BISHOP LIFE

MMSA gets creative, housing employees in Bishop

By Rea

If you see some young people standing by the side of 395 this winter with their thumbs out, there's a good chance they are Mammoth Mountain Ski Area employees looking for a ride to work. Approximately 75 MMSA employees will be living in Mountain-subsidized housing in Bishop this season, a move that Mammoth made in response to a severe housing shortage in Mammoth Lakes.

Housing Coordinator Laurey Carlson told The Sheet that the demand for housing has been so intense that she started trying to think of creative solutions for the Mountain's seasonal employees. "I started Googling things, looking at properties in Crowley Lake, and I reached out to some different businesses," said Carlson. "One woman responded to me who owns three different properties in Bishop…and we came up with a plan to get 75 beds from December 1 through April 1."

Carlson said that MMSA already has a similar program for employees of June Mountain—June Lake's Boulder Lodge has served as housing for a portion of June Mountain's employees for the last two seasons, and will provide housing for them again this year.

Tawni Thomson, Executive Director of the Bishop Chamber of Commerce, told The Sheet that Bishop, which is approximately 40 miles from Mammoth Lakes, "has the opposite season as Mammoth. We're full throttle mid-June through mid-October, then it gets very quiet here November through Memorial Day…"

ALL ABOARD!

Mead & Hunt presentation irks supporters of Bishop Airport

By Rea

"I feel we were sandbagged on this," said Stephen Kalish at the presentation of the Eastern Sierra Air Service Strategic Plan on Thursday, December 7, referring to consultant Jeff Hartz’s somewhat limited discussion of Inyo County and Bishop Airport as players in bringing reliable regional air service to the Eastern Sierra.

Inyo County CEO Kevin Carunchio also took exception to the presentation led by Hartz, who works for Mead & Hunt, the consulting group that Mammoth Lakes Tourism hired in August to develop a "10 year strategic plan" (according to Mammoth Lakes Tourism Exec. Director John Urdi in August of this year) for air service to the Eastern Sierra (at a cost of over $70,000).

Carunchio said that there were "complete misstatements of fact as they exist in the report," regarding Bishop Airport’s readiness to become Part 139 certified (the standard the Federal Aviation Administration sets for commercial air service). Namely, Hartz’s assertion that it would cost $6 million to widen Bishop’s runways to 150 feet was inaccurate, Carunchio said.

Carunchio said that Bishop’s runways are, in fact, already 150 feet wide, but "have not been maintained."

At the beginning of the presentation, Mammoth’s Public Works Director Grady Dutton acknowledged that "the outside edges of [Bishop Airport’s runways] hadn’t been rehabbed yet."

Dutton, as well as Urdi and Mammoth Mayor John Wentworth, emphasized that the December 7 presentation was a "jumping off point" (Urdi) and that "Jeff [Hartz] has a long way to go, and he knows that" (Dutton).

Hartz’s presentation focused mostly on the potential market for flights into Mammoth Yosemite Airport (MMH). In making his case for pursuing flights between MMH and certain airports, Hartz cited economic impact factors.
WELCOME TO THE FFL

So you’ve heard of the NFL, and about all of the league’s associated problems, particularly with how football tends to scramble the brain if one endures a few too many hits to the noggin.

There is even talk of people turning away from the game.

So what’ll replace football in the hearts and minds of young fans? Maybe the league of the future is just a replaced consonant away. The FLL—First Lego League.

It’ll scramble your brain, too, but no helmets are required.

A team of Mammoth 5th and 6th graders traveled up to Reno on December 2 to compete in a Northern Nevada region FLL tourney.

It was the first tourney ever for the Mammoth team, nicknamed the “Master Craftsmen.”

The team took first place (out of 18 teams) in one competitive category, and finished in the top six overall, sending them to a next-level qualifier tourney on January 27, 2018.

The team consists of Owen Call, Jack Leonard, Jude Howell, Cabot Godoy, Wade Perry and Cyrus Creasy (aka Mr. Mister Mission Control).

The team coaches are Elise Howell, Cara Leonard and Drea Perry.

The late Don Zeleny and John Stavlo first introduced FLL to Mammoth.

According to Howell, they hosted an open forum/workshop at Mammoth Lakes Library that was announced through the PTO.

Six teams were created that first year.

The Mammoth Craftsmen are the team that’s left. Leonard, Perry, Godoy and Godoy are holdovers from that first team formed three years ago. Call and Creasy were added this year.

“So this is how FLL works: Everything built has to be Lego. You can use parts from any set that’s ever been built. And all these kids have at least 20 Lego sets at home,” said Coach Elise Howell with a smile.

The computer component comes from Lego Mindstores, and the software (a drag-and-drop program) will run off any computer.

“Teams have two-and-a-half minutes to complete as many tasks as they can. Mammoth completed two tasks at the December 2 tourney, but has completed as many as four in practice sessions.

Other categories of competition include “innovative solutions” as well as “core values.” The Mammoth team won the innovative solutions component in Reno with a group presentation on water conservation where every member has to contribute and speak before a panel of judges.

The core values portion is about character. Is the team respectful of one another? Do they work together?

One thing that the coaches were very proud of is that the team achieved a perfect score in Reno in the category of “team works independently with minimal coaching guidance.”

As Coach Howell remarked, “These kids are really self-motivated … they took every free moment during the competition to improve upon what they had.”

And when you watch the team in action, deploying the robot on the “field” which now dominates the Howell living room, what is immediately striking is the lack of argument and conflict.

see LEGO, page 11
WHO’S AFRAID OF A LITTLE LONG TERM DEBT?
Mammoth Unified prepares to take $63 million in bond debt to a public vote

By Giles

On December 7, Mammoth Unified School District (MUSD)’s Board heard a presentation from Don Field, a principal of the consulting firm Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe, LLP (Orrick). MUSD’s Board previously approved a contract for bond counsel services with Orrick at its November 16 meeting.

MUSD plans to seek voter approval of up to $63.1 million in bond sales to finance facilities improvements to its elementary, middle, and high schools. The measure would be placed on the ballot for the next statewide election on June 5, 2018, and would have to earn the approval of at least 55 percent of the district’s voting residents.

On December 7, Field presented a draft resolution ordering a School Board bond election and bond proposition to MUSD’s Board. The final resolution and proposition will have to be approved by the Board before the ballot language can be formalized.

The Board is expected to vote on whether to pursue the bond sometime early next year.

Orrick’s best estimate of the total debt service as of last week was roughly $121.3 million on $63.1 million in initial bond debt. That figure depends on interest fluctuation during the period when the bonds are issued (bonds issued at different times may have different interest rates attached), and the rate at which property values within the district grow. Field said that Orrick assumed that property values in the district would increase by no more than 2 percent a year in crafting the cost estimations provided Thursday.

The tax rates discussed Thursday will be in addition to those currently levied to pay off the $14.1 million in bond series approved by voters in 1998 and due to be paid off in 2026. That bond series funded the construction of Mammoth Middle School and of Sierra High School. They would also be in addition to the existing flat-rate parcel tax of $39 per parcel. “The current parcel tax funding cannot be used for facility needs as it is restricted to the criteria listed on the parcel tax ballot language,” said Brooke Bien, Chief Business and Financial Officer for MUSD. Bien also noted that MUSD expects to receive $4.3 million in matching funds from the State of California.

The Board is expected to vote on whether to pursue the bond sometime early next year.
CAN MAMMOTH WIN WITH ASIA?

Mammoth Lakes Tourism eyes South Korea as a prospective market for Mammoth Resorts

By Giles

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA) has the potential to send 12 athletes to the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea, and Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT) has already begun marketing the athletes abroad.

MLT Director of Communications Lara Kaylor said this week that, “this is really a branding opportunity to show the caliber of athletes who live and train at a world-class resort like Mammoth Mountain,” said Kaylor. She compared Mammoth’s winter Olympic athletes with its Olympic runners. “Basically, [the thinking is] if it’s where Chloe Kim and Kelly Clark train, I really want to go ride there, too,” said Kaylor.

Kaylor said that MLT has already invested funds in marketing California in South Korea through the statewide tourism non-profit Visit California. Pre-Games marketing has already begun, and Kaylor said that MLT and Mammoth Resorts shared the cost to become a “tier 1 partner.” Each entity paid $10,000 for this status. Mammoth’s Tier 1 Partnership will allow MLT to play its Virtual Reality piece at the “California Day/ Ride the Winter Wave” event, hosted by Visit California in Seoul, South Korea, prior to the Olympic games. Kaylor said that Mammoth is the only winter destination in California to “receive Tier 1 status,” with Visit California, which Kaylor says will give Mammoth a marketing advantage.

The Tier 1 Partnership also facilitated travel to Mammoth Lakes by a dozen digital media influencers from South Korea, as part of Visit California’s “Live Like an Olympian” familiarization tour. Kaylor said the influencers consisted of bloggers, Instagrammers, and YouTubers who will be posting content to their various channels about Mammoth Lakes in the year leading up to the 2018 Olympics.

Kaylor said MLT will track the return on this investment using Visa Vue, a tool the agency uses to track Visa credit card spending from international markets. Kaylor said MLT typically assumes that trends in spending correlate with trends in visitation, but said this is not necessarily the case for the Asian market. “The majority of the Chinese market doesn’t carry Visa, it uses a form of Discover Card called Union Pay in addition to just carrying cash,” said Kaylor. She said that visitors from South Korea carry Visa, so the tool should be effective at tracking their visitation. “Performance measurements will be based on PR values, online exposure, amount of content generated, and number of views. The cost per impression should easily exceed the $10,000 investment,” said Kaylor.

Lauren Burke, Public Relations and Social Media Manager for Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, told The Sheet that Mammoth Resorts will prioritize promotion of the Mammoth stop of the United States Grand Prix, which will run from January 16 through 21 at MMSA, and is the final Olympic qualifier for the free ski, snowboard halfpipe, and slopestyle competitions.

Burke said that commercials promoting Mammoth snowboarding athletes Chloe Kim, Kelly Clark, and Shaun White will air on NBC in the coming months, and that most of the promotional footage was shot at Mammoth Mountain. She said social media marketing of athletes will play a big part in Mammoth Resort’s marketing campaign.

Burke also noted that this the tenth time Mammoth Mountain has hosted the US Grand Prix event, and the third Olympic Team naming event the ski area has hosted. Mammoth Mountain is an official training site for the US Ski and Snowboard Association.

Kaylor said that MLT will be, “promoting the message that Mammoth Mountain has amazing spring conditions when other resorts are closing down for the season, or don’t have as much terrain open [and] pointing out that Korean, Japanese, Canadian, Chinese, and Australian national teams have all trained at MMSA in the past for the superior spring snow conditions.”

Kaylor said MLT will market Mammoth’s athletes on all international and domestic markets. She said the agency expects to see returns after the 2018 Olympic Winter Games conclude. “During Asian sales missions, we can promote Mammoth Mountain as the world-class ski resort that helped these athletes excel,” said Kaylor.

According to Visit California’s Economic Impact Report, compiled by Dean Runyan Associates, Inc., visitors to Mono County spent $64.7 million in 2016 in Mono County. That trend reflects growth across California’s tourism industry. Visit California reports that, in 2016, visitors contributed $126.3 billion to California’s economy, and generated $10.3 billion in state and local tax revenue. Kaylor said that MLT hopes the $10,000 investment to bring some of that growth to Mammoth Lakes.
THE NAME GAME
MLFF to see MLF in court, says Dubrovner

By Rea

The Mammoth Lakes Film Festival (MLFF), heading into its fourth year this Memorial Day, has filed suit against the Mammoth Lakes Foundation (MLF), which is due to hold its first event in Mammoth Lakes this February.

Attorney Michael Bornfeld, who represents the MLFF, said the MLFF filed a lawsuit for unfair competition against Silver Sail Entertainment, LLC, a Texas-based media company which operates the Mammoth Film Festival.

"I filed the lawsuit for unfair competition," Bornfeld told The Sheet on Monday, December 11. He said that the Mammoth Lakes Foundation "basically seeking an injunction preventing [the Mammoth Film Festival] from using the name...because of the similarity of the two names," Bornfeld said that similarity is "creating confusion in the marketplace and confusion with film producers."

The Director of Mammoth Lakes Film Festival, Shira Dubrovner, told The Sheet that she has no problem with another film festival coming to town, but that the similarity of the names has resulted in more than one filmmaker being confused about which festival they are submitting their interest.

Dubrovner forwarded The Sheet an email from writer/director Jef- frey Scott Collins, who submitted his comedy feature film, Poor Greg Drowning, to the MLFF instead of to the MLFF Collins' mistaken submission cost him $75.

One of the declarations in the suit that she has no problem with another film festival coming to town, but that the similarity of the names has resulted in more than one filmmaker being confused about which festival they are submitting their interest.

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"I've worked really hard to get this reputation that I have," said Dubrovner last week. "We're already building a very reputable name in the film festival industry. I don't want that money on something like this and confusion in the marketplace and confusion with film producers."

She said that the MLFF has been on the cusp of the maximum distance Alaska Airlines has said it will fly the Bombardier Q400, the plane Alaska flies into MMH. Hartz said that Alaska "doesn't like to fly the Q400 more than 600-650 miles," and that "Mammoth is just on the outside of that," in distance from Seattle. Phoenix, Hartz said, would "probably be the...best next opportunity as we look at everything, including the fact that it's a hub for American [Airlines], and only 482 miles away."

Then there's the argument for Bishop, which has runway lengths with the potential to accommodate larger aircraft such as the 737.

The MMF has already held an event in Mammoth Lakes—a filmmakers' summit on October 14 of this year, which drew about a dozen participants. A Google search for the "Mammoth Film Festival" yields the at the MMF in the Year End Second Quarter of 2017 (out of a total of 22,213 passengers who flew through the airport during that period). He also said that MMH airline agreements paid out $1.8 million in subsidies during that same time period, or "roughly $37 per passenger."

Hartz said that the primary opportunities for expanding Mammoth's market for incoming skiers were at Denver, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, and Seattle. However, he also said that skiers from Denver and Salt Lake are typically a "drive" market, meaning they don't often fly to ski. Hartz also said that Seattle, while a hub for Alaska Airlines flights, is just at the cusp of the maximum distance Alaska Airlines has said it will fly the Bombardier Q400, the plane Alaska flies into MMH. Hartz said that Alaska "doesn't like to fly the Q400 more than 600-650 miles," and that "Mammoth is just on the outside of that," in distance from Seattle. Phoenix, Hartz said, would "probably be the...best next opportunity as we look at everything, including the fact that it's a hub for American [Airlines], and only 482 miles away."

Then there's the argument for Bishop, which has runway lengths with the potential to accommodate larger aircraft such as the 737.

Following Los Angeles, the next three airports with the most ski passenger traffic passing through per day (according to Hartz) are Chicago, Dallas and Newark.

"I really thought this was going to get to, 'What's the long range program to get reliable regional service?'” said Mono County Supervisor Bob Gardner, who has told The Sheet in the past that he supports Bishop Airport as the single regional airport for the Eastern Sierra. "I believe this [presentation] was really oriented towards Mammoth. I thought there was going to be more of a focus on what makes most sense in terms of reliable regional air service. [The Eastern Sierra is] a region, damnit!"

"Were you given any information on the percentage of cancellations due to cross winds?" Kalish asked. Hartz at the conclusion of his presentation.

"I would not know which was the primary reason [for cancellations at MMH]," Hartz replied.

MLT Executive Director John Urdi told The Sheet in October (see “Go- ing Steady,” October 20, 2017) that Mead & Hunt's study would absolu- tely the lacking Bishop Airport into account.

MIAWG continued from page 1

including the fact that winter peak traffic visitors who flew into MMH spent 117 percent of what the average Mammoth visitor spends ($727). However, he said, off-peak air visi-

ors spent 23 percent less than the average visitor ($480). Hartz also said that a total of 16,301 unique “visi-

tors” flew to from MMH (excluding those whose tickets originated from MMH) in the Year End Second Quar-

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BISHOP
continued from page 1
so I'm sure that our lodging community and the rest of the business community appreciates having a few extra people around."

Carlson declined to tell The Sheet where the employees would be living, but employees The Sheet tracked down, twins Matt and Jeff Castro and Jared Eller, said they are living in a "duplex" at the El Rancho Motel in Bishop. They said other employees were being housed in the bungalow-type motel rooms at The Trees.

"The owner has worked with me switching out beds," said Carlson, adding that MMSA has provided linens and arranged for a cleaning service for its employees. "They can park for free, and they’re walking distance to the bus stop" where an MMSA bus picks employees up for work in the morning and drops them off at night.

The Castros and Eller said they're grateful for their housing, and their story is rather unique. The Castro twins, who hail from Bass Lake, met Eller in Madera this summer, and the three decided that they would make the improbable journey from the Central Valley to Mammoth via Amtrak.

Eller had never skied or snowboarded before.

"They told us not to come up if we didn't have housing secured," said Jeff, who, along with his twin brother, is employed as a high-performance ski technician at The Village (Eller is working in rentals at Canyon Lodge).

The three came anyway. They took a train from Merced, which had a 16-hour layover in Lancaster from 10 p.m. to 2 p.m. the next day. They were not aware of the stop, and said they slept outside in the Santa Ana winds, lost a sleeping bag which went flying down the street, and had to politely refuse requests from passengers recently released from the Antelope Valley State Prison to use their phones. They eventually caught a bus to Bishop.

When they arrived, a stranger they met on a Facebook group for residents of Mammoth and the Owens Valley drove them to the Pleasant Valley campground, where they pitched a tent and camped in 35-degree sleeping bags (in 17-degree weather) for four nights. They woke up at 4 a.m. and hitchhiked to Mammoth each morning, until Carlson heard their story and got them into housing in Bishop.

"We were freezing," said Jared Eller. Now that they’re settled, they say that although they’re grateful to have a roof over their heads, their living situation is not ideal.

"We’re going to try and push to get in Mammoth” once peak season is over, said Jeff, who, along with his brother, said he learned to snowboard at Mammoth but most recently worked at China Peak Ski Resort. He said that they want to experience a sense of community in Mammoth with their co-workers, although the Mexican food in Bishop is pretty great ("they’re fans of Astorga’s.")."When we tell them [we live in Bishop] they say, ‘Bishop? We’ll never go down there,’" said Jeff. On the bright side, Eller said, their rooms at the El Rancho are pretty tricked out, with flat-screen TVs and a full kitchen.

"It’s way nicer than the other housing" in Mammoth, said Carlson. "We’ve even had a few people change their minds and say ‘I’d rather live down there if I can,’ " said Carlson, who cited no snow shoveling, t-shirt weather and a myriad of food and shopping options (Rusty’s, anyone?) as benefits of living in Bishop.

"The only naysayers are the long-time Mammoth people that think, ‘Oh my god, I would never do that,’" said Carlson. "But I’ll pitch it to a department head and they’ll say, ‘that sounds awful.’ And I’ll ask, ‘do you want the employee or not?’" She said that housing in Mammoth filled up early in the season (the Castros and Eller said they were 7th, 8th and on that wait list), and that, because parking had also filled up at Mammoth housing, any employee who arrived after Thursday, November 30 with a car was automatically assigned to live in Bishop.

Eller and the Castros said they pay $18 a night (each) for their rooms. Carlson said that although the owner of the properties is giving MMSA a discounted rate, the Mountain is picking up about 30 percent of the bill.

"When we figured out what the dollar amount each employee brings to the bottom line, subsidizing [the hotel rooms] is a ‘break even’ after one or two people,” said Carlson. "Because without those employees, we lose X number of dollars in guests. If we don’t have the people to serve them, the guests won’t come." She also noted that if the owner of the properties raised their rates, MMSA likely would not be able to continue the program "because it’s not doable for these kids … they don’t make enough to pay aheckuva lot more, and if it were less, it would be great."

Ultimately, "I think we’re doing the right thing," said Carlson of the program. "This is the shape of things to come."

Bishop City Administrator Jim Tatum told The Sheet on Wednesday, December 13, that the program is also paying the first 30 days of Transient Occupancy Tax for the properties.

"Since [the program is] so new, we’re just kind of in wait-and-see mode," said Tatum. "Initially I was a little concerned."

When asked if housing Mammoth employees in Bishop was feasible as a long-term solution to Mammoth’s housing crisis, Tatum said, "It would not be our desire, obviously," noting that Bishop also has a housing shortage. "We want full-time residents, and we are working on additional housing ourselves. Ideally, that will be utilized by full time residents of Bishop." However, he said, "it’s going to be an interesting experiment."

As for the Castros and the Carstons, they said they’re doing their best to build community in their makeshift neighborhood. They agreed that the bus situation is their least favorite part of living in Bishop.

"On our days off, they don't make it too accommodating to people" said Jeff. He said the bus schedule is tough to work with, so there is only one bus up and back per day. "If we get off early, we have to wait until 5 p.m. for the bus back down the grade, and the only bus heading up to Mammoth is at 5:45 a.m., hence the hitchhiking on their day off.

They also said that the bus is overcrowded, that they often have to stand for the duration of the trip, and that the bus drivers are new employees who don’t have experience driving in inclement weather. "We’re a little worried about our safety," said Jeff.

"We feel like we kind of have to prove our integrity," said Matt. "We are snow bums, but we’re not bums!" said Jeff, who said they are already looking for summer jobs in the area. "We work hard, and we hold morals."

"I want to raise my family here," said Matt, who said he has a six-year-old daughter who currently lives with her mom on the west side. "We’re going to come here and show our kids where we all three were living at one time to make this our home," said Matt of the adventure he, his brother and their friend embarked on. "To make this work," said Jeff.

"We’re really grateful to have this opportunity at Mammoth, we really are," said Eller.
...JUST TAKE THOSE OLD RECORDS OFF THE SHELF

Some Mono County public records will be tossed to save space

By Bodine

According to Mono County Counsel Stacey Simon, public documents have a way of piling up in municipal buildings. Currently, boxes full of public documents, copies of emails and other paperwork fill rooms from floor to ceiling at the defunct Mono County Hospital in Bridgeport. Simon told Mono County Supervisors on Tuesday December 12 that there are boxes containing files and paperwork from nearly every County department at the facility. She said both she and her predecessor, Marshal Rudolph, were unaware of the existence of the boxes, some of which date back to 1996.

The hospital will be torn down soon to make way for a new Mono County Jail, so the County will either need to find a new home for the records, or dispose of them. The County is going “clean up our act and get our house in order,” said Simon, by asking department heads to get their boxes out of the hospital and introducing a new records retention policy. Under the new policy, records that are not deemed to be “official records,” will be deleted or shredded in 90 days. Examples of unofficial documents include party notices and email threads. Official records include direct emails, text messages and electronic or paper communications. Simon explained that 90 days is the standard amount of time most other agencies in the state keep public records for.

The policy defines a record as official if, “(1) The document was made for the purpose of disseminating information to the public; (2) the document was made and kept for the purpose of memorializing an official public transaction; (3) the document is required by law to be kept; or (4) the document is necessary and convenient to the discharge of a County officer’s official duties and was made or retained for the purpose of preserving its informational content.”

Documents and emails pertaining to potential litigation will be saved regardless of their age. Mono County Sheriff and District Attorney’s Offices have separate retention and deletion policies. Under the new policy, it will be up to the employee to determine what is and is not an official record. Simon and Nate Greenberg, Mono County Director of Information Technology, said there will be training for employees on how to determine what an official record is.

Former County Administrator Jim Leddy allegedly used his personal phone to sexually harass a subordinate from 2013 to 2015. Those messages were deleted before an investigation began. Harassment done electronically on personal devices between County employees is not addressed in the policy.

District Five Supervisor Stacy Corless expressed her concern for records of misconduct by County employees in an email to The Sheet. “What’s most important to me is that all employees know that they are protected if they experience harassment. Part of the training ought to include how to report such an experience, as well as how to safely save such messages,” said Corless.

Supervisor Bob Gardner said that, as Vice President of Finance and Administration at California State University San Bernardino, he saw staff spend a lot of time and money mining for information to fulfill records requests. He said that County staff has limited resources and that their time could be better spent elsewhere than raking through files and reams of paper. He said he believes crafting this policy is the best use of the resources the county has available to address the problem. Simon said in the email that unreimbursed staff time for records requests can run into the thousands of dollars per request if large.

Gardner said in an email to The Sheet, “This is a trade-off between cleaning up our records and providing transparency. I think the 90-day approach is a good standard at this point.”

“We do not want to impede public access to important government information,” Simon explained at the meeting, “but we certainly have to do good housekeeping to maintain our documents in a way that is not overwhelming our system. So we’re trying to strike that balance. …We don’t want to be perceived as hiding something.”

The policy will have to be phased into effect and will not go into place immediately.

Silver Oak & Twomey Wine Dinner
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21st
6:30–10:00PM

SILVER OAK | TWOMEY & JIMMY’S TAVERNA
PROUDLY PRESENT A WONDERFUL WAY TO KICK OFF YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON. COME ENJOY THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO TASTE THE ENTIRE LINE OF SILVER OAK & TWOMEY WINES WITH A DELICIOUS PAIRING 5-COURSE MENU BY EXECUTIVE CHEF JEREMY GRAHAM.

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760-934-9432 • JIMMYSTAVENRA.COM
David Hernandez is the kind of guy who’ll rise from his chair to shake your hand, who’ll stand aside as he opens a door for a guest, and whose white shirt is as perpetually spotless as the new kitchen he’s about to oversee as head chef of the Resting Nomad. The new restaurant is set to open this holiday season inside Mammoth’s Best Western.

Hernandez, 32, is from Texas and served in the U.S. Marine Corps (hence the crisp whites). He developed his passion for food during his service (Hernandez was deployed to Afghanistan and was also stationed at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina).

“My brothers [in the Marines] were Creole, Thai, one was from Okinawa, Japan,” said Hernandez as he sat in the newly-remodeled dining room of the hotel which will house the Resting Nomad. “I think the best way to describe the kind of food I do is ‘fusion,’” said Hernandez, “but I want to do a lot to cater to vegetarians and vegans too,” because he sees a market for that kind of cuisine in Mammoth. He also wants to source as much of his food locally as he can.

Hernandez moved to Mammoth two years ago for a job with a Research and Development firm, which ended up not working out. The father of four took a job at Whiskey Creek in Bishop, but always hoped for a position where he could be more creative.

“When Emily and Brent [Cooley, the managers of the Best Western] posted an ad looking for a chef for their new restaurant, I applied,” said Hernandez.

The Cooleys said Hernandez proved to be good at thinking on his toes during his “interview” at the beginning of November. “We asked him to cook us three dishes,” said Emily, who said they were sold on Hernandez’s flavors and ingenuity.

He made a pesto pasta carbonara, a Mediterranean-flavored quinoa with sweet peppers and cherry tomatoes, and a lamb and beef burger with a beet and carrot coleslaw. “The thing we thought was the most impressive was that David was going to make fries, but we...”
David Hernandez’s Lamb-Beef Burgers with Carrot and Beet Slaw

Serves 2-4

For the burger:
- 1/2 pound beef
- 1/2 pound lamb
- 2 egg whites
- minced garlic and salt and pepper to taste (Hernandez recommends salting and peppering just the outsides of the patty prior to grilling).

Herbed focaccia bread is Hernandez’ bun of choice—he says the herbs bring out the flavor of the lamb. And though he’s usually a medium-rare guy (he cringes at the thought of a well-done steak), he says he cooks this patty more towards medium. He dresses this burger with bok choy leaves, raw Roma tomatoes, and sliced sweet onions (yellow or pearl).

For the slaw:
- 1 cup shoestring carrots
- 1 cup shoestring raw beets
- 1/3-1/2 cup plain or vanilla yogurt (not Greek, Hernandez says, which is too tart for the dish)
- 1 handful dried cranberries
- 1 handful raw walnuts

Toss vegetables, fruits and nuts with yogurt and serve immediately. Hernandez says he doesn’t add seasonings to this coleslaw, because “the flavors speak for themselves.” Tossed slaw has a shelf life of about two days, Hernandez says.

YOU CAN TOO!

Join the team and learn to preserve your own food

Press Release

Mammoth Middle School Park & Ride

Juniper Springs & Eagle Lodge Park & Ride

Night of Lights at Canyon Lodge

The Village Gondola

EVENTS

Activities begin at 4:30PM
Show starts at 5:30PM
Afterparty at 7:30PM

VILLAGE GONDOLA

Runs until 10PM between Canyon Lodge and The Village

EVENT PARK & RIDE SHUTTLE

5-10PM
Event shuttle stops at Canyon Lodge, The Village at Mammoth, Juniper Springs & Eagle Lodge, Park & Ride, Mammoth Middle School Park & Ride

NIGHT TROLLEY

5-10PM
Canyon Lodge, The Village at Mammoth, Juniper Springs Resort, Snowcreek Athletic Club

FRIENDLY MOUNTAIN ATMOSPHERE

HOURS
MON-THUR & SUN
11:30AM-11PM
OPEN 10AM SUNDAYS FOR NFL
11:30AM-MIDNIGHT FRIDAY & SAT

HAPPY HOUR MON ALL NIGHT TUES-FRI 4-6PM DURING ALL NFL GAMES

LIVE NFL GAMES

OPEN 10AM SUNDAYS
BREAKFAST BURRITOS BLOODY MARYS & MIMOSAS HAPPY HOUR FOOD & DRINK PRICING

MID WEEK SPECIALS

JOIN US MON-FRI
MANIC MONDAYS
4PM-CLOSE
ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR
TACO TUESDAYS
4-8PM: $2 TACO BAR

WILD WING WEDNESDAYS
6-9PM: 50% OFF ALL WINGS
BURGER THURSDAYS
6-9PM: BURGER & BEER
HAPPY HOUR FRIDAYS
4-6PM: HAPPY HOUR

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 760-924-1234 or VISIT WWW.THESHEETNEWS.COM
FILL ‘ER UP...

By Bodine

The Bishop Paiute Development Corporation, an organization that promotes economic opportunity for The Bishop Paiute Tribe, is in the initial phases of constructing a gas station and retail store. The project is slated to have 125 parking spots, and will be located on the southeast corner of See Vee Lane, on the Bishop Paiute Reservation.

According to the environmental assessment performed by Garcia and Associates, which was released in November, the station will have 8 bays and 16 pumps, a 4,400-square foot convenience store that will include a dining area and a gaming area, an 8,000-square foot retail space, and an automatic car wash. There will also be three above-ground tanks, including two 12,000 and one 5,000 gallon tank. The station will employ as many as thirty once open.

The assessment does not address market demand or include a feasibility study to determine whether or not the small community can sustain another gas station. There are already nine fueling stations in the greater Bishop area.

The City of Bishop sent a letter to the Bishop Paiute Tribe as part of the public comment period for the environmental assessment, to address concerns about the project. The City’s letter included concerns about environmental impacts and worried the project might not be the economic engine the Tribe expects.

According to the letter, the City disagrees with the Tribe’s assessment that the project will not have cumulative impacts on surface water, water supply, and discharge. The project could significantly increase storm runoff and water pollution, according to the City. The City is asking the Tribe to include mitigation measures like bioswales throughout the parking lot to capture the runoff. Bioswales are sloped concrete drains surrounded by vegetation that are used to remove silt and trash from runoff.

“Due to the large amount of empty vacant space in the Bishop area, the City is concerned that the construction of additional retail space may cause environmental impacts without generating the economic benefit the Tribal community hopes to accomplish,” reads the letter from the City.

The City also worries that the project could create a significant amount of light pollution, and asked for mitigation of light in line with Dark Sky International standards. Dark skies have become a draw for tourists who cannot see the stars through the smog and light of urban areas, reads the City’s letter. The Inyo County Dark Sky Group did not return requests for comment.

The City is also asking the Tribe to utilize local laborers for the economic benefit of the community. Bishop Associate Planner Elaine Kabala explained that a similar project within the city limits would require 47 parking spots. The Tribe is proposing 125. Council member Jim Ellis asked if the parking was going to accommodate future expansion or another project. Kabala said the Tribe did not anticipate any expansion at that site.

City Manager Jim Tatum told the Council that Tribal Chairman Bill Vega, and Gloriana Bailey, Director of Economic Development for the Bishop Paiute Tribe, were “receptive” to the City’s concerns.

The Bishop City Council discussed the project and opened the floor to public comment at its December 11 meeting. The major concern from the Council members was whether or not the above-ground tanks were safe. Fire Chief Ray Seguine said the tanks will have retaining walls and measures to prevent unnecessary leakage.

Kabala said the Tribe plans on beginning construction in the next year. Representatives from the nearby gas stations, Giggle Springs II and Manor Market, did not return calls for comment to The Sheet, nor did representatives from the Bishop Paiute Tribe.
LEGO
continued from page 2

“Being able to solve problems as a group—their collaboration has improved significantly. As we’ve told them, it takes less time to try a few options than to argue over the merits of any single option.”

At the tournament, the team scored zero points in its first robotic attempt (of three) because one of the corners of the frame of the robot was disconnected and dragging.

But what impressed Howell was that the team did not freak out or start pointing fingers at each other. Instead, they learned a valuable lesson: inspect your robot thoroughly before you “put it on the field.”

---

Elise Howell took her son up to Carson City this past August for a “robot-building” class put on by the FLL, which also doubled as an Advanced Coaching clinic.

Young Mr. Howell built the basic design of the team’s robot, but other team members have contributed in improving the design as well as building some of the attachments.

Elise Howell’s hope is that other students/schools in the area might wish to form their own teams. This is what it takes:

- The Lego software costs about $400.
- Registration with the FLL costs $300 and includes the field kit.
- The age group for FLL runs up to 14.

Beyond that, says Howell, there’s something called FTC (“First Tech Challenge”) which doesn’t use Lego, and where participants build actual robots. This, however, will require a mentor who possesses some advanced skills.

For any questions about FLL or FTC, contact Ms. Howell at embhowell@outlook.com.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Double fatality traffic collision

On Wednesday, December 13, at 4:30 p.m., California Highway Patrol Bridgeport responded to a two-vehicle, head on traffic collision on US-395 south of SR-270. A Dodge 2500 pickup, driven by Connor Poggetto, from Sacramento, was traveling northbound on US 395, at the same time a Mazda was traveling southbound on US 395. Poggetto, approached a right-hand curve and for unknown reasons allowed his Dodge to cross over the solid double yellow lines. The Dodge struck the Mazda head-on. Due to the impact from the collision, the driver and passenger in the Mazda sustained fatal injuries. Poggetto was transported to RENO Medical Center in Reno with minor injuries. The driver and passenger of the Mazda are from Northern Nevada and once next of kin have been notified their identities will be released. The collision is still under investigation by California Highway Patrol, Bridgeport Area.

Search and Rescue Awards

The Mono County Sheriff’s Office held its annual Search and Rescue Awards Dinner this Sunday, December 10 at Snowcreek Bistro, according to a press release by Sheriff Ingrid Braun. The MCSO presented the Pete Schoerner Rescue Member of the Year Award to Carole Schilz (current President of the SAR team and Board of Directors member). The Rick Mosher Candidate Member of the Year Award was given to Jim Wallace. New team members Cheryl Buchanan, Eric Kaufman and Jim Wallace were all presented with red team uniform shirts. Steve Case received the Golden Carabiner Award for 25 years of service. Bill Greene also received an award for 20 years of service, and Marie French, Brad Schilz and Carole Schilz were all presented with 10-year service plaques. Don Deck, who is retiring, was presented with an embroidered logo jacket.

Steve Case at the SAR Awards.
A NIGHT IN WHITE FOR DSES
Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra holds “biggest event yet” at Canyon Lodge
By Giles

On Saturday, December 9, Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra (DSES) hosted 316 guests at its annual Whiteout Extravaganza Fundraiser event at Canyon Lodge. Deputy Director Laura Beardsley said as of press time that the organization is still calculating its exact earnings, but that “it’s safe to say this was the biggest event yet, and we raised more money than ever before.” Proceeds from the event support affordable, year-round access to outdoor sports and activities for disabled visitors and residents of the Eastern Sierra. Winter programs include daily lessons in adaptive skiing at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. Summer programs include camps that teach adaptive kayaking, paddle boarding, rock climbing, camping, cycling, mountain biking, and horseback riding. Proceeds from last week’s event also support Operation Mountain Freedom, which brings wounded warriors and their families to Mammoth Lakes to rock climb, fish, camp, and ski annually, free of charge.
CANDY CANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES
Third annual Polar Express at Laws Railroad Museum brings delights for all ages

Photos by Gayla Wolf

The Laws Railroad Museum's third annual Polar Express event brought over 550 kids and adults to ride trains, decorate cookies, meet Smokey the Bear and make their own ornaments on Saturday, December 9. The event is a fundraiser for the Bishop Chamber of Commerce. Each child gets a golden ticket and a bell necklace, as the event is based on the beloved children's book "The Polar Express," said Events Coordinator April Lee-son.

Above (L-R): Everett and Finnley Weiland, of Mammoth Lakes, decorate cookies.

Photos, from left: Bear Pritchard Stewart on Engine 9. Rowan, Nacoa and Asher Lee get on board with Station Agent Paul Thompson. Catherine Jones and baby Bonnie enjoy the sunshine.

Left photo: Wyatt, Terra, Baby and Maggie Slater say hi to the Clauses. Right photo, clockwise from left: Debbie Gasparie, Lissy Marsh, Chuck Kilpatrick and Joe Polloni.

FULL-ON FUN FOR EVERYONE
Bomb down the groomed lanes as fast as you dare in a high-speed snow tube at Woolly's Tube Park. With a large snow play area and a heated deck with snack bar offering hot cocoa and adult beverages, it's perfect for all ages.

OPEN DAILY 10AM–5PM

PETRA'S
760.934.3500
Fine Dining
Happy Hour from 5:00 - 6:00pm
$22 Salad, Bolognese, and a Glass of Wine
DAILY Wine, Cocktail and Appetizer Specials

PUB FARE
Happy Hour from 4:30 - 7:00pm
$5 Happy Menu
$1 50 OFF Bottled Beers/Draft Specials

Located at 6080 Minaret Road in the Alpenhof Lodge across from The Village.
**BARS & MUSIC**

**Happy Hour**
- The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill. Pursuit of Happiness Hour, 3-6 p.m.
- Monday: $1 off draft beers, $2 off wine
- Tuesday: 4-6 p.m., $5 all-you-can-eat appetizers
- Wednesday: Happy Hour all day, 4-9 p.m.
- Thursday: $2 tacos 4-10 p.m.
- Friday: Free Wings, 9-10 p.m.
- Saturday: 2-4 p.m., $5 domestic drafts
- Sunday: $2 off selected cocktails

- Flatbread
- Outlaw Saloon: Monday: All Night Happy Hour; 4-Midnight, Tuesday-Saturday 4-6 p.m.
- Tuesday: $2 Jacos 4-10 p.m.
- Wednesday: Wing Wednesday 50% off all wings
- Thursday: Burger & Beer special 4-9 p.m.

**Scott Christensen Floors**
Providing Professional Quality with a Personal Touch since 1987

- Japanese Restaurant & Sushi Bar
  - Full Service Cocktail Bar
  - Calamari • Sushi • Tempura • Tonkatsu • Sukiyaki
  - Chicken & Beef Teriyaki

- 25 years of experience
- 760-872-4801
- Bishop

- **Ladies’ Night**
  - 19.

- **Photo, p. 39.**

- Mammoth Lakes. $5 beer & wine

- Monday, December 18/
  - Football Happy Hour Specials @ The Black Doubt Brewery, 7-9 p.m. Free.

- **See ad, p. 9.**

- **Mammoth’s famous Slocums Happy Hour**
  - Mon. thru Fri 4-6; Saturdays 4-5. Closed Sun.

- **Happy Hour daily 3-6 p.m.,**
  - Large pizza and a pitcher of beer for $5

- **Morrison’s Happy Hour**
  - Daily 4-6 p.m.

- **Friday, December 15/**
  - Black Doubt Brewing’s 2-year Anniversary.

- **Saturday, December 16/**
  - **Open Mic night**
    - Thursday, December 21/
      - Open Mic night @ Side Door in Mammoth Lakes. S$ beer & wine specials, $7 wines. 6 p.m. See story. p. 19

- **Sunday, December 17/**
  - **Assemble Required**
    - Happy Hour 4-6 p.m. in the bar only.

- **Sunday Night Special**
  - **Side Door**
    - Happy Hour daily 3-6 p.m.

- **Wednesday night**
  - Happy Hour 4-6 p.m.

- **Thursday, December 21/**
  - Open Mic night @ Side Door in Mammoth Lakes. $5 beer & wine specials, $7 wines. 6 p.m. See story. p. 19

- **Ladies’ Night**
  - @ Mammoth Rock ‘n Roll. Ladies bowl 2 games free, includes shoe rental. See ad. p. 10.

- **December 15-17/**
  - **Cardinal Village Christmas Festival**, fun for the whole family. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. each day.

- **December 15-30/**
  - **“The Ultimate Christmas Show” (abridged),** with MLRT. From Friday, December 15-Saturday, December 30, the play will start at 7 p.m. There will be a show on Sunday, December 17 that starts at 4 p.m. No shows December 16 or 24. See sidebar, next page and ad. p. 3.

- **December 15-31/**
  - **Wabi Sabi Exhibit** at Manzanar Bookstore, feat. art work by local artists 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each day.

- **Textile Art Show** @ Mammoth Lakes Library with the Calico Quilters Guild. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Ellie Randol Reading Room.

- **December 16-24/**
  - **Holiday Marketplace with the Mono Arts Council.** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. daily at Minaret Village. Info: 760.914.2731 or kristin@monoarts.org.

- **Friday, December 15/**
  - **Eastern Sierra Chamber Orchestra and CMU’s Honors Strings** present classical and holiday favorites. 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Mammoth. Free Book Reading by authors Ann gimpel and Kate Richards @ Black Velvet Coffee, 4-9 p.m.

- **Christmas party & holiday gift giveaway** @ Bishop’s Imagination Lab. 6:30-9 p.m.

- **Ugly Sweater Bingo** with the Owens Valley Booster Club. 21+, American Legion Hall, Independence. 7 p.m. Info: 757.277-2949.

- **Saturday, December 16/**
  - **Inyo Council for the Arts holiday craft fair @ ICA.** 10 a.m. at ICA, 137 Main St. in Bishop.

- **Holiday Market at the Owens Valley Public Library Cultural Center.** 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Native-themed Ornament contest @ 10 a.m., Ugly Sweater Contest @ 2 p.m.

- **Big Pine Tribal Elders Annual Christmas Bazaar,** Christmas raffle, food, arts & crafts. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. @ Alan Spoonhunter Memorial Gym, 1050 S. Richards St. Big Pine. Info: 760.938.2003.

- **Winter Bazaar at the Crowley Lake Community Center.** Find great gifts for those on your list. Skate Park fundraiser. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Info: 760.935.4089.

- **Debbie Boucher book signing for “The Aunties” @ Booky Joint, 2-4 p.m.** See review. p. 18.

- **Sunday, December 17/**
  - **Fried Food Festival with the Mammoth Lakes Eastern Sierra Jewish Community.** 9-4 p.m. at the Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail. mlesjc@gmail.com for info or to RSVP. Donations encouraged ($20 for adults, $12 for children). See ad. p. 4.

- **Eastern Sierra Chamber Orchestra and CMU’s Honors Strings** present classical and holiday favorites with Grieg’s Piano Concerto and Nutcracker excerpts. 4-5:30 p.m. at Cerro Coso College in Bishop.

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**MAMMOTH LIQUOR**
Beer lovers’ candy store Selection of more than 300 beers
BEER MAKES THIS NEWSPAPER MORE FUN TO READ

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**TOWN STUFF**

**December 15-17/**
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- **Night of Lights** @ Mammoth Mountain. See sidebar, ad page 2.

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Night of Lights at MMSA

This year, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area will host the Night of Lights at Canyon Lodge on Saturday, December 16. The Night of Lights is a free event for all ages.

Schedule:
5:15 p.m.: Magic show - 3rd floor of Canyon Lodge
5:30-6:45 p.m.: Live music on the outdoor stage at Canyon Lodge
6:45 p.m.: Night of Lights
7:30 p.m.: On-snow after party with live music, photos with Santa and face painting, ends with dancing on the outdoor stage at Canyon Lodge
10 p.m.: Last gondola ride to The Village.

June opening delayed

The opening of June Mountain, which was previously scheduled for Friday, December 15, has been delayed due to insufficient snow cover. Snowmaking operations have been running around the clock, but MMSA’s Marketing and Operations Manager Abigail Ross says June requires additional low-temperature weeks and natural snowfall at lower elevations before it can open.

The Ultimate Christmas Show

From December 15-30, Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre will perform “The Ultimate Christmas Show,” a play written by Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor of Reduced Shakespeare Company. The production will take audiences on an "irreverent yet heartwarming trip" through the holidays. The play is a physical comedy and features three wise guy lead characters as they navigate holiday traditions. The play is rated for all ages and promises good family fun. From December 15 through Saturday, December 30, the play will start at 7 p.m. There will be a show on Sunday, December 17 that starts at 4 p.m. No shows December 16 or 24. Tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for seniors, and $10 for kids when purchased online at www.edisontheatre.org, or $22 at the door with no discounts. See ad, page 2.

Transit to Old Mammoth Road

Limited transit service will provide three morning trips from the Old Mammoth Road area into Town, and three return trips in the afternoon.

Departures from the Old Mammoth Area will commence at 7:13 a.m., 7:45 a.m., and 8:19 a.m. Return trips will start from the area of the schools and hospital at 2:45 p.m., 4:23 p.m., and 5:05 p.m. The service will operate seven days a week. Further information is available on ESTA’s website at www.etransit.com, or by calling 760.924.3184.

Community Project Grants available

The Inyo County Community Project Sponsorship Program is accepting grant applications for events and projects in 2018. The grants are open to local non-profit groups, and up to $29,984 is available in the 2018 Competitive Grant Cycle. The deadline for submitting grant applications is Friday, January 9, 2018. CSP grants were used to sponsor the Lone Pine Film Festival, Death Valley 49ers Encampment, and the Eastern Sierra Music Festival, among other events.

To be considered, the completed Grant Application (submitted on paper or digitally), with an original signature, must be received by the Office of the County Administrator by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 19, 2018. No postmarks or facsimile will be accepted. Grant applications which still require original signatures, may be sent to: Office of the County Administrator, Attn: Community Project Sponsorship Program, P.O. Drawer N, Independence, CA 93526. If hand delivering, deliver to: Office of the County Administrator, 224 N. Edwards Street, Independence, CA, 760.878.0292. Digital grant applications, which still require original signatures, may be sent to jkulsmin@inyo county.us.

BLM fire fighter open house

The Bureau of Land Management Central California District is accepting applications for 2018 summer seasonal wildland firefighting jobs. Fire positions are available for hotshot, handcrew, and engine crew members; heavy equipment operators, dispatchers, and prevention/mitigation personnel based in Bakersfield, Bishop, Placerville, and Porterville. Seasonal firefighters usually work from late April to early October.

To receive early consideration, applications must be filed by December 19 for the hotshot and engine crew positions in Bakersfield, and by January 30 for the engine crew positions in Bishop. Early consideration deadline for other positions is January 9, 2018. The final application deadline for all engine crew and equipment operator positions, and dispatchers is February 27. The final deadline for prevention and mitigation applications is March 6, with hotshot applications accepted until March 20. Info online at www.usajobs.gov. Information about firefighting jobs with the BLM can be found by calling the Bishop office at 760.872.5000.

LORP Draft Annual Report

A public meeting will be held in Bishop to discuss the Lower Owens River Project 2017 Draft Annual Report on Wednesday, December 20 at 8:30 a.m. at the LADWP Bishop Administrative Office, 300 Mandich Street. Written comments related to the Lower Owens River Project 2017 Draft Annual Report may be sent to Mr. James G. Yannotta at the address noted above or to Dr. Robert Harrington at Inyo County Water Department, 135 South Street, P.O. Box 337, Independence, CA 93526 by Wednesday, January 3, 2018.
Help Wanted

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

- Carpenters M $29-$35
- Machine Operator B $51-$55
- Front Desk M/B $12-$14
- Room Attendant M $14-$16

Apply in person or call 760.934.2500

Call 760.924.0529 or 760.873.8599 to see our full job list online

www.SierraEmployment.com

NO CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Holiday Haus Motel and Hostel
Now hiring for room round permanent position - Front Desk Person Excellent pay DOE. Please contact Todd Roberts at 760.934.2414 or stop by and see us in person at 455 Main Street in Mammoth Lakes.

Wanting front desk agent - main audit position. Must be available to work graveyard shifts 11:00 pm to 7:00 am. 16-$31.00/hr. Perfect if you already have a part time job and are looking to pick up extra shifts. Hospitality experience is a plus but not required. Starting hourly ranges based on experience. Please review time in persons or pick up application at Sierra Lodge located at 3540 Main Street or send to info@sierralodge.com.

Mammoth Hospital is looking for an HR Assistant/Generalist. Check out our website at apply.sieralodge.com.

Seeking Director of Development Mammoth Lakes Foundation seeks an experienced Development Director with a track record of raising significant funds in a multi-faceted setting, has experience in event management, and has a passion for building relationships. Please visit mammothlakesfoundation.org and click on "Jobs" for more information.

For Rent

- Mammoth Slopes Home. Room for rent W/private bathroom. Walk to Village & UT Shuttle with WiFi. $100 per month Available 11-15 760.965.6715
- Restaurant space for lease. 2000-4000 sq feet. Liquor license available. Email interest to dave@mammothgear.com 2BR, 1BA Apartment for Rent Underground washer/dryer hook-up. garage, $1500.00. Studio Loft $900.00, speedo require 1 year lease and local references. Greg 760.937.7589.
- For Hire

Bookkeeping Services Available. Let me keep your books up-to-date and in order while you focus on your business or travel the world! Experienced in Quickbooks, know how to keep your books up-to-date and in order. Computer knowledge a must. Please send resume to manager@1849condos.com.

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

- High Sierra Sales
  - Dave Swisher
  - P.O. Box 10
  - 830 Blue Lake Way
  - Leavittin, CA. 95451

This business is conducted by a husband and wife team who just moved to Mammoth Lakes. The registrant has since been added to the business name listed herein.

- Sierra Troutdoorsman Guide Service
  - Billie Edmund Lazano

This business is conducted by an Individual and the registrant has since been added to the business name listed herein.

- sierra-troutdoorsman-guide-service.com
  - 3540 Main Street
  - P.O. Box 9007
  - Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an Individual and the registrant has since been added to the business name listed herein.

- GORDOS LLC
  - Luis Javier Curel
  - 101 North Avenue
  - June Lake, Ca. 93529

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant has since been added to the business name listed herein.

- The Landings at Splendor Point
  - 1218 Splendor Point
  - Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an Individual and the registrant has since been added to the business name listed herein.

- Mammoth Rock & Bowl! Mammoth Rock Brasierie has the following positions available. Bowling Desk Employees, Spinning Server, Brasierie Hostess. Contact Kevin O’Connell at 760.934.4200 ext. 225, or Ann Ward ext. 221.

- Work With The Best, Footloose Sports, nationally recognized as a top 60 retailer, is hiring for the upcoming season. We are seeking a staff who work as hard as they play. We’re looking for responsible individuals, passionate about winter sports, and motivated to provide the best in customer service. We have full and part-time positions open in our sales, rental, boot, and ski repair departments. We are offering great pay DOE, discounts and flexible hours, in progressive work environment. Call us at 760.934.2400. Go to our website at www.footloosesports.com or e-mail your resume to footloose@footloosesports.com to schedule an interview.

- Wanted Administrative Assistant for Our Resort We need someone to join our team and assist our manager with guest services, operations and some marketing. This full time permanent position is available immediately. Duties would be to assist the manager with the day to day operations including but not limited to: reservations, customer service, front desk, housekeeping/supervisory duties (pre and post checks and assisting when needed), assisting with guest arrivals/departures and regular relief of manager on manager’s days off. ALSO assisting with marketing and social media.

- Experience Required: Customer service a must, lodging or hospitality background preferred, but not required. Must be willing to have a flexible schedule and take on any projects as needed. Training will be provided.

Debbie & Mike Cross
- Mammoth Mountain Chalets
- 302.327.3681 Ex 0 (CA)
- Reservations@MCHalets.com

For Rent

- Mammoth Rock & Bowl! Mammoth Rock Brasierie has the following positions available. Bowling Desk Employees, Spinning Server, Brasierie Hostess. Contact Kevin O’Connell at 760.934.4200 ext. 225, or Ann Ward ext. 221.

- Work With The Best, Footloose Sports, nationally recognized as a top 60 retailer, is hiring for the upcoming season. We are seeking a staff who work as hard as they play. We’re looking for responsible individuals, passionate about winter sports, and motivated to provide the best in customer service. We have full and part-time positions open in our sales, rental, boot, and ski repair departments. We are offering great pay DOE, discounts and flexible hours, in progressive work environment. Call us at 760.934.2400. Go to our website at www.footloosesports.com or e-mail your resume to footloose@footloosesports.com to schedule an interview.

- Wanted Administrative Assistant for Our Resort We need someone to join our team and assist our manager with guest services, operations and some marketing. This full time permanent position is available immediately. Duties would be to assist the manager with the day to day operations including but not limited to: reservations, customer service, front desk, housekeeping/supervisory duties (pre and post checks and assisting when needed), assisting with guest arrivals/departures and regular relief of manager on manager’s days off. Also assisting with marketing and social media.

- Experience Required: Customer service a must, lodging or hospitality background preferred, but not required. Must be willing to have a flexible schedule and take on any projects as needed. Training will be provided.

Debbie & Mike Cross
- Mammoth Mountain Chalets
- 302.327.3681 Ex 0 (CA)
- Reservations@MCHalets.com

For Hire

- Bookkeeping Services Available. Let me keep your books up-to-date and in order while you focus on your business or travel the world! Experienced in Quickbooks, know how to keep your books up-to-date and in order. Computer knowledge a must. Please send resume to manager@1849condos.com.

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

- RNDM Media
  - Todd Robertson
  - P.O. Box 8379
  - Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an Individual and the registrant has since been added to the business name listed herein.

- Sierra Troutdoorsman Guide Service
  - Samuel Vasily
  - 2 Shady Rest Road, P.O. Box 9007
  - Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein.

- The Town of Mammoth Lakes is looking for an Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police to join the Mammoth Lakes Police Department. If you have a passion for law enforcement, excellent administrative skills, and a desire to serve our local community, apply by 11/15/17 at mammothlakes.ca.gov, or call (760) 965 3600 for more information. Application deadline: January 8, 2018.

- Mammoth Rock & Bowl! Mammoth Rock Brasierie has the following positions available. Bowling Desk Employees, Spinning Server, Brasierie Hostess. Contact Kevin O’Connell at 760.934.4200 ext. 225, or Ann Ward ext. 221.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Request of Public Comment

THE GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT REQUESTS PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE DISTRICT’S DECISION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO MODIFY ZACK SUBSTATION

Pursuant to District Rule 205, the District solicits public comment on a proposed permit to be granted to Southern California Edison to modify its Zack Substation, an electric utility substation for transmission and distribution of electrical power, at Chico Canyon Road, Mono County, CA 93514.

Proposed permit conditions and supporting documents are available for inspection at the District office. The equipment and facility will be operated in compliance with all district, state and federal air quality standards and regulations. The District will accept written comments in its office until the close of business on January 8, 2018. Submit comments to: Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, Attn: Lou Bitter, 137 Short Street, Bishop, California 93514.

TS #2017-0238

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber, Minaret Village Shopping Center, Suite 2, to consider the following:

State mandated fees will be adjusted in the Town of Mammoth Lakes Fee Schedule, including the Solar Panel Fee and the CASP – Certified Access Specialist Program.

All persons having an interest in the proposed application request may appear before the Town Council and present their views. Notice and opportunity for public comment will be provided by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Town Clerk written correspondence pertaining herein.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 6509(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues actually considered in the public hearing as described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, please contact Bob Patterson, Administrative Services/Finance Director, by telephone at (760) 965-3653 or email at rpatterson@mammothlakess.ca.gov.

BY ORDER OF THE MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL

Dated: December 5, 2017

Jamie Gray, Town Clerk

TS #2017-0240

Public Meeting

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REQUEST FOR STORMWATER PLANNING

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is developing a Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP). The SWRP is required by the California State Water Resources Control Board to establish eligibility for bond funding for stormwater quality improvement projects. The SWRP identifies the multiple benefits of potential stormwater projects and prioritizes them for funding. The Town is hosting a public meeting to introduce the concept of an SRP present highlights of the draft SWRP and allow an opportunity for public participation.

The meeting will be held on Monday, January 8th from 5pm to 7pm at the Mammoth Lakes Town Offices, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 2, Mammoth Lakes, California 93548 (Above the Vons Shopping Center). If you have any questions or comments, please contact Richard Hargis via email rhargis@mammothlakes.ca.gov or phone at (760) 934-2768.

TS #2017-0243

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As: Horizons 113

Jared Kutsch
P.O. Box 8632, 2113 Meridian Blvd. #113
Mammoth Lakes, Ca.93546

This business is conducted by Co-partners. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on October 24, 2017. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 28, 2017. File Number 17-206. 2017-0242 (12/16, 12/23, 12/30, 1/6)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As: Justin Long Construction

Justin Long
P.O. Box 76, 91 3rd St.
Lee Vining, Ca. 93541

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on December 4, 2017. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on December 4, 2017. File Number 17-238 2017-0244 (12/16, 12/23, 12/30, 1/6)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As: SAMURAI

H &T International Inc.
P.O. Box 8252, 452 Old Mammoth Road
Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 23, 2017. File Number 17-196 2017-0241 (12/16, 12/23, 12/30, 1/6)

Mammoth Hospital is Hiring!

Benefits: Year-Round Stability; Paid Time Off
We are currently hiring several nursing positions, Circulation Scientists as well as multiple entry-level jobs!

Check out our many open positions on our employment page at www.mammothhospital.org/employment and see why our last employee satisfaction survey scored in the 95 percentile of hospitals!

Nursing & Clinical Lab Scientist sign-on and relocation bonus available

We’re Social! Come Visit Us:

Mammoth Hospital
www.mammothhospital.org

WHO’S GOT MOORE TO LOSE?

By Casselman

T he election of Democrat Doug Jones in the Alabama special U.S. senate election to replace Jeff Sessions (who retired to become attorney general in the Trump administration) was won and lost by both peculiars and polymaths.

First of all, it was a victory for the Democrats in one of the most conservative states, and in a race, under normal circumstances, they could not win. They pick up a senate seat, and now Republicans control the senate by only 51-49. But Democrats did not think they were going to win, and made a political bet that they could use GOP nominee Roy Moore, once elected, as a foil to embarrass the conservative party—having forced a senator of their own, Al Franken, to resign following scandal allegations (Roy Moore also faced allegations). Their ultimate target, of course, is President Trump, but that is likely to fail, as have all their other numerous attempts to undo the 2016 election. If he does not, he will become very much a conservative Democrat in the senate.

In rejecting Mr. Moore, [conservatives] also took away a Democratic partisan argument against the Republicans. —Barry Casselman
DOUBLING DOWN ON “THE AUNTIES”
Local author Debbie Boucher wins Lunch over with work of historical fiction

By Lunch

The Aunties
By: Debbie Boucher
Outskirts Press
352 p.


I hate the title, I thought to myself. There’s no way I want to read this book. And the cover screams out romance lit. Damnit. Now if it were a novel about a down-and-out poker player called “The Antes,” maybe, but …

And I’ve got cool aunts, sure, but I call them aunts. Aunties sound way too uptight and about 100 years old.

So I did what any responsible publisher would in this situation, knowing that the book was written by a local author and that I had to read at least a few pages out of respect—I pawned it off on my wife and asked her to read the first 20 pages.

“IF it sucks, just tell me. You don’t have to read anymore.”

Much to my dismay, my wife said it didn’t suck … in fact, it was enough to keep her awake past 10 p.m.—my farm girl who normally passes out from exhaustion by 9:30. A promising sign.

So I started reading. She’s right, I thought, it doesn’t suck. Before I knew it, I’d ripped through 60 pages. It’s actually pretty good. In fact, it’s the best work of fiction by a local author that I can recall over the past five years.

The book, Boucher’s fourth, is a work of historical fiction. It stems from a family mystery concerning her paternal grandfather.

As the story goes, one day the paternal grandfather disappeared. Just up and left his wife and five children. Word eventually filtered back that he had moved to South America (Brazil) but no one knew for sure.

He was also rumored to be Jewish, but the other WASPish side of the family never spoke about it.

An aunt and uncle eventually traveled down to South America to see if they could find him. Which they did—remarried, and with a new family, though the children of the new family were all named the same names as the children of his old family.

When various family letters and archives got passed down to Boucher, she had renewed interest in this family lore. A DNA test which revealed her as 25 percent Jewish stoked the fires even more.

This book (10 percent fact and 90 percent fiction, she says) is her attempt to imagine what really happened. It’s told from several points of view and well-paced.

Boucher taught at Mammoth Elementary from 1985-2008. Her husband, Mike, also an educator, originally moved the family to Mammoth in ’85 to take a job as Vice-Principal of Mammoth High School. They have two daughters. Nicole, whose family recently survived the Ventura wildfires, is an art teacher. Jessica lives in Hollywood and just finished a stint as Script Coordinator/Assistant to the Show Runner for the Netflix series Longmire.

Boucher will be signing copies of The Aunties this Saturday from 2-4 p.m. at the Booky Joint in Mammoth.

HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

Members of the Mammoth Lakes Eastern Sierra Jewish Community joined together to light a donated Menorah in The Village at Mammoth on Tuesday, December 12, to celebrate the beginning of Hannukah. The organization will host a second candle lighting ceremony and potluck food festival at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center from 6-9 p.m. on Sunday, December 16. The candle lighting ceremony will start at 6:30 p.m.
TWO BASSISTS WALK INTO A BAR...

Side Door Cafe open mic: An open mic where people actually listen

By Giles

At the first Side Door open mic this fall, local singer, songwriter, and guitarist Cassie Burgenbauch said before sitting down to play an original song, “I’m not used to playing for people who aren’t talking.” Former Dreddie Poppins and the Professionals drummer Lawrence Bowie said from the back of the room, “You’re just not used to playing for a crowd of musicians,” to laughter.

Side Door’s open mic is a collaboration between manager Annie McDonnell and Mammoth bassists-gone-rogue Lucas Dunn (Dreddle Poppins and the Professionals) and Joe Cadotte (The Jaded Haters). Side Door owner Shields Richardson provides the space: a heated, covered patio bar nestled in an alley in Mammoth’s Village, and the drink specials ($5 glasses of wine). The space is intimate, in part because of the acoustics, and because of the people Cadotte and Dunn attract. It’s the kind of nighttime scene you’d feel comfortable bringing your kid to. “There’s a lot of talent that goes unnoticed here,” said Dunn. “We’re trying to create a space where that comes up and out of the dark.” It does. From jazz standards featuring clarinet and saxophone to Ween and David Bowie covers, the music performed is diverse, as is the instrumentation. The performances are also strikingly high-quality. It’s a space where people may recognize from quietly contributing their part to a local band step up to perform their original songs on a completely different instrument.

“Everyone in the room cares about music and expression,” said Cadotte, who played locally with Almost Famous, Soul Reason, Gorderme Farm. “That exchange matters to people, and it’s a supportive community.”

The open mic runs Thursdays beginning at 6 p.m.
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. • SALES 877-766-9275 • LIVECREEKHOUSE.COM

All information subject to change. The Snowcreek Property Company, CalBRE #01812140.

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