DETWILER FIRE FELT LOCALLY
Mariposa County fire pushes residents and smoke east
By Rea

The smoke descending on the Eastside this week is from the massive Detwiler fire burning on the outskirts of Yosemite National Park, which has, as of press time, burned 70,000 acres and destroyed 45 structures. The fire is currently larger geographically than the city of Seattle and ten percent contained.

The fire, which began near Lake McClure in Mariposa County on July 16, doubled in size on Tuesday night July 18, and then again on Wednesday, July 19. The entire town of Mariposa, the gateway to Yosemite National Park on Highway 140, has been evacuated—fire crews are holding the line a mile outside of the historic town. California Governor Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency for Mariposa County on Tuesday.

Other communities have been evacuated as well, currently displacing about 5,000 residents, some have whom have taken refuge on the Eastside.

“We just had to leave our chickens roaming free,” said Ryan Alonzo, who was camping out at a friend’s house in Mammoth after his home in Midpines was evacuated. He said his landlord had snuck in on Wednesday, July 19 to try and rescue a few items from their home, and reported that the fire was incredibly close to the property, located off of Highway 140 on the road to Yosemite. “I hope we don’t have to come home to BBQ chicken,” said Alonzo.

Visitors to Yosemite have cancelled reservations due to the smoky haze which has descended upon the Valley—visitorship to the iconic National Park has been at record numbers this spring and summer due to the raging wildfires, the result of a massive snowpack.

The wetter-than-average winter has also contributed fuel to the fire. Though there is still snow on the ground in the high Sierra, the lower elevations on the western slopes of the range have been dry for months, and the chest-high vegetation resulting from excess water is now tinder.

Jordan Motta, a fire captain and Cal Fire spokesman, told the Los Angeles Times that the vegetation has created fire conditions that “we haven’t seen in the last seven or eight years.”

In a comment thread on the online travel site TripAdvisor, concerned visitors to Yosemite asked what good alternatives might be to visiting Yosemite Valley, which lost power on Tuesday, July 18 for several hours. Cell phone service has also been affected in the Park, as have its views—heavy smoke has been flowing into the park, especially in the afternoons, according to employees. Raining ash is also affecting visibility.

One commenter suggested Calaveras Big Trees State Park (Calaveras County) and the Gold Country. Another advised that Tuolumne Meadows, Mono Lake, and Bodie were worth seeing, but noted that Devils Postpile National Monument remains closed. Inyo National Forest Public Information Officer Deb Schweizer announced that the Reds Meadow Road to that monument will open on Friday, July 21.

WINE TIME!

Mammoth Police Chief Al Davis photobombed this shot of Kevin O’Connell, Ann Ward, and Michelle Goulet at the Food & Wine Experience on Saturday, July 15. For more photos, see p. 12-13.

TOWN HOPES TO UP ITS BBBOND RATING

Mammoth’s Town Council voted 4-0, with Council member Bill Sauer absent, to authorize the issuance of bonds to refinance the Town’s debt in the Mammoth Lakes Land Acquisition, LLC (MLLA) settlement agreement.

The resolution, adopted Wednesday, July 19, authorized Town staff to continue the refinancing process. However, currently it is unknown what bond rating the Town might achieve upon reassessment, said Marty Johnson, the Town’s financial advisor.

Johnson said that analysts from financial services company Standard & Poor’s are willing to come to Mammoth Lakes to possibly reassess its bond rating, which most recently was put at BBB+ in 2015, according to Town Manager Dan Hober.

“I am thrilled they are willing to come here,” said Johnson. “It will make for a much more effective presentation.”

He said that recent developments, such as the Downriver Revitalization project, the Mammoth Base Land Exchange, and the purchase of Mammoth Mountain by Aspen-KSL, may influence the analysts to upgrade Mammoth’s rating.

“I think we have a really good story to tell,” said Johnson. “It depends on how much they want to punish you for what happened 8-10 years ago.”

He said that physically bringing the analysts to Mammoth would give them “an understanding of what they were really rating. And I think that’s the benefit.”

The hope is that Mammoth could achieve an “A-minus” rating, and, “assuming we can get to [that] rating, we could see BONDS, page 5
NO MO’ COUNTY

Six people over the past two weeks. That’s how many people have walked into the offices at Mono County Behavioral Health seeking help with opioid addiction.

13 people over the past four years. That’s how many people have died from drug-related overdoses since 2013 according to Mono County’s Director of Behavioral Health Robin Roberts.

19. That’s the number of children in 2015-2016 who had parents that sought treatment at Mono County Behavioral Health for methamphetamine and heroin addiction.

And yet, Mono County now holds the dubious distinction of being the only County in California which does not have a Narcotics Enforcement team.

As Roberts said this week, "Who’s going to have to die for people to start paying attention?"—implying that it will take the death of someone well-known locally for the spike in substance abuse issues to truly register.

Mono County District Attorney Tim Kendall addressed a joint meeting of Mammoth Lakes Town Council and Mono County Supervisors on Tuesday, July 18 to talk about the demise of MONET (Mono County Narcotics Enforcement Team).

He said that prior to 2011, MONET was funded in equal measure by the Town, County, Mono County Probation and the Mono County DA’s office. The airport litigation settlement caused the Town (Mammoth Lakes Police Department) to back out in 2011. A shortage of deputies caused the County (Sheriff’s Office) to pull the plug in 2014. Probation, as discussed in Bodine’s story last week, has changed philosophical direction and is spending its resources elsewhere.

That left just one person in the DA’s office holding the whole thing together.

Kendall said that he can no longer have just one person doing the job without help. “The cases are too big and too dangerous [to handle] without backup.”

Despite having just one member, Kendall said there were 132 cases opened last year. This compares with 339 cases in 2011, pre-Town defec-tation.

A shortage of deputies caused the County (Sheriff’s Office) to pull the plug in 2014. Probation, as discussed in Bodine’s story last week, has changed philosophical direction and is spending its resources elsewhere.

That left just one person in the DA’s office holding the whole thing to-gether.

Kendall said that he can no longer have just one person doing the job without help. “The cases are too big and too dangerous [to handle] without backup.”

Despite having just one member, Kendall said there were 132 cases opened last year. This compares with 339 cases in 2011, pre-Town defec-tion.

Of those 132 cases, 44% involved additional crimes, including four shootings.

Kendall said that historically, only 15% of cases involve multiple crimes, so the trend is troubling. 73% of last year’s cases originated in Mammoth Lakes.

Police Chief Al Davis said that it would cost $180,000 for the Town to get back in the game and dedicate one officer to MONET.

According to Kendall, Sheriff Ingrid Braun said the County would partici-pate if the Town participates.

As Kendall noted, the Town whittled its officer level from 17 to 11 in the wake of its near-bankruptcy in 2011.

For the past seven years, that staffing level has remained static, meaning, to quote the great philosopher Bon Jovi, we’ve been “living on a prayer” ever since.

Councilman Bill Sauser claims the Town does not have the resources to fund the position.

Which is an absolute lie. The Town has the resources—just not the politi-cal will. And that’s on Sauser, Wentworth, Richardson, Fernie and Hoff. And it will be on them every day until they get something done.

There were a lot of excuses on Tuesday. The Town doesn’t know if it can commit to hiring an extra officer on a full-time basis. What if there’s an economic downturn?

Of course, this hasn’t seemed to pervade their thinking when it comes to building baubles which will have plaques in the entryway with their names on them.

As Mayor Wentworth said candidly, “We have not been apprised really of the unintended consequences of what the Police Department shortage [of sworn officers] has wrought.”

Well, you’ve just been apprised. So ... As Mono County Supervisor Bob Gardner said, “I don’t see how we walk away from this. We need to direct staff to come back to us with an alter-na-tive [to disbanding MONET] ... what is more important than this from a priority standpoint? It goes to essence of protecting our quality of life.”

As Kendall added, “I’m struggling to tell people why I can’t bust the guy who’s selling drugs to their kids.”

Also at the meeting Tuesday, Town Finance Director Rob Patterson said, “Personally, I don’t believe there are millions out there in unpaid [Transient Occupancy] tax. I spend 50% of my time on that [tax collection].” Patterson said he believes there is very little tax collection loss.

This is contradicted by boatloads of anecdotal stories of people rent-ing out places and having two sets of forms—one set goes to the Town and claims the place is being rented for more than 30 days and is exempt from TOT. The second set goes to the renter and is designated for a shorter duration. Unless the renter squawks—and why would the renter squawk, they’re probably getting a better rate—watchdogs like Mr. Patterson will be none the wiser.

At Mammoth’s Town Council meeting on Wednesday, Council discussed the 2016-17 Mono County Grand Jury Report, which “followed up on a recommendation from a previous Grand Jury about Town’s TOT collection and operations” said Town Attorney Andy Morris (it also discussed conflict of interest issues on Town Council).

Council did not agree with the Jury’s assertion that 10-40% of TOT goes uncollected.

“We keep hearing that there’s millions of dollars laying out there...we haven’t really found evidence that that exists,” said Town Manager Dan Richardson.

Kendall said that historically, only 15% of cases involve multiple crimes, so the trend is troubling. 73% of last year’s cases originated in Mammoth Lakes.

"Est lactuca nihil ad cum et de cognatu aliud vincitinus disruptussat catenas et simplex quasi lupi turba." 

-Jack Handey

JACK LUNCH
PUBLISHER
P.O. Box 8088
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com

An adjudicated paper of general circulation. ©2017 The Sheet, all rights reserved.

Check out www.thesheetnews.com for more content, daily updates and free online classifieds.

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.
“Fatal flaw” for Walk, Bike, Ride

Dear Editor:

Thanks for a good article on the PEDC on the draft 2.0 “Walk, Bike, Ride” concept report. I agree with Commissioner Eckert’s comment on the importance of land rather than more “three-ring binders”, as my specific recommendation pertained to the importance of the Village transit hub being located on the Hillside lot, north of the Westin.

It is town-owned land dedicated to parking, with approved plans for a 300-space parking structure, and customer-friendly for the Village, gondola, and especially for the Lakes Basin trolley.

It is time to begin a construction funding process, and I specifically recommended requiring any developer in the Village requesting height/density/parking exceptions to contribute to a dedicated reserve account for the Hillside structure, and also to the reserve account for MLH.

For example, the recently-approved Hillside development (south of the Westin) was granted more density, as I recall, but I don’t know that anything was given to the Town in return for these additional demands on parking and housing. I asked that the PEDC recommend to Town Council such a trade-off in the future.

Unfortunately, the 2.0 draft doesn’t mention the Hillside town-owned lot, nor show it in any of the diagrams. It doesn’t appear that the consultant reviewed the North Village Specific Plan at all. The consultant’s preferred transit hub location is the least customer-friendly for major Village transit hub, gondola, and Lakes Basin Trolley.

It causes even more traffic congestion at Forest Trail and Minaret (two pedestrian crossings with no signal or roundabout), eliminates much of the only park in this part of town, placing a huge structure next to a residential area.

The Lakes Basin Trolley resolved the major auto congestion of the 1990s/early 2000s, and is accessed just below the Hillside parking lot.

It has been a great success, along with the Lakes Basin bike path. The 2.0 draft shows a new “Major Lakes Basin Transit Hub” with 8 parking spaces at the Twin Lakes overlook.

The lack of parking would encourage more (not fewer) cars to drive to that “major hub”, and either turn around to return to the Village, or worse yet, continue into the Lakes Basin, recreating the horrific traffic jams that were seen before the trolley began.

I see this as a “fatal flaw” that must be corrected, doubting that the Forest Service was made aware of this. I also recommend that the MMSA Main Lodge be designated a major (not minor) transit hub, especially in light of the land exchange now in progress and the valuable commercial services that it provides in both the winter and summer seasons.

Sandy Hogan
Mammoth Lakes

see LETTERS, page 5
Dear Editor:

Mammoth's ultimate folly seems to reside...the Diaper Forest. To walk in the last little piece of open space, I will take my friends and family and this looks like the last. If they ask me why I'm trying to keep teachers here? How about this money on an ice rink!? How about drastic measures such as living/camping on employee housing, there is no narcotics division.

And it's only 30 years since the creation of the TOML, there will no longer be a police. Due to no financial help from the State, the Town is going to cost well over $10 million to cut it in our competitive vacation economy. What tourists want to see, as John Wentworth described so well, is people walking around, people on bikes, people eating outdoors under umbrellas, people talking to each other, having a good time, pushing baby carriages, Creatures! Right now on Main St. there isn't much sign of people recreating because there's no real place for people. But the big, exciting news we heard at that meeting was that Sandra Mobley and Haislip Haynes of the Town Planning Department had somehow persuaded the State of California to give us $2.6 million dollars to use for putting in sidewalks on Main St. next summer. I, and many others in Mammoth Lakes, have been advocating sidewalks on Main St. for years, but have always been told that there was no money; between the airport and the fluff, there were never any bucks left.

Unfortunately the article in The Sheet for its review of the meeting at John's Pizza, “Less Talkie, More Walkie” that discussed plans for revitalizing Main St. is a big deal, as in many ways, Mammoth is not meeting the challenge of being an outdoor resort in the 21st century.

What I’m talking about is when visitors arrive in Mammoth and drive up Main St. (our version of the 405 freeway), they see parking lots with cars in them, pretty much exactly what they drove out of L.A. five hours before, trying to get to away from.

This kind of view is just not going to cut it in our competitive vacation economy. What tourists want to see, as John Wentworth described so well, is people walking around, people on bikes, people eating outdoors under umbrellas, people talking to each other, having a good time, pushing baby carriages, Creatures! Right now on Main St. there isn’t much sign of people recreating because there’s no real place for people. But the big, exciting news we heard at that meeting was that Sandra Mobley and Haislip Haynes of the Town Planning Department had somehow persuaded the State of California to give us $2.6 million dollars to use for putting in sidewalks on Main St. next summer. I, and many others in Mammoth Lakes, have been advocating sidewalks on Main St. for years, but have always been told that there was no money; between the airport and the fluff, there were never any bucks left.

Unfortunately the article in The Sheet for its review of the meeting at John’s Pizza, “Less Talkie, More Walkie” that discussed plans for revitalizing Main St. is a big deal, as in many ways, Mammoth is not meeting the challenge of being an outdoor resort in the 21st century.

What I’m talking about is when visitors arrive in Mammoth and drive up Main St. (our version of the 405 freeway), they see parking lots with cars in them, pretty much exactly what they drove out of L.A. five hours before, trying to get to away from.

This kind of view is just not going to cut it in our competitive vacation economy. What tourists want to see, as John Wentworth described so well, is people walking around, people on bikes, people eating outdoors under umbrellas, people talking to each other, having a good time, pushing baby carriages, Creatures! Right now on Main St. there isn’t much sign of people recreating because there’s no real place for people. But the big, exciting news we heard at that meeting was that Sandra Mobley and Haislip Haynes of the Town Planning Department had somehow persuaded the State of California to give us $2.6 million dollars to use for putting in sidewalks on Main St. next summer. I, and many others in Mammoth Lakes, have been advocating sidewalks on Main St. for years, but have always been told that there was no money; between the airport and the fluff, there were never any bucks left.

Unfortunately the article in The Sheet for its review of the meeting at John’s Pizza, “Less Talkie, More Walkie” that discussed plans for revitalizing Main St. is a big deal, as in many ways, Mammoth is not meeting the challenge of being an outdoor resort in the 21st century.

What I’m talking about is when visitors arrive in Mammoth and drive up Main St. (our version of the 405 freeway), they see parking lots with cars in them, pretty much exactly what they drove out of L.A. five hours before, trying to get away from.
GROC-OUT BACK IN

By Rea

Mammoth’s Town Council voted 4-0, with Council member Cleland Hoff abstaining, to deny an appeal of the Planning and Economic Development Commission’s decision that the Grocery Outlet planned for Old Mammoth Road would be categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15332, In-Fill Development Projects, of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.

The appeal had been made by Sacramento-based Grundman Law on behalf of an organization which calls itself “Sustainable Mammoth Lakes,” Grundman Law was represented by attorney Victoria Campbell of Bishop on Wednesday, July 19.

“I’m here this evening to urge Mammoth Lakes to fully comply with CEQA,” said Campbell. She said those filing the appeal are “concerned that the project proposed for Old Mammoth Road would not be adequate. “Given the orientation of parking, there may be queuing or cruising that will increase emissions,” she said.

Another concern, Campbell said, was that the proposed Grocery Outlet would contribute to “urban decay,” by creating a new building when there are already storefronts sitting vacant in Mammoth Lakes.

“Mammoth is preparing to create a sweeping entitlement that could determine the nature of the micro economy…[there are] currently sufficient vacant commercial spaces existing that the risk of creating more dark spaces is substantial.”

Town Attorney Andy Morris said he was not concerned at all if there are any other cases that have addressed something as small as an 18,000-square foot grocery store.

Council’s vote on Wednesday paved the way for Grocery Outlet to continue plans to build in the approximately 2-acre space on Old Mammoth Road adjacent to the Shell Station.

Town Attorney Andy Morris said that Wednesday’s vote “will start a 35 day process,” to continue plans to build in the approximately 2-acre space on Old Mammoth Road adjacent to the Shell Station.

“Town Attorney Andy Morris said that Wednesday’s vote ‘will start a 35 day process’ to continue plans to build in the approximately 2-acre space on Old Mammoth Road adjacent to the Shell Station.”

FILM-FLAM

Organizers of the Mammoth Film Festival finally returned calls to The Sheet (see “What’s in a name?” June 29) to explain the event and lack of concern for the event name being nearly identical to the acclaimed Mammoth Lakes Film Festival. The Mammoth Lakes Film Festival has earned a coveted spot as one of the Top 50 Film Festivals by MovieMaker Magazine.

“Just because the name is one word apart, it doesn’t make a big difference,” said Toomik Mansoori, a co-founder of the event. “Mammoth has a meaning too, it’s not just the name of a town or mountain.”

Locals (not Mammoth Lakes Film Festival organizer Shira Dubrovner) have started a petition asking the new festival organizers to change the name. The petition, which can be found at www.thepetitionsite.com, says that the Mammoth Film Festival will need local support and maybe those volunteers could convince the group to change the name. As of July 19, there were 138 supporters with 2,000 needed.

Mansoori said there are dozens of festivals in New York and Los Angeles that have the name of the city in the title, and there is no confusion. He added that “Mammoth is larger than life, and can easily handle two festivals, if not more.”

Mansoori mentioned several times that Mammoth is a quaint mountain town only four to five hours drive from Los Angeles. He said he was not concerned at all if there is confusion with the two names. If filmmakers mistake one festival for another, it’s the fault of the filmmaker, Mansoori explained.

He never answered the question of whether he was concerned with the issues the organizers the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival have—the name. Dubrovner said she welcomes a new festival, even encourages another festival, she just hopes that they change the name.

Dubrovner is investigating litigation against the new festival organizers.

Mansoori said he would not answer the question of whether two festivals with nearly the same names in a tiny town would make the town appear unorganized.

Other organizers of the festival include Theo Dumont, Daniel Sol, and Tanner Beard. The Mammoth Film Festival website shows Mammoth Mountain, along with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, as being a “partners” of the event.

Jimmy Huh, Director of Advertising at Mammoth Mountain, said that to the best of his knowledge, no one at MFF has contacted the marketing department. He said MFF could have talked to other people on the mountain, but any partnership or sponsorship connections would eventually go through his office.

The festival already has some friends, like Paris Hilton, tweeting about the “epic new winter film festival in Cali!” Hilton tweeted that on July 7.

The Mammoth Film Festival ran from 2007-2010 before closing for unknown reasons. Tanner Beard had attended one year and wanted to take over the name. The MFF URL and name came up for sale “years ago” and Beard bought it, Mansoori explained. He did not specify when the name was purchased for what price.

The two have the rights to the name and the festival, according to Mansoori.

The founders have worked in Hollywood for years, Mansoori said, and many visited Mammoth Lakes as kids.

It will be more than a film festival—it will be a dip into the culture of the area, like Sundance or South- XSouthwest, Mansoori explained.

The website touted skiing and snow during the day and world-class entertainment at night. The inaugural event is planned for February, 2018. Screenings will be at the quaint, two-screen Minaret Cinemas so people can see the movies on the big screen. However, “we could have built our own screens,” Mansoori explained.

He said he’d be meeting with businesses in town over the next few months looking for support and sponsorships.

“Everyone in town is cooperating, pointing us in the right direction,” said Mansoori. “It’s been a very welcoming experience.”

PROVIDING FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS FOR ALL ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE.

Eric P. Wasserman
Senior Financial Advisor
549 Old Mammoth Rd, Ste 12
P.O. Box 1917
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760-924-2600
www.wfah.net

FILM-FLAM
Mammoth Film Festival organizers don’t see what the big deal is

Just because the name is one word apart, it doesn’t make a big difference.

-Toomik Mansoori, Mammoth Film Festival co-founder

""
Dr. Bill Hettinger, who studies housing in resort communities, will share ideas—also, free tacos!

By Rea

A

Mammoth Lakes Housing prepares to move into phase two of its Community Housing Action Plan, the nonprofit will host Dr. Bill Hettinger, who is an expert on housing in resort communities, to speak in Mammoth on Wednesday, July 26.

Jennifer Halferty, Executive Director of MLH, said that she was clearing a bookshelf when she came across Hettinger’s book “Living and Working in Paradise: Why Housing is too Expensive and What Communities Can Do About It,” which was written about ten years ago. She didn’t even know how she’d come to possess it, but she opened it up and started reading.

“It wasn’t anything I didn’t know, but it was printed in a way that anybody could pick it up and read it and get it,” said Halferty. “A lot of books I read about housing are so in the weeds, but this was just really easy to digest.”

Halferty said MLH has done something quite like this before, but it seemed like a good way to garner community interest in Mammoth’s current housing crisis and possible solutions. She said that MLH is utilizing its “board development” funds (Hettinger charges about $3,000 as a speaker fee), which they often don’t spend, to finance the event, which will be staffed by a bilingual Spanish interpreter and free refreshments from Black Doubt Brewing and Latin Market.

“I really wanted to get people thinking about working together” ahead of phase two of the Action Plan developed by WSW Consulting (find a link to Part I on The Sheet’s website and Facebook page). “Last year it could have been [this crisis], making sure we’re looking for political will and community will,” said Halferty.

Community will, Dr. Hettinger says, is what it will take to make headway on the problem. Though Hettinger’s book is a decade old, he says, he still currently studies resort communities that makes them unique, which communities are “doing it right,” and which have been left with no choice but to bus in their workforce.

Hettinger told The Sheet this week that he first started thinking about the issue on a vacation to Mexico. He and his wife were going to swim with dolphins, and when they arrived at their destination in Puerto Aventuras, the Mexican workers were getting off a bus and walking into this community...for me, it posed two questions. Where do these people live? And did we take all of these opportunities...for me, it posed two questions.

Dr. Bill Hettinger.

sure housing is provided.”

Hettinger says that, just like a position on taxes, politicians in these communities often run on their position on housing.

“It proves a ballot issue in the political process. You have to have a position on housing when you run for office.”

The Sheet asked Hettinger why much of the low wage workforce isn’t involved in discussions about the issue that affects them most.

He said that transient young people often don’t have as much of an investment in the issue (they’re ‘fine living in a house with five other friends temporarily’), and immigrant populations are often at a language disadvantage or simply working too much to attend public meetings (Halferty hopes the Spanish translation will encourage more of Mammoth’s Latino population to attend).

“Then you have this other population...[those who have] kids, a family, and those are the people who are the core of your community. They traditionally [serve] on your commissions. They’re the ones who are the most effective” at making policy changes happen.

“The question is where can (the middle class) afford to live? If they can’t afford to live in the community they’ll leave and they’re replaced by someone else,” said Hettinger. “Then you can’t afford a nurse at the doctor’s office because they can’t afford to live here. You can’t afford a teacher. In most communities, the middle class can afford to live. In resort communities they can’t.”

Dr. Bill Hettinger, PhD, will speak on Wednesday, July 26 at 6 p.m. at the Forest Service Auditorium at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center. His talk will be simultaneously interpreted into Spanish. Free refreshments from Latin Market and Black Doubt Brewing will be available.

For more information, visit www.mammothlakeshousing.org or call 760.934.4740.

Learn more about Dr. Hettinger’s work at www.prosperouscommunities.com.

EAST SIDE Bake Shop

Quality Food at the Foot of the Sierra

Bakery • Cafe • Community

Natural bakery
Breakfast/Lunch
Live music and dinner served on Saturdays
Beer and wine
Family friendly

Experience Our New Expanded Dining Room

OPEN EVERY THURSDAY-MONDAY

Thurs/Fri/Mon: 6:30am-2:00pm
Saturday: 6:30am-9:00pm
Sunday: 6:30am-3:00pm
Closed Tuesday/Wednesday

LIVE MUSIC – starts at 6pm
New on Sundays “Hillbilly Jazz” tunes on the porch with Jonathan Sielstrand and friends 12-3pm
7/22 – Milo Glue
7/29 – Driftwood Creek
8/5 – Open Jam
8/12 – No Dinner Service
Closed for Private event
8/19 – Good Livin
8/26 – Derek Olson

1561 Crowley Lake Dr, Crowley Lake
760.942.2896
eastsidebakeshop@gmail.com
facebook.com/EastSideBakeShop

RESERVATIONS:
TEXT: 760.914.0862
EMAIL: INFO@SKADI.COM

OPEN 5PM | CLOSED TUE
94 BERNER
SKADI RESTAURANT.COM
**LOCAL BRIEFS**

**IN BIG PINE, HOPES OF RECLAIMING WATER, REPURPOSING LAND**

By James

A s you drive into the small community of Big Pine along the 395 Highway corridor, you cannot help but notice a nice-sized, fenced-in, 5.6-acre parcel of vacant land at the corner of Bartell Road and the highway sitting right next to the Big Pine Unified School District. Locals have noticed it for quite some time, especially the property’s lessee, the Big Pine Paiute Tribe. The parcel holds the promise of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the property lacks irrigation to be put to a useful purpose. Several attempts by the tribe to force LADWP to provide water to the parcel have met with failure, so now, a novel approach is being looked at by the Inyo County Water Department: Watering the parcel using recycled waste water thanks to a $267,000 feasibility grant from the California Department of Water Resources.

In fact, on July 12, Inyo County’s Water Department Mitigation Manager, Larry Frelich, put together a community workshop to ask residents what uses they would like to see on the parcel. Joining the two-dozen or so participants were consultants for RO Anderson Engineering, out of Min- den, Nevada, who was working with the county and helpfully made the water recycling plant turn into a reality. Inyo County’s Water Department secured a $267,000 grant to cover a feasibility study through the West Coast Depart- ment of Water Resources. Mitigation Manager Larry Frelich put the town meeting together with consultants RO Anderson Engineering, to get community input on potential end-uses for the parcel should the county be successful in its latest attempt to ir- rigate the property. ROAE has exten- sive expertise in wastewater recycling and with helping its clients find grants to help pay for wastewater recycling plants.

Participants gave a host of possible uses which will be evaluated that ranged from a driving range, a Christmas tree lot or a ball park, to a dog park, campground, or even (with much greater treatment required) a fish farm. The creative list will be narrowed down to five taking into consideration maintenance costs and operations, as well as economic potential. The community will then get to narrow the list down to three and then to one, which should be a shovel-ready project that can then be used to seek grants for construction.

If the Big Pine recycled wastewater project proves successful, Frelich hopes that the county can use it as a way to then provide additional water re- sources in the rest of the County. There are limitations however. Most com- munity service districts in the County currently only treat wastewater that is limited to uses other than for humans. And while it can be used to water plants, there are a host of restrictions which would apply to how and when it can be used.

According to Deb Murphy with Sierra Water News, one of the most creative ideas was presented by Bartell Road. Andre Vaugn, president of the BCPSD, who suggested irrigation for hops in support of a Big Pine brewery. It’s safe to say while that idea might be a bit far-fetched, it’s clearly something local beer-lovers could drink to.

**INYO SUPERS APPROVE PARKING CHANGES**

By James

O n Tuesday, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors, in an anti- war with futuristic ending to a parking controversy involving a mobile busi- ness in Lone Pine, officially approved amendments to its county-wide parking ordinance after several weeks of discussions that will restrict mobile businesses from taking unfair advan- tage of the County’s parking regula- tions to conduct business on a public street out of parking spaces. The new restrictions on parking most notably effects the business district of Lone Pine and in certain residential streets in Lone Pine.

The new amendments allow no parking on a county right-of-way within 100 feet of its intersection with Highway 395 for more than four consecutive hours between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on certain streets and roads, and a height restriction of 8 feet placed on certain types of vehicles.

Interestingly, the mobile business operation that operated rent-free out of three of public parking spaces on the right of way on Mt. Whitney Road from a 30-foot aluminum trailer in Lone Pine, is no longer there. At- tempt to contact Whitney Gear (aka. Two Foot Adventures) about their cur- rent whereabouts were unsuccessful. Some local businesses considered the mobile business an existential threat to the local economy, while others felt the threat was overblown.

Parking will now be limited to four hours between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on certain roads or streets in the busi- ness section of Lone Pine off Highway 395 within 100 feet of U.S. Highway 395 (Main Street). The roads or streets affected are West Post Street, East Post Street, Whitney Portal Road, West and East Willow Street.

Another change is the addition of a parking restriction between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. to make enforcement on commercial vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or more on streets in Independence easier to enforce. The streets affected are West Park Street for the intersection of East Willow Street, West Willow Street and South Washington Street; South Washington Street from the intersection of West Park Street to the intersection of West Citrus Street; and “Such other streets or roadways or areas designated” by the Board of Supervisors, time to time by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.”

Other issues that came out of the parking controversy will be discussed in future board of supervisor meet- ings, such as better definitions of what it means to be a “vendor” or “ped- dler.” The hope is that the County can develop simple, yet effective ways ap- plications, permits, and fees that better serve the public and those wishing to do business in the County.

Well, the people that created this ‘controversy’ have apparently left. They were not there when I drove down to Lone Pine on Monday to check them. I tried to contact them on Tuesday, but they finally decided to leave now and where they were going next but did not hear back from them. They had said at some point within 50 feet of it was not the Central L.A. we planned on meeting up to Independence, but I did not see them when I drove through town. So the “existential threat” to Lone Pine might be from people operating out of a mobile trailer has—in their final act—pulled an “Elvis has left the building.”
Italian Alessio Floris is restoring the Viking Mine in Death Valley

By Bodine

Vikings were the first humans to reach North America from Europe in the 10th Century, and the Italian Christopher Columbus is credited with “discovering” America in 1492, but none of these explorers made it to the West Coast. Following that thread, it makes perfect sense that an Italian is restoring the Viking Mine in Death Valley.

Alessio Floris of Italy recently bought the claim to the Viking Mine with plans to dig a little talc and restore the historic mining outpost for posterity. Floris said via email from Italy, using translating software, that visitors to the site can peer into the lives of miners and the inner-workings of a functioning mine.

Judyth Greenburgh—artist, Darwin resident and Viking enthusiast—told The Sheet that Floris came out to the mine about a year ago and had a vision to restore it.

Eight buildings will be restored into their original state with kitchens, guard houses, miners’ accommodation, a saloon, water tank and services at the mine, located a couple miles off of Highway 190 on the Saline Valley Road. Greenburgh said Floris is spending his life’s savings on the Viking Mine. He’s not some rich guy throwing money at the project. It will take a community effort to get the mine back into shape.

Aside from floor plans and a little written history, Floris said there is not much else known about the mine. A few tons of talc were extracted from the mine when it was operating in 1880s, he said. He said “all hypotheses are possible” when it comes to what exactly the mine was, be it outpost where neighboring miners would get supplies or a very large, well-maintained, yet low-producing mine.

The ghost of Edith Lockhart, the original owner of the mine, haunts the structures, it is believed. Jim Mattern of www.DeathValleyJim.com, says on his website that Edith was born in Sweden in 1890. She named the mine the Talc Queen’s Camp. Floris said not much is known about Edith.

Mattern called the mine a “point of interest.” “We found the offer for the claim on the internet some years ago; we were astonished by the beauty and the fashion of the place, and we managed to get there nearly after a year of programming,” Floris said, with a little help from the wonky translating software.

Floris is a real jack of all trades. After college, he sailed around the world. He then began restoring both modern and historic sailing ships and buildings, in the “Ligurian context.” The Ligurian Sea is located between the island of Corsica and the city of Genoa, an historic fishing village founded in 200 BC and Floris’ hometown, in northwest Italy.

He and his two sons are working on moving to California to be close to the mine. The Italian Viking in the desert is not having a problem making friends in southern Inyo County. Artists from Darwin and Olancha are helping Floris with the restoration and the jubilations.

Floris and several Southern Inyotes gathered at the mine for a party and dance in the December and have more planned for the summer. Look for Icelandic dancers in Nordic fur capes and helmets with horns dancing in the sun near Darwin.

Floris added that “Viking Mine Gadgets” could be sold, which sounds like the wonky software talking.

A fundraiser for restoration will begin in September, with more details to become available on the Viking Mine Facebook page.
DEVASTATED TRAILS NEED LOVE, VOLUNTEERS
By Kevin Green

Red’s Meadow Road was closed (The USFS just announced it will open Friday, July 21), so I headed over Mammoth Pass with my girlfriend a few weeks ago to spend a couple of nights in the backcountry. Given the usual, dense traffic to Devil’s Postpile, we typically avoid the area, so this was going to be a real treat—having the place to ourselves.

We camped by Minaret Falls our first night, not a soul in sight. The Falls were raging, and the areas around and especially below them have changed significantly from the enormous runoff.

The next morning we hiked along the creek towards Minaret Lake, quickly arriving at the main crossing below Johnstone Lake. The massive log bridge that had been in place for decades was gone, rendering the area so unrecognizable that I spent half an hour searching to see if I missed the cutoff.

We would later discover that all of the bridges at every junction all the way to Minaret Lake were wiped out. The crossing was chest deep - Sarah went for a swim she didn’t like. The dog enjoyed it, though, and we got first-hand proof that iPhone 7’s are waterproof enough. Large downed trees were scattered across our path practically every 100 yards. Flooding and erosion exists on portions of trail above 9,000 feet where water temporarily flows in new directions. There is much work to be done.

Part of the downside of the much-needed, snowy winter we had is that our trails have sustained substantial damage that will take years to fix. It was clear to me that the Forest Service would need some help, so I contacted Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless. She got right back to me with an immediate solution. There is a guy named Bill Carter who’s developed volunteer trail crews over the past 15 years out of Red’s Meadow consisting of Back Country Horsemen and Pacific Crest Trail Association members. Never knew.

Members have various skill levels and capabilities with packers, sawyers, rock workers, and tread experts helping. The focus is to provide a safe and open trail for hikers and horsemen. The USFS provides food prepared by Todd Vogel, a volunteer chef among other things.

The crew is going out later than planned this year, from July 22-31. Once numbering as many as 30 volunteers, the group is down to 16 and could use some reinforcement. So I’m joining, and writing this article to ask for more help. You can come for a day or more, camp with everyone, or go home at night.

Carter is without a doubt an unsung hero of the Eastern Sierra. “If you use trails in this area, thank Bill Carter”, Stacy tells me. She gives him my number and warns that he will call; and the day she volunteered was the toughest day of work in her whole life, but also the most gratifying.

Carter is an optometrist in Bishop who practices three days per week, leads the effort to open the trails, and he is a sprightly 73.

He moved to Bishop from Huntington Beach in 1973 to join an active Optometric Practice and became involved with horses thanks to his daughter. Packing horses and mules followed, working with commercial pack stations and participating in many commercial stock pack trips. As time passed, he felt he could be more useful to our backcountry by focusing on wilderness trail maintenance so he got involved with the Inyo National Forest and the PCT Association.

Over the last 20 years, Carter has developed skills in rigging, some blasting, and dealing with difficult deadfall trees. He feels blessed to be mentored by the best sawyers (both cross cut and chain saw), and he maintains a USFS Certification in tree felling and bucking with both types of saw.

Each spring, Carter develops support crews to open the PCNST in the south to Hwy. 58 (Owens Peak, Chimney Peak, Homelands, South Sierra Wildernesses, and Ptute Mountains). When I last heard from him on July 17, he had been working the trails out of McGee Canyon and said they were a mess. He is seemingly everywhere. He is Batman without the low voice and the suit, though he possesses a few gadgets and a tool belt.

If you are interested in helping at any point from July 22-31, please email either Bill Carter at drfwcarter@yahoo.com or Kevin Green at greenacrellc@gmail.com. pcta.org/volunteer-project/redsmeadow-3/ to find more information about the project.

Sarah Anisman and Callie on a backpacking trip near Mammoth Pass.
**Mammoth’s Town Council gave direction to Town staff on Wednesday regarding future plans for Town offices, with the general consensus being that Council would entertain Town staff staying in its current location or moving to the Sierra Center Mall, but the preferred option would be to partner with Mono County on a joint facility.

Pam Kobylarz, Assistant to the Town Manager, told Council that staff were specifically directed to look at three different options: A future lease for the current offices in the Minaret Mall; a lease-to-own option at the Sierra Center Mall; and a new option advocated for by Mono County of a joint “South County Facility” on the McFlex parcel, adjacent to the courthouse and new police station.

At the May 16 Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board directed County staff to move forward with plans for a proposed new facility, said Kobylarz. The Town and County had previously worked with HMC Architects “related to initial site planning for a potential future building…the purpose of the process is to understand how uses could be shared,” said Kobylarz.

“Acknowledging both the Town and Council had very limited budgets,” a rectangular building with an “aesthetic entrance” was recommended, “made unique by combinations of windows,” said Kobylarz on Wednesday.

Kobylarz noted that, “because McFlex has been identified as a potential civic center in the future, the Town has invested dollars [into the parcel] with that assumption.” The total invested thus far is $2,689,000, she said.

As for the Minaret Mall (the current location of the Town offices), “the landlord has indicated there is a willingness to entertain a new lease,” said Kobylarz. “However, if we were to stay in the current space there will be a number of improvements needed…I recommend estimating a cost range for that work rather than spending time and resources to put together a very detailed cost estimate.”

A third option would be a “lease to own” at the Sierra Center Mall,” said Kobylarz. “The County has made the decision not to stay in that space...the Town of Mammoth Lakes did meet with the Sierra Center Mall owner, [but] no formal offer has been made by the owner, and the Town has not made an offer. [Though] he has indicated it would be available if the Town were so inclined to move.”

Town Manager Dan Holler, speaking for councilmember Bill Sauser, said “Bill has asked if we could take a look at that…and would the Town be interested in an acquisition of the building. To do that, it would require an additional expense to truly take a look at what that could potentially look like. [Town] staff is not necessarily recommending that as an option.”

Mayor John Wentworth said that, were the Town to buy entire Sierra Center Mall, “the Town would be taking on more real estate and be getting into the landlord-tenant business.”

Mayor pro tem Cleland Hoff said “I agree with Bill [Sauser]” in looking into the purchasing of the Sierra Center Mall. “I realize that would be difficult, I also realize I do not think we need to go from a lease to a lease. I think we should maybe expend a little bit of time and money looking into [the purchase of the mall]. I think the building has good bones. If we can solve some of the Town office issues and also have affordable housing, I’m all for it.”

Council member Colin Fernie said that he’s “kind of a hybrid” on that issue.

“I personally am not ready to remove the Sierra Center Mall from our suite of options. I think it is a viable option potentially for lease or purchase. I will respectfully disagree with Council member Sauser on the proposition of purchasing the entire building and getting into the business of being a landlord.”

Fernie said he was not interested in the Town overextending itself with the purchase of the entire building. “I think it’s important in business to stay in your lane. I think it would be a significant distraction for the Town, beyond carrying on different levels of business we have to do currently, to occupy that entire space. I’m not particularly inclined to go that route.”

It was discussed whether the purchase of only a portion of the Sierra Center Mall was an option.

“I think there’s a common perception in the community there is this glut of retail space,” said Fernie. “That’s true to a certain degree, but large consolidated retail space is few and far between…I think to completely take that building off the table is not something I’m ready to do yet, but I’m not supportive of purchasing that entire building.”

Holler said that, when the County was in discussions about purchasing the Sierra Center Mall, “The offer to the County was the entire building or not at all.”

In regards to the possible renovation of the Minaret Mall Town offices, Council member Shields Richardson said that he was more inclined to investigate the possibility of working with the County on a shared office space at the McFlex parcel rather than renovate a building the Town does not own.

“I respect what our partners up in the north have done…What has to happen to these buildings [the two Mammoth malls] to make them inhabitable is a substantial amount of money. I’m more inclined to say, ‘Hey, let’s cut it and work with our partners and the County and see if we can’t make some deal there.’”

He said that, if a shared South County Facility did not come to fruition, “I’ll guarantee you, these guys [at the Minaret and Sierra Center Mall] are still going to be looking for people to inhabit their places.”

Fernie said that the decision on whether to partner with the County on a new building or explore the other two options really came down to financials for him.

“I certainly have no problem moving forward with certain building projects. The Arts Center I support. The [new] planning of Supervisors meeting, the Board have previously worked with HMC Architects "related to initial site planning for a potential future building…the purpose of the process is to understand how uses could be shared," said Kobylarz. The Town and County have made the decision not to stay in that space…”

**THE SHEET | Saturday, July 22, 2017**
EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Mammoth Lakes Foundation’s seventh annual Food and Wine Experience was in good taste, and for a good cause

By Rea

The seventh annual Mammoth Food and Wine Experience took place last weekend, sponsored by the Mammoth Lakes Foundation. The event raises money for scholarships which allow Mono County residents to attend Cerro Coso Community College for free, as well as arts programming through the Edison Theatre.

Photos, clockwise from top left: Brett Barker and Aleks Mendel ham it up for the camera. Richard Leonin, chef at Red Lantern, gets fancy with his pinky raised. Frederic Plerel (Brasserie) and Theresa Acree (Great Basin) serve up Cowgirl Creamery cheese and fresh bread. Jim Vanko, Heather Schaubmayer, and Carol Garvey. Employees of Ramenya serve up noodles and fried shishito peppers — Ramenya had the longest line, but the peppers were worth it. Andrea Walker of Stellar Brew with a big pile of cookies. Katie Johansen and Caitlin Rea share a funny moment. John and Luan Mendel, who won the “Founder of the Year Award” with outgoing Executive Director Kevin Lian.
Mammoth Track Club's version of Sgt. Hulka, Andrew Kastor, leading the troops through warmups at Whitmore.

The Mammoth Track Club founders Andrew and Deena Kastor, in conjunction with the Mammoth High School running team, have formed a youth Mammoth Track Club. The club is open and welcomes all youth five to eighteen years of age.

Currently, the club meets on Mondays at 8:30 a.m. at the Whitmore Track. The coaches will be teaching the new club members the fundamentals of running such as warming up, stretching, plyometric exercises, various types of training and, of course, jogging and running.

All new club members will be training and participating with the High School Cross-Country and the Nordic teams members. The coaching staff are the following: Andrew and Deena Kastor, Erin LeFrancois, Anna Stratham, Nancy Fiddler and Tomas Rodriguez.

Any youth interested in joining should contact the Mammoth Cross-Country coaches for instructions. Or, you may attend the Monday workouts at the Whitmore Track. The fee to join and be a member of the youth club is $25 a year.

Mammoth Cross-Country Coach Contact information:
Erin LeFrancois—elefrancois@mammothusd.org.
Anna Stratham—annabanana.strathman@gmail.com.
And we were trying different things
We were smoking funny things
Making love out by the lake to our
favorite song
Sipping whiskey out the bottle, not
thinking 'bout tomorrow
Singing "Sweet Home Alabama" all
summer long
-From Kid Rock's "All Summer
Long"

Hmm. The above sounds like a
decent campaign platform ... sure
beats working.

But Senator Kid Rock?
Mr. "Rock" is the latest celebrity
who has indicated a serious inter-
est in a political run. Kid Rock (real
name: Robert Ritchie) is from Michi-
gan and could be the Republican
challenger to incumbent Democratic
Senator Debbie Stabenow.

Until now, Mrs. Stabenow was con-
sidered to have a safe seat.

Sports and show business celeb-
rities have run for major political
office in recent years, and many have
won.

A few that have transitioned into
politics and have had notable ca-
reers:

- Pro basketball star Bill Bradley,
U.S. senator; actor Fred Thompson,
U.S. senator; baseball star Jim Buning,
U.S. senator; pro wrestler Jess
Ventura, governor; actor Arnold
Schwarzenegger, governor; football
star Jack Kemp, congressman and
vice-presidential nominee; singer
Sonny Bono, congressman; football
star Steve Largent, congressman;
actor George Murphy, U.S. senator;
and TV series actor Fred Grandy,
congressman.

The two most famous, of course,
have been film actor Ronald Reagan
who was elected governor of Califor-
nia, and then president of the United
States; and Donald Trump, TV show
host and celebrity businessman, who
is the current resident in the White
House.

Not all of them were distinguished,
but some of them, especially Reagan,
Kemp and Bradley, made their mark
in their adopted profession. The
total list of sports and show busi-
ness personalities elected to office
is much longer, and the incidence of
new candidacies is becoming more
frequent.

Even gender-neutral ("It's Pat!")
comedians like Al Franken (a future
presidential candidate to be sure)
have run and won, so why not Kid
Rock?

Although a sports or show business
background is not usually consid-
ered an ideal training ground for
elective office, perhaps the public
relations and communications skills
athletes and entertainers often have
made it inevitable that more and
more celebrities are throwing them-
selves (no one, except for Kid Rock,
ners any more) into the politi-
cal arena.

In spite of the overwhelming bias
of Hollywood and show business
personalities towards the Demo-
cratic Party (in 2016, many were for
Bernie Sanders and some for Hill-
ary Clinton, but very few for Donald
Trump), most of those celebrities
elected to public office have been
conservatives.

Kid Rock was an early and promi-
nent supporter of Mr. Trump, and
might draw a strong youth (and
middle-aged blue collar) vote. (That
was primarily how Jesse Ventura, a
political centrist in a then-liberal
state, won.)

Who knows, the Congressional
Record might be on the verge of be-
coming funky and hip.

And rhymed?
Andrew MacRae's art brings the chaos (and some critters) to the Eastside

By Rea

Andrew MacRae's paintings, which is currently on display at the Mono Inn north of Lee Vining, are a far cry from most of the mountain scenes that can be found on display in the Eastern Sierra—though if you look hard enough, you'll certainly see nature's influence.

MacRae, 37, has lived and worked in Yosemite National Park for 15 summers now. “It ruined my life,” he says with a wry smile. He received his degree in studio painting from Humboldt State University “and a museum and gallery certificate, so I could get a job making minimum wage.”

He's worked and managed several of the backcountry High Sierra Camps, but this summer, due to the record snow, the High Camps are not opening, and MacRae is living between Lee Vining and Oakland, working part time for “sharing economy” companies like TaskRabbit and Delete.

He's also worked as an accountant for H&R Block.

And his paintings are just about as eclectic as his resume.

Over a smoothie at Stellar Brew just before his show opened on July 13, MacRae said he was heading to the Cast-Off thrift store to buy a shirt for the occasion, since he forgot to bring a nice one over from the Bay Area.

He talked about his influences (Salvador Dali, Ralph Steadman), methods (“intentional chaos,” such as pouring a cup of coffee onto a canvas to begin a painting) and his definition of “art” (“a creative process of regurgitating”).

MacRae's paintings, mostly watercolor, ink and gouache on paper, are stunning and surreal. The colors are arresting and the detail is intricate. There is often animal life inserted into a chaotic scape.

“I think animals create a good narrative,” says MacRae, “and they can tell stories because we have emotional relationships with them, but we're not communicating with them on a verbal level. We project our own human emotions onto animals. They're victims of our tragic behavior.”

He says the surreal nature of the paintings generally evolves from a focal point originating from his time spent in nature and how it's influenced him. “I always try to put a base of nature, at least color tones of nature, and then form the chaos off of that,” says MacRae. “I’m putting the human concept into it by making it abstract.”

MacRae's Mono Inn show consists of about 20 paintings, which will be on sale until August 1. Paintings range from $200-$1200. “Deals can be made, prices are negotiable,” he says.

View Andrew MacRae's art at www.admacrae.com or stop by the Mono Inn at 55620 US-395 to view his work in person.
Help Wanted

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

Cashiers M/B $11-$14
Photographer M $17-$20
General Laborers M $14-$18
Appraiser/Assessor Apps M/B $36-$42
Journeyman Plumbers M/B $26-$40

Part Time Preschool Aide

Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Preschool is seeking a part-time aide with credits and experience in a licensed center preferred, although willing to train the right candidate. Must be able to clear a background check. Candidates must have a love of children and enthusiasm for working with young children. Email resume to brendak@ymail.com.

Part-Time Admin Assistant

Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa seeks a part-time admin assistant with great experience and a positive attitude to handle front desk duties. Please send resume to julie@thesheetnews.com.

Part-Time Maintenance Worker

Now Hiring Front Desk Associates and Hosts. Please apply online at wwwwesignbdg.com or call 760-934-5100.

Help Wanted

Mammoth Rock & Bowl Brasserie has the following positions open:

- Bartender
- Host
- Server, Bartender, Brasserie Hostess
- Chef, Delivery Driver/Cashier

Everyone should love their job! Join our team and find out why we are voted "Best of Mammoth".

Mammoth Rock & Bowl

601 Old Mammoth Rd.
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Help Wanted

Osibland Private Residence:

Front Desk/Full Time Position:
Seeking a responsible, outgoing Reserva-

tions Manager to work with our administra-
tion employee.

- Competitive pay
- Great benefits

Primary Objectives:

- Work independently to manage the front desk responsibilities
- Demonstrate knowledge of our Owners and

Guests to the highest level possible

- Responsible for front desk duties

- Excellent telephone/customer service skills

- A proven track record of success in various halls

- Will assist with overall event planning,

including; the coordination of restaurants

and breweries participating in the Taste,

sponsorship fulfillment and event market-
ing. Every event experience is a plus. Mam-

moth Rocks is also looking for a local artist
to design and create a life-size animation of

a rock band or rock themed photo wall we

can have at the event. Interested appli-
cants must have

- Communication Skills
- Be open to new ideas

- Must be able to create

- Be a part of something special

Send resume to Kameron@osibland.com.

Help Wanted

The 9th annual Mammoth Rocks &
Taste of the Sierra is hiring an assistant
event coordinator. This position is mostly
flexible, part time and is estimated at 100
hours leading up to and including week-
end of event August 25-27. This person will
assist with overall event planning,

including; the coordination of restaurants

and breweries participating in the Taste,

sponsorship fulfillment and event market-
ing. Every event experience is a plus. Mam-

moth Rocks is also looking for a local artist
to design and create a life-size animation of

a rock band or rock themed photo wall we

can have at the event. Interested appli-
cants must have

- Communication Skills
- Be open to new ideas

- Must be able to create

- Be a part of something special

Send resume to Kameron@osibland.com.
**BARS & MUSIC**

**Happy Hour/**
- The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill. Pursuit of Happiness Hour, 3-6 p.m.
- $1 off draft beers, $2 off wine, $4 well drinks, $2 off specialty drinks. $5 Flatbread. See ad, page 15.
- Outlaw Saloon: Monday: All Night Happy Hour; 4-Midnight, Tues-Fri 4-6 p.m. Tuesday: $2 Tacos 4-10 p.m.; 8-9 p.m. WingWednesday 50% off all wings. Thursday: Burger & Beer special 4-9 p.m. See ad, p. 10.
- Rose’s: 4-6 p.m. every day.
- Austria Hof: 5-8 p.m. daily. See ad, p. 10.
- Whitehawk 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. 13.
- Mammoth's famous Slocums Happy Hour Mammoth’s famous Slocums Happy Hour: Mon. thru Fri 4-6; Saturdays 4-5, Closed Sun.
- Happy Hour @ The Bistro at Snowcreek. 4:30-6:30 p.m. daily.
- Food Cache Cafe Happy Hour 3:30-6:30 Sunday-Thrusday. Street tacos $2.50, $3.50 beers, $7.50 beer/wine 6:30 Sunday-Thursday. Street tacos
- Happy Hour Daily 4-6 p.m.
- Food Cache Cafe Happy Hour 3:30-6:30 Sunday-Thursdays. Street tacos $2.50, $3.50 beers, $7.50 beer/wine and house fries.

**July 21-22/**
- Mammoth Reggae Festival in the Village at Mammoth. This is a free, all-ages music festival.
- Friday’s musical lineup includes: Through The Roots Johnny Love Sun Dried Vibes Irie Essence
- Saturday’s lineup is: Anuhea The Late Ones Psydecar Mystic Mighty Funk Shui Planet plays 53 Kitchen & Cocktails in Mammoth. 9 p.m.
- Joe Gray Jr. tickles the ivories at Tamarack Lodge. 5:30-9 p.m. “Ask him to play his version of “Sailing” by Christopher Cross.

**July 23/**
- Sunday, July 23/
  - Driftwood Creek play the beer garden at Mammoth Brewing Co. 4-7 p.m.
  - Milo Cage plays The Mobil Mart in Lee Vining. 4-7 p.m. Free, see ad, p. 14.
**CALENDAR PAGES SPONSORED BY:**

**Los Angeles Department of Water and Power**

---

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, July 24/25**

**Minaret Cinemas**

**War for the Planet of the Apes (PG-13):** Woody Harrelson stars in this third installment in the series franchise. The most realistic anthropoids you’ll find outside a zoo.

**Dunkirk (PG-13):** Depicts the dramatic and true story of the Dunkirk evacuation from a war-torn beach and harbor in France.

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

---

**Crayons & Paint with ESLT**

At ESLT’s “Crayons & Paint” family gathering on July 29, families with children between the ages of 5 and 15 will have the chance to have fun together getting creative in nature.

Crayons & Paint will take place at Karen’s Preserve, a 33-acre parcel of land on the Sierra slopes overlooking Crowley Lake.

Attendance is limited, and anyone interested is encouraged to sign up by July 21 by contacting Indigo Johnson, Education Coordinator & AmeriCorps member, at indigo@eslt.org or 760.873.4554.

---

**395 Route to expand service**

Effective July 24, the 395 bus route to Reno and Lancaster will expand to operate Monday through Friday for both north and southbound routes. Providing locals and visitors additional connections to the Reno Tahoe International Airport and CoreConnect and Station Casinos’ Blue Diamond Train in Lancaster. Check ESTA’s website at www.estransit.com or call 760.672.1901 for more information. Real-time arrival information for the 395 Route is available with the Swiftly app available from the Apple App store, and Google Play.

---

**Input sought for Land Exchange**

The Inyo, Stanislaus and Plumas National Forests are seeking input on the proposed Mammoth Base Land Exchange. At this time, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available for public review. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available for download from the Inyo National Forest website at https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=30428.

A comment form is included on the website, which allows the public to submit comments on the Draft EIS electronically.

Comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted for 45 days from publication of the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register or until August 20, 2017 (the anticipated date of publication of the NOA is July 7, 2017). Comments may be submitted to Ed Armenta, Forest Supervisor, c/o Janelle Walker, Winter Sports Specialist, Inyo National Forest, PO Box 148, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, or by email to: janellewalker@fs.fed.us (please include “Mammoth Base Land Exchange EIS” in the subject line). Comments may also be submitted by hard copy delivery to 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop, CA 93514, during normal business hours (Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

The Inyo National Forest will hold a public meeting on July 31, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, Suite Z, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA (above the Vons) to provide an overview of the project and to answer questions from the public. For questions or comments, please contact Janelle Walker at janellewalker@fs.fed.us.

---

**Town Stuff**

**July 24-29/ Mono County’s Kids Music Camp**

In association with the June Lake Music Festival. 2-5 p.m. Meet at June Lake Community Center. See sidebar, this page.

**Monday, July 24/ Bishop City Council Meeting**

6 p.m. Questions? 760.873.3863.

**Tuesday, July 25/ Wild Harvest Interpreting with Friends of the Inyo**

Selling original plant uses and good foraging practices. Meet @ Parker Bench/Rush Creek Trailhead at Silver Lake at 10 a.m. Info: www.friendsoftheinyo.org.

**Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours networking event from 5 to 7 p.m at Hayden Cabin hosted by Southern California Gas**

---

**30th Annual Kids Fishing Festival**

Come and join the fun Saturday, July 29 from 8 a.m. -1 p.m. at SnowCreek Resort ponds. It’s free for kids 14 and under, who bring your own rods & reels, bait, and clean your fish so you can provide dinner for the family! Or bring your own tackle. There’s lots of educational activities at both the Department of Fish and Wildlife. See what the trout eat, and what they look like inside, yuck!

We’re offering plenty of huge trophy trout for a very memorable experience! Our goal for our 30th Annual Kids Fishing Fest is that every kid catches a fish. For more information, visit www.kidsfishfest.com or 760.937.2924. Sponsored by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Berkley, Mono County Fisheries Commission, and Friends of Rolfo.

---

**Kids Music Camp**

A free Kids Music Camp, presented by the June Lake Loop Performing Arts Association and the June Lake Women’s Club, will be held from July 24-29, 2017.

**Mammoth Kids Choir:** 2:30-3:30 p.m. (ages 6-11).

Young Rockers: 3:30-5:00 p.m. (ages 12-18).

July 29: Performances from the Kids Choir and the Young Rockers.

To register, contact Lynda Whitmire at mtlnlgb@yahoo.com or call 760.914.0950 or visit www.junelakemusic.com.

In association with the Mountain Music Festival, July 28-30.

---

**Shuttle to operate this weekend**

The Reds Meadow shuttle is tentatively scheduled to commence operation for the 2017 season on Friday, July 21.

The opening is dependent upon completion of final repairs and preparation work. Once in operation, the shuttle operates from 7:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., with the last departure from Reds Meadow Resort at 7:45 p.m., and will operate seven days/week through September 6.

Further information about the Reds Meadow Shuttle is available at www.estransit.com or by calling 760.924.3184.

---

**Shark-a-thon**

Mammoth Lakes Swim Team is conducting its Shark-a-thon fundraising event on July 21, where team members will swim as many sponsored laps as possible at the Whitmore Pool to raise money for the Mammoth Sharks.

Our team’s fundraising goal is $6,000.00. For assistance with money fundraising or questions, please contact Jef Mueller at muellerstars@gmail.com.

For questions regarding swimming the Shark-a-thon, please contact coach Kendra: kendranoIVA@gmail.com & Bryan at bryantb1430@yahoo.com.

If you wish to volunteer for the Shark-a-thon, please contact Jef Rahmeyer or the Board at MammothSharks@gmail.com.
Notice Inviting Bids

The Town of Mammoth Lakes proposes to develop and construct various sidewalks in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, California. The Town reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, or to utilize any alternative proposals which may be submitted. The Town of Mammoth Lakes, reserves the right to utilize the best value approach, evaluation and selection of the successful Bidder(s) under the terms of Public Contract Code section 7007, which may be different than the highest or lowest bid. The bids will be accepted for the balance of the work during the construction period of the Project.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, or to utilize any alternative proposals which may be submitted. The Town of Mammoth Lakes, reserves the right to utilize the best value approach, evaluation and selection of the successful Bidder(s) under the terms of Public Contract Code section 7007, which may be different than the highest or lowest bid. The bids will be accepted for the balance of the work during the construction period of the Project.

To be listed on the Bidders List, the Contractor should submit a Bidder Registration Form along with a copy of their California Contractors License to the Town of Mammoth Lakes, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite B, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

The contractor shall have a valid Class A Contractor license and a current Business Tax Certificate and shall maintain all required insurance coverage for the duration of the Contract. The Contractor shall demonstrate their qualifications by having the proper equipment in good working order, experience, and ability to perform work. The Town will be the sole judge as to the qualifications of each bidder.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check or money order for 5% of the bid being submitted. The bid bond must be for an amount not less than 10% of the total amount of the bid, as a condition of the bid, the bidder shall comply with all applicable Labor Code provisions, which include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Providing the Town with a write-up of the bids by the 20th of the month following the opening of the bids.
2. Providing the Town with a write-up of the bids by the 20th of the month following the opening of the bids.
3. Providing the Town with a write-up of the bids by the 20th of the month following the opening of the bids.

Notice of Ordinance

The Town of Mammoth Lakes, California has made a determination that retention of 5% of the total amount of the bid are required to be provided by the Contractor, however, before taking certain actions, the personal representative will be required to give notice in writing to the Town of Mammoth Lakes, or by a bid bond in the sum of no less than 10% of the total amount of the bid, as a condition of the bid, the bidder shall comply with all applicable Labor Code provisions, which include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Providing the Town with a write-up of the bids by the 20th of the month following the opening of the bids.
2. Providing the Town with a write-up of the bids by the 20th of the month following the opening of the bids.
3. Providing the Town with a write-up of the bids by the 20th of the month following the opening of the bids.

Notice of Ordinance

Notice of Ordinance

Notice of Ordinance

Notice of Ordinance

Notice of Ordinance

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

.F.5.5

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy
14TH ANNUAL VENNEMAN MEMORIAL CANCER OUTREACH TOURNEY

152 golfers participated in the 14th Annual Brian Venneman Memorial Cancer Outreach Golf Tourney held July 14 at Sierra Star. The event raised more than $50,000 for local patients battling cancer. Clockwise from top left: Jack Copeland, Tam Totum, Judy Northrup, and Jim Northrup; Stephanie Stanton, Tabby Mannetter, and Sandy Forstenzer; Craig Balogh, Jason Heilman, and Eric Smith; Yuri Parisky, Wendy Parisky, Bill Esh and Stephen Senior; Chris Howley and Fred Howley received a “life-time season pass” from Mammoth Mountain to honor the late Darla Howley, a tireless contributor to the Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary during her lifetime; Lesley and Jeff Byberg.
THIS LAND IS OUR LAND: LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY
By David Page

We're surrounded by it. Stand on top of our ski mountain—and let's be clear right from the outset: it is our mountain, that half-blowen volcano looming above town with its dusty bike trails and late-July mogul fields and views that stretch from Nevada to the Coast Range: yours and mine and Uncle Bo's down in Oklahoma and Cousin Winnifred's in Minneapolis and your kids' and your parents' and your first ex-wife's new husband's (even though they're living in Kauai now with your kids in a house you helped pay for); it belongs to that guy sleeping on cardboard in midtown Manhattan, to our congressmen who apparently lives down in Yucca Valley when he's not back in D.C. working hard to take away your health care and education, to the unwashed through-hiker with the dog and the accordion, from the highest-paid destination marketing director in the West to the house painter's third-grader, who was born here, to the douchebag in the Tesla, the painter's third-grader, who was born here, to the douchebag in the Tesla, to the unwashed through-hiker with the dog and the accordion, from the highest-paid destination marketing director in the West to the house painter's third-grader, who was born here, to the douchebag in the Tesla. We have, in short, a stake in the mountain, and we of course all recognize our individual rights to our four square miles of pumice under the mountain. But the mountain itself—remember the mountain?—stands up there on its own (pay to use the convenient infrastructure or walk up there for free on your own two feet, on a day when the entire west side of the range doesn't happen to be on fire), and in every direction, most of what you can see—some 98% of it, excluding the aforementioned dirt under Main Lodge and the four square miles of pumice under the town of Mammoth Lakes and certain sagebrush flats along the upper Owens River watershed that happen to be owned by the utility users of the City of Los Angeles, from Yosemite to Kings Canyon to Death Valley—it's all our mountain, that is, our land—to a shady, for-profit conglomerate that does much of its banking in the Cayman Islands, and yes, they own the lift towers that Dave McCoy and friends put in back in the day; they own the concrete footings, the cinder-block bunkers, the "temporary" sprung structure, the rental shops and cafeterias and snowmaking and grooming equipment and all the piles of rusting steel in the woods, and yes, now, through some complex, hard-fought, congressionally-approved land-swapping, they also own a few acres of land underneath Main Lodge that they supposed to wait can't develop into a luxury ski beach and zip-line resort paradise.

But the mountain itself—remember the mountain?—stands up there on its own (pay to use the convenient infrastructure or walk up there for free on your own two feet, on a day when the entire west side of the range doesn't happen to be on fire), and in every direction, most of what you can see—some 98% of it, excluding the aforementioned dirt under Main Lodge and the four square miles of pumice under the town of Mammoth Lakes and certain sagebrush flats along the upper Owens River watershed that happen to be owned by the utility users of the City of Los Angeles, from Yosemite to Kings Canyon to Death Valley—it's all our mountain, that is, our land—to a shady, for-profit conglomerate that does much of its banking in the Cayman Islands, and yes, they own the lift towers that Dave McCoy and friends put in back in the day; they own the concrete footings, the cinder-block bunkers, the "temporary" sprung structure, the rental shops and cafeterias and snowmaking and grooming equipment and all the piles of rusting steel in the woods, and yes, now, through some complex, hard-fought, congressionally-approved land-swapping, they also own a few acres of land underneath Main Lodge that they supposed to wait can't develop into a luxury ski beach and zip-line resort paradise.

But the mountain itself—remember the mountain?—stands up there on its own (pay to use the convenient infrastructure or walk up there for free on your own two feet, on a day when the entire west side of the range doesn't happen to be on fire), and in every direction, most of what you can see—some 98% of it, excluding the aforementioned dirt under Main Lodge and the four square miles of pumice under the town of Mammoth Lakes and certain sagebrush flats along the upper Owens River watershed that happen to be owned by the utility users of the City of Los Angeles, from Yosemite to Kings Canyon to Death Valley—it's all our mountain, that is, our land—to a shady, for-profit conglomerate that does much of its banking in the Cayman Islands, and yes, they own the lift towers that Dave McCoy and friends put in back in the day; they own the concrete footings, the cinder-block bunkers, the "temporary" sprung structure, the rental shops and cafeterias and snowmaking and grooming equipment and all the piles of rusting steel in the woods, and yes, now, through some complex, hard-fought, congressionally-approved land-swapping, they also own a few acres of land underneath Main Lodge that they supposed to wait can't develop into a luxury ski beach and zip-line resort paradise.

But the mountain itself—remember the mountain?—stands up there on its own (pay to use the convenient infrastructure or walk up there for free on your own two feet, on a day when the entire west side of the range doesn't happen to be on fire), and in every direction, most of what you can see—some 98% of it, excluding the aforementioned dirt under Main Lodge and the four square miles of pumice under the town of Mammoth Lakes and certain sagebrush flats along the upper Owens River watershed that happen to be owned by the utility users of the City of Los Angeles, from Yosemite to Kings Canyon to Death Valley—it's all our mountain, that is, our land—to a shady, for-profit conglomerate that does much of its banking in the Cayman Islands, and yes, they own the lift towers that Dave McCoy and friends put in back in the day; they own the concrete footings, the cinder-block bunkers, the "temporary" sprung structure, the rental shops and cafeterias and snowmaking and grooming equipment and all the piles of rusting steel in the woods, and yes, now, through some complex, hard-fought, congressionally-approved land-swapping, they also own a few acres of land underneath Main Lodge that they supposed to wait can't develop into a luxury ski beach and zip-line resort paradise.
THIS LAND IS OUR LAND

RALLY
FOR PUBLIC LANDS
JULY 27, 2017
MAMMOTH LAKES

STELLAR BREW PARKING LOT • 5 - 8 PM
Tacos • Beer • Banjo Pickin’ • Crosscut Saw Demos
Prize for Best Sign • Live Streaming March for Public Lands in SLC

LIVE MUSIC BY DREDDIE POPPINS & THE PROFESSIONALS
New Luxury Mountain Retreats with Alpine Golf Course and Athletic Club Minutes from Mammoth Mountain.

3-4 BEDROOMS UP TO 2,742 SQ. FT. • FROM THE HIGH $700,000’s • SALES 877-766-9275 • LIVECREEKHOUSE.COM

NEW RELEASE OF LUXURY MOUNTAIN RETREATS NOW SELLING!

New Luxury Mountain Retreats with Alpine Golf Course and Athletic Club Minutes from Mammoth Mountain.

3-4 BEDROOMS UP TO 2,742 SQ. FT. • FROM THE HIGH $700,000’s • SALES 877-766-9275 • LIVECREEKHOUSE.COM

A NEW HOME FOR FAMILY FUN