respect and appreciation for the job we do serving the public.”

Braun explained in May 2016 that public safety employees are being offered, but the entire country, from Bangor, Maine to San Bernardino, is having time filling those positions. The Bangor Daily News reported in January 2016, that low wages, as low as $15 an hour for Washington County deputies, has contributed to weak recruiting.

The lack of recruiting deputies is due to low salaries and physical health. The lack of resources and wear on the deputies mental health is compromising efficiency and effectiveness. There are three reading levels, and student progress is tracked. Users can even record themselves reading a book and send the recording to a teacher or relative via email. Teachers and administrators can then access data about how many books have been read by students in each school, class, and community. According to Mono County Superintendent of Schools Stacey Adler, the program is intended to promote literacy among preschool through 3rd grade students. In a February presentation to the Mono County Board of Supervisors, Adler told supervisors, “We need this program, because at this point, data from last year’s CASP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) test showed that… 63 percent of all Mono County third graders were below the standard required by the state for English Language Arts.”

In an interview this week, Adler said that the biggest obstacle to improving literacy among elementary school aged students in Mono County is children’s lack of exposure to a print rich environment prior to kindergarten (Ed. note: What - they’re not reading the personals?). “We have a number of kids who come to kindergarten programs with no literacy background. Often, their parents are working several jobs, or may not recognize the importance of creating a print rich environment in their homes,” said Adler. Adler said the lack of preschool options in Mono County is also a contributing factor. Four preschools are set to close at the end of the school year. “This inequal access does create economic disparity. If kids don’t get exposed to reading at a young age, they enter kindergarten at a big disadvantage. For some kids, even regular attendance at school doesn’t help them catch up.”

The app is available in both English and Spanish, and features an assisted reading program. “Parents who may not be the most confident readers, either in Spanish or in English, can read with their children ever knowing they are learning too,” said Adler, who said she has used the program to work on her Spanish with her sixth-grade daughter.

Mono County Office of Education is required to provide matching funds for the grant of $74,000 per year over the five year period when Mono County will receive the $5 million grant. Those funds will cover the cost of teacher and staff training, licensing to provide the program free to all community members, data collection about the program’s efficacy, public outreach such as parent training and information sessions, and program upgrades. Teacher training began in March and Adler said her office is in the process of reaching out to daycare providers and preschool teachers to include them in future training. The program will be formally rolled out on June 3.

Adler said that the grant funds can only be used for Footsteps 2 Brilliance and that she is confident that the County will be able to continue to fund the program in perpetuity. So far, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department has donated $2,500 to the program to purchase laptops. The BOS allocated $10,000 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, and Adler has requested $50,000 from the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

“When we send kids into kindergarten that are kindergar-ten ready, that have basic literacy skills, letter-sound correspondence skills, those kids are ready to be successful in school. That’s good for the whole community. It lets our schools do more with their money because they don’t have to do as many interventions. Instead they can be proactive and divert that money to, for example, enrichment programs,” said Adler. Parents interested in pre-enrolling in Footsteps 2 Brilliance with their children can register online at www.myf2b.com/register/monocoe.

COPS
continued from page 1
home squad cars if they live within 30 miles of the county line.

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home squad cars if they live within 30 miles of the county line.

Braun explained in May 2016 that there was plenty of overtime pay available, but the deputies can only physically work so many hours without compromising efficiency and effectiveness and wear on the deputies mental and physical health. The lack of recruiting deputies is due to low salaries and physical health. The lack of resources and wear on the deputies mental health is compromising efficiency and effectiveness. There are three reading levels, and student progress is tracked. Users can even record themselves reading a book and send the recording to a teacher or relative via email. Teachers and administrators can then access data about how many books have been read by students in each school, class, and community. According to Mono County Superintendent of Schools Stacey Adler, the program is intended to promote literacy among preschool through 3rd grade students. In a February presentation to the Mono County Board of Supervisors, Adler told supervisors, “We need this program, because at this point, data from last year’s CASP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) test showed that… 63 percent of all Mono County third graders were below the standard required by the state for English Language Arts.”

In an interview this week, Adler said that the biggest obstacle to improving literacy among elementary school aged students in Mono County is children’s lack of exposure to a print rich environment prior to kindergarten (Ed. note: What - they’re not reading the personals?). “We have a number of kids who come to kindergarten programs with no literacy background. Often, their parents are working several jobs, or may not recognize the importance of creating a print rich environment in their homes,” said Adler. Adler said the lack of preschool options in Mono County is also a contributing factor. Four preschools are set to close at the end of the school year. “This inequal access does create economic disparity. If kids don’t get exposed to reading at a young age, they enter kindergarten at a big disadvantage. For some kids, even regular attendance at school doesn’t help them catch up.”

The app is available in both English and Spanish, and features an assisted reading program. “Parents who may not be the most confident readers, either in Spanish or in English, can read with their children ever knowing they are learning too,” said Adler, who said she has used the program to work on her Spanish with her sixth-grade daughter.

Mono County Office of Education is required to provide matching funds for the grant of $74,000 per year over the five year period when Mono County will receive the $5 million grant. Those funds will cover the cost of teacher and staff training, licensing to provide the program free to all community members, data collection about the program’s efficacy, public outreach such as parent training and information sessions, and program upgrades. Teacher training began in March and Adler said her office is in the process of reaching out to daycare providers and preschool teachers to include them in future training. The program will be formally rolled out on June 3.

Adler said that the grant funds can only be used for Footsteps 2 Brilliance and that she is confident that the County will be able to continue to fund the program in perpetuity. So far, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department has donated $2,500 to the program to purchase laptops. The BOS allocated $10,000 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, and Adler has requested $50,000 from the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

“When we send kids into kindergar-ten that are kindergar-ten ready, that have basic literacy skills, letter-sound correspondence skills, those kids are ready to be successful in school. That’s good for the whole community. It lets our schools do more with their money because they don’t have to do as many interventions. Instead they can be proactive and divert that money to, for example, enrichment programs,” said Adler. Parents interested in pre-enrolling in Footsteps 2 Brilliance with their children can register online at www.myf2b.com/register/monocoe.
Connecting women through the love of sports, good health, and the outdoors. Join Olympian Stacey Cook for a weekend of new experiences and lasting friendships.

APRIL 29–30

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BODIE
continued from page 1

Ranger for the Sierra District of State Parks said his district gets over 100 requests annually from producers wanting to film on State land. “This one was a little out of the box for Bodie. We try to keep things within our mission, but after talking with Red Bull, we decided it would attract a younger audience to The Park (Bodie).” Ranger Joshua Heitzmann told Red Bull that, at a max of 17 feet, this winter saw the most snow he has ever seen in the park. “For Cody to be able to come out here and do this is very, very unique,” said Heitzmann. California State Parks crafted a permit that required LaPlante not ski off any historic structures. Heitzmann was present throughout the filming process and Red Bull paid for the additional staff time that required. “Even though there are scenes where it looks like he’s skiing off of buildings, he’s not,” assured Green. Skiing, at least as Cody does it in Winter Storm, is not normally permitted at Bodie. The park is accessible to the public by skis and snowmobile during the winter.

LaPlante and the Red Bull filming crew snowmobiled the 13 miles of closed road between Bodie and Highway 395.

Cody started skiing when he was two at Alpine Meadows Ski Resort. His parents are both former ski racers, and his dad, David, competed on the University of Nevada Reno Ski Team. “We spent a good chunk of our college years and the 90s backcountry skiing, climbing, and paragliding the Eastern Sierra,” said David. David and Jessica LaPlante, Cody’s mother, planned to name Cody “Bodie” to commemorate the time they spent recreating around Bridgeport. While Jessica was in labor, Bode Miller won his first Olympic medal, a silver, at the 2002 Winter Olympics. Not wanting to seem like overzealous fans, they opted for Cody to avoid a cliché.

Cody said his dad taught him and his brother how to ski. “He used to make a path of skittles on the hill to get us to practice making s-shaped turns,” said LaPlante. Sometimes, his parents would take him into the mini park with a harness. At 7, he was doing backflips. By the time he was 8, Cody was chasing his older ski teammates into the real park. “I was always trying to keep up.” At 9, Cody placed 1st in the 9 and under category at the US Junior Freestyle/Freeskiing Championships. In 2015, he became the youngest member of the US Ski Team and became a Red Bull athlete. He finished first overall in the USSA Junior Nationals in 2016. In October, 2016, LaPlante landed the world’s first “Triple Misty 1440,” which is somewhere between a series of back flips and a somersault.

LaPlante said he has his sights set on filming more big mountain stunts around Mammoth Mountain, where he competes and trains. “I love Mammoth Mountain. The park is perfect!” Winter Storm was shot by Sebastian Stare, Tim Manning, Brad Holmes, and Andro Kajzer. Red Bull donated to the Bodie Foundation’s Arrested Decay Initiative, and included a description of the Foundation and park with a link to donations to that fund on its website, along with Winter Storm. Red Bull also made a donation to the Bodie Foundation’s Arrested Decay Fund.

With regard to the future, Cody said he’s happy as long as he gets to ski with his friends. With regard to balancing skiing and school, he said, “Let’s just say I’ll be spending a lot of this summer in school.” He thanked the Park Rangers and Bodie State Park for letting him ski and film at that location.
Coldwell Banker Mammoth Real Estate is proud to announce Kerrick Helton as the Top Producer for 2016. Kerrick also received Coldwell Banker’s International President’s Elite Award for 2016.

Kerrick has earned Top Producer title at CBMRE four years in a row! Closing the highest number of transactions and earning the highest production numbers within the company for 2016. Kerrick also received the prestigious Coldwell Banker International President’s Elite Award. Achieving this award places Kerrick in the top 2% out of approximately 88,000 Coldwell Banker Sales Associates nationwide. Kerrick’s hard work, loyalty, and dedication to his clients keeps him at the top of his game. As Managing Broker since 2015 and 11 years as a CBMRE Sales Associate, we are very proud to work with Kerrick as our team leader.

Congratulations to Kerrick on his achievements.

Howard Sheckter and Josh Slater are the recipients of Coldwell Banker’s International President’s Circle Award

Both Howard and Josh reached the benchmarks for this category, placing them in the top 6% out of 88,000 Coldwell Banker agents nationwide.

Howard Sheckter’s 34-years at CBMRE, have earned him multiple Coldwell Banker Awards and many years at the top producer level.

Josh Slater’s career in real estate has grown consistently since he joined CBMRE in 2014. We are certain that Josh will earn many more Coldwell Banker awards in the future!

Suzanne Baker was awarded Coldwell Banker’s International Diamond Society Award

Achieving the benchmarks for this award places Suzanne in the top 11% of all Coldwell Banker agents nationwide.

Jeff Warwick was awarded Coldwell Banker’s International Sterling Society Award

Qualifying for this award places Jeff in the top 17% of all Coldwell Banker agents nationwide.

Coldwell Banker Mammoth Real Estate would like to thank all of its Associates for their hard work in 2016. Kerrick Helton, Managing Broker, Howard Sheckter, Josh Slater, Suzanne Baker, Jeff Warwick, Donna Lisa Knowles, Rob Nott, Sheryl Saari, Bret Bihler, Rosie Rotberger, Chrissy Furness, Chris Rees and Jerri Higinbotham. Also, Janice Johnson, Vice President Business Operations and Yajaira Cortes, Office Assistant.

MammothRealEstate.com

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(next to Schat’s Bakery)
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Each office is Independently Owned and Operated
The whole Floor Area Ratio (FAR) controversy seems to be a combination of public planning and real estate which are both right up your alley. How come you haven't chimed in about it? I certainly have my opinion about it. I think Dave Harvey (who replaced me on the Planning Commission in 1998) nailed it when he said that the Town already has all of the planning tools they need. But there is a small faction who thinks this is a really important and needed addition especially as part of the Main St. Revitalization. And over the years, whatever Rusty wants Rusty gets.

In my opinion the affected commercial property owners and business people have got to be insane to support a minimum FAR like this faction wants. National companies like The Charthouse, McDonalds, Ralph Lauren/Polo, Coach, Van Heusen, etc. have let us know that the cost of doing major capital investments has been way too high. And that cost is usually divided up by the retail businesses who lease from them. So the failure rate is high and the owners have to make sure that they get their money back. The only way to do that is to have a high FAR.

I've been told that the cost of doing a major capital investment on Main St. is way too high. The cost of doing a major capital investment in Mammoth is a lot higher than that of a similar amount of money in a major city. And that's because the zoning regulations are very strict. The zoning regulations are very strict in Mammoth. Those markets are the people who loan (and can borrow) large amounts of money. Why should they care about tightening the zoning regulations in our downtown area that desperately needs revitalization? Or is it just a case of a hammer seeing nails? But I do have some ideas.

The people who are, and/or in the future may become heavily invested in Mammoth Respects have a problem. Lenders and investors have to be part futurists. They have to be thinking a decade or two ahead. And the reality is changing quickly because of generational demographics. Time is marching on. Baby Boomers are still quite influential but are increasingly likely to be making plans about assisted living homes rather than ski homes. The futurists are looking intently at the massive (and now largest) Millennial generation and the shifts that are happening because of their very different set of preferences. The U.S. Census Bureau and the Pew Research Center have identified some of these shifting trends, and these shifts are and will impact Mammoth in some interesting ways.

These shifting trends may very well be making the Main St. Revitalization a far more important (and profitable) redevelopment plan than the proposed changes at the Main Lodge property. It may be the superior location for major capital investment in the future. The Main Lodge redevelopment has Boomer written all over it. And that was last decade’s demand. The development profitability potential of condo hotel units and other mixed uses is waning. On the other hand, Main St. has Millennial written all over it. And they are the future.

So what are these specific shifts? First, Millennials favor urban living. They prefer foot-traffic urban shopping and entertainment and dining districts with high densities of venues, cafes, brew-pubs, etc. that are safe and close to mass transit. (The Village in Mammoth could be this but there really isn’t sufficient critical mass, and I’ve been told it “lacks authenticity.”) Apparently these urban districts are expanding in small cities and college towns all over the country. The Main St. Revitalization project is an ideal opportunity. Millennials are apparently known for seeking out a variety of experiences (meaning they won’t be regulars at a traditional watering hole like Slocums or Nevados every afternoon for happy hour). Pricing appears to be a serious consideration, too. And they want it convenient. Long commutes and suburban style shopping malls are out. And they’ll be shopping online anyway. Most Millennials are also bound to work significant hours so they value their time. They don’t want to waste it. They are other shifts like ride-sharing and less desire and demand to own automobiles. Mammoth already has excellent public transportation so the backbone already exists. And after this winter many local residents realize that owning a car can be a big hassle.

Real estate demand is destined to change with this Millennial generation. It is forefront in many of my industry’s discussions. Home ownership rates are falling across the nation. High prices and overall economics make it very unattractive to own. But with Millennials, it might be choice more than necessity. And need for mobility is a definite reason for Millennials not to purchase. They are forming families later in life. As an aside, the real estate industry does question who will purchase the large Boomer homes that they have significant amounts of their wealth tied-up in.

My experience in Mammoth is that many Millennials want a nice home. Many are “done” with landlords and want some stability in their personal housing. Especially if they are looking at raising a family. Others are resigned to renting, but want something appealing.

One of the purported “shifts” is that Millennials tend to be less materialistic. It is also suggested that wealth accumulation may not be a major pursuit either, so large homes and toys may be less desirable (we’ll see). Ultimately, it appears that their expectations are going to be different. All of this may be reflected in the low end of the condo and residential market here in Mammoth — it has experienced strong demand in the past 18 months. Every developer needs to take a careful look at what is going to be in demand as this generation matures. The rules have changed. And I wouldn’t rule out apartments. So the Main St. Revitalization and redevelopment is a prime opportunity. And lots of young successful techies could certainly help create critical mass, even if they aren’t here permanently. Some see the Plan as a “scrape and replace” project. That might be the mindset of the capital markets folks, but I don’t see it. I see thousands of baby steps. It is an economic necessity and it will preserve the authenticity of the area. While many of the existing

see OSTER, page 14
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OSTER
continued from page 12

buildings are not ideal, they can suffice. And loosening some of the zoning codes on existing properties can make it work. But if the new developments want some FAR restrictions then so be it. But it will discourage new development. And that doesn’t make sense. The key is that the Plan is viable and in sync with the economic and social environment. And the timing is right as the Millennial generation moves towards their “spending years.”

And yes, the real money (Rust’s “capital markets”) is in watching Mammoth. And more importantly they also know what isn’t viable here in Mammoth Lakes — condo hotels and traditional hotels. It is a quagmire. Intrawest led the charge with condo hotel development. It was a byproduct of the challenge to finance traditional (one owner) hotels in mountain resort communities where occupancy rates rarely rise above 55-60%.

The global “search for yield” (due to zero-interest-rate-policy) has increased the value of condo hotel properties here in Mammoth. But also limited the growth of appreciation. If it was economically viable to zero-interest-rate-policy) has increased the value of condo hotel properties here in Mammoth. But also limited the growth of appreciation.

Mammoth Resorts makes millions in the lodging business. Under the old Intrawest model they make those millions renting units they don’t service debt on, or have any historic acquisition expenses (the individual condo owners do). They don’t even pay the utilities or the property taxes either. It is a great deal. I’m sure they would love to have more rooms.

So the alternative is to risk developing a traditional type hotel facility. With it comes debt and debt service and big tax and utility bills. It is risky for the lender and the owner/operator. A combination of lower interest rates and higher occupancies could make it work. And you better have great management.

So developing new hospital-

ity “beds” in Mammoth is a dicey proposition at this point in time. It will take strong hands. Investing in the revitalization of Main St. is far less risky. There is already economic synergy and cash flow. There is new and growing demand. It can be “done at the margins.” And many of the properties have low tax basis. Pushing for a high minimum FAR only makes sense for the very long term. And we have no idea what the demand and tastes of those future generations will be. It would insure that new developments are more urbanized and with greater density. It would also make new development prohibitively expensive. Maybe we should just let the Millennials decide that 20 years from now.

Paul Oster is the Broker/Owner of RE/MAX of Mammoth. For other timely real estate information you can go to www.MammothRealEstateBlog.com. For legal, accounting, or construction advice, please seek out the appropriate professional.

Buster Norton
Mammoth Lakes
OBITUARY
SAM DEAN 1933-2017

The community woke to the sad news of the loss of yet another pillar of the community, Sam Dean, of Dean’s Plumbing and Heating founded in 1965, passed away on Monday, April 5, from cancer at the age of 84 while hospitalized in Carson City, Nev. Sam will be missed by many, especially his wife, Pat Dean, and his sons, daughters, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Sam was born January 19, 1933 in Chilton, Texas at home on the farm, to Ocie and James Dean. He came to California in his early teens and fell in love with the Eastern Sierra. He served on the Bishop City Council, the Bishop Planning Commission, and as Inyo County District 3 Supervisor from 1990-1994. He served on the board for the Tri-County Fairgrounds for 20 years and was an executive board member for Mule Days for 40 years. One of his greatest wishes was for the establishment of a permanent Mule Museum.

Sam was also an enthusiastic supporter of the Adventure Trails Project and the non-profit Advocates for Access to Public Lands. He was also a Deacon of the First Southern Baptist Church in Bishop. As a member of the Bishop Lions Club he helped founded the Lions District 4-L 1 Eye-Mobile project. It has been said that without Sam, the Eye-Mobiles of District 4-L 1 would never have existed. His efforts, along with other Lions Club members, have resulted in fishing docks and ramps for the handicapped at Buckley Ponds/ Rawson Ponds. He won one of the top awards ever given by the Lion Club for his tireless efforts.

Sam is survived by his wife of 38 years, and five adult children, along with 13 Grandchildren and 21 Great-Great Grandchildren. He was preceded in his death by his beloved son, Rick Dean.

In Lieu of Flowers, donations can be made to: Carson Tahoe Health Foundation/Merriner Cottages. P.O. Box 2168, Carson City, NV 89702. -James

CHARTER YOUR EDUCATION
By James

In a January state Court decision, it was decided that charter schools cannot be operated outside the boundaries of the local districts that authorize or provide oversight of them. Several orphaned charter schools are now scrambling to find alternative authorization from other school districts. One of them is Options for Youth (OFY) located in the Inland Empire. For the last 26 years, OFY has operated under the Victor Valley High School District. Victor Valley says OFY did not meet academic criteria, citing its poor graduation and dropout rates, and no longer wants to be the authorizing district for the school. OFY now has its sights set on Inyo County.

The Inyo County Office of Education (ICOE) held a “special public board meeting” on Tuesday, April 11, in Bishop to discuss an “informal inquiry” from the Options for Youth charter schools. It was estimated that Inyo County could realize $400,000 in additional income if a formal petition were made and accepted.

As of Tuesday’s meeting, ICOE had not received a formal petition from OFY, but board members had received several negative comments from other districts and individuals familiar with the charter school. OFY has also stated it does not want County oversight of its business services, something board members found suspicious. The ICOE currently has oversight of YouthBuild charter schools in southern California. That relationship has netted $1.8 million in additional income it has earned the County has greatly benefited local schools, students, public libraries and local communities. YouthBuild focuses on rigorous vocational training. At OFY, students work independently, completing assignments at home and typically meeting with a teacher just two hours a week. At least two other districts have rejected petitions from OFY since 2013, including the Riverside Unified and the Fontana Unified. Riverside stated the petition lacked details on how the school would serve special-education children, ensure the health and safety of students and how it would be operated.

OFY was founded by two former high school teachers, John and Joan Hall and reportedly receive ample salaries.

Charter schools are independent—run, but publicly-funded. Teachers’ unions, education and public advocacy groups accuse charter schools of undermining traditional public education. They argue that charter schools take money away from regular public schools, have little accountability to taxpayers—who foot the bill for them—and are mostly for-profit enterprises, more concerned over making profits than what is in the best interest of the student. ICOE board members were not against the idea of a charter school.

MAMMOTHMOUNTAIN.COM/EZAKIMAKCHALLENGE

APRIL 15

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ZAK
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5K SUNSET RACE WITH 2,000 FT ELEVATION GAIN. AFTERPARTY AT THE SUMMIT. REGISTER ONLINE. $2K PRIZE PURSE FOR KING & QUEEN OF THE MOUNTAIN.
LOCALS HEAD TO THE HILLS

Last weekend, the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group held its 6th Annual Alabama Hills Day in Lone Pine. On Saturday, visitors went rock climbing and took guided themed tours of the Hills. On Sunday, volunteers worked on restoration and trails projects and took a hike along the new “Alabama Hills Trails System.” The Alabama Hills Stewardship Group has worked to address management issues in The Alabama Hills since November 2006. The group is working to have Congress designate the Alabama Hills as a National Scenic Area since that time.

-James

Participants in Saturday’s Junior Explorers Hike find caves, insects, birds, and lizards.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALABAMA HILLS STEWARDSHIP GROUP/OTHER PHOTOS BY CHARLES JAMES

From Left to Right: Toni Lewis and Kate Anderson of Bishop, and Inyo County Supervisors Rick Pucci and Matt Kingsley.

Gavin Helvie of Bishop learns to rock climb at the Alabama Hills.
Help Wanted

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

**Stellar Brew** is looking to employ an experienced kitchen person who is seeking long term stable employment in Mammoth Lakes. A full time position has opened up and we are looking to fill it immedi-ately. On site training is available but you must have knowledge of food service and prep. Please e-mail stellarbrew@comcast.com with your resume or any ques-tions.

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**Gomez’s Restaurant & Tequeria** está buscando cocineros de Line & Prep, y preparadores de alimentos. Un buen sueldo y un montón de horas están disponibles para la temporada de invierno y más allá. Las aplicaciones están en nuestro sitio web www.gomezs.com o deteni-rese y hablar con René o Chris.

**Busy Mammoth Lakes Realitor Associate** looking for bilingual real estate assis-tant for part-time work, approx. 20 hours a week. Applicant needs computer and personal computer knowledge mandatory. Please call Tammy at 760-937-7300 to schedule an interview.
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**Sure Save Self Storage**
Part Time Assis-tant Manager. One day a week plus Sure Save Self Storage Mammoth Lakes, High Country Lumber Co. is now hiring seasonal part time sales associates for all of our beautiful locations! Mammoth Lakes Visitor Center, Mono Basin Visitor Center, Eastern Sierra Visitor Center in Lone Pine, and the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest Visitor Center at Shul-man Grove. The ideal candidate is able to retail experience and a passion for the Eastern Sierra! Will receive responsibilities for product generation, cashiering, inventory, and customer service. Also responsible for assisting in the book store maintaining a range of duties including stocking, opening, closing, etc.
Please send your letter of interest and a resume to Heidi Eldridge at heidi@fes-terling.com or call Heidi with questions at 760-784-1667.

**Food Cache Cafe** "Full time position available ISO a cashier/smoothie barista, for the seasonal expansion expected but not required. $10-$11.25hr DOE, line cook needed, full or part time available, mornings and afternoon shifts available, stop by the cafe for an application. 452 Old Mammoth Rd., 760-934-1206.

**Juniper Springs Lodge** is looking to hire Front Office Representatives for the remainder of the winter season. Please apply online at www.mammothresorts.com. Contact: rachel.pate@mg.com or csterling@mammothresorts.com for more information.

**Pizza Chef/Driver/Cashier**
Z Pizza Mammoth is hiring full and part time. Apply online at www.zpizza.com, or by email - mammothslices@gmail.com

**East Side Bake Shop** is hiring counter associates for the spring/summer season. Located in McGee. Please call 760-911-2066. Restaurant experience preferred.

**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 abil-ity 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 6201 Minaret # 105

**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 abil-ity 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 6201 Minaret # 105

**Gomez’s Restaurant & Tequeria** 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 more information is on our website www.gomezs.com - you can email ap-plications to info@gomezs.com, or stop in and speak with Rene or Chris.

**Mammoth Brewing Company** immedi-ately hiring for warehouse/delivery driv-ers and beer packagers. Must have good driving record and be able to get a Class B license within 60 days of employment. Pay starts at $15 for packagers and $16 for drivers. Job incl. benefits. At www.mammothbrewingco.com

**Domino’s Pizza** in now hiring full and part time delivery drivers. Must be 18 years old. $25.00 per hour. Apply in person or online at www.dominos.com

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Sales - Full Time / Part Time / Seasonal - We are seeking a enthusiastic individu-alis, a background in customer service or sales.

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High Country Lumber offers a competi- tive wage rate + health benefits and 401k for qualified full time employees.
Call Jeff Acree at 760-923-2321, or pick up application at Mammoth Lakes Courthouse 100 Thompson Way. Accepting applications until 12:00 p.m. Thursday, April 27, 2017. Postmarks not accepted, EOE/AAP/ADA/E.

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**FOOTLOOSE SPORTS**

**FOOTLOOSE SPORTS** is looking for an experienced bike mechanic for full time seasonal summer employment begin-ning May 8, 2017. The ideal candidate will have 2 or more years of experience as a mechanic in a rental bike store. Must have basic mechanical knowledge with all brake bleads and familiar with electronic shifters and/or 201 certification preferred but not required. Email your resume to footloose@footlosports.com Attn: Zach

**Office/Customer Services Assistant**
Local Insur-ance Agency looking for part time, Office Assistant 15-20 hours per week. Flexible hours and room for advancement. Looking for outgoing and energetic people with technology, able to work independently and comfortable with multi tasking. For more information or to apply, please email Brian@inscoutes.com for applica-tions or see job description.

**SUPERIOR COURT for Mono County-** Accepting applications for full-time 40-hour a week “Fiscal Clerk” in the Mono County Courthouse; Monthly, $3,136 to $5,201 DOE. Requires excellent computer skills, typing speed. Must have 1 year of experience in a busy office environment. Position may be filled by internal candidate. Government position. Full job description can be obtained by submitting a letter of interest and resume to court at www.monscocourt.org/jobs.htm. You may also contact the Superior Court at (760) 923-2321, or pick up application at Mono County Courthouse 100 Thompson Way. Accepting applications until 12:00 p.m. Thursday, April 27, 2017. Postmarks not accepted, EOE/AAP/ADA/E.

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**For Rent**

**Room for rent in Mammoth**. Your own bedroom, bath & entry and 400-square feet of living space. No pets. Call ma@ 760-709-1169. $350/month. Includes free wi-fi and tv.

**Great family home in June Lake, Quiet, amazing views. 2 BRD, 2 BA, Loft, Dog run. Petlel sto: Close to June Mountain for skiing. Easy access to lake systems and hiking. Pet deposit, $2,100/month. Address: 130 Nevada Street. Call Pat @ 760-709-2119.

**In Mammoth, 3BD/2BA home** located on a quiet street. Spacious, bright, updated, W/D, wood stove, forced air, no pets, $2,500/mo. Call/text 760-934-1901. B/BW.

**Mammoth Slopes House, Room W/ private bath, Walk to Village. Utilities included** W/D & Jacuzzi. Internet available. Must be “Dog Friendly”. Searching Mature N/S mountain savvy individual. $1,000/month per person 760-965-6715

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**PERSONALS**

In search of... a place to squat now that the Church of Squat is belly up. I could bring some new people if you’ll just show me where to kneel.
I saw you ... sold out to Aspen. Hmm. If they’ve got the X Games, maybe we should start the XXX Games. Better yet, a pass to one would be good for double penetration to both events!
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TOWN STUFF

Friday, April 14th
Annual Easter Egg Hunt Now at Mammoth Creek Park (be prepared to search in the snow!). Egg hunt will begin promptly at 3:15 p.m. Don’t forget to bring a basket or bag to collect eggs! Info: 760.963.3694.

Saturday, April 15th
Easter Egg Hunt @ the Sierra Nevada Resort and Spa. 10 a.m. free event. Register before the event at Rafters. Free Hot Cocoa will be provided along with breakfast and brunch specials. Over 2,000 eggs to find. See ad p. 2.

2017 Winter Ezakimak. Join Mammoth Mountain on Saturday. April 15th and take the challenge to ascend to the summit! New this year, the Fastest Male & Fastest Female will each take home $1,000 and each finisher will receive a great long sleeve tech shirt at the finish! Register before the event at www.mammothmountain.com. Info: Caroline at ccasey@mammothresorts.com.

Ride the Panorama Gondola to the top of the Sierra at dusk to watch the sunset over the Minarets, then cheer on and celebrate with the 11.053’ Ezakimak Challenge racers as they finish a 5K race. Indoor/outdoor fun including the Ezakimak finish line, music from DJ Science, plus food and drink stations. Time: 6:30-9:30 p.m.


The Miracle of Migration with Mike Prather. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Owens Lake. Free. Join local bird expert Mike Prather to witness the annual migration on Owens Lake. Part of the Inyo Council for the Arts’ Community Reads program. SPACE LIMITED. RSVP to 760.873.8014.


Sunday, April 16th
Sierra Club Ski/Snowshoe The Earthquake Dome Loop 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Meet at The Mammoth Mountain Union Bank. Approximate 6 miles RT, moderate difficulty. Come prepared. Well-behaved dogs ok. Info: Ann 760.647.9271/annelithliter@gmail.com.

Easter Sunrise Services on the North Shore on Mono Lake at the home of Jeff and Kathy Hansen, 155 Hansen Rd (1 mile east of Hwy 395) off of Cemetery Road. Time: 6:30 a.m. Dress warmly, walking shoes. Potluck breakfast after. Info: 760.647.6346/ canoe751kh@gmail.com. All welcome.

Egg’Cellent Easter Fun at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. Also on Saturday. Free Easter Egg Hunts will be held at Canyon, Main and Eagle Lodges starting at 12 p.m. B.Y.O Basket. Meet at the Sport School meeting areas at each base lodge. There will be a non-denominational Easter Service at McCoy Station at 1:30 p.m. Live music and face painting from 3-5 p.m. in The Village, followed by the annual Village Easter Parade with the Easter Bunny and Woolly at 4. See ads p. 3 and p. 4

April 15-16th
Free Entrance Days for all National Parks. Fee waiver includes entrance fees, commercial tour fees, and transportation entry fees.

BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/
The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill. Pursuit of Happiness Hour, 3-6 p.m. $2 off beers, $2 off wine, $4 well drinks, $2 off specialty drinks. $5 Flattbread.

Outlaw Saloon. 4-7 p.m. daily and all night on Mondays.

Roberto’s 4-6 p.m. every day.

Austria Hof. 4-6 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.

White Bar Restaurant & Lounge

Unwind with daily drink and food specials 4-6 p.m. Half price sushi Mondays.

Clockwork Cellar Happy Hour 4:30-7 p.m. daily and all day Sunday.

5 dollar menu items, drink specials.

Petra’s Bistro Happy Hour. $22 pasta bolognese, salad and glass of wine, 5:00-6 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 + $1 small sake. Sundays are all-night happy hour. Late night happy hour Fri-Sat 9-11 p.m.

Happy Hour @ The Bistro at Snowcrest. 4:30-6:30 p.m. daily.

Happy Hour Tavern Happy Hour Tuesday-Sunday 3:30-5:30 p.m. Closed Mondays.

Smok ey weekend Happy Hour 4-6 p.m. in the bar only.

Side Door Happy Hour daily 3-6 p.m.

Mammoth’s famous Slocums Happy Hour: Monday thru Friday 4-6; Saturdays 4-5. Closed Sunday.

Giovanni’s Happy Hour daily 4-6 p.m. Large pizza and a pitcher of beer gets you free wings.

Lakanuki Happy Hour daily 3-6 p.m., $4.50 margaritas, Mai Tais. Happy Hour drink specials 10 p.m.- close.

Black Velvet Coffee’s Happy Hour, from 4-6 p.m. every day. $9 glasses of wine.

Morrison’s Happy Hour Daily 4-6 p.m. $50 for two-person three-course meal and drink per person.

Fourth Creek Cafe Happy Hour 3:30-6:30 Sunday-Thursday. Street tacos $2.50, $3.50 beers, $7.50 beer/wine and house fries.

Friday, April 14th
Andy Coe Band plays Rafters. Free show starts at 10 p.m. Jerry Garcia Cover Band. “The liveliest psychedelic show starts at 10 p.m. Jerry Garcia plays Rafters. Free

Saturday, April 15th
Hansen’s Square plays Rafters. Free show from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. “Punkgrass.” Righteous angels meet 4-part harmony vocals and bluegrass instruments for a moshpit hoedown!

Wednesday, April 19th
Morrison’s $50 for two special includes three-course meal and drink per person. See ad p. 23

Thursday, April 20th
Dreddie Poppins and the Prophets to play Liberty Bar. 9 p.m. See ad p. 15

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UPCOMING

TOWN STUFF

Monday, April 17/ Inyo Associates meeting. Boulder Creek RV Resort in Lone Pine. Social hour starts 5:30 p.m.; dinner 6:30 p.m. Inyo County Democratic Central Committee meets. 6:30 p.m. 6th the Bishop Pizza Factory.

Tuesday, April 18/ Mono County Board of Supervisors Meeting. 1 p.m. Suite Z, Minaret Mall in Mammoth. 5:45 p.m. agenda item; Proposed South County Gov’t Facility Council for Education.

Sierra Club Monthly Program 6:45-9:30 p.m. at the Crowley Lake Community Center, 7:00 p.m. lecture by Joel Ratcliffe, Trails Coordinator for the town of Mammoth Lakes. Volunteer Work Day at the Swall Wildlife Preserve. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Plant and protect bittern brush in the Round Fire burn area. Volunteers should wear appropriate clothing, bring water and leave pets home. To learn more/sign up: indigo@esi.org.

Wednesday, April 19/ Eastern Sierra Audubon Society (ESAS) Evening Program. Doors at 6 p.m., lecture at 7 p.m. Free event at the U.S Forest Service/BLM Building on West Line Street in Bishop. See sidebar this pg. Mammoth Town Council. Meets 6 p.m. in Suite Z, Minaret Mall. Eastern Sierra Land Trust’s Pollinator Party. 4:30-6:30 p.m. at 250 N. Fowler St. in Bishop. Free event for gardeners interested in ESLT’s Eastside Pollinator Garden Project. Enjoy snacks and drinks and share gardening stories and tips. Please RSVP with Indigo at indigo@esi.org.

Thursday, April 20/ WMRS Lecture Series. 7-9 p.m. at White Mountain Research Station. See sidebar this pg.

AT THE MOVIES

Minaret Cinemas


For movie times, call 760.934.3131 or visit mammothlakesmovies.com. Custom- order passes for $99! Prices increase on May 1st. For more information, contact Viv at 760-937-5582 or viv@esaudubon.org. Also, check back to the program’s page online for updates.

MMSA Forum

MMSA CEO Rusty Gregory will host an open forum regarding Mammoth Resorts acquisition by Aspen Skiing Co. and will answer questions from the audience for an hour. For more information, call Wendy at 861-4150.

Housing Needs Assessment and Survey Now Online

Mammoth Lakes Housing, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area have partnered with WSW Consulting to create an expanded Housing Needs Assessment for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Data is being collected via an online survey, available in both English and Spanish online at www.mammothlakes.com. The survey will be available through the end of May. Anyone who is a resident of Mono County is invited to take the survey. Data generated will be used to create a Community Housing Action Plan in order to develop solutions to suspected county-wide housing shortages.

Data from the Needs Assessment Study will be reported back to the community in July with public workshops running through August to create the Community Housing Action Plan. Survey takes about 5 minutes and participants are eligible for a $100 visa gift card if they complete the survey. Contact Project Manager Wendy Sullivan with feedback or questions at wendy@wsconline.com.

Ski Patrol Reunion

Event runs from May 5-7. Currently, there are 270 past and present MMSA Ski Patrolers registered. Lodging discounts are available for former patrolers traveling from out of town. The schedule of events is as follows:

The reunion will kick off with an “Evening Get Together” from 4-8 p.m. on Friday, May 5 at Little Eagle Lodge. Free event. All will start with breakfast at 8 a.m., followed by skiing, toboggan races, a raffle, and a ceremony at the top of the gondola, followed by a mass sweep. Lunch and Happy Hour will be held at Old Gondola Room at Main Lodge. Events run until 7 p.m.

On Sunday, May 7th there will be skiing all day and a barbecue at The Mill from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. For more information and registration details, email mmstrunion@gmail.com.

ESAS Lecture: Ripple Effects

Guest speaker Mary Clapp uses sound to study the effects of introduced trout on bird populations around Sierra alpine lakes. Non-native trout prey heavily upon aquatic insects, potentially outcompeting native insects (including birds and bats) for an important food source and altering their foraging behavior, fitness, and reproductive success. Her work uses acoustic

receivers to remotely capture lake-side activity by birds and bats. In this talk, she will give a brief overview of the acoustic methods she has used to compare bird activity at fish-containing and fishless lakesides and review preliminary analyses.

Mary Clapp is currently a fourth-year Ph.D. student in the Graduate Group in Ecology at UC Davis. Questions/ comments: programs@esaudubon.org. For more information contact Erin Nordin (email erin@esaudubon.org).
I heard ... Aspen has more billionaires per capita than anywhere in the world. Maybe the answer lies in the Normalized Employment Obscendars; or better yet, call it Big Swinging Phallic.

Notice of Correction
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CORRECTION
The public hearing on January 10, 2017, has been corrected to March instead of April 20. Please see correct notice below with correct April 20 date.

Notice of Public Hearing
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The Governing Board of the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District will conduct a 2nd public hearing on the proposed consideration of adopting the District’s annual budgets and proposed California Health and Safety Code Section 44375, for the year 2017-2018 fiscal year and the proposed budgets for the year 2017-2018 fiscal year, including a schedule of fees as required to be by the Board to fund its programs. It should be noted that the proposed consideration of adopting the budget is being held through an order authorized by California Health, and Safety Code Section 44375, which requires the City of Los Angeles to pay the fees to the District based on an estimate of the actual cost to the District of its activities associated with the development of mitigation measures and related air quality analysis associated with the air quality impacts of the City of Los Angeles' water diversion, conveyance and storage activities. A copy of the budget summaries are available at the address shown below. The FY 2017-2018 District (no. SB 270) budget includes an administrative adjustment to prorut fees to account for changes in the Consumer Price Index.

The public hearing will be conducted at a regular meeting of the Governing Board to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, Mono County Board of Supervisors Chambers, Mono County, 705 West U.S Highway 91, Bridgeport, California. The public hearing is for the District’s total annual budget and the proposed order is set for 10:05 a.m. Written comments may be addressed to the Governing Board members. Comments may also be filed during the public hearing. For more information, call the Board’s District Clerk, Tori Delk (760) 872-8621

TS # 2017-0075

Notice of Appointments
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENTS, INYO-MONO REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY, TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES COUNCIL

It is HEREBY GIVEN that the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will appoint community members to serve as Commissioners of the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Council, representing business owners, and one representing residential interest. The term for these positions is two years.

The Advisory Council will be charged with providing recommendations to the Board of Directors clear direction to help guide its efforts to educate and provide broadband services to residents, and visitors to the region on effective and innovative uses of broadband, as well as in the best interest of bettering the local economy and improving quality of life.

Interested parties should file an application with the Assistant to the Town Manager Pam Kolybali at Town Hall, 76 Sunny Slope Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, to be considered for the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Council. Details and application form are available at www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov (application form can be found under “Get Involved,” Town Hall). Application materials for the position are available for viewing Tuesday, March 21, 2017, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday, March 22, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DATED: April 10, 2017
Jamie Grify, Town Clerk, Town of Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

TS # 2017-0080

Request for Bids
REQUEST FOR BIDS

GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

Bid Number 2017-R2

One (1) New 12’ x 20’ Modular Building (Lobed Barn) located at 8th and Old Mammoth Road. The Board of Directors has awarded one: (1) 12’ x 20’ modular building (lobed barn).

Sealed bids will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2017, at the Town Office, Town of Mammoth Lakes, and will be opened.

For detailed specifications, bid information and specifications please contact the Town of Mammoth Lakes at 760-872-8621, or by telephone at (760) 872-8621, in person, or by mail, PO Box 437, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

Sealed bids will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2017, at the Town Office, Town of Mammoth Lakes, and will be opened.

Check Out The Latest News

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person In Doing Business As: CONSPEC Inc.

CONSPEC Inc.
155 Hansen Rd., P.O. Box 181
Lee Vining, Ca. 93541
This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on April 26, 2004. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on March 22, 2017.
File Number 2017-059
2017-0069 (4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22)
2017-0070 (4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22)

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person In Doing Business As: Eastside Auto Glass

David P. Lane
76 Sunny Slope Road
Tom’s Place, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 3, 2017.
File Number 2017-0079 (4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6)

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person In Doing Business As: SW Construction

Skylar Waters
6310 Crowley Lake Dr. #1
Crawley Lake, Ca. 93534

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on April 19, 2011. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on March 17, 2017.
File Number 2017-057
2017-0069 (4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22)

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person In Doing Business As: CONSPEC Inc.

CONSPEC Inc.
155 Hansen Rd., P.O. Box 181
Lee Vining, Ca. 93541
This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on April 26, 2004. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on March 22, 2017.
File Number 2017-059
2017-0069 (4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22)

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person In Doing Business As: The Nest

Laetitia Welcome
10095 Tioga Road, P.O. Box 7667
Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 3, 2017.
File Number 2017-0079 (4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6)
At approximately 5:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 11, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department (MLFD) and Mono County Emergency Medical Services responded to a fire at the 600 block of Lower Majestic Pines Drive. The fire was reported by a party of backcountry skiers, who saw the flames as they were hiking the Sherwin Ridge just before dawn.

When MLFD arrived, the home at 751 Majestic Pines was fully engulfed in flames and the fire was spreading to the house next door, 763 Majestic Pines. According to MLFD Division Chief Natalie Morrow, all of the department's units were dispatched to fight the fire from the exterior. The fire spread from the attic space to the entire structure at 763 Majestic Pines. Crews ultimately entered the building to conduct an interior attack, and were able to contain the fire and put it out. The house at 751 Majestic Pines burned to the ground. No one was harmed in the incident. Both homes were vacant at the time of the fire. As of press time, the cause of the fire was under investigation.

By Bodine

As budgets get cut and parents get busier trying to make a living, kids are having a hard time accessing medical care, reproductive health care and help with substance abuse. There's a stigma among kids about visiting a health clinic and some are too embarrassed or afraid to go; like being 16-years old and buying condoms at the local pharmacy where your mother works.

The Inyo County Health Department is open two days a week, open 1-4 p.m., when school is in session. The hours have been shrinking as more people get insurance through the Affordable Care Act and are seeing primary physicians.

Bishop High School plans to open a student health clinic on campus, starting in the Fall of 2017. It will be open one-day a week, but easily accessible. It will be located on the first floor of the Main Building, or the basement.

According to a global survey of adolescents conducted by the World Health Organization, 47 percent of those responded they would prefer getting health services as school.

The services will be free and open to high school students only.

Superintendent Barry Simpson explained in an interview on April 12, that the clinic will help this underserved demographic.

Healthcare is expensive and can make healthcare inaccessible, too. He said 60-percent of Bishop High students qualify for free or reduced price meals.

Inyo County also has a higher than average teen pregnancy rate, and those are just the ones reported.

Anna Scott, Deputy Director of Public Health and Prevention at Inyo County Health and Human Services said in 2013, the pregnancy rate in adolescents ages 15-19 in Inyo County was 30.5 per thousand, compared to the state average of 23.2. The current trend show a decline in adolescent pregnancies.

California law allows children, 12 and older, to receive birth control, contraception and condoms without their parent’s knowledge. The clinic will be staffed by certified pediatric nurse practitioner Colleen McEvoy, who will also offer counseling to the students.

Bishop Union High School Board of Trustees voted 4 to 1 to approve the clinic. Josh Nicholson voted against.

Throat cultures can be done at the clinic, there will be counseling on addiction and emotional issues and sports physicals may be able to be done at campus in the future.

A committee of health professionals conceived the clinic more than 6 months ago, Simpson explained.

Bishop High will be collaborating with Northern Inyo Hospital on the venture. NIH CEO, Dr. Kevin Flanigan was unavailable for comment as of press time.

There are more than 200 campuses nationwide that support an on-site health clinics, Simpson explained. He said sexual activity did not increase at those campuses.

The clinic will be paid for by funding approved by the board and Family PAC in no way will the clinic take funds from another program, Simpson said emphatically.

The Inyo County Office of Education will play a support role in the venture. Inyo Superintendent of Schools, Lisa Fontana said she was excited that students will be able to get the help they need.

Pará más información comuníquese con:
Shana Stapp o Laura Timpano
760-934-0031 o sstapp@monocoe.org
Manhunt in Long Valley

At 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 8, a California Highway Patrol officer observed a Toyota pickup truck with a broken tail light and no side view mirrors northbound on Highway 395, just south of the intersection with McGee Creek Road. The vehicle was swerving violently and the windshield was covered in snow except for a small “peep hole” through which the driver was watching the road. The officer turned on his siren to pull the vehicle over. The driver of the pickup truck turned onto Long Valley Road and made a U-turn back out onto Highway 395. He eventually pulled over and fled by foot across the adjacent sagebrush and snow-covered meadow.

The CHP officer called for backup, and the two officers gave chase for about a quarter mile. Reinforcements from Mono County Sheriff’s Department and Mammoth Lakes Police Department arrived on scene and a manhunt ensued for about 1.5 hours. The officer stated in an email that Frontier uncooperatively refused to provide any information about the area.

Frontier is having to replace or upgrade aging infrastructure. The CPUC has mandated authority. The CPUC has asked Frontier to revisit the area, but the CPUC can do little more than ask Frontier because it has no enforcement authority. Javier Mendoza, public information officer for Frontier Communications stated in an email that Frontier understands rural areas come with their own unique challenges. “Our system is constantly monitored and our crews respond with urgency to troubleshoot and resolve all reported issues as quickly as possible.”

Contrary to what Chow stated, Mendoza said Frontier technicians have tested the Hammil landlines and found them “in good condition.” Mendoza added there are plans to replace lines that operating in good order.

Supervisor Fred Stump said on April 4 that Hammil residents are still experiencing poor landline service. When asked if the lack of redundancy in the landlines would cause 911 to fail, Mendoza said cell phone questions should be directed to cell phone providers.

To file a complaint go to: http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/cab/.

Crowley Skate Park Approved

On Tuesday, April 11, Mono County Supervisors approved a contractor and allocated $650,000 for a new skatepark in Crowley Lake. The project is fully funded by Community Service Area #1 in Mono County which includes the community of Crowley. The cost of construction of just the skate park will be $549,880. The cost of fees and testing, surveying and bathrooms brings the cost to $650,000.

Spohn Ranch, designer and contractor was the low bidder, CSA #1 members, John Connolly and Kim McCarthy said they expected the project to be complete by November.

Yosemite seeks aid for roads

On Tuesday, Mono County Supervisors approved to help Yosemite National Park in clearing Highway 120. This is not the first time the park has asked for assistance according to Mono County Public Works Director Jeff Walters.

Walters told the supervisors the cost of the assistance has already been budgeted into the 2016-17 Road Budget. There’s about 18-feet of snow at Tioga Pass with 40-50 foot drifts predicted in depressions of the northside of the road.

He added that county roads will be a priority and crews and equipment will be pulled from the project if they’re needed in Mono.

Supervisor Bob Gardner demanded more information from the park about opening the road. Walters said an opening date can change, due to weather, infrastructure or equipment. Gardner said he understands that but he wants to see a date to provide to the community with the caveat presented by Walters.

Gardner said there is an obligation to inform the public of progress of opening the pass, and the county is contributing so the park can meet its obligations. He said he wanted regular updates from the park. Walters said he’d talk to the park.
Mary Bassler, MD
Board Certified Family Physician

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