This week, the Inyo County Administration Department provided new details relating to ongoing labor negotiations with its employees. Department representatives also refuted past allegations made by County employees for this follow up to the June 23 story in The Sheet, “Sticking to the Union”.

Inyo County Administrator Kevin Carunchio stated in an email on July 4 that the Inyo County Employees Association, Local 315 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) doesn’t seem to want back down from its request for a 2 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), an action that would put an end to a 16-month impasse in negotiations. The county has offered a 1 percent COLA.

With the Union having made no request for mediation at this time, Carunchio said he feels free to provide information about negotiations. Negotiations began on March 29, 2016, according to the County’s Correspondence Offer List, a calendar of meetings that includes summaries of the proceedings. On May 16, 2016, a newsletter from the Union discussed the possibility of a strike. The Union’s original offer of 12 percent COLA was made on May 31, 2016. The Union gave no rationale for the big bump in pay.

“Taking a look at the COLA issue, it quickly became obvious that AFSCME’s understandable desire to increase their income was not supported by facts to justify their demands,” Inyo County Deputy County Counsel and member of the negotiating team, John-Carl Vallejo told The Sheet in an email. Vallejo said that when the County asked for rationale for the requested COLA increase, the Union spent a month “crafting” a statement that asserted the cost of living in Inyo County was comparable to that of living in Los Angeles. The two parties came back to the negotiating table on July 15, 2016.

The Union ultimately scrapped the original offer, but maintains that salaries have been outpaced by inflation. The Union asserts that pattern will only continue under the County’s offer of a 1 percent COLA.

Vallejo said “Those arguments are false.” He said the employees received a 6 percent raise that was negotiated prior to the present impasse and that the proposed 1 percent COLA does beat inflation. Many employees also receive 5 percent step increases over a four-year period, that start over if the employee is promoted or transferred. Additionally, the County provides longevity increases, and Union employees also received, on average, a 6 percent raise based on equity adjustments in 2013. On August 23, 2016, representatives of the County told Union representatives that their position on the COLA is not in any way related to a pattern will only continue under the County’s refusal to comply with the procedures laid out in the Inyo/Los Angeles Long Term Water Agreement (LTWA). The agreement governs how LADWP is supposed to conduct itself in Inyo County.

The wells would have been in accordance with the 1940 Hillside Decree, which states...
This column is an ode to summer reading season, though I acknowledge in this day and age there may no longer be a summer reading season because no one seems to have any time.

The memoir I just finished reading, entitled “Being Dead is Bad For Business,” was written by a man I’d never heard of previously: Stanley Weiss. Turns out Weiss is one hell of an inventive, ballsy, self-effacing character.

Born in 1927, Weiss grew up in Philadelphia during the Depression, joined the military, but never served in WWII thanks to Truman ending the war abruptly by dropping the two atomic bombs on Japan.

Inspired by John Huston’s film classic “Treasure of the Sierra Madre,” Weiss literally decides to try to strike it rich as a gold miner and moves down to Mexico.

And despite many a close scrape, including talking a group of banditos out of murdering him and a partner when their car gets stuck in a river crossing in the middle of nowhere (being dead indeed is bad for business), Weiss builds a mining empire—not in mining gold, but in mining manganese.

In his fifties, he founded a political party (The Citizens Party) that ran a candidate in the 1980 presidential election. He also founded BENS (Business Executives for National Security), which still exists today. It is a non-partisan organization, tapping the talents of business executives to tackle national security challenges.

What really stood out about the memoir, to me, was just how small the circles ran in the post-WWII world.

His story about spending a night drinking with the actor Richard Burton is indicative.

“I thought it would be fun to meet Richard Burton. I had never met him, but I found him in Puerto Vallarta without much trouble in December, 1963. Everyone who could read a newspaper knew he was shooting “The Night of the Iguana” with John Huston on the west coast of Mexico ... I flew to Puerto Vallarta and found Burton in a small bar one night. He was cooling off from one of his legendary brawls with his lover [Elizabeth Taylor]. Burton and I spent a great evening there, just matching one another drink for drink.”

Doesn’t seem like that would happen today—not only tracking down some person of public renown you wanted to meet, but then actually meeting that person in a meaningful way without being surrounded by handlers and paparazzi.

Weiss also had enduring friendships with San Francisco newspaper columnists Herb Caen, renowned diplomat John Kenneth Galbraith, actor Roger Moore (who starred in seven Bond films) and countless others.

He notes that Moore, despite the epic ski scene in “The Spy Who Loved Me,” couldn’t ski worth a damn.

What I loved about the book most of all: Nothing seems impossible. Weiss has real knack for manifesting opportunities. For a young person setting out in the world, I think this book would be particularly inspiring.

The Weiss story reminded me of one my father told about being stationed in Tokyo after the war in the early ’50s. My dad was not much of a soldier: He served in the Army accounting office.

He loved Japan.

Anyway, after the war, he moved to San Francisco and as a side hobby, he imported motor scooters from a guy he’d met in Japan who worked for this tiny little company called Honda.

He and his friends would go down to the dock and drive the scooters up to my Dad’s place on Nob Hill (Lord knows how they navigated those hills), park the scooters in his tiny little yard and then he would sell them.

This didn’t last too long before his importing scheme was shut down. He would tell me later, “If I’d had the nerve and the confidence, I would have stayed in Japan. But it never occurred to me that that was even a possibility.” It was, he thought, too exotic.

His was the Stanley Weiss road not taken.

And thank goodness for that. Otherwise, I wouldn’t be here.

I was restocking 2017 Sheet Summer Guides on Thursday morning when I came across a little scene at The Westin which speaks volumes. ©2017 The Sheet, all rights reserved.
Kicking the can down the road

Ted,

The July 1 edition of "The Sheet" contained a very inaccurate statement in the section "Local Briefs." The statement was made relative to the opening of the Reds Meadow road: "This will be the first time the road will not open by Independence Day."

I have access to official records of the opening and closing days for this road that span from 1970 to 1998. This record shows July 1 openings in 1972, 1973, and 1989; July 2 in 1982; these dates showing years when the road was not open for the entire July 4 holiday. As for openings later than July 4, the road opened on July 15 in 1983 and July 7 in 1995. The snowpack in 2017 is just above the amount experienced in 1983 and the opening date that year serves as a good comparison. The 1983 and the opening date that year consists of the heavy traffic on the road while the road bed is still wet. The average thickness of the pavement is only 2 inches as compared to the 7-8 inch thickness of SR 203 above the town of Mammoth Lakes. Other inadequacies of the 1979 paving of the Reds Road include the lack of soil retaining structures in the loose pumice soils of the grade between Minaret Summit and the Agnew Meadows road turnaround. The other shortcomings is the thickness and compaction requirements of the road bed. The large, heavy buses being used for day use visitors now were not envisioned when the road was paved in 1979. The goal of that design was to eliminate dust and washboarding of the dirt surface, two hazards that had greatly increased when traffic increased enormously from the late 1960s through the 1970s.

I was the Frontcountry Recreation Supervisor on the Mammoth Ranger District, Inyo National Forest from 1988 to 1998. I was very much involved in the decisions made and work accomplished to maintain this road. There are obvious commercial factors involved in this effort, however, the result was always a "kicking the can down the road" attitude when observing the deterioration of the road on an annual basis. It was my experience that very few people wanted to acknowledge its deterioration; instead they focused on how early the road could be opened and how late it could be closed. It is now obvious that we can't ignore the problem and continue to kick the can down the road.

Fred Richter
U.S. Forest Service 1974-1999, Retired

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your report on the well-conducted meeting at the June Lake Community Center on June 19. Your article titled "Hot Dams" (June 23, 2017) dealt with the many issues of the dams above Silver Lake on the June Lake Loop. I am so glad that our Sheriff has been informed on all the issues consistently. By early April everyone in California was aware that we had a historic amount of snow in the Sierra mountains. And I do believe that everyone knew that this huge amount of snow would be melting in May, June, July and August. The local office of Southern California Edison (SCE) had an open meeting in June Lake on June 19. Silver Lake was already at an all time high, docks were floating away and homes were being flooded in the Dream Mountain tract, and elsewhere near high flowing streams.

Everyone who lives on the Loop is an SCE customer. On Thursday, June 29 every one of these customers received a call at his billing address telling us that Rush Creek was flowing at an all time high and sand bags were available at no cost at the Fire Station. This was a great step in customer relations but it was also was the first time SCE personally informed these customers of any issues dealing with alarmingly high water levels.

May I suggest that SCE follow the excellent example of the U.S. Forest Service. Under the Public Affairs Officer Debra Schweizer, a dispatch is sent electronically to all interested persons on conditions in the local forests. These notices tell us about fires, smoke, conditions on major roads; mostly issues that I imagine could initiate a call to the local forest personnel. It would greatly improve customer relations at SCE, one of the largest businesses in our state, if it could do the same thing. Ask customers to submit their emails in order to be informed in a timely manner of issues affecting them in a local area. This is important in a town where 75% of the customers are not permanent residents and therefore their billing phone number may be different than their number on the June Lake Loop. The electronic age can be used to inform residents in a timely manner and at a much less cost than phoning or using the post office.

Jil Stark
Homeowner on Silver Lake

Looking for more stories about the Eastern Sierra?
Check out The Sheet’s new podcast/audio series, Stories from the Sage: Tales from California’s Eastern Edge at www.thesheetnews.com
INYO COUNTY AND MAMMOTH LAKES “STILL DATING”
Inyo County, Town of Mammoth Lakes meet to discuss terms of commercial air service at Bishop Airport

By Giles

On Friday, June 30, members of the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Inyo County Supervisors met at Bishop Airport for a working group meeting to discuss the future of commercial air service in the Eastern Sierras. The meeting was subject to the Brown Act. The agenda for Friday’s meeting were Inyo County Chief Administrative Officer Kevin Carunchio, Inyo County Supervisors Jeff Griffiins and Mark Tilllemans, Mammoth Mayor John Wentworth, Town Manager Dan Holler, TOML Public Works Director Grady Dutton, Mammoth Yosemite Airport Manager Brian Picken, Inyo County Public Works Director Clint Quilter, and Pat Foster of Hot Creek Aviation. Mono County Supervisors Stacy Corless and Bob Gardner were present as “members of the public.”

At the outset of the meeting, there was some confusion expressed about whether or not the meeting was subject to the Brown Act. The group is technically an ad hoc committee of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG). It was a public meeting, but there was no formal public meeting notice. Dutten asked those with a seat at the table if they objected to his taking on the responsibility of creating agendas for future meetings. It was determined Dutten would write and publish future agendas (the agenda for Friday’s meeting was not completed until the day prior).

Dutton also announced that Mammoth Lakes Tourism had issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) on May 25 for a five to ten year “Eastern Sierra Air Service Strategic Plan.” The RFQ indicated that the TOML Council will vote on whether to renew TBID, the primary source of Mammoth commercial aviation, said Holler.

Commercial aviation at Mammoth Yosemite, the potential for out-of-state direct flights would increase.

Swall Meadows resident Stephen Kalish asked whether the consultants would consider air traffic from planes larger than what the FAA has told the Town it will allow. Dutton said the language was intended to allow flexibility. The RFQ cites high cancellation rates as a result of inclement weather as a major reason for reassessing existing air service.

As The Sheet reported in its June 10 story, “Better in Bishop?” Inyo County is in the process of completing an Air Traffic Study for the Bishop Airport. Quilter reported that the study, now in Phase 2, has been submitted to the FAA for review. In June, Inyo County received a letter of support from Allegiant Air in which the company expressed interest in scheduling flights between Bishop and Los Angeles and Phoenix, on 156-seat Airbus 319 turbofan planes, substantially larger planes than are currently allowed at Mammoth Yosemite Airport.

Additionally, The Sheet reported that the cost of required improvements to bring the Bishop Airport to FAA standards for commercial air traffic will be about $23 million. Potentially, the FAA would cover up to $20 million of that. As the group reviewed the two airports’ respective budgets, they discussed hidden costs associated with bringing a general aviation airport (like Bishop, and formerly Mammoth Yosemite) into compliance with the FAA standards for commercial aviation. “There’s really not a lot of difference in operational cost between general aviation and commercial aviation,” said Holler. Commercial aviation at Mammoth Yosemite Airport is funded by a roughly $1.5 million subsidy from Mammoth’s Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID). Additionally, Mammoth Yosemite Airport is eligible for annual reimbursement funds of up to $1 million from the FAA for maintaining 10,000 or more passenger enplanements. According to the 2016 TOML Annual Financial Report, it cost just under $2 million to operate Mammoth Yosemite Airport for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. If Inyo County decides to fund commercial air service at the Bishop Airport, the most resource intensive period of transition will be the first year of operation. Bishop will not be eligible for the $1 million in grant reimbursements from the FAA until it demonstrates it has maintained 10,000, or more enplanements for at least a year. Until it achieves that standard, the airport will only be eligible for $150,000 in annual reimbursements from the FAA.

Mammoth Yosemite Airport Manager Brian Picken said that almost all resort and mountain town airports are subsidized.

Mammoth Mayor John Wentworth noted that the TOML Council will vote on whether to renew TBID. see AIRPORT, page 17

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A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH

Scientists find huge diversity of native bees in Bishop

By Giles

S

ince 2005, scientists from the University of California at Berkeley have been surveying gardens and plants in cities around California, seeking information about the state’s 1,600 species of native bees. They recently made a trip to Bishop, where one researcher said (anecdotally—the data is still being analyzed) he saw the greatest diversity of native bees he’s ever seen in one day.

The program, called the University of California Urban Bee Lab, was initiated in 2005. The lab’s primary investigator, entomologist Dr. Gordon Frankie, had the idea to survey California’s native bees after noticing, while on an evening stroll through Berkeley, that there were a surprising number of them (more than 80 species) in a single urban garden.

Around the time that Dr. Frankie started the Urban Bee Lab, Colony Collapse Disorder gained national attention as the cause of documented honeybee die-offs in the United States. The lab’s primary investigator, entomologist Dr. Gordon Frankie, had the idea to survey California’s native bees after noticing, while on an evening stroll through Berkeley, that there were a surprising number of them (more than 80 species) in a single urban garden.

One study, from 2015, reported that, throughout California’s historic culture farms. “Imagine a hive, placed to subdivisions and massive mono-culture farms. “Imagine a hive, placed in the middle of a 20,000-acre almond orchard, where it’s the wrong time of year, or something goes wrong, and the trees aren’t blooming. Your range is only so far. That’s tough. And poor nutrition, you know?”

Jadallah said that drought has also affected native bees. “Less water means that wildflowers are less likely to germinate, and that means less food for native bees” in wildland areas, said Jadallah. Contrary to what you might expect, the Urban Bee Lab found that, throughout California’s historic drought, native bee populations remained constant in urban centers. “We have observed more than 400 species of bees, page 19

Death at Mammoth Vons

On Tuesday, July 4, just before 10 p.m., an employee at the Mammoth Vons was discovered dead in the dairy section of the grocery store. He had been working in that section leading up to the incident. According to Mono County Sheriff-Coroner Ingrid Braun, a routine Coroner’s Investigation is being conducted. A cause of death has not yet been released, but Sheriff Braun reported that, “preliminary indications are that it was due to natural causes.”

Another pet lost to high water

The July Fourth holiday turned ugly for two campers from Sylmar staying in the Sage Flats Campground over the holiday with their 12-year-old beagle, Bono. The dog fell off the bridge by Glacier Lodge into the high raging water below as the owner was attempting to take a photo. The powerful water tore the leash from the owner’s hand. There was little that could be done to save the pet as it was swept downstream.

The dog’s owner and his son-in-law searched the banks for the dog but it could not be found. The incident points out just how dangerous local streams and rivers are with the Eastern Sierra snowpack at about 241 percent of normal. As it melts, it is expected to dump as much as 1 million acre-feet of water into the Los Angeles Aqueduct and the Owens Dry Lake bed.

The dog’s owner was aware of the water safety warnings. The 12-year-old dog was largely blind, which is likely what accounts for it simply walking off the bridge into the water below. “It happened so quickly,” said one owner.

Safety signage has been posted around the county by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power warning of flooding and the danger of swift water along the river, creeks and streams. Everyone, especially small children and pets, should be kept well away from dangerous flowing waters.

The Inyo County Sheriff’s Department and LADWP have been warning for weeks that creeks and streams have already been flowing at high capacities and the Owens River is running full and extremely fast. Due to debris and fast-moving water, officials warn that river floating should be avoided, and instead residents and visitors seeking to cool off should enjoy calmer waterways such as Diaz Lake, Klondike Lake, and Millpond.

As the weather continues to stay in the high 90s and into triple digits, the runoff will remain consistently heavy with peak runoff occurring pre-dawn. Inyo County residents (and visitors) are reminded to be cautious around water and to constantly monitor the weather. Thunderstorms can quickly add to an already dangerous situation.
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FOOTLOOSE AND FANCY
Runners take to the streets for 12th annual Footloose Freedom Mile
Press Release

On July Fourth, the Mammoth Track Club hosted its 12th Annual Footloose Freedom Mile. Over 500 runners of all ages barreled down Main Street in Mammoth Lakes before the 4th of July Parade on Tuesday.

Andrew Kastor, Coach of the Mammoth Track Club said, "I’ve watched this race grow over the years. It’s been fun seeing familiar faces each and every year. Many of the participants started running the race last decade. I’ve watched the little ones get a little taller each July Fourth."

Proceeds from registration for this year’s race go to the Mammoth Track Club Elite and General membership and the Mammoth High School Cross Country Running Teams. Footloose Sports has sponsored the event since its first year. This year’s sponsors include Wood Law Group, Wells Fargo, and many volunteers.

INYO GOES GREEN
County signs on to Fort Independence Tribe’s pilot recycling program
By James

Recycling efforts in Inyo County have met with challenges, as the state of California changes the California Refund Value (CRV) of bottles, cans, metal, plastics, paper and cardboard, making it either feasible as a business when the rate is high or a bust when it is set to low. Very few businesses in Inyo County even take recyclables. The Fort Independence Indian Tribe is trying to change that. At its June 27 meeting in Independence, the Board of Supervisors approved $6,666 over the next three years pending adoption of the 2017-2018 Budget as part of a pilot program to see if the Tribe’s efforts will to process recyclables collected from county-staffed solid waste facilities will be successful.

The tribe’s administrator, Carl Dahlberg, and Environmental Director Cheyenne Stone, told The Sheet that the Tribe has a goal of turning a 15-acre piece of property on the reservation into a recycling center and processing plant. A large steel building has been in place at the site for over nine years, waiting for the project to start up again after it lost its first project manager. Currently, the recycling center provides recycling services to Manzanar National Historic Site as part of a federally-mandated recycling program that requires the National Park Service to recycle its trash and waste. That program—in operation for a year—has so far proven successful. Eventually the tribe hopes to serve the communities of Big Pine, Independence and Lone Pine. So far, the tribe has invested over $200,000 in the recycling center.
At a December 12, 2016 meeting between the two parties, the Union stated that County employees are doing more with less. The County countered that employees are working the same number of hours as they always have. Vallejo added that the County offered to address salaries for specialized positions, but the Union refused, on the basis that that solution would not provide increases for all employees.

Union members, former employees and anonymous sources close to the County told The Sheet for the June 23 story that positions have been left vacant, sometimes for years, creating excessive workloads.

Former lead negotiator for the ICEA and now retired Inyo County Mosquito Abatement Manager Chris Wickham said in that story that since he has left, two entire departments have become one, so that the Mosquito Abatement Manager position is now responsible for Weed Abatement, with little to no extra increase in salary.

Inyo/Mono Agricultural Commissioner Nathan Reade told The Sheet that Wickham was incorrect. Reade said he’s pulled the manager’s job completely and is removing the supervisory role from the title, hence no pay increase. He explained he’s proposing bumping the salaries by 15 percent for two guys that have been with the County for years, and having them take over daily supervision of crews.

According to County Deputy Personnel Director Sue Dishion, there have been five employees laid off in the last 12 years. All but one of those employees found other employment with the County. That employee was offered a position but chose not to take it.

According to Carunchio, “recruitments are going better than they have in years.” Of late, the County has had been able to fill positions, like equipment operators, that were once difficult to fill. However, not all positions are easy to fill, like specialists and licensed positions like social workers and registered nurses.

“Whenever I read Outside magazine’s top 100 companies to work for, I get this idea that I want to see Inyo County listed,” said Carunchio. “We have the location, we have a variety of jobs, we have a mission to serve the public, and we have benefit packages that smoke a lot of those places, but what seems to be missing is the ability to create month or longer leave opportunities that people, at least Outside’s readership, wants.”

Meanwhile, costs from current and retired employees continue to mount. In the last few years, counties, cities and nearly every other government entity in the state were forced to change the way they and their employees pay into the ballooning California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS) from paycheck deductions to lump sum payments. Those entities were given the options of 30-, 20- and 15-year plans to pay down unfunded accrued liability.

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors decided at its March 28 meeting to adopt the 20-year plan to save the county $14 million in interest on the $59 million it owes to CalPERS. Carunchio explained the savings are “future cost avoidance,” as the County doesn’t have the money set aside now, but it will avoid having to come up with a lump sum of $14 million in the future.

The supervisors also decided to make a lump sum payment of $4,966,890 this year in lieu of 12 monthly payments. This will reportedly save the county $118,594 in FY 2017-18. According to the Union, the 2 percent COLA will cost the County approximately $187,000 a year. The County did not comment on this figure.

ICEA offered a 1.5 percent COLA on May 12, 2017, and the “Last Best Final” offer by the County, according to the correspondence list, was 1 percent. The Union rejected the offer. Horns have been locked ever since. Vallejo added that it’s unfortunate the Union negotiators “continue to refuse to acknowledge the facts,” and the entire benefits package includes the County paying for 80 percent of health insurance, 100 percent of dental and vision, CalPERS, health insurance for retired employees, vacation, sick leave, personal days, etc., “let alone the intangible benefits of living in such an amazing region.”
that LADWP does not have "any right to pump or extract waters underlying the Bishop Cone for the purpose of taking, transporting or carrying the same outside the Bishop Cone."

If LADWP had gotten what it wanted, the water would have been pumped from two wells, B2 near the Bishop Gun Club, and B5 west of the Bishop Country Club and golf course. Once extracted, the water would be used by LADWP lessees to irrigate their fields. The wells would draw from the groundwater aquifer but ultimately allow the extracted water to dribble down through the soil in lessee grazing fields and back into the aquifer. Surface water, such as the Owens River, would continue to flow towards thirsty Los Angeles.

An environmental study was performed for 15 potential wells, including B2 and B5, in 1991. Inyo County wanted current environmental data on the project, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, or it wasn’t going to grant a permit for the drilling of the wells. The county initiated litigation against LADWP over the accuracy of the 1991 CEQA document. Bob Harrington, Inyo Water Director, said, "Apparently they weren’t happy with that."

He explained that CEQA studies do not expire, but CEQA demands a new environmental report be completed if conditions have changed at or around the site where the study was conducted. In the past five years, the aquifer in West Bishop has changed; domestic wells are drying up. There have been questions raised about recharge of that aquifer following severe drought.

"All we were looking for here was a solid CEQA analysis," said Harrington. Harrington explained that the LTWA gives LADWP certain rights to drill new wells, but that state law, including CEQA, supersedes the LTWA.

The county was following the LTWA and was not breaking the rules in demanding a new environmental study, Harrington said. The county declined to issue a required health permit for the construction of the new wells, and LADWP has subsequently pulled out of the project for now.

"We believe the new well procedure process has gone afield of what is outlined within the Long Term Water Agreement," LADWP Senior Assistant General Manager of Water Richard Harasick stated in the press release.

"Violating our governing document is not an option," said Harasick. "We believe it is important for both LADWP and Inyo County to operate in accordance with the procedures outlined within the Long Term Water Agreement," Harasick added.

Environmental concerns from the public made at Inyo/LADWP Technical Group meetings were noted in the press release. The group is made up of key players on both sides that discuss projects and issues like drilling new wells.

Doris Moxley, a leaseholder in West Bishop who acquired her lease from her grandmother, who had held it since 1920, worked hard to comment with words that could be published in this PG-13 newspaper. She said she’s been fighting every new LADWP project; always has and always will.

She said leaseholders, the county, and the City of Bishop are so afraid of LADWP and the possibility of it revoking its lease agreements, that nobody is willing to stand up to the agency.

"People with leases are afraid to talk but there’s nothing in the lease that says you can’t talk about the landlord (LADWP)," she said, adding her husband is sure she’ll get them kicked off the land.

Environmental Activist and Bishop Paiute Elder Harry Williams told The Sheet that what LADWP is doing to the Owens Valley is "cruel and unusual." He calls the Owens Valley, a "colonial water source."

Harrington said he thought the county and LADWP management were making headway on the issue. He said he has not heard from LADWP regarding the agency’s plans to stop pursuing the well project other than the press release. He admitted he doesn’t know what LADWP is doing.

LADWP responded to the question of what it will do next by deferring to the press release.
WEATHER HOT, LIFEGUARDING NOT?

James takes on the national shortage of lifeguards by training local youth in southern Inyo County

By James

Nationally, lifeguards at pools, waterparks, rivers, lakes and beaches across the country, are in short supply.

Being a lifeguard used to be a hot ticket to a great summer job for high school and college students, and for many, it still is. But nationally, there is a severe lifeguard shortage and in southern Inyo County it is becoming critical. As a result, some communities are not opening pools and others are shortening days, hours and number of days open a week.

As temperatures locally soar to a hundred degrees and forecasts are predicting hotter than normal summer temperatures in California, thousands of residents and visitors to the Eastern Sierra will seek relief at public swimming pools in Mammoth Lakes, Bishop, Keough's Hot Springs, Independence and Lone Pine.

Six lifeguard candidates from Independence and Lone Pine took 4 days of lifeguard training in June at the Owens Valley School District Pool. The class was one of the smallest in recent memory.

This year’s lifeguards in Independence are Shyann Padilla, Callie Papia, and Nina Pischel. Brothers Jolen and Peyton Wright, and Adrian Carranza will be working with Pool Manager Cathleen Cornwell at the Lone Pine Memorial Plunge this summer.

Lifeguard training is demanding and can also be expensive, often costing up to $275 per candidate. Lifeguard candidates must at least 15 years of age and take a pre-course swim test. Candidates must swim 300 yards continuously without stopping, retrieve a ten-pound weight off the bottom of the deep-end of the pool in 7-10 feet of water, and tread water for 2 minutes using only their legs. The course is approximately 28 hours and consists of training in Professional-level CPR, first aid, and how to make water rescues under a variety of conditions.

The lifeguard shortage is not anything new, and there are a variety of reasons cited for the shortage. An improved economy is one, offering more and better paying jobs that require little training or no need or requirement to be in good physical condition.

Many of today’s applicants simply cannot pass the swimming test. The swim requirements have already been greatly reduced to attract more candidates. Colleges and schools also began starting the school year much earlier, forcing many pools to operate with fewer lifeguards, reduce the hours of operation, or in some cases, close the facility early for the season.

To address the shortage, pool operators find themselves hiring more 15- and 16-year-olds, paying for life-guard training, and offering higher hourly wages. The average pay for a pool lifeguard is $10.50 an hour. Increasingly, employers are forced to offer $12 up to $15 an hour.

Pools in Independence and Lone Pine are unheated, and years have passed without formal community swimming lessons. There are no conveniently located year-round pools offering residents affordable places to swim in the off-season.

Although the pools in southern Inyo are considered “public pools” open to everyone, including tourists and visitors to the area, they are entirely funded through the school districts. And the school districts find it increasingly difficult to justify the cost of operating them, says one local school administrator.

Unlike the pools in Independence and Lone Pine, the Town of Mammoth Lakes' Whitmore Pool and the Bishop City Pool are funded through their municipalities’ General Funds. Money spent on the pools is reimbursed by County funds largely generated by Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT). It is that public funding that allows Mammoth and Bishop to offer heated pools, competitive swim teams, swim lessons, and other swim programs. It also allows for an expanded swim season.

For now, the school districts in Southern Inyo County are carrying the financial burden of operating public pools in Independence and Lone Pine.
Members of the High Sierra Triathlon Club train in June Lake on a day where the water was a balmy 56.7 degrees. Not present: Rea.

I’d had a couple glasses of wine when I decided to sign up for the June Lake Triathlon. A girlfriend of mine, a new mom, wanted to set it as a goal for herself and I flippantly said, “sure, I’ll do that with you!”

I don’t consider myself athletic (especially not compared to most Eastern Sierra athletes), but I’m active. I’ve run several marathons and a few more halves, and I swam in high school. Bikes? Sure, I can ride a bike. It seemed plausible.

However, I severely underestimated how badass triathletes are—at least that’s what the race prep has taught me.

The June Lake Triathlon was started in 2007 by Alana Levin, who said that there was once a June Lake Tri in the 1980s, but that it was defunct by the time she moved to the Eastern Sierra. She was racing triathlons at the time, and thought it would be a perfect setting for one.

“I asked everybody I knew to put on a triathlon, but nobody would do it, so I finally decided I would do it myself,” said Levin. This will be the event’s 11th year, although Levin has never raced it. “I can’t race it. There’s too much going on on race day! One day, maybe,” she said with a laugh. Levin is also a trainer for the High Sierra Triathlon Club, a group of super-dedicated local enthusiasts that hold multiple practice events in the months leading up to the race.

Rea “Gaines” momentum

After I signed up for the Tri, I joined the club so I could go to swim practices, since I figured that was the skill I needed to improve the most. Boy, was I right. Sally Gaines, the salty 65-year-old swim coach and President of the Tri Club, kicked my butt every week.

**Convict Lake Resort**

**Now Serving**

**Breakfast & Lunch!**

**Breakfast**
- Breakfast Burritos
- French Toast • Egg Sandwich

Monday-Friday
7am-10am
Saturdays 7am-10am

**Lunch**
- Burger • Fish Tacos • Fried Chicken Sandwich • Smoked Boar Sausage Sandwich • Bacon Blue Cheese Wedge

Monday-Friday
11am-3pm
Saturday 11am-2pm

**Join us for Sunday Brunch!**
At The Restaurant at Convict Lake
10am-2pm

ConvictLake.com
760-934-3800
2000 Convict Lake Rd, Mammoth Lakes

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**2017 WATERING SCHEDULE**

**INDOOR TRAINING SESSION**
Saturday, July 8th, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Mammoth Lakes Fire Station, Upstairs, 3150 Main Street
Meet at the Sherwins Trailhead off of Sherwin Creek Road
Space is limited! Please reserve your spot by emailing rsvp@mltpa.org
For more info visit mltpa.org

**OUTDOOR TRAIL WORK**
Sunday, July 9th, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Meet at the Sherwins Trailhead off of Sherwin Creek Road
Space is limited! Please reserve your spot by emailing rsvp@mltpa.org
For more info visit mltpa.org
BRIDGEPORT LETS LOOSE FOR THE FOURTH
Celebrating the Fourth of July with North County flair

By Ben Trefry

This year’s Fourth of July festival in Bridgeport was a happening scene, with both locals and tourists attending. It was a very hot day, without cloud cover, but that didn’t stop these patriotic partiers from enjoying the festivities.

Among the attractions were (of course) the parade, the kid-friendly bounce houses, and the many food and arts vendors. However, the heated squirt-gun battle between floats and the audience was a fun diversion as well.

After the parade, most people stuck around to brave the mosquitoes and see the iconic fireworks over Bridgeport Reservoir.

Left: The Lee Vining Volunteer Fire Department gets down and dirty for mud volleyball. Above: Claire and Randy DesBaillets, of Mono City. Right: Mono County Assessor Barry Beck, of Bridgeport, gets around on just one wheel.

By Ben Trefry
Celebrating the Fourth of July with North County flair

Left: The Lee Vining Volunteer Fire Department gets down and dirty for mud volleyball. Above: Claire and Randy DesBaillets, of Mono City. Right: Mono County Assessor Barry Beck, of Bridgeport, gets around on just one wheel.

Above (L-R): Smokey the Bear “dabs” from the BLM float (apparently that’s a dance move the kids are doing these days). Paul McFarland, of Lee Vining, rides a historic fire engine. Kenny Morrison wields the water hose for the Lee Vining Volunteer Fire Department.
BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/
The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill
Pursuit of Happiness Hour, 3-6 p.m.
Off first beers, $2 off wine, $4 well drinks, $2 off specialty drinks. $5 Flatbread. See ad, page 7.

Outlaw Saloon/
Monday: All Night Happy Hour; 4-Midnight, Tues-Fri 4-6 p.m. Thursday: $2 Tacos 4-10 p.m.; 8-9 p.m. Wing. Wednesday 50% off all wings. Thursday: Burger & Beer special 4-9 p.m. See ad, p. 10.

Robert's 4-6 p.m. every day.

Austria Hof. 5-8 p.m. daily.

Whitebark Restaurant 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 day Sunday. $5 dollar menu items, drink specials.

Petras 5:30-6:30 $22 Bolognese/drink special. $3 off specialty cocktails and food discounts. See ad, p. 8

Happy Hour @ Sushi Rei. 4-5 p.m. daily. Large sushi rolls and $5 hand roll + small sake. 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.

Smokeyard 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-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.

Morrison’s Happy Hour Daily 4-6 p.m.

Food Cache Cafe
Happy Hour 3:30-6:30 Sunday-Thursday. Street tacos $2.50, $3.50 beers, $7.50 beer/wine for kids.

Morrison’s Happy Hour
4-6 p.m. in the bar only.

Sunday, July 9/
Candelaria at Rafters. Columbian cumbia rhythms, horns, and female vocals. 10 p.m. Free.

Saturday, July 8/
Bob and Bill play Eastside Bake Shop. Starts 6 p.m. See ad, p. 6.

Camino plays Rafter’s. World fusion with saxophone and a female vocalist. 10 p.m. Free.

Sunday, July 9/
Mountain Men Collective plays The Mobil Mart in Lee Vining. 4-7 p.m. Free, see ad, p. 4.

Monday, July 10/
Wing Night at Morrison’s. 5-9:30 p.m. $9 for 8 wings. See ad, p. 12

Wednesday, July 12/
Lava Moon plays Liberty Bar. Free live music starts at 9 p.m. See ad, p. 7.

Pocono’s Market Music at Liberty Bar. Eddie Evans plays happy hour, 4-7 p.m. See ad, p. 7.

Open Mic @ Mammoth Brewing Co. Starts 6 p.m. Weekly beer specials.

Thursday, July 13/
Jelly Bread plays The Mobil in Lee Vining. Free, 6-9 p.m. See ad, p. 4

TOWN STUFF

July 7-9/
Gimme Shelter Carnival in the Minaret Mall parking lot. Mammoth Lakes. Proceeds support Wild Iris’ transitional housing program.


Friday, July 7/
Guided Bird Walk at Mono Lake
South Tufa Reserve. 8-10 a.m. Free tour led by MLC and State Park staff. Sunday too. Info: 760.647.6595.

Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association Campfire Program in Mammoth. 7-8 p.m. at the New Shady Rest Campground, off of Sawmill cutoff road.

History hike around Convict Lake with the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA). 10 am. to 12:30 p.m. 2.5 mile hike. Meet at the trailhead near the Convict Lake Marina at 10:30 a.m.

Firecracker Friday Golf Tournament. At the Bishop Country Club Golf Course. Info: 760.873.5828.

Special Town Council Meeting in Suite Z at 8:15 a.m. Copies of MUF Earthwork and Utilities projects, and several other maintenance projects, to be discussed.

Saturday, July 8/
Bishop Tennis Social 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free and friendly tennis at the Bishop Park Tennis Courts. See ad, p. 19.

Free Skate Night at the Mammoth RecZone. 6-9 p.m. See ad, p. 19.

Sierra Club Hike to Bohler Canyon. Meet at 9 a.m. at Union Bank in Mammoth to carpool. Info: Mike and Mary 805.217.5563.

ESIA Panorama Dome Guided Hike. Meet at 11 a.m. at the Panorama Dome trailhead on Lake Mary Road. Learn about plants, Mammoth’s mining and skiing histories.

Eastern Sierra Audubon Society COSA Bird Walk. 7:30-10 a.m. at the Conservation Open Space Area in Bishop. Beginning birders welcome. Meet at the BLM/USFS Office in Bishop.

Intro to birding at Valentine Reserve. Hike and learn to identify birds. 9:30 a.m. Pr-registration required, email carcrolcater@uscs.org.

June Lake Triathlon. See sidebar next page and story, p. XX.

Panum Crater Tour with the Mono Lake Committee. 10-11:30 a.m. at the Panum Crater parking area south of Lee Vining. Sunday too. Free.

Mono County Democratic Committee Meeting in the Ellie Randol room at the Mammoth Lakes Library. 10:15 a.m. Info: wilma88bryce@gmail.com.

Trails in Motion: Mountain Bike Film Festival. 8-6 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center Auditorium. Movie starts at 1 p.m. Tickets: $15 at the door, includes one beer. $6 kids benefit Sierra Eastern Mountain Biking Association (SEMA).

ESIA Campfire program at Oh Ridge Campground in June Lake. 7-8 p.m.

Sunday, July 9/
Village at Mammoth Summer Movie Series. 8:30 p.m. Sing; Animated movie for kids; BYO chair, blanket; can get chilly.
**Mammoth JazzFest**
From July 7-8, JazzFest will run in The Village at Mammoth Lakes, featuring free live music. On Friday, July 7, there will be a Wine and Jazz event starting at 7 p.m. with glasses available for $35, and live music by Eddy Evans, urban jazz band Deep Fried Funk, and the Robert Incelii Latin Jazz Band. Saturday will feature live music from 5-10 p.m. from Deep Fried Funk Society, Robert Incelii Latin Jazz Band, and the Mel Collins Group. For info and the full schedule of events, visit www.mammothjazzfest.com. See ad, p. 9

**Town Stuff**

**UPCOMING**

**July 14-15/ Mammoth Food and Wine Experience.** See sidebar.

**Friday, July 14/ Sienna Club Bike in Bodie Hills:** Rattlesnake Gulch. 4 mile hike through ghost town Monoville hosted by Sienna Club and Bodie Hills Conservation Partnership. Meet at Union Bank, Mammoth at 8:45 a.m. Info: Maurica 760.932.7175.

**Wildflower Walk in Mammoth Lakes**
Hike to Heart Lake and learn to identify wildflowers. Meet at trailhead at 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, July 15/ Lone Pine Courtyard Concert.** Free Live music by Sandy and the High Country from 8-11 p.m. in the Chamber of Commerce Courtyard, Lone Pine.

**Echoes of Resilience at Manzanar.** Tour of Block 14 at 9:30 a.m. and screening of “Stand Up for Justice: the Ralph Lazo Story” at 12:30 p.m. Info: genece2028@gmail.com.

**June Lake Chipper Day.** 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Passes provided at the kiosk at the June Lake Junction with Highway 158. Chipper and Fire Crew will be at the Pumice Valley Landfill off Highway 120.

**Free Saturday morning yoga** in The Village at Mammoth at Yoga Lab. 8-9 a.m.


**Wild By Nature Patio Talk** at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center Plaza. Learn about bears, beavers, and more. 12-3 p.m.

**Sierra Club hike to Windy Flats.** 1 mile hike to Hidden Lake. Meet 4:30 p.m. at Union Bank, Mammoth. Contact Mary & Mike (805.217.5563 or marymikeshore@gmail.com) for info.

**Public Meeting** of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors meeting at 3 p.m., at the Inyo County Board of Supervisors meeting at 3 p.m., at the County Administrative Offices, Independence.

**Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board Meeting.**
Meeting at Suite Z, Minaret Mall, Mammoth, 1p.m.

**Wednesday, July 5/ Mammoth Planning and Economic Development Commission.**
Meeting at Suite Z, Minaret Mall, Mammoth. 2 p.m.

**Saturday, July 15/ Brown Bag Book Club at Mammoth Lakes Library.** “A” is for Alibi. Copies available at MLL. Meets at noon in the Ellie Randol Reading Room.

**Summer Movie Series in The Village.**
Central Intelligence. 8-10 p.m. Bring a blanket and chair, and dress in warm clothes. Free.

**AT THE MOVIES**

**Minaret Cinemas**

Despicable Me 3 (PG): Gru meets his long lost more successful brother Dru who wants to team up with him for one last criminal heist. 

Spiderman Homecoming (PG): Peter Parker tries to balance his life as an ordinary high school student in Queens while battling a new nemesis: The Vulture.

For movie times, call 760.934.3131 or visit mammothlakesmovies.com.

**TOWN STUFF**

**July 12-15/ Junior Livestock Show and Auction.** Local 4H and FFA youth bring their livestock projects to the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop for show and sale. Events run daily, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Info: www.tricountyfairground.com. Auction is Saturday, July 15 at 6 p.m.

**Monday, July 10/ Bishop City Council Meeting.** 6-8 p.m. at City Hall, Bishop.

**Tuesday, July 11/ Mono County Board of Supervisors Meeting**
Meeting at Suite Z, Minaret Mall, Mammoth, 1p.m.

**Wednesday, July 5/ Farmer’s Market in Mammoth Lakes**
Meeting at the Mammoth Luxury Outlet Mall parking lot. 4-7 p.m. Post-market jazz at the Liberty Bar beginning at 7.

**Thursday, July 13/ Village Summer Movie Series:** Location: Village Plaza in Mammoth. The Wizard of Oz. Time: 8:30. Free.

**Wild By Nature Patio Talk at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center Plaza.** Learn about bears, beavers, and more. 12-3 p.m.

**Sierra Club hike to Windy Flats.** 1 mile hike to Hidden Lake. Meet 4:30 p.m. at Union Bank, Mammoth. Contact Mary & Mike (805.217.5563 or marymikeshore@gmail.com) for info.

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**Echoes of Resilience at Manzanar.**
Tour of Block 14 at 9:30 a.m. and screening of “Stand Up for Justice: the Ralph Lazo Story” at 12:30 p.m. Info: genece2028@gmail.com.

**June Lake Chipper Day.** 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Passes provided at the kiosk at the June Lake Junction with Highway 158. Chipper and Fire Crew will be at the Pumice Valley Landfill off Highway 120.

**Free Saturday morning yoga** in The Village at Mammoth at Yoga Lab. 8-9 a.m.

**Thursday, July 27/ Brown Bag Book Club at Mammoth Lakes Library.** “A” is for Alibi. Copies available at MLL. Meets at noon in the Ellie Randol Reading Room.

**Summer Movie Series in The Village.**
Central Intelligence. 8-10 p.m. Bring a blanket and chair, and dress in warm clothes. Free.

**AT THE MOVIES**

**Minaret Cinemas**

Despicable Me 3 (PG): Gru meets his long lost more successful brother Dru who wants to team up with him for one last criminal heist. 

Spiderman Homecoming (PG): Peter Parker tries to balance his life as an ordinary high school student in Queens while battling a new nemesis: The Vulture.

For movie times, call 760.934.3131 or visit mammothlakesmovies.com.

9 a.m.: Men’s Sprint Triathlon start 9:45 a.m.: Women’s Sprint Triathlon starts.
10 a.m.- 3 p.m.: Lunch and festivities 11 a.m.: Sprint Triathlon Awards 11:30 a.m.: Aquabike Race Awards Noon: Kids Race start and Olympic Triathlon Awards 1 p.m.: Kids and Long Course awards For registration information, visit highsierratri.org/race-registration/.

**Free food for kids**
Free breakfast and free lunch will be served for all children eighteen and under this summer in Bishop at the Bishop Education Center and Bishop High School. There are no required forms to be filled out, and no questions will be asked. More being 5 winners.

Breakfast will be served from 7:30- 8:30 a.m. Monday- Friday. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and on Friday from 10-10:30 a.m. through July 27. Adults are welcome to join their children for $4 a meal.

Call the district office and ask to speak with Susan Nelson or Midge Milici for more info.

**Mammoth Food and Wine Experience**
Join the Mammoth Lakes Foundation for the 2017 Mammoth Food and Wine Experience. The schedule of events is as follows: At 4 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, there will be a special tasting at The Brasserie with Brett Keller of Mineral Wines. On Thursday, there will be a tasting with Twomey Cellars at the Brasserie at 1 p.m. At 3 p.m., Jimmy’s Tavern will host a wine and glassware and wine. Both cost $35. At 11 a.m. on Friday, July 14, Chris Collins will host a champagne tasting at The Brasserie, followed by a tasting with the makers of Peachy Canyon. Tix: $35. Also on Friday is the Wine Walk at the Village at Mammoth, from 5-8 p.m. More than 15 wineries will serve more than 40 wines with palate cleaners by chef Dan Molnar. Tix: $50. At 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 15, The Brasserie will host a tasting with Sextant Winery, followed by a 1 p.m. tasting of Napa Valley Wines. Seminar tix: $35. The Sierra Nevada Resort and Spa will host the Grand Tasting from 5-8 p.m., with more than 25 wineries and over 100 wines, food by local chefs, and live music by Ryan Hilton and the Pickle Bottoms. There will be local craft beer from June Lake Brewing and Mountain Rambler Brewery. Tickets for that event are $125. To purchase tickets, visit www.mammothfoodandwine.org. Proceeds benefit the Mammoth Lakes Foundation and support art, higher education, and cultural events in Mammoth Lakes. See ad, p. 3
Help Wanted

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

Housekeepers M $15 - $20
Genevieve Apperly - M 314 - S18. Apprentices: Carpenter/M $16 - $22
Mammoth Anchors M $18 - $20

Continuous Carpenters M $16 - $25
Carpenter/General Laborer Wanted

Help Wanted

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is looking for a Temporary Public Works Maintenance Worker to help with construction and maintenance of public works facilities. This position has a minimum of 8 hours per week for the 2017 season, $16 - $17.96/hour. Visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or call (760) 965 3604 for more information.

NOW HIRING Front Desk Associates and Housekeepers. Competitive pay plus bonuses. Send resume to Holidayhouseman.com. Mammoth Lakes. A full time position has been opened up and we are looking to fill it immediately. On site training is available but further training will be needed. Mammoth Lakes. Experience working in an office environment required. Send resume to Stellarbrew@outlook.com.

Stellar Brew is looking to employ an experienced kitchen person who is someone who enjoys long term staffing. We are looking for someone passionate about food, great customer service and working with a team in a positive work environment. Full or part-time available. Inquire by calling 760-709-6689 or see website for more information.

Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock Brasserie has the following positions available:
- Bowling Desk Skeeve
- Server, Bartender, Brasserie Hostess
Contact Kevin O’Connell 760.934.4200 ext 223, or Ann Ward ext 221

Full and part time retail sales positions for the summer months. Apply by sending your application at the booth during open hours. Pizza Chef/Driver/Delivery Cashier/Cashier Z Pizza Mammoth is hiring full and part time positions. Apply by emailing zpizza.com.

Looking for an energetic, enthusiastic person to work for a local non-profit organization. Must have excellent social and organizational skills. Please call 760-924-2474 or bring your resume to Second Chance Thrift 120 Old Mammoth Road and ask for the manager.

Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock Brasserie has the following positions available:
- Delivery drivers
- Bar back, cashiers
- Must have open availability.

Looking for an energetic, enthusiastic person to work for a local non-profit organization. Must have excellent social and organizational skills. Please call 760-924-2474 or bring your resume to Second Chance Thrift 120 Old Mammoth Road and ask for the manager.

The Restaurant at Convict Lake is looking for a part-time food service employee. Must have a passion for food, be a team player, and enjoy working in a fast-paced environment. We offer paid training, flexible scheduling, and competitive wages. Contact Cindy at cindy@convictlakeatrix.com

Part-time Teller, Union Bank Mammoth Lakes (Union Bank has openings for two part-time, benefits-eligible Tellers in its Mammoth Lakes office. Position is available Monday thru Thursday, approximately 16 hours a week for the next 7 weeks. Event experience a plus. Typically requires some customer service experience. Join a bank that’s as committed to your future as you are. At Union Bank, a part of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG), we share a vision for our future, we share our successes, and we strive to bring out the best in each other in everything we do. We are committed to leveraging the diverse backgrounds, perspectives and experiences of our workforce to create opportunities for our people and our business. Equal Opportunity Employer. Must have bank experience. Contact: Kayla Druehl (760) 232-6216 or visit the website.

Carpenter/General Laborer Wanted

Local GC looking to hire a general laborer for residential construction work. Must have a CDL, experience with drywall, and capable of operating a forklift. Typical hours are 6am-2pm, 4hr shift, and earn some great bennies! To apply, call 805-540-4788.

Mammoth Slopes Home, Room for rent W/ roommate. 315 sq. ft. $650/mo. 760-934-8372

Help Wanted

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Housekeeper & Dishwashers, Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa
Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This is business is conducted by an Individual.

The following statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on May 12, 2017. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on May 30, 2017.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

For Hire

Bookkeeping Services Available.

For Help

Solutions

Help Wanted

Mammoth Lakes 315 sq. ft. $650
Office space, great 2nd floor location w/ windows, kitchenette, closet, common area, parking, great view. Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Happiness House

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

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Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

For Rent

Clean, quiet unfurnished studio apartment in Mammoth Slopes, $695 per month. 1 person, pets allowed, no-smoking unit, no pets, low utilities, first, last & security. Visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or call (760) 965 3604.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

For Rent

Clean, quiet unfurnished studio apartment in Mammoth Slopes, $695 per month. 1 person, pets allowed, no-smoking unit, no pets, low utilities, first, last & security. Visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or call (760) 965 3604.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

For Rent
TRI continued from page 12

in the nicest way possible. She even emailed me links to articles about technique.

Here’s the thing about these Tri people, at least the ones I met in the club—they’re hardcore, they’re very team-oriented for a sport as individual as triathlon, and they’ve all got really shiny stuff.

Here’s the thing about me—I’m a slacker. I prefer working out on my own (probably so nobody else hears me gasp for air), and all my gear is super crappy. I never sprung for a proper wetsuit at a bike shop or a triathlon camp. At least I got a free blaze orange swim cap with my Tri membership.

See, running, I dig, because all you need is shoes (some people don’t even use those) but for a tri with an open water swim, you need a wetsuit (I borrowed a friend’s in exchange for a bottle of wine). And most definitely need a bike. So I got a 1985 steel frame Trek from a friend and spent 3rd and USO on equipment to fix it up, plus a handle of vodka for the friend who dialed it in for me (definitely noticing a theme here).

It turns out I don’t really like cycling. I don’t see the appeal. It’s scary, with cars whizzing past you, and there are so many moving parts. I have a newfound appreciation for those people in their matching spandex cruising on the 395. They’re brave as hell.

This week, as the big event approached, I made the humbling decision to go down to the sprint distance (400-yard swim, 8-mile bike, 2.5-mile run) after I did a “mini tri” with the friend who had convinced me to do it in the first place.

It was riding the entire June Lake loop that did it—I’d never been with another triathlete before the last 7 miles of Highway 395 and then almost cried as I climbed the hill before Oh Ridge.

I just wasn’t physically ready. I didn’t put in enough work. I suppose an off- the-cuff description of the Olympic-distance triathlon (1.5-kilometer swim, 25-mile bike, 6-mile run, what I originally signed up for) is possible (local para- triathlete Kevin Smith told me he’d done it, but also that he couldn’t walk for two days afterward), but completely suffering wasn’t what I was looking to do.

Levin told me on Wednesday of this week to give myself a break. Next year I can shoot for the Olympic.

“Just do the sprint and have fun!” Kelly Levin told me (the Tri Club’s president). Haytrey manages the High Sierra Tri Club’s social media account and served up a healthy dose of reliable competitive swim practices. “The ‘Toughest Race,’ is not made up,” she said, referring to the Tri Club. “The Toughest Race in the Most Beautiful Place.” Haytrey rocks the sprint every year, even though, from seeing her dedication, I bet she could do the longer course.

Her first June Lake Tri was in 2012, and at the same time she said, “I’m not a swimmer, but I did the lake. I thought all the rocks were monsters. I was like, ‘where’s my umbrella drink?’” Levin told me Haytrey, in her first year, asked: was it worth bringing a run workout. “Uh, running shoes?” replied Levin. Her first year, Haytrey also rode a borrowed bike and was terrified of the clip-in pedals. I plan on riding my bike (which has clip-in pedals) with tennis shoes. That’s how I did the June Lake Loop, much to the chagrin of my biking buddies. If I could do 25 miles that way, I think I can pull off 6 on Saturday. I’m not shelling out any damn more money for proper running shoes or proper pedals, sorry, not sorry. I’ll probably wear my spandex and my sidewalk glances from the racers hunched over their Tri bars, but that’s just how roll. Ba-dum-bum.

“These people are very serious,” Haytrey says about the Tri Club, “but I probably still wouldn’t be doing it if it weren’t for the club and the camaraderie.”

“It’s the women’s—leaves out Whitmer—orientation. It’s one of the most supportive places I’ve been in with a bunch of naked women. And though I kind of fell off the bandwagon last month, I think I might back next year to train for the Olympic.”

As for Saturday, I’m just going to try and take it easy, have fun, and eat a big lunch afterward, which will be catered by Matt Tomney.

“A lot of people just enter to eat,” Levin says about the Tri Club, “but I probably still wouldn’t be doing it if it weren’t for the club and the camaraderie.”

“The toughest women’s—leaves out Whitmer—race I’ve done. I think it’s the most supportive place we’ve ever been in,” Levin says. “I was terrified of the clip-in pedals. I plan on riding my bike (which has clip-in pedals) with tennis shoes. That’s how I did the June Lake Loop, much to the chagrin of my biking buddies. If I could do 25 miles that way, I think I can pull off 6 on Saturday. I’m not shelling out any damn more money for proper running shoes or proper pedals, sorry, not sorry. I’ll probably wear my spandex and my sidewalk glances from the racers hunched over their Tri bars, but that’s just how roll. Ba-dum-bum.

“These people are very serious,” Haytrey says about the Tri Club, “but I probably still wouldn’t be doing it if it weren’t for the club and the camaraderie.”

—Kelly Haytrey
HOROSCOPES
By Clouds McClouds

Cancer: It looks like the Stars are asking you to stay calm and continue to have patience and faith as this new year of your life will be full of steady and ultimately positive change. So do whatever, or whomever, you need to keep yourself calm and positive. Remembering this line from Woody Allen should help, "You can live to be a hundred if you give and positive. Remembering this line ever, you need to keep yourself calm of steady and ultimately positive this next year of your life will be full continue to have patience and faith as asking you to stay calm and con-

Leo: Many Leos are just hopeless romantics with dirty minds, and there's nothing wrong with that. In fact, one of the big keys to both happiness and success is accepting yourself. So remember it's okay to be imperfect, a little anal and a bit of a horn dog. That's why your role model for the rest of the summer is 91-year-old Hugh Hefner, who reminds us, "Life is too short to be living somebody else's dream." 

Virgo: Since Virgos are very practical people it should come as no surprise that Warren Buffett is a Virgo, or that people it should come as no surprise that they suck.

Scorpio: This much we know is true: A) Studies have shown that people who get more than 7 hours of sleep each night are happier than those who get less. B) Courtesy of Charles Barkley, "Sometimes that light at the end of the tunnel is a train." Q) When it comes to finding success in relationships, it's always best to make sure you're the crazy one.

Sagittarius: Helen Keller wrote that life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all. Ergo, you might wish to aim for the former. Be open to all possibilities that present themselves as the heat of summer sinks in. Of course, some options will take some mulling over. On such occasions, it's best to sit down with a nice glass of lemonade, sangria or iced tea and ponder the words of Ice Cube, "The worst thing you can do about a situation is nothing."

Capricorn: Summer is supposed to be the time when the living's easy. But so many of us keep so busy during the short season that we often feel guilty that we're not making the most out of our time. Since that also means we're not living in the present, some advice from John Lennon should help, "Time you enjoy wasting is not wasted."

Aquarius: While this is a good time to enjoy the spoils of the summer season, it is also a good time for several signs like yours to grab a hold of one of your dreams when it starts to blossom. Therefore, your assignment is to find a balance between gorging yourself on the luxury of summer and remembering that it's okay to go out on a limb every once in awhile since that's where all the fruit is.

Pisces: It looks like you could use a little more personal connection in your life. Since Pisces are often so aloof with friends you may not know how to recognize a real one, fellow Pisces Dr. Seuss's advice should help: "Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."

Aries: Hey you, yes you the person reading this, here's a little magic for you: Never forget that you are a miracle maker, and that if at first you don't succeed you're usually better off, or that if you mix up the letters for "silent," you get "listen."

Taurus: To help make the most out of this social and warm time of the year, please be sure to look at yourself in a mirror before bathing—beach or otherwise—and say things like "You look fabul-ass!" Or perhaps, "Clouds thinks I'm assastic!" Or better yet, "I deserve happiness, love and to be well-shagged."

Gemini: Sometimes Geminis can forget that life isn't about what we get, it's really about what we give. To help you embrace this and your gifts for helping others, never forget that the more we give the more we get. Your new theme song: "Everybody needs someone beside 'em shining like a lighthouse from the sea."

PERSONALS

I hope to see you ... at June Lake Beach. If you'll get in my tandem kayak, I'll let you hold my paddles.

I heard you ... singing Yankee Doodle Dandy in falsetto on July Fourth. Must have been a heuliva ride on that pony.

I heard you ... were competing in the June Lake Triathlon this weekend. I never knew you were into tri's. Maybe dating the town bicycle these past few months has gotten you motivated.

I saw you ... at the Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast. Wow, you sure love sausage.

I saw you ... at Pokonobe. It made me Poko-wantino.

I think you ... are the bee's knees. It makes me want to loan you some knee pads.

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of native bees in surveying California cities,” said Jadallah.

The Urban Bee Lab has conducted surveys in Bishop since 2013. Jadallah recently surveyed bees at the Master Gardeners’ garden in the Bishop City Park, the Bishop Community Garden, Eastern Sierra Land Trust’s pollinator garden, and at the Owens Valley Field Station, outside of town. When the researchers conduct surveys, they net the bees and bring them back to the lab in Berkeley. They also record what species of plant they were captured on. Jadallah reported seeing a lot of Leaf Cutter Bees in the Bishop Community Garden, among thirty other species identified at that site.

According to Jadallah, part of the goal of the research is to figure out which crops native bees pollinate and which flowers they are most attracted to. Experiments on farms in Brentwood, California, suggest that certain native bees eagerly pollinate cherries, apples and berries. In particular, members of the genus Ceratina were observed to nest in berry vines. Farmers were able to attract the native bees by planting native plants between rows and not using pesticides.

Even better, Jadallah says there is no evidence to suggest that native bees outcompete honeybees: in fact, research suggests that the competition is good for both groups, and that crops are pollinated most successfully when both are present. "Native bees have co-evolved with native plants in California over hundreds of thousands of years. Every region has bees that are absolutely unique to it.” For Bishop, Jadallah recommended Salvias, Sunflowers, Desert Globemallow, California Poppies, and Russian Sage as plants that attract native pollinators to gardens.

“People ask us, ‘what’s your number one bee plant?’ Every plant and bee relationship is different, so the main thing is making sure that something is blooming in your garden during every season,” said Jadallah. For more information about the Urban Bee Lab, California’s 1,600 varieties of native bees, and how to bring them to your garden, visit www.helpabee.org.
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