RANCHERS LOOK TO SUPES FOR HELP
Without water included in their leases, will Long Valley ranchers walk away?

By Bodine

Ranchers who lease land from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in the Long Valley/Crowley Lake area were presented with new leases in March that did not include water allotments for irrigation and drinking water for stock.

Without water, ranchers say their production will be reduced by 70 to 95 percent and the wetlands the ranchers manage will dry up. The meadows and wetlands are prime nesting ground for the Bi-state sage grouse that has been saved from being listed as an endangered species thanks to joint efforts of ranchers and environmental groups.

At the Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, ranchers voiced their concerns and sought help. Supervisor Fred Stump, whose district includes Long Valley, said these ranchers treat the leased land like their own and have heretofore shunned assistance, but are now turning to Mono County for help as no federal agency, state agency or environmental group is answering the call.

The drought conditions of 2012-16 reduced production and LADWP shut off water to ranchers in 2016. Ranchers had not been offered new leases in five years as LADWP reassessed agricultural and commercial leases in Inyo and Mono counties.

LADWP has been tight-lipped on reasons for the change after a century of offering water to lessees. Ellen Cheng, Media Relations Manager for LADWP stated in an email, "LADWP is obligated to provide water for uses in the Eastern Sierra including the Owens Valley in accordance with the Inyo-L.A. water Agreement, 1991 EIR, Mono Lake Agreement, and other legal commitments. This includes water for irrigation of over 12,000 acres of City of Los Angeles-owned land in Inyo County, Environmental/Mitigation and other environmental projects, dust mitigation on Owens Lake, Mono Lake and stream restoration, along with other uses that are mandated."

"Over half of the water that historically had been exported to Los Angeles is now fering water to lessees."

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“Over half of the water that historically had been exported to Los Angeles is now

see RANCHERS, page 6

ATMOSPHERIC INVITATIONAL

Mammoth Invitational selects Elise Howell, Liz Stephen and Jen Creasy dressed for the rain at the “Atmospheric River Tubing” practice on Friday, April 6. See more photos of the Invitational events, p. 18.
NO REGRETS

Well, it's tax time, so forgive me if I'm a little scattered this week. No overarching themes to write about, but a few notes.

In regards to the Shana Stapp letter which appears on page five, she references a Mono County Office of Education “Climate Survey” which was conducted two years ago.

The Sheet obtained a copy of that survey. And like any survey, you can read into it what you want.

The most interesting question asked: “Do you feel you are treated as fairly as any other employee in the organization?”

42 of 59 respondents, or 71 percent, said yes. 29 percent said no.

In explanation, there were several written comments expressing opinions about the administration “playing favorites.”

There were also many comments which cited the need for better communication.

Personally, it would seem that getting 59 touchy-feely people along the education/library/child development spectrum to align themselves in any fashion would be akin to herding cats. Or writers.

Hmm, that would be an interesting question. Does 71 percent of The Sheet’s readership consider the paper fair? What percentage of people who’ve worked for The Sheet regret it?

I can answer that last question indirectly. The good ones have no regrets.

I have not heard anything further in regard to the Moberly investigation we last reported on a month ago.

But one additional piece of information.

The Town hired the Sintra Group out of Ventura to perform the investigation. Sintra Group is owned by Steve Bowman, who spent nearly 28 years with the Ventura Police Dept. (achieving the title of Assistant Police Chief), before retiring and opening an investigations business.

Why is this relevant? Mammoth’s current Police Chief Al Davis is also from Ventura, and his time at the Ventura P.D. appears to overlap with Bowman’s for approximately 15 years.

Does this present a conflict of interest? I’m sure Moberly’s attorney will argue that point.

A public records request revealed that the Town has spent approximately $40,000 with the Sintra Group in 2017 and 2018. $21,000 of that is attributable to the Moberly investigation.

LADWP’s releases final numbers

Each spring, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) measures the Eastern Sierra snowpack and Mono Lake water elevation in order to determine runoff and export projections for the L.A. Aqueduct System. This year, LADWP conducted its final measurements of the season on April 3 with snowpack levels registering at 66 percent of normal.

Deena running Boston

The Boston Marathon is on Monday morning, April 16. The elite women start at 6:30 a.m. (PST) and the men start 30 minutes later. It will be televised on NBC Sports Network.

Mammoth Track Club Elite athletes racing this weekend in Boston include marathoners Deena Kastor and Daniel Tapia, as well as Reid Buchanan, who runs the 5K on Saturday.

Adult membership of the MTC racing in Boston are Monica Prelle and Kenny Palmer.
USE NEXT SEASON’S PASS TODAY

The new 18/19 Ikon Pass unlocks access to 26 iconic winter destinations across North America, including unlimited fun at Mammoth*, June* and more. With 2 pass options starting at $599, buy now and enjoy spring turns through the rest of this season at select mountains, including Mammoth and Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows.

SAVE $100 BEFORE PRICES GO UP ON 5/1

*Ikon Base Pass has holiday blackout dates at select destinations, including Mammoth and June: Dec. 26–31, 2018; Jan. 19–20, 2019; Feb. 16–17, 2019. IKONPASS.COM
LETTERS

Not cheap

Dear Editor,

Thanks to Paul Oster for explaining the ups and downs of owning and renting in the Town of Mammoth Lakes (See “Supply Side Economics.” March 31).

I also see he views that Airbnb, other rental options and CHEAP ski passes as a contributing factor to the shortage of workforce housing.

I do not view the current option of ski passes as CHEAP. The mountain is the main draw of people traveling to Mammoth. If you want people to come and buy housing and spend money and generate income and pay taxes, you need reasonable prices for skiing, fishing, camping and other outdoor activity. Remember Henry Ford, Costco, Amazon and others became successful on volume of business. You create a reasonably priced product, and the people will come and spend their money.

As for the shortage of workforce housing, the shortage can only be solved by the Town, the Mountain and businesspeople. When they work together, the shortage of workforce housing will be solved.

At the moment they are failing to see the long term economic picture. Do not blame CHEAP ski passes and low end condos for competing for living space. The Town is most stressed on the major holidays. Maybe Bishop can help accommodate Mammoth with short-term workforce housing. Share the wealth.

Nancy Moore
Mammoth 2nd homeowner

Not funny

Dear Mr. Lunch,

As a senior I do not think your “April Fool’s joke” is funny (See “The World According to AARP,” March 31).

This “joke” is mocking seniors who are protesting the loss of senior discounts, which have existed at Mammoth for years. Many of these seniors are on fixed incomes and don’t drive Teslas or use limousines. Rather, this appears to be a thinly disguised “hit piece” for Alterra, which is charging higher prices because it can after consolidating so many ski resorts.

The people with the limousines and Teslas who live in exclusive areas are the narcissistic jet setters Alterra is trying to attract. These are the people who can afford to pay extra for passes to be able to skip lines and paying to park close. The "old" Mammoth never has these kinds of "rich" amenities.

A more appropriate “April Fool’s article would be one on the jet setters praising the raising of ticket prices to price seniors out of skiing saying the slopes will be less crowded without seniors there to get in their way!

The government never should have allowed such a consolidation of ski resorts without assurances that the merged company would not gouge customers. Given Alterra’s greediness, we need to push the government to break Alterra up.

Nancy Moore
Mammoth 2nd homeowner

Not happy

Dear Editor:

Initially we greeted the change in ownership of Mammoth Mountain with optimism. With the announcement of the new pass pricing, we realize that the locally owned and operated ski area that we have come to love has become just another corporate profit center run from afar and out of touch with a large share of its skiers. The new pass pricing ignores two groups you should be paying attention to. Seniors and Mammoth Lakes second homeowners.

Look around the lodges during lunch on weekdays. The majority of the skiers there are the seniors you have ignored. You offer a college discount and a military discount but no senior discount. Also, the idea of being able to ski additional areas in your ski chain is not a benefit that Mammoth Lakes second homeowners like us need, want or will ever take advantage of.

Robert Hornacek
Mammoth 2nd homeowner

INNER WISDOM

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Letter of Reference

Nana was a competitive athlete in Japan. She had a snowboarding accident and broke her back which put her in a cast/mesh brace for three months. For the next four years, she could not climb or snowboard. Then after one week of CFR at Esalen Institute, she experienced dramatic healing and returned to snowboarding with better balance and control than before her injury.

She has witnessed many others with chronic, never fully healed injuries, regain their abilities through CFR. In 2015, she began a four year professional training in CFR exclusively for physical therapist and bodyworkers. Because of her own background, besides being an excellent CFR practitioner with seniors, she is especially sensitive and skilled in working with people who still have limitations from past injuries, and with teaching injury prevention through increased flexibility, range of motion, and increased body awareness.

CFR is not about diagnosing or fixing, it’s about learning. Now that Nana is beginning her own practice, she would highly recommend you experience a session with her before she graduates and starts charging what she’s really worth! 

Harriet Gosline
Founder of CFR, 35 yr Feldenkrais Practitioner

Nanae Schneider
CMT, Somatic Educator, Under Graduate CFR Practitioner

$65 SPECIAL for your first table session (reg rate $90/session)

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Phone: 760-616-4233 Email: innerwisdombw@gmail.com
50 Lee Vining Avenue, Lee Vining, CA
**LETTERS continued from page 4**

**Senior boycott**

Dear Editor:

Mammoth Ski Resort is a for-profit business that is accountable to its stakeholders. Granted! You cannot make revenue by giving stuff away without a payback in return somewhere. John Stavlo’s letter to the editor last week titled “The world according to AARP” hit home with a lot of good points on why cancelling the senior’s annual pass was a bad idea. I would like to offer an answer to how Mammoth Ski Resort can validate John’s claim and further urge seniors to walk instead of purchasing the IKON pass.

The answer is in the database of annual ski pass holders, if the Mountain employs a programmer with enough parochial skills to write code to these tasks. To justify the value of the senior pass holder all they have to do is to do the following: 1) Do an age select on all their annual pass holders from age 65+; 2) Find out: What percentage are these of the total pass holders?; 3) Calculate how many days the senior pass holders actually skied and break this into deciles; 4) Of these ten senior ski groups, average the length of time each group skied…and what time of day?; 5) Of all the senior ski groupings, determine how much pass cash was spent during the ski season on food, clothing, etc. 6) Lastly, compare the number of new pass holders age 65+ to the current number of pass holders 65+. There’s their answer.

Voila! The answer should be obvious, as Stavlo’s letter points out, that the senior pass holder consumers most likely skied Monday through Fridays, mornings, seldom if ever on busy holiday weeks and most likely had the highest customer revenue spent on ancillary items such as dining at lunch in the mountain’s food concessions. I too will pass on purchasing the IKON pass next year and wait for the lost senior revenue to bring the mountain to its senses. Customers vote with their dollars and I would urge the remaining seniors to follow suit.

*John Omeste*

**Mammoth Lakes & elsewhere**

McAteer for Adler

Dear Editor:

I write this unsolicited letter to have the Mono County electorate understand the Stacey Adler that I know and have worked closely with for six years. I was Stacey’s peer (as Inyo County Superintendent of Schools) for the first six years of her County Superintendent-ship. As neighbors in this remote part of California, we were required to collaborate to ensure quality educational services were being provided to our rural students. I would meet monthly with Stacey for breakfast at Tom’s Place to strategize partnerships and ensure Sacramento continued to address the needs of Inyo and Mono Schools. The Stacey that I know is 100 percent devoted to the youth of Mono County; The Stacey that I know runs an office that is efficient and dedicated to serving the districts of Mono County. The Stacey that I know is exceedingly well-respected by her peers throughout the state. The Stacey that I know is creative, fiscally responsible and honest. Until I retired two years ago, I had served in the capacity of an elected County Superintendent of Schools for 22 years. I know the job and I know what it takes to be an effective leader and a change agent who demands raising the academic bar for all students.

Stacey Adler is a quality person and a quality County Superintendent. She has actively brought programs and dollars to Mono due to her extensive network of state contacts that would never have been afforded to your rural county otherwise.

I urge you, voters of Mono County, to re-elect Stacey Adler because she is an extremely fine educator whose first priority is Mono County schools, teachers and students.

*Terence K. McAteer*

Grass Valley

Moral-it-play

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to two different past letters to the editor. Firstly, the one submitted by Gary Nelson of Mono City in your March 24 issue. He referenced the three educational boards of Mono County and stated, “Each of the 15 Board Members receives a full medical plan.”

This is not true of the Mammoth Unified School District Board of Education, of which I have been a proud member for at least 12 years. We receive a monthly payment of approximately $240 for our service to our educational community. We do not receive any other benefits.

Secondly, the letter from Virginia Sharp in the same issue. She referenced a statement made by Deputy Superintendent Jenni Huh about the downturn of morale in the employees of Mono County Office of Education and asked, “What assessment instrument did Mrs. Huh use to make this determination? I assume someone would not make this type of statement without some data to back up her own beliefs.” I have been an employee of Mono County Office of Education for 19 years. I have watched and felt the climate of the organization go up and down under several administrations. The assessment instrument that Deputy Superintendent Jenni Huh based her statement on was a climate survey taken two years ago which absolutely reflected the feelings of demoralization, devaluation and mistrust of and for the leadership of the current superintendent by many employees. MCOE’s response to this survey was to create two different committees with the hope of raising morale within the organization. The first committee was not successful and was supplanted by the current Leadership Team Committee, of which I am co-chair. After creating the Vision Statement, “Establish and maintain positive culture, universal respect, and optimal communication,” we are finding it difficult to make our way forward through the flood of feelings raised by the current political sentiments being shared publicly.

Within the organization, many are concerned for their positions and careers, friendships and working relationships are being decimated and tears of sadness, anger and frustration are being shed. For many of us trust was broken by Superintendent Adler when she removed Deputy Superintendent Jenni Huh, after doing her due diligence as our first on-site, full-time Human Resources Director in more than seven years, from that position and banned her from the leadership Cabinet. My hope for this organization is that, whichever way the vote is cast, the current or future superintendent works with honesty, integrity and actively to heal us. Trust is not easily restored.

Thank you,

*Shana Stapp*

MCOE Administrator

MUSD Board Member

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**LETTERS**

**Grass Valley**

**GET YOUR VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE/SAMPLE BALLOT ONLINE!**

If you would like to stop receiving your Voter Information Guide/Sample Ballot by mail, you just need to let us know! It’s easy:

Call us: (760) 932-5537
Email us: elections@mono.ca.gov

Your Sample Ballot Booklet will be available online 30 days before each election at:

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The law allows a voter who has opted out of receiving their material by mail to change their mind and go back to receiving their Sample Ballot Booklet in the mail at any time.

There is no need to do anything if you wish to continue receiving your Voter Information Guide/Sample Ballot by mail.
TOAD THE WET BLANKET
PEDC grants permit for Yosemite Toad Inn; neighbors irked

By Rea

Mammoth’s Planning and Economic Developing Commission voted 4-0 to approve a use permit for a bed and breakfast on Carter Street, despite protestations from neighbors who said they feared the business could turn a meadow on Old Mammoth Road into a virtual campground.

Steve Schwind, who lives on Tamarack Street and is the neighbor of Dave Billingsley, one of the owners of the residence, said that he had found the property, located at 70 Carter Street, listed on a website called Hip Camp, and that RV parking, tent camping, a fire pit and showers were advertised for potential patrons.

“I’m opposed to a campground in the middle of Tamarack Street,” said Schwind.

Assistant Planner Kim Cooke said that the first time the Planning Department had heard of such plans.

Billingsley said that the Hip Camp advertisement, listed as the Yosemite Toad Inn, was done at Christmas, just after the property was purchased, in 2015.

“We were celebrating Christmas and talking about potential uses for the property,” said Billingsley, explaining why they filled out the form.

“Whether it’s three years ago or now, it’s still active marketing for a non-permitted use,” said Schwind.

Cooke said that business owners are “Not permitted to advertise transient use before you have a use permit, and this type of transient use would not be permitted” in this location.

Schwind said, “In the 37 years I’ve been in Mammoth, residents have been against nightly rentals...it’s clear the residents don’t want a B&B in the neighborhood, and I’m asking [the PEDC] not to substitute your judgement over ours.”

Lance Bauer, another neighbor on Carter Street, said he was concerned about excess cars at the B&B blocking access for the neighborhood’s plow driver and to the meadow adjacent to the home which is designated snow storage according to the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&R) and maintenance agreement by the four owners of the homes on Carter Street.

Commission Chair Amy Callanan said that “it’s important to understand that we as Commission and Town don’t have the authority to enforce CC&R’s.”

Billingsley said that he would be happy to close off the access between his property and Carter Street as soon as access to the B&B was built from Tamarack Street.

District Two Supervisor Stacy Corless, who lives in Old Mammoth, told the PEDC that “We have two examples of currently operating B&Bs [in that neighborhood]. One on Old Mammoth Road [the White Horse Inn], one on Hill Street [The Swiss Chalet].”

Corless said she understood the neighbors were concerned about quality of life issues. “In my professional experience, dealing with land use issues, everybody gets really nervous...I encourage people to actually talk to their neighbors. They are all decent, kind smart people who could talk to each other and figure these things out.”

A motion to approve the permit sat on the table for several minutes while Commissioner Jennifer Burrows voiced her concern that the Yosemite Toad Inn already seems to be advertising online.

“I’ve been Googling the Yosemite Toad Inn,” said Burrows. “It’s got an Instagram, a Facebook page. I’ve got to say it’s a little concerning. It kind of feels a little shady to me, and I have an issue with that.”

Commissioner Greg Eckert said that “If this [home] isn’t going to qualify for a B&B, nothing in this town ever will,” though he added that “I wouldn’t want it next to me on a quarter-acre lot...”

Cooke said that, if a campground were ever put on the property, “it would be grounds for revocation” of the permit.

Callanan agreed with Eckert that “this property is just about as suited as any in Mammoth for a B&B,” and reminded those present that the use is different from a transient rental due to the fact that the property owner must be a full time resident on site.

On Wednesday, April 11, the Hip Camp advertisement for the Yosemite Toad Inn was still live, but as of Thursday, April 12, it had been removed from the site.

RANCHERS
continued from page 1
left in the Eastern Sierra and Owens Valley to meet these environmental and other obligations.”

Cheng did not provide figures of what defines “historical” levels.

She added, “The City of Los Angeles is not required to provide water to ranch leases in Mono County. The leases are now being updated to ensure they comply with the new Chartier, and contracting requirements of the City and LADWP. If there is an operational need to spread excess or surplus water, it could then be provided on the leased property. This would occur primarily in extreme wet years or when the aqueduct system is incapable of adequately handling all of the water.

“LADWP will provide water during this irrigation season and until the leases are finalized.”

Gary Giacomini who runs the Cash-Baugh Ranch in Long Valley said of the century-old charter, “They want us to believe some lawyer finally found this?”

Rancher and President of the Inyo/Mono Cattlemen’s Association Matt Kemp is a third generation rancher, his wife is fifth generation Easidater.

“I have one question: Why?” Kemp asked, in reference to the waterless leases.

Kemp added, if LADWP is worried about water it should listen to its own Chief Operating Officer Marty Adams who has been quoted as saying there is no new water in the world, it is all recycled. The Sheet could not find the quote by Adams.

Kemp said based on figures presented at meetings with ranchers and LADWP between 50 and 90 percent of the water that flows onto Long Valley, or 5 acre-feet of water per acre of land that has been the standard for the 6,000 acres that are leased to ranchers, between 15,000 and 27,000 acres of water can be reused.

Kemp says there has not been a consensus on which figure is most accurate.

Irrigated land can support approximately 2.2 animals per acre*, but just .11 animals per acre can thrive on non-irrigated lands.

Ranchers have tried to negotiate with LADWP asking for just 2 acre-feet of water, but the water giant didn't budge, Kemp said.

Rancher Mark Lacey of Lacey Livestock said ranchers can't afford not to take the new five year leases. He added that after the next five years, ranchers will have to determine if it’s prudent to continue or to “walk away.”

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have not come forward on the issue and did not return calls to The Sheet for comment.

The only agency to comment so far has been the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Bishop BLM Field Manager Steve Nelson said the historic work ranchers have done “has provided the setting that allows us to argue today.”

He called Long Valley one of the remaining strongholds for the Bi-state sage grouse, and the bird is still under review for being listed as endangered.

He did not say in what way waterless leases could affect the bird.

Supervisor Fred Stump wondered if L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti, who is said to have aspirations for higher office, wants to be known as the destroyer of habitat for the sage grouse.

Garcetti portrays himself as a staunch environmentalist.

Stump then wondered if Garcetti was aware at all what LADWP was up to.

Garcetti's office did not return calls to The Sheet.

“Correction: In last week's issue, The Sheet erroneously reported this number as 300 head per acre on irrigated land.

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APRIL 28 • 6:30PM

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RON COHEN  - Deputy General Counsel, Alterra Mountain Co
JOHN WENTWORTH  - Mayor, Mammoth Lakes, CA

MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION
DENIED ... AND YET APPROVED

The Inyo Board of Supervisors indicated it would be receptive to construction of a Mini Storage facility on Main Street in Big Pine.

The issue was raised by Cindy and Kent Schlick, who hope to construct a facility on the vacant lot they own near Main and just north of the U.S. Post Office.

Current Central Business District (CBD) zoning precludes storage units as a permitted use. “Staff doesn’t believe these units are compatible with the Main Street location in Big Pine,” said Inyo County Planning Director Cathleen Richards.

Staff’s opinion was upheld by the Inyo County Planning Commission, which is why the Schlicks made their final appeal to the Board of Supervisors.

Overturning the Planning Commission’s decision, said Richards, would effectively “allow this in all central business zones,” and would “compel us [Inyo County] to update code.”

The appellant, Kent Schlick, said zoning restrictions simply contribute to the current blight, noting that “Over 50 percent of Big Pine storefronts are vacant.”

He added, in a written presentation, that “Even though the CBD (Zoning) was enacted just over 10 years ago, the real world has changed dramatically with the internet. The intent at the time was [to encourage] more brick-and-mortar retail and service businesses … many service businesses and offices can now work from home or be mobile. It’s a new world!”

Schlick said he has unanimous support of Big Pine Civic Club and signatures from 15 out of 16 Big Pine business owners.

He said by prohibiting a project from a person who wants to obey the rules, the upshot is that you'll have more unpermitted storages popping up. The demand is not going away.

Retired Planning Commissioner Ross Carunchio said the proposed use is not without precedence, noting that a trucking storage facility was located on Main Street in Big Pine in the 1970s.

Supervisor Mark Tillotans, whose district includes Big Pine, said simply that the project has public support and “we want to make this work.”

But in order to “make it work,” Supervisors decided that they simply couldn’t/wouldn’t overturn the Planning Commission decision, as “it opens a can of worms in terms of precedence,” according to Board Chair Dan Totheroh. Schlick’s appeal was officially denied.

Instead, Planning Director Richards was directed by Supervisors to change the current code (a 2-3 month process) in order to allow Mini-Storage uses in CBDs via the conditional-use permit process. “Currently, Mini Storages are not allowed in CBDs, even as a conditional use.

As Schlick said, the number one issue brought to the attention of the local Civic Club by residents is not cannabis, or the schools … it’s Main Street. What he promises, once approved, is that there will be at least one more patch of Main Street that is both occupied and featuring a new, nice facade.

If it had been approved, the measure would have doubled the parcel tax on owners of all property, value notwithstanding, meaning, owners of low- to moderately valued property would have been taxed the same amount as those living in much more affluent areas.

The Measure would have raised the parcel tax from $150 per year to $365 per year on residential property for the next 13 years.

None of the ten voting precincts gathered the two-thirds margin that would have been required for approval.

In the Darwin-Keeler area, the vote was 12-Yes” to 51-“No.” The vote in the Olancha-Cartago area precinct was 34-“Yes” to 73-“No.” The Furnace Creek precinct, which also had the lowest percent of eligible voters participating (32.7 percent) voted 17 “Yes” to 18 “No,” while interestingly one of the two voting precincts in Independence voted 46 “Yes” to 49 “No.”

The SIHD board held a closed-door meeting on Wednesday night to discuss where to go from here.

Opponents of Measure J said that they hope everyone will come together to look at other alternatives to the hospital which would be “self-sustaining” and not incur increasing debt.

MEASURE J FAILS

Voters reject bid to fund Southern Inyo Hospital District

By James

Measure J, a ballot initiative which would have substantially increased the parcel tax to support the Southern Inyo Health-care system, appears to have been decisively defeated.

The Measure, if passed, would have helped SIHD avert a scheduled bankruptcy hearing.

The latest results of the April 10 Special Election mail-in vote available from the Inyo County Clerk’s Office showed the measure failing with 494 “Yes” votes to 424 “No” votes, far more than the required two-thirds (66 percent) plus 1 vote needed for its approval.

The final results will not be available until sometime next week to count all ballots postmarked by April 10.

County Clerk Kammi Foote told The Sheet that it is very unlikely that there are enough outstanding ballots that would change the result. 54 percent of the 1,679 registered voters (918 voters) within the hospital district had participated as of Tuesday.

The greatest factor in Measure J’s defeat appears to have been simply the regressive nature of the tax proposal itself, although the hospital district’s long-troubled financial history which has resulted in three bankruptcies also played a significant role.

Pop-up storage has replaced pop-up retail as the new issue du jour in Inyo County. Planning Director Cathleen Richards says the above storage facilities in Big Pine do not comply with County code.
SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

Spate of accidents on Highway 395 spurs discussion

By Ben Trefry

How many fatalities are too many for one short but dicey section of road?

The recent quadruple-fatality collision on Highway 395 south of Bridgeport—in an area that has already seen several similar incidents—has many people questioning the safety of 395’s heavily-traveled but poorly-divided two-lane sections, which have seen an alarming increase in fatal collisions in 2018.

The latest wreck happened on the evening of March 30, when a Subaru Impreza crossed the center line of the highway and didn’t come back over in time. The collision apparently occurred just after the Impreza navigated a blind turn with double-yellow center lines, but the scene of the crash was just past an area of dotted yellow lines where passing is legal. This suggests that the Subaru began a legal pass but failed to pull back into its lane before going around the blind turn, where it encountered an oncoming vehicle, a Chevrolet Silverado pickup towing a fifth-wheel trailer.

That the Subaru may have been passing touches on a central problem with two-lane roads: people want to pass, whether because they are in a hurry or because there is a slow vehicle ahead of them. But passing on these kinds of roads is not always safe.

In just the first three-and-a-half months of 2018, there have been four fatal wrecks on 395 in Mono County, according to the CHP, compared to an average of three per year and three in all of 2017.

It was enough to prompt Mono County officials to discuss sending a letter to Caltrans, asking for improvements to this section of highway. Accidents are far more likely to happen on busy two-lane highways than on divided highways with more lanes. According to a 1981 study by the Texas Transportation Institute, for a given average daily traffic volume, two-lane highways without a shoulder reported far more crashes per million vehicle miles than four-lane highways without a shoulder.

Terry Erlewine of Caltrans’ District 9 office said at the Local Transportation Commission meeting on Monday that shoulder-widening has proven to decrease accidents by 50%.

In addition to the relative ease of drifting into opposing traffic, the California Highway Patrol says that it’s hard to catch distracted drivers on two-lane roads because, with only one lane of traffic in each direction, police cannot drive alongside other cars and see what drivers are doing.

As April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month, the CHP is trying to raise awareness about the dangers of using devices or performing other tasks while driving.

“If you stop a vehicle, then maybe 10 more vehicles will go by, and maybe it’ll make those people aware that, hey, I need to slow down,” CHP Officer Elena Villa told The Sheet.

Unfortunately, the distracted driving problem is only getting worse, according to numerous studies. A report by the National Highway Traffic Safety Association found that traffic deaths are up by 7.2 percent since 2014, which constitutes the largest increase since 1966. Distracted driving accounts for 25 percent of motor vehicle fatalities, and with the advent of in-car entertainment systems, cellphones are now just one of several distractions.

Based on data from the Everdrive app, 96 percent of drivers used their phones at least once while driving in a 30-day period. According to a report by the World Health Organization, drivers are four times as likely to be in a collision while using a phone than while giving their undivided attention to driving. And drivers who talk on the phone—whether or not it is hands-free—are still somewhat impaired by what experts refer to as the cognitive distraction of talking on the phone.

Distracted driving is extremely deadly on two-lane roads. Another study, this one by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, found that drifting over the center line was the biggest cause of fatal head-on accidents on two-lane highways. This scenario, often caused by inattentive, distracted, or drowsy drivers, accounted for 65 percent of all fatal accidents studied.

Surprisingly, passing was the cause of only 3 percent of these accidents, and as CHP (Bridgeport Office) Commander Bill Boyes said at Monday’s Local Transportation Commission meeting held in Mammoth, there was no evidence in any of the eight collisions since May, 2017 (resulting in 10 fatalities) of illegal passing.

A bigger issue is drunk driving, said Boyes. “We [CHP] issue nine DUI citations per month... that’s way too many [for a County this size],” he said.

Of the eight collisions referenced above, alcohol/drugs were a contributing factor in three of them.

“Two-lane roads are not inherently dangerous,” said Florene Trainor of Caltrans. “We respond to areas of concern where an accident rate is measured above an average range.”

Caltrans does not yet have plans for improving the infamous area south of Bridgeport, although it did recently erect a lighted sign stating the speed limit at the south end.

Although there have been lots of previous accidents on Highway 395, the latest one has been particularly talked-about. At the April 3 Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting, several Supervisors brought up

see SAFETY, page 17
The big question at Wednesday’s Mock Rock and Talent Show at the Mammoth High School MPR was this: How many people is it going to taken to replace Lea Ann Eller?

The MHS Librarian, House Mom, Matchmaker and De Facto Therapist is set to retire at the end of this school year.

For her final show, the senior class really went all out (so much so that the judges awarded the class an extra $300 for their senior trip), and the emcees (Daisy Lopez, Sloane Ramras, Hope Reeves and Omar Tapia) turned in a “best ever” performance.


We stock a large selection of supplies for all your climbing, hiking, and outdoor adventures. Rentals are available including tents, packs, sleeping bags, bouldering pads and climbing shoes.

Open 7 days a week including holidays
224 North Main St., Bishop, CA 93514
Eastsidesports.com, info@eastsidesports.com
760-873-7520

Cary Walker and her dance troupe.

Folklorico number with Daisy Lopez, Morelia Prieto, Omar Tapia, Luis Vaca and Priscila Yañez.

Left: Emcee Hope Reeves. Right: Second place winner Tyler Goodwin.

Hayley Moss and Jairo Yañez.

Michelle Villalpando tied for fourth.

Emcees Daisy Lopez and Omar Tapia.

Emcee Sloane Ramras.

Omar Tapia doing his best Elton John impression.
their belongings, bought an RV, and headed west. They were both avid climbers, and they’d visited Bishop before, so they figured that’s where they’d start.

“We said, if it’s too hot, we’ll go north, and if it’s too cold, we’ll go south,” said Dave as he stood behind the wooden bar he crafted at their hip new distillery, which opened quietly in January. “We’ve been here ever since.”

For the last 12 years, the couple have run a recycled and refurbished furniture business in Bishop, and Brittany worked as a dental assistant, which had been her career in Chicago. And they climbed—a lot. But Dave’s passion was always fermentation. “I’m pretty sure I was the only kid in 7th grade with wine fermenting under their bed,” laughs Dave. He won an award in high school in Illinois for making his first still. “It was under the guise of an energy project,” he said (the state still. “It was under the guise of an energy project,” he said (the state

Dave won her over with the food’s simplicity—they order beef and hot dogs from Vienna Beef (delicacies of Chicago-style hot dog and Italian beef restaurants and stands), heat them in some simple warmers, and voila—the food they need to serve to comply with their liquor license. The couple took a Chicagoan along for a taste, and he was impressed, though he did say the dishes were a little spicier than usual, though the pickle spear served with the hot dog was very much on point.

Dave and Brittany are poised to make a big splash in little Bishop. So poised, in fact, that they’ve held off on much fanfare until they get their sea legs. “We don’t want 100 people to come here on a Saturday and be disappointed,” said Dave of their cozy space.

So maybe don’t bring the whole office—yet. Dave nods knowingly when asked about a possible future expansion, but for now, the couple are keeping their hours limited (they’re open for food and drinks Thursday from 12-7 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 12-8 p.m.). They moved here to climb, after all. Owens Valley Distilling Company is located at 237 E. South Street, Unit E, in Bishop. 442.228.5041. Check out their website at www.owensvalleydistillingcompany.com or find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ovdcompany.
Mammoth’s Mayor John Wentworth asks: Who are we? Where are we going? How do we get there?

By Rea

Mammoth’s Mayor John Wentworth showed up to his interview with a gnarly case of road rash on his face—he’d been up at Tamarack for an early morning skate and had taken a tumble. It happens to the best of us. “Do you think I can show up at a meet the candidates forum like this?” asked Wentworth, the gash on his forehead covered by a Mammoth Lakes Trails and Parks Association (MLTPA) hat and the shiner on his cheek partially obscured by sunglasses.

Well, at least the injury shows that Wentworth, who has built his political career out of his passion for outdoor recreation, walks the walk.

Wentworth was elected to Mammoth’s Town Council in 2014, but his political story begins in 2005, when the avid backcountry skier heard that the then-Town Council was planning to restrict backcountry skiers’ access to the popular Sherwins. “There was a parking problem out there, and skiers were walking through people’s yards” on Ranch Road in Old Mammoth, said Wentworth.

The Town Council voted to allow a gate at the end of the road, but without providing for a public access easement. Wentworth’s family, who hail from New England, have “a long history of providing public access to beaches,” said Wentworth, and “It struck me as funny that the Town would consider giving up public roads to build private gates to constrain access to public lands.”

He and several other backcountry enthusiasts went out in December blizzard conditions and gathered 800 signatures to plead for access. News coverage followed (The Sheet covered the story, as did Powder Magazine). An easement was ultimately negotiated that is now included in the Snowcreek VIII master plan to ensure public access.

Wentworth went on to lead the campaigns for local ballot initiatives Measures R and U, before eventually running for elected office. Why is he running for another term? Wentworth says three big questions are the core of his candidacy: Who are we? Where are we going? How are we going to get there?

So who are we? A mountain community that shares the challenges of other “island” communities like ours. Housing, climate change, and the problems and benefits afforded by being surrounded by public lands are all common themes in these types of communities.

“With the sale of [Mammoth to Alterra, we have enormous opportunities, almost once in a lifetime, to really redefine who we are as a community.” Where are we going? From a public lands perspective, Mammoth is on the forefront of a sea change, Wentworth says. The Inyo National Forest is an “early adopter” of the national Forest Plan Revision, informed by the Framework for Sustainable Recreation (see “The Future of Sustainable Recreation,” June 11, 2016). “We are now in a new set of conversations with a new set of peers [which] self-identify in a new set of conversations with a mountain communities,” says Wentworth. He says his Council has added three crucial forward-looking components to the many plans that Mammoth is trying to implement:

- The future of sustainable recreation, going to get there?
- The Walk, Bike Ride program, the Downtown Revitalization Plan, and the Community Housing Action Plan (“probably the most important piece,” Wentworth notes) are all visions the current Council have prioritized.
- Council candidate Kirk Scapp says that the Town paid too much for the Shady Rest Parcel, which is zoned for affordable housing (see “Council Veteran Hopes to Return,” April 6). Wentworth says that without Council’s action, “those 200-some owners [of the Shady Rest parcel] would have been happy to sit back and pay their 1/200th of the property taxes” and let the land sit fallow.

Wentworth says that housing is “more than a crisis… it’s a zero sum proposition. If we don’t get this right, we’re not going to have a community.” And how are we going to get there? Action, Wentworth says. Anyone who has sat down with the Mayor for a coffee gets a sense of his almost insufferable optimism (he hates to hear the word “cynical”). “It’s all ready to go,” he says of the Town’s plans. “I want to run for Council to provide the leadership, the energy, the enthusiasm and the knowledge of [already having served] on Council… to see all this stuff come to fruition.”
**BARS & MUSIC**

**Happy Hour/**

- The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill. Pursuit of Happiness Hour, 3-6 p.m.
- $1 off drafts, $2 off wines. $4 well drinks, $2 off specialty drinks. $5 Flatbread.
- Outlaw Saloon - Happy Hour Monday; All Night Happy Hour; 4-Midnight, Tues-Fri 4-6 p.m.
- Tuesday; $2 Tacos 4-10 p.m.; 6-9 p.m. Wing Wednesday 50% off all wings. Thursday; Burger & Beer special 4-6 p.m. See ad, p. 9.
- Roberto’s 4-6 p.m. every day.
- Austria Hof 5-8 p.m. daily. See ad, p. 8.
- Whitepark Restaurant Bar & Lounge Unwind with daily drink and food specials 4-6 p.m.
- Clocktowel Cellar Happy Hour 4:30-7 p.m. daily and all day Sunday. $5 dollar menu items, drink specials. See ad, p. 3.
- Petra’s Bistro Happy Hour, 5-6 p.m. every day. See ad, p. 3.
- Mammoth’s famous Slocums Happy Hour Mon. thru Fri 4-6; Saturdays 4-5. Closed Sun. See ad, p. 5.
- Happy Hour @ The Bistro at Snowcreek. 4:30-6:30 p.m. daily.
- Mammoth Tavern Happy Hour Tuesday-Sunday 3:30-5:30 p.m. Closed Mondays.
- Smokeyard weekend Happy Hour 4-6 p.m. in the bar only.
- Side Door Happy Hour daily 3-6 p.m.
- Giovanni’s Happy Hour daily 4-6 p.m. Large pizza and a pitcher of beer gets you free wings.
- Lakanuki Happy Hour daily 3-6 p.m. $4.50 margaritas, Mai Tais. Happy Hour drink specials 10 p.m. - close.
- Black Velvet Coffee’s Happy Hour, from 4-6 p.m. every day.
- Morrison’s Happy Hour Daily 3-6 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

**Friday, April 13/**

- The Jaded Raters play Liberty Sports Bar & Grill. 9 p.m. Free. See ad, p. 3.

**Saturday, April 14/**

- Andrew Webber Blues Band plays Liberty Sports Bar & Grill. 9 p.m. Free. See ad, p. 3.

**Sunday, April 15/**

- Some Assembly Required plays Black Doubt Brewing. 7-9 p.m. Free.

**Monday, April 16/**

- Bone & Beats at Mammoth Rock’n Bowl. 9 p.m. $4 games. See ad, p. 13.

**Tuesday, April 17/**

- MMMS Employee Night @ Mammoth Rock’n Bowl. $3 games and $2 shoes. Must show employee pass. See ad, p. 13.

**Wednesday, April 18/**

- Karaoke night @ Samurai, 8 p.m.
- Wild Wing Wednesdays at Outlaw Saloon. 50 percent off all wings 6-9 p.m. See ad, p. 9.

**Thursday, April 19/**

- Latin Night at Mammoth Rock’n Bowl. 9 p.m. See ad, p. 13.

**April 20-21/**

- Ben Misterka & Collective play Liberty Bar. 9 p.m. Free. See ad, p. 3.

**Saturday, April 21/**

- Fabbruf @ Rafters. Post-Neanderthal Analogue Synthesists. Feat. DJ Rodney O. 10 p.m. Free. 21+

**TOWN STUFF**

**Friday, April 13/**

- Mammoth Return to Paradise film screening. $15 suggested entry support for MHS ski & snowboard team. No host beer & wine. Student provided baked goods for purchase. Doors @ 6, film @ 7. Edison Theatre in Mammoth.

- MHS Baseball and Softball teams host Trona. 3 p.m. Whitemore Field.

**April 14-15/**


**Saturday, April 14/**

- Rattlesnake avoidance training for dogs at Millpond. Visit www.bishopveterinaryhospital.com or call 760.873.5801 to register.

- Eastern Sierra Land Trust Pollinators Workshop. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. @ White Mountain Research Center. Info or RSVP: Ryan at garden@esi.org or 760.873.4554.

- Mono County Democrats April meeting. Mammoth Library. 10:15 a.m.-12 p.m.

- Bishop Country Club’s 70th Birthday Party. Ticket and fundraiser. This tournament is a club benefit tournament. Members $50, Non-members $75. Day’s events from 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. Continental breakfast and check-in 9 a.m. Shotgun start 2 p.m. For more information contact steve@bishopcountryclub.com. See sidebar, next page.

**Sunday, April 15/**

- Pond Skim 2018 @ Canyon Lodge. 8:30 a.m.: Tix will be issued to first 50 participants in line. 9 a.m.: Registration @ Canyon. 2 p.m.: Pond Skim. 4 p.m.: Spring Party @ Canyon Beach.


- Sierra Club outing: Destination TBD by weather conditions. Meet @ Mammoth Gold Mercantile 8:30 a.m. at Mammoth Gold Mercantile (Minaret Shopping Center).

- Mammoth Return to Paradise Film screening. $15 suggested entry support for MHS ski & snowboard team. No host beer & wine. Student provided baked goods for purchase. Doors @ 6, film @ 7. Edison Theatre in Mammoth.

- MHS Baseball and Softball teams host Trona. 3 p.m. Whitemore Field.


**Monday, April 16/**

- Inyo Associates meet at the Boulder Creek RV park just south of Lone Pine. 5:30 p.m. social hour; 6:30 p.m. dinner. $20, RSVP to the Bishop Chamber at 760.873.8405.

- Volunteer Eastern Sierra weekly speaker series. This week: Town Council candidate Kirk Stapp. 7-8 a.m. at Mammoth Gold Mercantile (Minaret Shopping Center).
ESLT Pollinators Workshop

Looking to revamp your garden this season, but don’t know where to start? Join Eastern Sierra Land Trust for a free workshop and discover how to turn any garden into a haven for pollinators. For information, go to RSVP: contact Ryan at garden@eslt.org or 760.873.4554. Saturday, April 14 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the White Mountain Research Center.

Scoping comments sought for Sherwin’s trail improvements

The Mammoth Ranger District of the Inyo National Forest is seeking comments for a proposed action to implement trail improvements in the Sherwins area.

The proposed project, the Sherwin Area Recreation Plan (SHARP), would create a system of non-motorized trails.

The proposed action includes: Reconstruct and Designate User-Created Trails · Construct Natural Surface Loop/Connection Trails · Construct Permeable Surface, Multi-Use Pathway · User-Created Trail Rehabilitation and Closure

It is anticipated trail construction and improvement work will be completed during the starting summer of 2018 and possibly continue into 2019. The work will be completed in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes under authorization of the Mammoth Ranger District.

The proposed action is currently available for a 14-day comment period. Comments are most useful if received by April 20, 2018 and should address issues, opportunities, concerns, and suggestions for the proposed action. Written comments can be attached to the letter for more detail.

Written comments can be submitted to Margie DeRose c/o Ken Hood, Director of Recreation, 1401 Main St., Mammoth, CA 93546 or by email to comments-pacificsouthwest-inyo@fs.fed.us, with subject line, "SHARP Phase II Project." For questions regarding this project, contact Terry Wood, Inyo National Forest, Mammoth Ranger District Office, phone number 760.934.5523, or email kwood@fs.fed.us.

Water Efficient Landscaping

The Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD) is offering a certifying Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) training class sponsored by the Mammoth Community Water District. 8:30-12:30, Info: RSVP: 760.934.2596. See sidebar and ad, p. 7. Mammoth Town Council meeting, 6 p.m. in Suite Z. Workshop @ 4 p.m.

Wednesday, April 18 (cont’d)/ Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) training class sponsored by the Mammoth Community Water District. 8:30-12:30, Info: RSVP: 760.934.2596. See sidebar and ad, p. 7. Mammoth Town Council meeting, 6 p.m. in Suite Z. Workshop @ 4 p.m.

April 18-21/ ICR Art Events. Wed-Thurs: Join Dr. Lisa Fontana, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools, for an evening of family fun with art, storytelling and snacks. Wednesday: Big Pine Library, 4:30 p.m. Thursday: Independence Methodist Church town hall, 4:30 p.m. Friday: Student art show reception at Inyo Council for the Arts, 137 Main St. in Bishop. Saturday: Storytelling workshop with Wild Roots forest school. ICA, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Thursday, April 19/ Mammoth Voices meeting: Meet the Candidates. Leslie-Anne Hoxie (Town Council candidate) and Gerald Kosen (District 1 Supervisor candidate) speak at Giovanni’s. Begins 11:30.

April 20-22/ Earth Day Weekend activities. See sidebar column this page.


Chamber Music Unbound presents The Sonora Strings in “Fantastic Four” @ The Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church. Time: 7:30 p.m. Features

TOWN STUFF

UPCOMING

string quartets by Haydn, Tchaikovsky and Shumann. Tix: $25 Adult, $20 Senior, $7 Student. Available online (www.ChamberMusicUnbound.org), at the Booky Joint, the Inyo Council for the Arts, or at the door 45 minutes before performances. Note: There is also a Sunday show at 4 p.m. at Bishop’s Cerro Coso campus. Fee free day @ National Parks.

The public will be invited to experience all National Parks without entrance fees! Wag-n-Walk family-friendly dog walk. Hosted by Altrusa International of the Eastern Sierra. This event will start at the Bishop City Park. Registration fee $20. Register online at http://altrusaes.org. See sidebar.

Public event to view Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep. Meet 9 a.m. in the Bishop CDFW parking lot, 787 N. Main Street (behind El Pollo Loco). Pre-Registration required. Email ask-snb@wildlife.ca.gov to register.

High Sierra Strongman Classic hosted by Schat’s Roadhouse in Bishop. First annual. Keg carry, deadlift, truck pull, yolk walk, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. @ Schat’s Roadhouse, 871 Main St. in Bishop.

 Monday, April 23/ Bishop City Council meeting @ Bishop City Hall, 377 W. Line St. Info: 760.873.5863. 6 p.m.

Tuesday, April 24/ Confronting Climate Change in a Mountain Community, hosted by Mammoth Lakes Recreation and Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Cost: $5. Special screening of “Saving Snow” and panel discussion with Steve Skadron, mayor of Aspen, CO; Andy Wirth, CEO of Squaw Valley; Ron Cohen of Alterra and Mammoth Mayor John Wentworth. Doors @ 6:30, event begins @ 7. See ad, p. 7.

MINARET CINEMAS

The Sonora Strings in “Fantastic Four” @ The Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church. Time: 7:30 p.m. Features

AT THE MOVIES

Minaret Cinemas

Blockers (R): Overprotective parents join forces to thwart their daughters’ plans to lose their virginity on prom night.

Rampage (PG 13): Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson stars in this story of a gentle ape turned into a monster by a rogue genetic experiment.

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

calendar of events

Looking to revamp your garden this season, but don’t know where to start? Join Eastern Sierra Land Trust for a free workshop and discover how to turn any garden into a haven for pollinators. You’ll hear from local experts about hummingbirds, bees, butterflies, and how to turn any garden into a haven for pollinators. For information, go to RSVP: contact Ryan at garden@eslt.org or 760.873.4554. Saturday, April 14 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the White Mountain Research Center.
High Country Lumber in Mammoth is hiring! We hire hard workers who can help to assist climbers in the lumber yard. We will train. Position is located at the Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock & Bowl. High Country Lumber offers a competitive hourly rate pay + health benefits and vacation accrual for qualified full time employees. Application available online at highcountrylumber.com or in person at 243 Sierra Manor Rd in Mammoth.

Restaurant Skadi seeks enthusiastic and motivated culinary professionals. We are looking to hire a Sous Chef with a passion for food with a strong work ethic and aptitude to learn. We are also hiring dishwashers. Experience demonstrating direct interaction with the customer is preferred. Chef Ian Algoeren is an education. Skadi offers health wage, a nightly family meal, and an inspired work environment. All applicants should have relevant restaurant experience. Apply in person Wednesday through Sunday before 5 pm, or online info@sierlodge.com.

Cook for Special Events, Catering and Lunch Facility - $17.31 + Benefits + Bonus. Create menus and serve meals including breakfast, lunch and dinners for on-site and off-site events; menu varies, Medical, 401(k) and other employee benefits. Renovated Restaurant. Great Work Environment. 760.934.3800 ext.46 Kristen@convictlake.com

Holiday Haus Motel and Hostel Now Hiring! For year round position as a Front Desk Manager and Part-time Housekeeper. Excellent pay DOE. Please contact Todd Roberts at 760.934.2414 or stop by and see us in person at 3905 Main Street.

Full Charge Bookkeeper (Quick Books, Payroll, Excel, Word. Attention to detail, Calm and flexible) Ask for Kristen

Quality Control Specialist for Resort - $17.31 + Benefits + Bonus. Inspections, requests for maintenance, amenity re-placements, guest welcome bags, supply stocking and call logs for thirty one cabins and houses Medical, 401(k) and other employee benefits. Great Work Environment. 760.934.3800 ext.46 Kristen@convictlake.com.

Estate Sale
Saturday, April 14, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Holiday Haus Motel & Hostel**

Hochland Haus Motel and Hostel is in search of someone to hug a tree on with Earth Day. Because who doesn’t like a good tree hug. It wasn’t #forthehedge version, but you are a dancing queen.

In search of... someone to hug a tree on with Earth Day. Because who doesn’t like a good tree hug. It wasn’t #forthehedge version, but you are a dancing queen.

The Alpenhof Lodge is looking for friendly, customer service oriented, employees to add to our team. We are currently hiring for the following positions: Front Desk, Sales, Dining, Maintenance and housekeeping. Full time & part time positions are available. Positions can be season or year-round. Employees will be available to work weekends and holidays. Some nights. Full time positions start at 21.00 per hour. Please apply in person at 6080 Minaret Rd, Mammoth. Applicants Assistant - $16.59 + Benefits + Bonus. Telephones, clerical, shipping and receiving, reports, assist in accounting department. Medical, 401(k) and other employee benefits.

The Alpenhof Lodge and Home of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority is hiring for the following positions: Street Outreach Specialist 1, II or III positions. This position will work from the Bishop Office and perform a wide variety of duties. Knowledge of some of the following: HR, financial, grants, procurement, IT, board clerk and clerical activities of a highly responsible nature. The ideal candidate will have excellent Excel skills, aptitude for providing basic technical support, be flexible with work hours, and a good attitude. Two positions available.

This is a 100 % benefited position. M-F days 8:30-5:00. Mondays, Holidays and some week-end work for the Bishop office. Pay Range: $18.72 - $21.81 (I); $20.19 - $24.11 (II); $22.12 - $26.41 (III) per hour. Full Benefits. Program and random drug screen. Applications must be fully filled, first application review on April 16, 2018. Please submit a resume, cover letter and completed application form. Applications found on ESTA website or Bishop LD, Bishop 760.872.1901 ext. 15, EEO Employer

**For Sale**

**Bookkeeping Services Available**

In search of... someone to hug a tree on with Earth Day. Because who doesn’t like a good tree hug. It wasn’t #forthehedge version, but you are a dancing queen.

I saw you... at the Invitational, all glitzy, glittery, gold, bling. It wasn’t #forthehedge version, but you are a dancing queen.

I saw you... in the MOCIE climate survey. Educator + survey + spicy hot! I saw you... running for County Supervisor. Note: Get rid of the man bun. You are not an artist, with a man bun, but you can’t get better.

Looking for... shaved gorilla with better teeth. I don’t get the whole rag bag dragger. If this is you, meet me on Earth Day so I can show you my utensils.
TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, CALIFORNIA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
CAP 15-008
THE SHEET
TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES
California

NEW COMMUNITY MULTIPLE USE FACILITIES

In the Town of Mammoth Lakes for:
The Town of Mammoth Lakes will receive sealed bids at the office of the

Proposal forms and Contract Documents for this work are included in the specifications.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Project includes the construction of a new multi-use facility.

GC/CM construction management services.

The project includes the construction of a new multi-use facility.

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GLITZ, GLITTER (AND RAIN) AT MAMMOTH INVITATIONAL

Photos by Sue Morning


PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

General Plan Amendments

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mono County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing April 17, 2018, in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, Mono County Courthouse, Bridgeport, CA, and by teleconference from the County Administrative Office (CAO) Conference room, 3rd Floor, Sierra Center Mall, 452 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA, to consider the following:

1:00 p.m. GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 18-01 consisting of four parts – A) Commercial cannabis, B) Short-term rentals, C) Housing, and D) Transportation.

A) Revise the General Plan Land Use Element to adopt policies and regulations for commercial cannabis land uses, including cultivation manufacturing, processing, storing, laboratory testing, labeling, sale, delivery, distribution or transportation, and other uses related to cannabis and cannabis products. Policies include issues. Opportunities and Constraints; and regulations include identification of land use designations allowing commercial cannabis uses subject to a use permit and a Cannabis Operation Permit shall be set forth in Mono County Code Chapter 5.65, land use designations prohibiting commercial cannabis uses; modifications making the following definitions, regulations, and exceptions to these definitions, regulations applicable to commercial cannabis uses; uses not listed as permitted (04-03), home occupation (04-290) and Right-to-Farm regulations (Chapter 24); and a new chapter establishing commercial cannabis development standards including setbacks, buffers from certain existing uses, security measures, odor control, signage and notices, visual screening/fencing, lighting, parking, noise, and other applicable regulations.

B) Revise the General Plan Land Use Element to update policies and regulations pertaining to short-term rentals in certain residential land use designations, including countywide policies, June Lake Area Plan policies, revisions to certain residential land use designations to permit short-term rentals subject to a use permit and a Short-Term Rental Activity Permit that shall be set forth in Mono County Code Chapter 5.65, Section 2 - Definitions, Chapter 25 - Short-Term Rentals, and Chapter 26 - Transient Rental Standards & Enforcement. Highlights of the proposed amendment include identification of June Lake neighborhoods where short-term rentals are allowable and prohibited; the addition of new policies and regulations governing short-term rental uses; a separation of the permitting process for short-term rentals located in certain residential land use designations versus transient rental uses in non-residential or Multi-Family High land use designations; and the establishment of a second, required discretionary permit for short-term rentals in certain residential land use designations that is specific to the property owner and is non-transferable.

C) Revise the General Plan Land Use Element to include housing policies that address a “fair share” of affordable/workforce housing by future development projects with the potential for significant housing impacts, as determined through a housing impact assessment, while the housing mitigation toolbox is being finalized and the Housing Mitigation Ordinance is suspended.

D) Revise the Circulation Element to reflect technical amendments to the Regional Transportation Plan. The new plan incorporates projects from the 2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program and the Capital Improvement Program, which were approved by the Local Transportation Commission at a public hearing on Dec. 11, 2017. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, commercial cannabis policies are exempt under Business & Professions Code §26055(h), and an addendum to the existing General Plan EIR is being utilized for short-term rental policies and housing policies, and technical amendments to the Regional Transportation Plan in the Circulation Element.

On April 5, 2018, the Planning Commission made changes and edits to the proposed General Plan text and adopted Resolution 18-01 recommending that the Board of Supervisors find GPA 18-01 A) Commercial Cannabis exempt from CEQA per Business & Professions Code §26055(h), approve the use of addendums to the 2016 RTP/IR EIR for GPA 18-01 B) Short-Term Rents, C) Housing policies, and D) Transportation and Circulation Element, and adopt the text changes to the Land Use Element and Circulation Element of the Mono County General Plan, Project materials are available for public review at the Community Development Department offices in Bridgeport and Mammoth Lakes; for more information call 760-924-1800.

INTERESTED may appear before the Board of Supervisors to present testimony or, prior to or at the hearing, file written correspondence with Board Clerk, PO Box 715, Bridgeport, CA 93517. If you challenge the proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to Board Clerk at, or prior to, the public hearing.

WE WANT YOU! TO BE A POLLWORKER!

JUNE 5, 2018

STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION

The Mono County Elections Office needs Poll Workers just like YOU! Serving as a Poll Worker is a great opportunity to connect with members in your own community and participate in the Elections process. Plus, you get paid! If you’ve never thought about it before, or haven’t served in awhile, please consider it! Give us a call at (760) 932-5537 or send us an email to: elections@mono.ca.gov

Above: Stacey Cook with Pisten Bully’s Jason Piper, winner of the “Indoor Biathlon.” Below: Andy Bensch (left) plays in the King of the Snow exhibition against Hagen Smith.

Alterra President and COO David Perry with wife Kathy.

Above: Team captains Tyler Wallasch, Greg Bretz Jr. and Mark Engle join their Go Go Girls teams. Right: Doreen Leeds, Rusty Gregory, Mark Brownlie, Scott Adelson and Eric Mann. Below: Glen Blake presents Michael Sentovich with a Miles Weaver photo.
The Monday, April 9 Bishop City Council meeting was a very emotional one as four remaining City Councilmembers (Mayor Karen Schwartz, Laura Smith, newly-appointed Mayor Pro Tem Jim Ellis and Joe Pecsi), met in session for the first time since the loss of Mayor Pro Tem Pat Gardner, who passed away on March 24, 2018.

The four City Council members honored the Gardner family with a resolution, plaque, proclamation, commemorative coin and engraved gavel in remembrance of her six years of service on the Council. Ted Gardner, Pat’s husband of 40 years, was accompanied by their sons, Christopher and David Gardner.

Despite the loss, city business had to move on, as Pat’s position as Mayor Pro Tem was filled by Councilmember Jim Ellis in a unanimous vote. Then, the difficult discussion had to be made on how to fill the vacancy created by the loss of Gardner.

The City Council, according to the City Attorney Ryan Jones, had three options. One was to appoint a person to fill the vacancy. A second option was to hold a special election. The third option was to wait until the election in November to fill the position and proceed with just the four remaining Councilmembers. They chose to fill the vacancy as soon as possible to have a complete Council of five members.

Applications will be accepted from any eligible interested citizen within the city limits listing their qualifications and answering a question on why they wish to serve on the City Council and why they feel most qualified.

Anyone interested in applying should stop in at Bishop City Hall, located at 377 West Line Street in Bishop, or call 760.873.5863.
A NEW HOME FOR FAMILY FUN

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

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