ALL TORN UP
Your guide to Mammoth’s ongoing public works projects
By Lunch

For better or worse, this is what progress looks like.
Expect the Town of Mammoth Lakes to be torn up for the next several weeks as the Town has $8.5 million worth of ongoing public works projects.

The major projects include:
1. The sidewalk project on the north side of Main Street between the Post Office and Forest Trail.
2. The sidewalk project on Minaret Road between 80|50 and the corner (Mammoth Brewing/Eatery).
3. Mammoth Creek Gap Crossing.

That the sidewalk project on the north side of Main Street began in earnest on Monday surprised some folks. Stellar Brew owner Andrea Walker said she was surprised to discover all the parking in front of her shop suddenly missing on Monday morning.

While the contractor, Spiess Construction, had apparently notified her employees weeks ago of the start date, the message did not get delivered. Walker says she likely would have staffed and planned differently for the next few weeks with a little more notice.

Kittredge Sports owner Tom Cage said he was notified the work was to begin some two weeks ago. “I probably had more notice because I’ve been going to the meetings and have been involved,” he said.

But then, he gently chided Ms. Walker by adding, “You are a commercial business owner. Your job is to be aware of what planning is going on.”

Moving on
By Gorman

“When I was in the forest service,” Sandy said, “They didn’t allow us to cut down trees and then ask people if it was okay later.”

LADWP has already begun drafting its Environmental Impact Report, which will be released for public review in summer 2019. It will then be considered for acceptance by The L.A. Board of Water and Power the following fall.

The scoping process ends on October 16th. Its purpose is simply to understand residents’ priorities in order to guide LADWP’s Environmental Impact Report (EIR). They want to know what they are damaging before they choose to cut off the water. The only problem is that LADWP cut the water off to these leases last spring.

The scoping process saw many stakeholders and county decision-makers broadcast their concerns. Chair of the Mono County Supervisors, Bob Gardner, asked that LADWP “turn a new page and do the right thing.”

“Em Holland asked that the LADWP explain in the EIR how it will mitigate effects on the local sage grouse population. The LADWP claims it has exhibited proactive intent on protecting sage grouse. Before the scoping period, it had already put together a Sage Grouse Working Group and promised that it would do that.”

The view up Main Street from in front of Kittredge Sports.

see LADWP, page 13

see TORN, page 8

Saturday, September 29, 2018
FREE
Vol. 16, No. 39
**CASE DISMISSED**

...just as a new case surfaces

In the end, they all just wanted to be done with it. And with Mammoth Lakes Board Chairman Scott McGuire, the catalyst behind the investigation into fellow Board member Brent Truax’s decision-making and ethics, absent due to a family emergency, it became a lot easier for his fellow Board members to turn the page.

By a unanimous vote, the MLT Board decided to not even vote on whether or not to strip Truax of his role as Vice-Chairman of the Board (and one of four members of the Executive Committee). Rather the vote was to accept his responses to various questions outlined by McGuire (Truax’s answers appear on pages 3 and 4) and to consider the matter closed.

Truax’s only concession in the matter is that he will step down from his role as a member of MLT’s air service committee.

But as Board member Cleland Hoff warned post-vote, “You can bet, Brent, I’m gonna have my eye on you.”

Truax did not appear visibly shaken by the warning. As the person who made the motion for stasis, Hoff said, “I ask that we turn our attention to the work ahead of us ... I’m tired of hearing about Brent Truax. I’m tired of this.” Fellow Borad member Kirk Schaubmayer agreed, noting that MLT’s meetings are now taped, that Board members have completed ethics training, and that there’s no cloak-and-dagger going on. “We’re all human,” he said. “That doesn’t absolve us from not being diligent ... Let’s just get on with it from here.”

“God knows I made plenty of mistakes as [past] Chairman,” added John Morris. The question is whether something is deliberate as opposed to inadvertent, he said. “I don’t think it escalated to the level for removal from a position.”

So that was that, right? Well, the meeting didn’t end so cleanly. Board member Paul Rudder motioned to table the vote to the next meeting (Oct. 3) because of McGuire’s absence. Board member Sean Turner said he’d receive an email from McGuire that indicated the matter should move forward without him. This sentiment was confirmed by MLT Executive Director John Urdi. No one seconded Rudder’s motion, so Hoff said it had died for a lack of a second.

Rudder said he knew nothing about the email and insisted his motion be withdrawn before its death.

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OP/ED

NO ON PROP. 6

Proposition 6, on the November ballot, is a constitutional amendment initiative to repeal ‘the gas tax’. The gas tax (SB 1), was signed into law in 2017. That’s the first time since 1994 that a tax at the pumps was raised...23 years ago! In those 23 years, California went from a state that had decent roads and freeways, but now we’re ranked as one of the ten worst in the US today.

It’s important to realize that while it’s great to have more fuel-efficient vehicles on the road, such as hybrids and electric vehicles (EV's), that means less money to fix our roads, which keep on “taking a beating” from your vehicle whether it’s gas-powered or not.

So, SB 1 came to the rescue, as it was definitely time to raise the tax on gas and diesel fuels and add a registration fee for EV’s. To protect those taxes, 81.3% of voters passed Proposition 69 in June, 2018, an amendment to the CA constitution locking in those funds to be used only for transportation funding. Unfortunately, those funds to be used only for transportation funding will be eliminated. For transit riders, bus replacement will be delayed or not happen at all. For those of you affected by potholes and bad roads, you’ll just have to plan on more shock absorber repairs, and all of us will have to suffer the possibility of more accidents, as poor road conditions lead to a higher rate of road deaths and injuries. Is that really worth saving a few dollars at the pump?

Sometimes it’s a bit hard to figure out all of those propositions on the ballot, but this one is a “no-brainer” for any of us who drive, ride transit, or ride our bikes. Please be sure that you take the time to vote NO on Prop 6, and you will continue to see improvements to our local streets, roads and state highways!

Sandy Hogan
Mono County LTC (Local Transportation Commission)

THE TRUAX REBUTTAL

Mammoth Lakes Tourism’s Board Chairman Scott McGuire submitted several questions to fellow Executive Committee member and Vice-Chairman Brent Truax last month. Mr. Truax requested the questions be in writing and what follows are the responses he mailed back prior to the MLT Special Board meeting on Sept. 26. We will try to provide some context as well as condense where appropriate.

Dear Mr. McGuire:

Even though I never got any response back from the MLT Board of Director’s Attorney regarding questions given to me, I made a commitment and am giving you a response back by today, September 29, 2018.

As I submit these responses, I am still unclear as to the litmus test we are applying to Board members. For example, to whom, besides me, is this test being applied? ... There have been many decisions and actions by the Board over the past eight years, and never previously have we given questions to any exiting Chair or done a review of each and every action that Chair has or has not taken. Are we now entering into a new era where we review all prior actions and decisions whenever the new Chair does not like or agree with a prior Board decision? Do we look back to review every vote taken to see if every board member’s stakeholder might have had some possible financial interest and reverse every such decision?

This Board was created and operates as an NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) because those who serve on the Board are also here as representatives of significant stakeholders of the community. It is important that leaders of the community have a voice in the Board’s actions by having their respective representative sit on this Board ...

HR Policy and Procedure

This came up because there was a rumor of behavior by an employee which could have been construed as sexual harassment.

My recollection is that there was a request from some external HR assistance to help with requests that might need an independent review ... I reached out to the Chamber to see who might be available and contacted a possible company in Bishop, who responded that their focus was on providing general HR assistance. There was also a search done for other potential resources that might be available ...

There was material handed out at a following meeting that started to look at possible future policy ... however, during that time MLT received information that Alaska Airlines was ending service later in the season, and see TRUAX, page 4
TRUAX
continued from page 3
the Board made a shift in its focus ...

The first time you asked about any follow-up on the HR issue was when you presented your list of questions to me on August 29, 2018. The Board priorities shift from month to month, but you have not made the implementation of an HR policy a priority for you. As Chair, you have not placed the HR policy issue on the agenda. As you and all Board members are well aware, it takes many hands to do the heavy lifting at the Board, and it is not right to point to only one member of the Board and suggest there is something wrong with that member for not doing all the heavy lifting by themselves.

Grand Jury

Mr. McGuire asked why the Mono County Grand Jury had such a hard time obtaining documents from MLT (to the point where a subpoena had to be issued).

Truax denied at the August 29 meeting of MLT’s Executive Committee that any individual had been subpoenaed.

This elicited a very off-the-record response from a Grand Jury member, who stated in an email to The Sheet, “I seem to remember a very public subpoena was issued to/for Brent Truax to appear before the 2017/18 Grand Jury.

Truax’s response: As I have explained, per the instruction of the Grand Jury from the initial investigation, as further confirmed in my subsequent conversation on August 29 with the assistant county clerk, I am only allowed to direct you to the report. Until I receive other direction from the court, I am not able to provide any additional information.

Air Service

I had several conversations with the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration). None of these were improper and I have not received any non-public information.

I have not asked MLT to take any stance with respect to a regional airport solution and MLT has not voted to take a position on a regional airport solution.

As part of these meetings I did not express a view on what should or should not happen.

At the same time other members of the Board who have direct financial interests, with subsidy cost and long-term plans, have persistently and very clearly articulated their support for moving airports and air service. For example, in the spring the Mammoth Resorts Board representative stated they (Mammoth Resorts) would only support renewal of the THD if air service moved to Bishop.

During one of the informational Board meetings I met Bill Tomcich. He gave me his card showing his title as President at Stay Aspen Snowmass. Subsequently, I was invited to attend a Lions Club luncheon by a Lions Club member, where Mr. Tomcich was speaking (after the MLT Board meeting). I had other commitments and stopped by as the meeting was wrapping up. As I am accustomed to do in the hospitality business, I asked Mr. Tomcich if he had dinner plans. He did not have any, so we had dinner that evening, and I paid for dinner. This seemed perfectly natural to me.

Over the last eight years Board members have spent a lot of time being hospitable and have been excellent ambassadors for the community. We have toured people around the community, had meals and introduced people to community members. This is part of our role as Tourism Board members.

Town Contract

McGuire’s issue: Town Manager Dan Holler sent guidance to Truax regarding what the Town wished to see in its contact with MLT for 2018-2019. That correspondence appears to not have been shared with the rest of the MLT Board until after MLT was through with its budgeting process. Truax’s reply (below) is extremely difficult to follow.

I was asked in an MLT meeting by a Town Council member if I had received follow-up communication from the council’s staff regarding direction on a potential contract after the Council’s most recent meeting. I had not received any official communication on the contract from town staff after the most recent Council meeting prior to the MLT Board meeting, and I indicated as much at the MLT meeting. There had been drafts previously circulated. There was no attempt not to share information, as the MLT Board Executive Director had information about the drafts. I did not understand the question to be about informal, yet to be finalized, drafts between the town council staff, the MLT Executive Director and myself.

In response to the MLT Board meeting about the lack of follow-up and the interest in the current draft, directly after the Board meeting on June 6th the MLT Executive Director sent out the draft version for deliverables to the full contract committee of the MLT board. The receipt of the draft version should have solved any concerns.
MUCHOVEJ ADO ABOUT BISHOP COUNCIL RACE

By Maddux

Data science/software engineer, Stephen Muchovej, 38, is one of the younger candidates running for Bishop City Council in the upcoming November election. He is challenging incumbents Joe Pecsi and Mayor Karen Schwartz.

“I love this town and valley, for what it was, what it is, and what it can be,” Muchovej said. “I am pretty much an open book ... right now I am 38, and I will be 39 the day before the election. I am kind of old fashioned (and) I don’t know what a millennial means. Oftentimes people talk about millennials being people [who] are tech savvy. [There] are some qualities about that definitely apply to me. I am definitely technologically savvy. I also do have a very strong work ethic” Muchovej said.

“I believe I can make the council more proactive by addressing some of the issues that we face right now. I want to make a difference ... and I think we have so much potential and we need some fresh ideas and some new energy,” Muchovej said. Stephen originally moved to the valley to work as an astrophysicist at the Radio Observatory in Big Pine. He worked for many years at the Radio Observatory, and noticed that two-thirds of the people were working at the Radio Observatory in Big Pine. He worked for many years at the Radio Observatory, and noticed that two-thirds of the people were laid off and there was a decline in morale.

He was faced with a decision and asked himself, “do I go where the jobs are, or do I retrain myself and stay where I love?” He stayed.

After choosing to stay in the area, he noticed that Digital 395 was beginning to be built in the valley, and said “well here is a new infrastructure piece, how can I make use of [it] and still make a living here?” So, Muchovej retrained as a data science/software engineer, is employed in tech and currently works remotely. “Basically re-cast my skill set to allow me to keep living in the valley, and doing challenging things.”

Muchovej is originally from Brazil and believes that his background “has taught me to be warm, inviting, and friendly and [to also meet] a bunch of people. I am definitely proud of my Brazilian heritage,” he said.

Until the age of 13, Muchovej grew up in Brazil, but he’s had U.S. citizenship his entire life. He was offered a full ride scholarship to U.C. Berkeley, as a U.C. Regents Scholars and triple majored in astronomy, math and physics. Muchovej furthered his education at Columbia University in New York, and completed a PhD in Astrophysics.

Muchovej said that he comes from a diverse background and said, “I know what it feels like to have to fight to be heard and I know that that feeling sucks. [So] that is what I am rallying against - anybody feeling like they are not being heard,” he said. “I want to make sure Bishop is a place that is welcoming of all trains of thought. I don’t want people to feel marginalized here.”

“A lot of people these days just do not feel like they have their voices heard, and that is a huge part of what I view as inclusivity. To that end, I am actively being approachable to people and hearing all of the views on particular issues and then actually digging in. But, at the end of the day I am a nerd, so I like to look at the data (which in this case is hearing what everybody is saying) and then making informed decisions on how to act on whatever the issues are,” Muchovej said.

Overall, Muchovej does not like labeling and said, “the sad reality is that we’ve [got] to a state, where it’s easy to apply labels to people and then write them off ... we do a dis-service to ourselves if we just write people off we don’t know, by some abstract label,” he said.

Further he adds, “that we are all people and we should relate to each other, as people” Muchovej said.

One thing in particular about Muchovej’s analytical background is that he will “make decisions based on the data, based on the evidence, and I am able to explain to you why I came to a particular decision, but at the same time I am not wedded to that decision in any sort of dogmatic way. If you present to me more information that I hadn’t considered or know about, I have absolutely no problem admitting where I was wrong and refining my solution accordingly,” he said.

As the election is nearing November, don’t be surprised to see Muchovej and/or a couple of his friends on your doorstep.

He plans a grassroots, knock-on-doors approach to meet as many members (and voters) in the Bishop community as he can.
BISHOP DITCHES MAIN STREET WiFi

By Maddux

A t Monday night’s Bishop City Council, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tawni Thomson announced that the Main WiFi project will be discontinued. The Bishop Chamber Board recently made the call to cancel the service as of the end of September.

A principal factor in the move: cost. As Thomson explained, “Currently, the Chamber is paying $834 per month for the broadband, and we had been hopeful to be able to sell advertising on the sign-in page to offset that cost.”

Didn’t materialize. Another factor: quality. “We were only able to purchase a minimal amount of broadband, and we actually got a lot of complaints from people getting on and then not being able to access what they needed, or getting kicked off frequently,” said Thomson.

Finally, the biggest concern was, frankly, cannibalism. “A lot of businesses in the downtown offer free Wi-Fi, as a way to attract customers into their store; restaurants, coffee shops, and so forth,” Thomson elaborated. “The chamber cannot really be in the business of competing, with the businesses that we are trying to support” Thomson said.

New body cameras

Police Chief Ted Stec announced the new body cameras had recently arrived at the station and will be used sometime this week.

Stec explained the State “attempts to replace radio equipment about every decade. The last complete radio system upgrade for the Bishop Police department was 17 years ago and over the past few years we have seen quite a few malfunctions and repairs had to be done, and it is getting more and more difficult, because the system is so old, and the parts are not available anymore,” said Stec.

He further stated that the two choices available are digital or analog. All members of the council approved the analog radio system upgrade for the Bishop Police department, largely because the digital service remains spotty and unreliable.

The cost: $49,995.

Public works update

Public Works Director/City Engineer Dave Graham presented several upcoming projects.

1. Construction is underway on The Elm and Central Water Line Project. The project is currently affecting traffic and parking, and will cause occasional water shut offs. It should last another 2-3 weeks, according to Graham.

2. The Ponds Improvement Project is expected to start soon. Graham said that this project hopes, “to address nutrients that might be reaching ground water.”

3. The Spruce Fiber Seal Project will, “restore the pavement surface and extend the life of Spruce Street.” Graham hopes that it will, “be constructed in one-day, on the 11th of October.” Spruce Street and the back entrance of Von’s and KMart will be closed that day.

4. Graham gave a report on the speed trailer, which was moved North near Highway 5, and remained there for the week beginning Sept. 7. The trailer counted 16,000 vehicles with an average speed of 27 mph.

Associate Planner/Economic Development Coordinator Elaine Kabala presented a proposal for trees to be planted on South Main Street, ranging from Line Street to Short Street. Kabala mentioned that the species of trees or shrubs were not yet selected, but they would be drought tolerant, low-maintenance, and sidewalk friendly.

WILL A “SOLUTION” CREATE EXPONENTIAL PROBLEMS?

What to do (or not) about the vaping trend

By James

Vaping devices were originally promoted as a smoking cessation product and there are studies and anecdotal evidence that suggest it has helped some smokers to stop or reduce their addiction to cigarettes and other tobacco products containing nicotine.

Sounds positively benign ... until the kids get ahold of it! Amid mounting reports of e-cigarette abuse among minors, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Scott Gottlieb has declared youth vaping an epidemic. The FDA feels manufacturers are marketing their products to the youth market, often presenting vaping products under the guise of “candy-like” flavors and sniffs.

The FDA issued a threat to ban vaping and e-cigarette product if the manufacturers did not show greater restraint and increase their efforts towards discouraging youth from vaping.

Last week, The Sheet printed the thoughts of several high school administrators on vaping and juuling. While all of them expressed concern over the potential health dangers of vaping (and smoking), there was a mixed response as to whether the concern in the local school's facility would best be described as an “epidemic.”

The larger schools in Mono and Inyo counties (Mammoth, Bishop and Lone Pine high schools) reported having a significant problem with students using e-cigarettes on campus while the smaller school districts in Independence and Big Pine did not.

There is clearly a vaping problem in some of the local schools, but the question is how best to address it. Make a law against it? Done. Enforcement? Well, that’s not quite as simple. Local law enforcement appears to have seldom been called on to respond to vaping violations, according to both Bishop Police Chief Ted Stec and Inyo County Sheriff Jeff Hollowell.

Enforcement of vaping law violations by students has primarily fallen to the schools disciplinary process, which appear to be consistent across the education system. The process involves confiscation of the vaping device and any related paraphernalia, a stern warning or after-school detention (often on Saturdays), suspension, or, if the problem persists, expulsion fees.

The schools’ main approach has been to offer education to students and parents on the dangers and health concerns surrounding vaping, especially the potential addiction to vaping products that contain nicotine.

Whether vaping and e-cigarettes should be regulated, and whether is not a simple binary choice. History has shown that banning a product seldom works, and in some instances appears merely to encourage. Short of some form of taxation or the death penalty, most youth are unlikely to let a regulation or law stop them from engaging in an activity that adults freely enjoy.

There is legitimate health concerns over vaping that may be further confirmed with more studies. Vaping is a recent phenomenon and much more needs to be known about its effects on health.

And then, there is this: Should our youth (or anyone) be deliberately marketed and encouraged by vaping manufacturers to inhale anything into their lungs other than clean, fresh air?

Editor’s note: Charles, as he is wont to do, wrote a more philosophic in the email introduction to the story which he mailed to Lunch. We may as well reprint it below.

The subject of enforcement of vaping laws was not terribly difficult to look into. It’s mostly the schools that deal with it through their own student disciplinary process, or the Inyo County Sheriff’s Office had any statistics on the subject. Hollowell said that they have never even received a referral from the schools to become involved ... which may be an indication of just how and where vaping restrictions fall in the pantheon of laws needing priority enforcement.

If you set aside the idea that prohibition of almost anything seems to encourage youth to do “just that thing that is prohibited to youth, but not adults,” and the continued juvenilization of adults in society. Is Adolescence 18 or 21? Why stop at the age of 21? Why not make it 25, just on the safe side? -Charles

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JetSuiteX ADDS SERVICE FROM MMH TO JOHN WAYNE

Press Release

Mammoth Lakes Tourism and JetSuiteX today announced the addition of new direct flight service to Mammoth Lakes from Orange County’s John Wayne Airport (SNA). John Wayne Airport is located in Santa Ana.

It’s one of several new routes to be offered this winter season, joining new daily service on United Airlines from Denver International Airport (DEN) and new United service from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Combined, these new flights, along with existing service on United from San Francisco International Airport (SFO) and the JetSuiteX flight from Burbank (BUR), make Mammoth Lakes easier to get to than ever before.

Flying under the “public charter” designation, JetSuiteX flights offer travelers a semi-private flying experience. With no lines and easy parking adjacent to the private terminal, passengers can arrive minutes before departure time. Business-class legroom, free snack and beverage service and zero baggage fees on skis and snowboards all come at a price that’s very competitive with commercial airlines.

“The flying experience that JetSuiteX offers is second to none and we’re thrilled to announce the expansion of the service to Mammoth Lakes from Orange County,” said John Urdi, Executive Director of Mammoth Lakes Tourism. “As our visitors can attest, JetSuiteX is one of those things that almost seems too good to be true until you fly it for the first time. We’re excited to give our Orange County visitors that experience this winter.”

Service to Mammoth Lakes (MMH) from both Burbank (BUR) and Orange County (SNA) will begin on December 20, 2018 and continue through April 7, 2019. Tickets are available for purchase at JetSuiteX.com. Service will be offered on Thursday, Friday, Sunday and Monday.

“We’re thrilled to relaunch our JetSuiteX seasonal service to Mammoth Lakes this year with flights from both Orange County and Burbank,” said Alex Wilcox, Founder and CEO, JetSuite, Inc. “We created JetSuiteX to give people a fast and fun way to fly, which means that travelers to Mammoth Lakes this ski season will be spending less time in airports and more time on the slopes.”

Check http://www.visitmammoth.com/ for more information and to get started booking a vacation to Mammoth Lakes.

Casey joins MLT

Job title: Director of Special Events

Press Release

Mammoth Lakes Tourism has hired a familiar face as Director of Special Events Thirteen-year Mammoth local Caroline Casey was chosen for the newly-created position and will work with existing event producers to enhance current event offerings in addition to seeking out new events.

“I am thrilled to join the team at Mammoth Lakes Tourism as Director of Special Events,” Casey said. “In the near-term, I look forward to collaborating with the current event producers in Mammoth Lakes. I aim to create a more cohesive coalition of event producers and work to bring on some new and exciting local events with an immediate focus on winter activation.”

Casey moved to Mammoth Lakes in April 2005 and has worked at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area for more than 13 years. She has been with the Mountain’s events department since 2013 and has planned and executed a myriad of events, including Night of Lights, USA Cycling Mountain Bike Nationals, ESPN/Cam Zink “Flip,” The Mammoth Gran Fondo, The Kamikaze Bike Games, The Mammoth Wine Weekend, The Mammoth Invitational, Woolly’s Saturday Parade, and Cinco de SkiMo.

Additionally, Casey is a member of Eastside Velo and has served as its President for three years. She also spearheaded the recent expansion of the service to Mammoth Lakes from Orange County.

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Casey started her new job October 15.
continued from page 1

in town.”

The projects in town are being paid for by STIP (State Transportation Improvement Fund) monies.

As Town Manager Dan Holler explained, the money is allocated for the town by the state. Town staff then write project study reports for review by the Local Transportation Commission (LTC). LTC approval of such projects is initially required to move them forward. Ultimately, Caltrans and Mammoth Town Council approval is also required.

The work being done right now represents the culmination of approximately eight years of planning.

What’s interesting is that these projects, because they are state-funded and approved, are not subject to scrutiny by Mammoth’s Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC).

The PEDC has been provided progress reports, but had no input.

This particularly irked Commissioner Greg Eckert.

To their credit, said Eckert, Mammoth’s Public Works department found available money and put together a grant application to get sidewalks on Main Street, something people have been clamoring for for years.

And as Cage has expressed throughout the process, something is better than nothing.

This was designed to fulfill a grant application … it has all the architectural flair of an I-beam.

“They said take it or leave it, we don’t want to give the grant money back. So it’s gonna be curb to curb concrete. Maybe a little jog here and there to get around a tree,” he continued.

Eckert referenced a legal notice which appeared in this paper soliciting bids to remove snow from the sidewalks.

“They’ve never done that before. What should have happened is they should have gotten a special district together for Main Street and the people with property should’ve voted and they should’ve voted on a design … the town put the cart before the horse. Some of those property owners don’t mind ‘cause they privately cleared snow. Now the town is taking on that cost. The end result is the town gets ugly sidewalks and the stores get free visibility and we get this ugly concrete for the next 30 years.”

“We do need sidewalks,” he acknowledged.

“People have been walking down those frontage roads, and that’s not the way it should be. We’ve acquiesced to a utilitarian and to my mind, ugly sidewalk plan just to get something instead of doing the best we could. It never really got a full public disclosure. By the time the town knows what’s going on, the concrete will be dry.”

Cage’s response was terse.

“Where has he been the past 18 months? If we change this, we have to start all over again. (His comments) come after all the grants and plans have been submitted.”

Further, Cage praised town staff for its flexibility in working with business owners to refine plans over time.

“I think they got this one right,” he said.

As for how much the sidewalks will get, Hayes predicts plenty.

The snow removal plan, which will be discussed at the Town Recreation Commission meeting on Tuesday at 9 a.m. in Suite Z, calls for Caltrans to clear everything to the curb, and for the Town to clear the frontage roads and sidewalks.

The snow will be pushed to parking spaces at the end of the block, and then trucked away.

As for the snow removal issue, Town Asst. Engineer Haislip Hayes says.

“The snow will be cleared snow. Now the town is taking on that cost. The end result is the town gets ugly sidewalks and the stores get free visibility and we get this ugly concrete for the next 30 years.”

“Where has he been the past 18 months? If we change this, we have to start all over again. (His comments) come after all the grants and plans have been submitted.”

Further, Cage praised town staff for its flexibility in working with business owners to refine plans over time.

“I think they got this one right,” he said.

As for the snow removal issue, Town Asst. Engineer Haislip Hayes and Dan Holler said that the state has been pressuring Caltrans to facilitate multi-modal transport.

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The snow will be pushed to parking spaces at the end of the block, and then trucked away.

As for how much use the sidewalks will get, Hayes predicts plenty.

He says the town is definitely seeing the results on upper Main Street, noting that foot traffic on the section of sidewalk between Mountain Boulevard and the Village at Mammoth has increased markedly.

But to go back to the task at hand, be patient over the next few weeks. “It’ll be scorched earth [until mid-October],” he said. “We have seven cuts [of Wednesday] open right now.”

FYI, the timing of the 80|50-Four Corners sidewalk project is running on the same schedule as lower Main.

The Mammoth Creek Gap Closure project should be completed within two weeks.
Bishop’s City Administrator Jim Tatum has announced his intention to retire and is on leave pending his retirement date. Tatum, who has served as the City of Bishop City Administrator since August 25, 2014 has been instrumental in bringing leadership to the City of Bishop to achieve a list of many successful projects.

The Bishop City Council would like to welcome everyone from the city and the community to an “Open House” to celebrate his years of service to the City of Bishop and to the community at large. Everyone is invited to stop by, share some stories, and visit with Jim, his wife Donna, daughter Kelsie, son Keith, and their family on:

Sunday, September 30, 2018
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Tatum Home
2683 Irene Way in Bishop

The City Council would also like to present Jim Tatum with a City Tile and other presentations. The City Council continues to wish Jim well in his fight against cancer, and to support his family during this difficult time.

If you are unable to attend and would like to send a card to Jim, please feel free to mail it to Jim Tatum’s home or drop it off at City Hall.

Old friend Mike McKenna is in town this weekend delivering copies of his long awaited book, “Casting Around the Eastern Sierra.” It features a whole lot of interviews with old-timers, great tips on where to fish, easy-to-follow maps for the geographically challenged, and that inimitable, folksy McKenna style which has won him writing awards up and down the west coast. We’ll see how efficient he is in his book distribution because, well, his first stop was an evening out with Bob Todd at Yamatani on Thursday. That pretty much guarantees a late start Friday morning.

And that Autumn Beer Festival in June Lake may cost him a few hours on Saturday.

OPEN DAILY
11:30am–late
food & drinks
HAPPY HOUR Mon–Fri
& During All NFL Games
SUN, SEPT 30
1:00PM
TANDEM @ COLTS
BILLS @ PACKERS
BUCCANEERS @ BEARS
DOLPHINS @ PATRIOTS
LIONS @ COWBOYS
RENDS @ FALCONS
JETS @ RAIDERS
EAGLES @ TITANS
10:00PM
BROWNS @ RAIDERS
SEAHAWKS @ CARDINALS
2:00PM
SAINTS @ GIANTS
49ERS @ CHARGERS
5:00PM
BENGALS @ STEELERS
MIN @ CLE
5:15PM
CHEFS @ BRONCOS
TODAY @ 4
1:00PM
COLTS @ PATRIOTS
SHOOT TO SHAME & HARpoon

WATCH THE GAMES HERE
WIN 1 OF 10 HDTVs
FULL MENU: JOHNSPIZAZZWORKS.COM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018
THE SHEET | www.thesheetnews.com
LOCAL NEWS
9

While Rudder’s motion may have died, however, he wasn’t done talking.

As a matter of discussion, he brought up another ethical matter involving Truax which has not been previously discussed.

Rudder said that it was his understanding that MLT’s Executive Committee had approved a $15,000 expenditure to support an individual event - in this case the 2018 Mammoth Half Marathon.

Rudder maintained that Truax’s employer, Sierra Nevada Resort, had a contract with the Half Marathon to provide lodging and logistics. He also maintained that Truax had voted on the funding request - which Urdi denied.

Urdi said the other three members of the Executive Committee at that time (Ledesma, Morris, Schaubmayer) had indicated their approval - two by email and one verbally - and that Truax had not voted.

Rudder wasn’t satisfied. “It is a Brown Act violation if the Executive Committee went through with it with one member having a conflict [of interest].”

Meanwhile, Sean Turner was not happy because he’s been telling people for as long as he can remember that MLT does not pick and choose when it comes to supporting individual events - and yet, there is a case of MLT supporting an individual event. “This does underline what you can get into without specific rules and regulations [in place],” said Rudder.

The rest of the Board was not interested in getting sucked into a matter perceived as tangential to the primary Truax investigation at hand.

There was no commitment made to look into this additional complaint.

Hoff halfheartedly said via a phone conversation Thursday, “If he voted for money for the Half Marathon ... that’s kind of a problem.”

One thing we did not report on last week was Mammoth Lakes Town Councilman Kirk Stapp’s proposal regarding Sam’s Woodsite. Stapp believes that the Town should look into acquiring the property if new owner Dirk Winter has abandoned his plans to turn it into a permanent events site.

Stapp’s suggestion is to raise Transient Occupancy Tax by 1% over a three or four year period with the idea that the extra revenue would be dedicated to the purchase of the site.

His suggestion was not greeted by a chorus of “Hell, yeah!” from his fellow Councilmembers.

Old friend Mike McKenna is in town this weekend delivering copies of his long awaited book, “Casting Around the Eastern Sierra.” It features a whole lot of interviews with old-timers, great tips on where to fish, easy-to-follow maps for the geographically challenged, and that inimitable, folksy McKenna style which has won him writing awards up and down the west coast. We’ll see how efficient he is in his book distribution because, well, his first stop was an evening out with Bob Todd at Yamatani on Thursday. That pretty much guarantees a late start Friday morning.

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LEMVO BRINGS THE HEAT
Will headline Hot Havana Nights fundraiser @ the Polo Center
By Gorman

This Saturday one of the leading figures in Afro-Cuban music, Ricardo Lemvo, will bring his band to the new Polo Event Center in Mammoth Lakes.

The show, a fundraiser for the Mono Arts Council and Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre, is entitled Hot Havana Nights.

Lemvo and his band, Makina Loca, are based out of LA, but are not strangers to the Eastern Sierra. Last year, the Congolese band leader played at the Millpond Music Festival.

“I love Mammoth Lakes,” Lemvo told the Sheet. “It’s so much different from the big cities that I’m accustomed to. People really do appreciate what we offer.”

What Lemvo offers is a Jamaican genre called Somnotumo, as he transposed “music from the mountain.” To describe the music Lemvo roared into the phone like a lion. “It’s very infectious and danceable,” he said.

He and Makina Loca mix this genre with soukous from Lemvo’s home country of the Democratic Republic of Congo and kizomba from Senegal to create a distinct sound.

Lemvo emigrated from the city of Kinshasa to the United States when he was a teenager to live with his father. From the age of nine, he wanted to be a musician.

“I grew up next to a bar, and they were always playing Cuban music, which is still very popular in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I would memorize the songs and imagine myself leading a band.”

Lemvo went to college in the United States and studied government intent on becoming a lawyer, but he never strayed from music.

“I would play gigs all through college as a back-up singer. After I graduated, I self-financed my first album.”

That album, released in 1996, would become a hit. It earned him a record deal with Putumayo Records in New York. The label has helped him gain international acclaim.

“They [Putumayo] had the machinations to promote my album and my band, and we travelled all over the world performing.”

Lemvo will be bringing many of those original band members to the Hot Havana Nights show. The event begins at 5 pm with salsa lessons and includes 2 cocktails with the price of entry. Lemvo is excited about the show.

“I look forward to every gig with the same enthusiasm I had 20 years ago,” he said.

“I truly enjoy my job. I can honestly tell you that I am living my dream.”

For more information, see ad p. 2
UNCLE JIMMY’S: FULLY LOADED
By Gorman

Uncle Jimmy’s Barbecue officially opened its doors on Wednesday on Main Street in Mammoth Lakes.

After a year and a half of selling barbecue out of a trailer in Ventura County, owners Mike Norris and Chuck Siler have settled their restaurant permanently at the little building on the corner of Main and Laurel Mountain Rd.

The co-owners and chefs are originally from Ventura County, though they’re no strangers to the Eastern Sierra. Mike worked as the meat manager at Von’s in Bishop before starting Uncle Jimmy’s, and Chuck would often come up to visit and fish.

“After the barbecue was finished, Chuck convinced me to move back down there to grow the business,” Mike said.

They had no intention of moving the trailer out of Southern California. “There weren’t a lot of opportunities for catering up here,” added Chuck.

But in February, while on a visit, Mike saw the “For Lease” sign on the corner storefront and thought it was the perfect opportunity for a permanent Uncle Jimmy’s location.

He texted Chuck, who was skeptical at first.

“It didn’t look like much,” said Chuck, “but once I learned of the number of people that come through this town each year, it was a no-brainer.”

The two signed the lease at the end of the summer, and moved to Mammoth Lakes as roommates.

“We love it here. Great Location, Great exposure,” Mike said. “Plus, Look out the window and look at the view. Beats looking at the 405.”

Uncle Jimmy’s serves traditional barbecue out of the walk-up window: baby back ribs, tri-tip, and on Fridays and Saturdays only, brisket. They also have specialties like the Uncle Jimmy’s Philly sandwich, smoked Italian pulled pork topped with pepperoncini and mozzarella.

“That one really stands out,” Chuck said. “The juice runs down your chin.”

All their meals come with “Fully-Loaded Beans,” your choice of potato and macaroni salad or coleslaw, and, to clean the juice off your chin, a wet nap.

So what’s in a name? Three years ago, Mike acquired the trailer that would become Uncle Jimmy’s as repayment for a loan. He showed it to his best friend, Jim Welter, and Jim had the idea to start a mobile barbecue joint.

“Jim and Mike were like brothers,” Chuck told me, since Mike was too emotional to tell the story. “Jim’s kids called Mike, Uncle Mikey, so Mike started calling Jim, Uncle Jimmy.”

Jim spent two months turning the collateralized trailer into a working barbecue restaurant. Five days after he finished, Jim died.

“He spent the last two months of his life building that restaurant.” Mike and Chuck were up in Mammoth to fish a year after Jim’s passing when they made the decision to become business partners and name their new restaurant in honor of Jim Welter.

Next time you see smoke rising from downtown, don’t call the fire service. It’s just the mesquite ghost of Uncle Jimmy watching over us, making sure that we don’t turn vegan.
As Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board member Michael Ledesma observed this week, Mammoth’s revived Oktoberfest, now in its fourth year, has gained considerable traction. Pictured clockwise from top: Robert Schaubmayer Jr. and his wife Heather Schaubmayer at the taps, Vanessa tossing a keg, bandleader and accordion player Jason Fabus of West Coast Prost! and co-water holding champs Gia (right) and Ella (left).
MEGA BUX

continue from page 1

continue to water the wetlands around Crowley Lake where the bi-state sage grouse reproduce.

Matt McClain, the Executive Director of Mammoth Lakes Recreation, wanted to know how this de-watering would affect outdoor recreation. “Agriculture and tourism/recreation are the principle industries in this area,” he said. “I want to know how this will affect the fisheries in Long Valley.”

In an attempt to elicit good will, Chuck Holloway showed a graph to the crowd that contrasted dropping water exports from the Eastern Sierra since the early 1970’s with rising population in Los Angeles. Harry Williams, a member of the Bishop Paiute Tribe, challenged the validity of the data.

“The reason it dropped in the ’70s is you were just straight over-drafting. That’s when the Owens Valley Long Term Water Agreement was signed.”

“My people have been here 14,000 years,” he said. “What you are doing is desertification.”

Some of the stakeholders showed their appreciation for the efforts that LADWP has been forced to make under CEQA.

“Thank God for CEQA,” Suzanne Rizo of Bishop said.

Wendy Sugimura, Mono County Community Development Director, called herself a “CEQA Nerd.” She said that the scoping process has been undertaken all wrong. The project description released this summer should have included all of the information, such as lease maps and conditions, that Holloway included in his presentation. “The scoping process should be restarted,” she said.

Sally Manning, the environmental director of the Big Pine Paiute Tribe, was not as supportive. Her advice to LADWP was, “Get rid of Crowley Lake and go away.”

No matter what it discovers through the EIR, LADWP has made it clear that it will no longer be giving “free” water to lessees anymore. In the past, the agency has offloaded excess water to ranchers, though that service was never guaranteed in the leases. Now it says there is no more excess water, and if ranchers want it they need to buy it.

The new leases would be for 20 year terms, rather than the previous five year leases. Ranchers requested that leases include the “free” water they were previously receiving, but LADWP declined that request.

Any concerns that should be addressed in the EIR can be sent to monocountyleasecomments@ladwp.com by October 16th.

The new Starbucks hosted a “Friends and Family” event on Thursday to give away free drinks the eve of its grand opening, and the turnout was impressive. “In a town like this, everyone is our family,” said newly minted manager Tonya Beckendam. The new location has a fireplace, vaunted ceilings, and a “board room” style private area that will be adorned with Dave McCoy pictures and quotes. “We didn’t want something that would fit in the Valley, we wanted this to be uniquely mammoth,” said Starbucks Regional Manager Alfredo Mendoza.
calendar of events

BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/ The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill
Slider Mondays. Open Mic. Plus returns! Monday’s @ 9pm Taco Tuesday, 3 homemade tacos for $6. Wednesday 1/2 off the entire list all day long (live jazz on the patio from 4-7 and happy hour wine from 3-close) See ad, p. XXX.

Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour
Monday: All Night Happy Hour (4 p.m.-close), Tues-Friday. Happy Hour from 4-6 p.m. Tuesday: $2.50 Tacos 4-9 p.m; Wing Wednesday 50% off all wings 6-9 p.m. Thursday: Burger & Beer special 6-9 p.m. See ad, p. XXX.

Morrison’s Happy Hour Daily 5-7 p.m.
Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl
Monday: $4 games @ 8 p.m. Tuesday: 2 street tacos, 2 games and $2 shoes. Wednesday: $10 large cheese or single topping pizza and 2 for 1 bowling. Thursday: Ladies Night, ladies bowl 2 free games, plus shoes. Friday and Saturday: Cosmic Bowling 9 p.m. Saturday-Sunday: Kids bowl free. 4-7 p.m. See ad, p. XXX.

Petra’s Bistro & Wine Bar
Happy hour: 5-7 p.m. daily. $5-10 menu items and drink specials. See ad, p. XXX.

Clocktower Cellar Happy Hour: 4:30-7 p.m. daily. $5 dollar menu items, drink specials. Monday: open at 10 a.m. for football. See ad, p. XXX.

Roberto’s Happy Hour: 4-6 p.m. daily. Tuesday: Open at 10 a.m. for football. See ad, p. XXX.

Austria Hof Happy hour 5-7:30 p.m. daily. Tuesday: Baja fish tacos, $3.50. Thursday: Poke tacos 3/5. See ad, p. XXX.

Samurai Mon.-Thurs. 4 p.m.-close, 20% off all alcohol in bar. Karaoke Night every Fri. & Sat. 9-11:30 p.m.

Whitebark Restaurant Bar & Lounge Unwind with daily drink and food specials 4-6 p.m.

Mammoth’s famous Slocums Happy Hour Mon-Fri 4-6 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays 5-5:30 p.m. See ad, p. 5.

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

Smokeway 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 Happy Hour daily 4-6 p.m.

Shelter Distilling (Village at Mammoth) free tasting hour 3-4 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, Sept. 28/
Nawanaki-Ti Farmer’s Market. Time: 5:30-8 p.m. Location: next to Big Pine Tribal Office.

Mono County Board of Supervisors special meeting. Time: 4 p.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall.

Flu vaccine clinic, organized by Mono County Health Department. Location: Walker Senior Center. Time: 1-3 p.m. More info: see ad p. 6.

Bishop Broncos Football hosts Sierra. Time: 7 p.m.

Mammoth Huskies Football hosts Lone Pine. Time: 8 p.m.

The Mono Arts Council Gallery is pleased to host an artists’ reception for our exhibition “Accessible Art” from 5-7 p.m. Multiple artists, including Taylor Worden and Jeremy Brooks. Join us for art, wine, appetizers. The exhibition will hang through November.


Saturday, Sept. 29/
June Lake Autumn Beer Festival, presented by June Lake Brewing Co. Beer garden, stein holding competition, food, arts and crafts. Info: JLB, 858.668.6340.

Friends of the Inyo end of summer celebration. 4-8 p.m. Location: Sierra Nevada Aquatic research Lab (SNARL). Info: friendsoftheinyo.org.

Bridgeport Autumn Festival, including First Responder Chili Cook-Off. Food, drinks, live music, vendors, pumpkin patch and kids games. More info: see side bar column next page.

Bodie Hills Stewardship Day. Lo Ridge Rambler Half Marathon. Location: Time: 8 a.m. @ The Fox Den, 178 Main St, Bridgeport. Info: 310.366.0686.

Bodie Hills Stewardship Day. Meet Mono Basin Visitor Center in Lee Vining at 8:30 a.m. Help remove an acre of trash from the Bodie Hills! RSVP: julia@friendsofinyo.org.

Tomato Canning clinic with UCCE Master Food Preservers. Location: The Great Room @ Jill Kinmont Booth School, 166 Grandview Road, Bishop. Bishop. Time: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. $15/ person. Info: Melissa, 760.873.7854 or melyeager@ucanr.edu.

Sunday, Sept. 30/
Sierra Club hike. Time/Location: meet @ Lee Vining Canyon USFS Station @ 8:30 a.m. Info: 760.914.9016. amazingley@yahoo.com.

Elks Golf Tournament. Time: 9 a.m. start. Location: Bishop Country Club. Info: steve@bishopcountryclub.com or 760.873.5828.

Monday, October 1/
Mammoth Lakes Housing Board meets. 6 p.m. Suite Z, Minaret Mall. Owens Valley Radio Observatory tours. See “the big ears” up close. Time: 1-2 p.m. Info: Dr. Mark Hodges, 760.938.2075, ext 109.

BPTFSP farm stand. Time: 12-5 p.m. Location: FSP Earthen Seed House, 50 Tusu Lane, Bishop.

MAMMOTH LIQUOR

Beer lovers’ candy store
Selection of more than 300 beers
OCTOBER IS POSSIBLY NATIONAL BEER MONTH.

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A Resource for Buyers & Sellers
Hundreds of Articles & Videos
Visit today!
Bridgestone Autumn Festival

On Saturday September 29, the Bridgestone Autumn Festival returns. The event runs in conjunction with the Ridge Rambler Half Marathon and the Wrecks and Rods Car show.

The half marathon starts at 8 a.m. Register: ultrasignup.com

The vendors and car show open at 10 a.m. Live music food and Oktoberfest beer garden get going at 11:30. There will be drive up State Route-182 with $20 entry fee/vehicle.

Register: https://bridgeportcalifornia.com/autumn-festival-1.

First Responder Chili Cook off held by the Bridgestone Volunteer Fire Department runs from 4-8 p.m. Info for entire festival: misti.sullivan@ yahoo.com.

Havana Nights

Mamba the night away at Hot Havana Nights, a fundraiser for the Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre and Mono Arts Council. The event takes place at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 29 at the new Polo Event Center at 3343 Main St. in Mammoth.

Live Cuban music from Ricardo Lemovo & Makina Loca. Live and silent auctions. There will be a cigar smoking area, so bring your own cigar.

Tickets: $75 online, $100 at door.

No discounts Admission includes 2 complimentary cocktails from Devils Creek Distillery. Info: 760.934.6592.

More info: see ad p. 11.

JLB Beer Festival

June Lake Brewing hosts a craft beer festival on Saturday, September 29. The Beer Garden is sold out, but don’t forget that June Mountain Stein Garden is nearly sold out. You do NOT want to miss the JLB Beer Festival on Saturday, September 29 at the new Polo Event Center at 3343 Main St. in Mammoth.

The event runs from 4-8 p.m., presentation @ 6. Locates: June Lake Community Center, 90 Granite Ave.

Bishop Tree Committee meets. Time: 1 p.m. Location: Executive Conference Room, City Hall.

Inyo County Dark Skies Workshop. 6-8 p.m. Statham Hall, Lone Pine.

Get input to staff/selected officials about dark sky policy and light pollution. Info: http://inyoplanning.org/760.878.0263.

Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets. Time: 6 p.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall.

Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board meets. 1 p.m. Suite Z, Minaret Mall.

Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission meets. 9 a.m. Suite Z, Minaret Mall.

Mammouth Lakes Fish & Wildlife Commission meets. Time: 10 a.m. Location: County Administrative Center, Independence.

Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission meets. 9 a.m. Suite Z, Minaret Mall.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

Bishop Paiute Community Market. Time: 6-9 p.m. Location: Bishop Paiute Community Market.

Pints for Non-Profits at Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center fundraiser. Organized by Adventure HUB. Nate Greenberg speaks about skiing. Time: 5-8 p.m., presentation @ 6. Location: Mammoth Brewing Co. Info: 707.498.3327.

THE AT THE MOVIES

Minaret Cinemas

Smallfoot (PG): A Yeti becomes convinced that humans exist.

Peppermint (R): Woman seeks revenge against killers of family.

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

TOWN STUFF

Tuesday, October 2/ Mammoth Lakes Board of Supervisors meets. Time: 9 a.m. Location: Mono County Courthouse, Bridgeport.

Inyo County Board of Supervisors meets. Time: 9 a.m. Location: County Administrative Center, Independence.

Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission meets. 9 a.m. Suite Z, Minaret Mall.

Wednesday, October 3/ Mammoth Lakes Fish & Wildlife Commission meets. Time: 10 a.m. Location: Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 90 Granite Ave.

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TOWN STUFF

October 4-7/ Lone Pine Film Festival. Location: Museum of Western Film History. Thursday night kickoff cocktails reception. Screenings, tours, Q & A, etc. More info: see sidebar column this page.

October 5/ Fall Colors Cruise and Car Show. Friday 5th-7th at the Tri-County Fairgrounds. Pre-1974 vehicles. Main Street Cruise Friday night in Bishop.

Fund begins Friday afternoon with early registration in Vons/Kmart parking lot. More info: see sidebar column this page.

Friday, October 5/ First Friday (of the month) Market. Crafts, produce, music. Time: 6-9 p.m. Location: Academy St., Bishop.

More info: see ad.

Diamond Masquerade Ball

The Rotary Club of Mammoth Lakes is celebrating Jack Copeland with masquerade ball on Saturday, October 6 from 5:30-9 p.m. The evening will take place at the Cal Mountain Rambler Brewery. Bring a mask and dancing shoes.

$60/single, $100/couple. Event proceeds will support Bishop schools. Info: rich.mammothrotaryevents@gmail.com.

Fall Colors Car Show

From Friday, October 5 through Sunday, October 7 the Tri-County Fairgrounds host the Fall Colors Cruise and Car Show, sponsored by Owens Valley Cruisers.

On offer: cars, music, Altrusia’s Fine Art Show, an Art & Crafts Fair, and a poker run, and a Lions Club pancake breakfast.

The car show is open to 1974 and older street rods, classic cars, trucks, and special interest vehicles.

Early registration begins Friday, October 5 at 4 p.m. in the Vons/Kmart parking lot. Saturday registration begins at 8 a.m. Saturday. A Main Street Parade will follow. The poker run happens on Sunday morning. More info: owensvalleyclub.com or 760.873.3588.

Lone Pine Film Festival

The 29th annual Lone Pine Film Festival, organized by the Museum of Western Film History, occurs October 4-7.

This year’s festival will celebrate, among other subjects, the contributions of William Fox and the Fox Film Corporation with guest author Vanda Krefft.

Tickets/Info: lonepinefilmfestival.org or 760.876.9103.

Wine Spectakular

The Foundation for Excellence to support Bishop schools will host the 2nd annual Wine Spectakular on October 6 from 4:30-7 p.m. on the “Haunted” School Farm. Enjoy an evening of wine tasting and hors d’oeuvres.

The Foundation is proud to host this event on the school farm (located at Sunland and Line St) and create an enjoyable evening while raising funds to enhance the BHHS Education.

Corey and Joe Buffington and crew of students and parents will be coordinating the Spooky displays and decorations.

Wines will be served JLohr, Anneke Schat’s Wine Cellar, Eastern Sierra Cellars, and wines from our local Mountain Rambler Brewery.

Attendance is limited to guests over the age of 21. Plan to purchase your tickets in advance. All proceeds may be purchased from any Foundation For Excellence board member, Bishop Chamber or at www.ffebishop.com.

For more information, call Trish Schlichting 760-872-4066.
Help Wanted

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

- **Cashier B $11**
- **Carpenter M $25-$32**
- **Class A/B Driver LV/B $20-$28**
- **Bilingual Receptionist M/B $14-$16**
- **Full/Part time Sales Associate Needed!**
- **Full/Part time Sales Associate Needed!!**
- **HR Assistant M/B $16-$20**
- **Class B Driver $16-$20**
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Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock Brasserie has the following positions available: Full/Part time Food/Bar Employees, Server, Bartender, Brasserie Hostess. Contact Gef von Bohlen, 760.739.0509, or Ann West ext. 221.

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**Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc.**

Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. is accepting applications for Board of Directors. Currently, the Board of Directors consists of eight members. Applications are due by October 15, 2018. Info: Santiago Escruce, admin. asst. Duties include: some payroll, assistance with projects and events. For more information or to apply, email stellerb@newbeacon.org or call Teresa at 760-934-1600.

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MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DECLAR ES ITS INTENTION TO SELL CERTAIN CERTIFIED SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY
(APN: 01-008-011)
WHEREAS, the Mono County Board of Supervisors have reasonable cause to believe there is a parcel of real property located at 71 Davison Street, Mammoth Lakes, California, which parcel is not needed for County purposes now or in the future and which the Board of Supervisors wishes to sell...
A s I always say, the NFL season doesn't really start until week 6. But we're in week 4 now, and teams like the Patriots are running out of time to clean up the mess in Foxborough. Select picks ...

Patriots laying 7 points to the Dolphins. While the Pats pulling an early season slump routine is not unusual, it feels different this year. Riddle me this: Who do the Patriots spend their cash on? Brady always takes a discount. Who do the Patriots spend their money on? And why? Who do the Patriots spend their time on? This? Who do the Patriots spend their points on? Brady always takes a discount. Who do the Patriots spend their points on? Brady always takes a discount.

This year looks different for Patriots

By Hartley

The Packers' #1 issue: the defense isn't very good or physically slow. And with teams now taking the points.

I don't care how smart you are or how big they are, PACKERS LAYING 10 POINTS TO THE BILLS. The Cowboys are another coach-taking-the-season slump routine is not unusual, and they have a band of misfits on the team planes? Take the Dolphins plus the points.

One more thing... the Pats look awfully slow on defense. Just physically slow. And with teams now taking advantage of matchups everywhere... their defenders have nowhere to hide. I don't care how smart you are or how great the system if you don't have the physical gifts to do the job. Packers laying 10 points to the Bills. The Packers' #1 issue: the defense sucks. Bill QB Josh Allen isn't great but he is mobile and that can cause thePack problems. Take the Bills plus the points just because that's a big line.

Cowboys laying 3 points to the Lions. The Cowboys are another coaching disaster. How did the Cowboys go all offseason knowing who they have in QB Dak Prescott and come back with the offensive scheme and system they're running now? He is Putt Putt Prescott. He is trying to play a par 5 with a putter with that offense. From my coach I can call out Cowboy formations and plays. The Cowboys' line is also awful. Take the Lions plus the points.

Jaguars laying 7.5 points to the Jets. This is a big line but the Jags defense should stifle this ragtag band of offensive talent led by a rookie QB.

I know Jag QB Blake Bortles was... Blake Bortles last week but the Jags are at home and defensively should dominate the Jets and win 10-2. Bortles gives up a sack when he runs backwards out of his own end zone as it's the only time he'll spend in the end zone all day. The defense of the Jags scores their only TD.

Did you see Bortles last week? Why didn't the Jags go for a QB this off season? He is mobile and that can cause the points. The Bears defense is for real. They have Khalil Mack and Leonard Floyd. They are tough up front on defense. I think the pressure on Tampa QB Ryan Fitzpatrick by the Bear defense will cause a few turnovers. Especially when the Bucs cannot run the ball.

Everyone loving Fitzpatrick should realize he is not turning into John Elway late in his career. He is an erratic goofy QB who is great when he is a backup just winging it but he is not a career starter. He is going to suck very again soon. This week in fact. Raiders laying 2.5 points to the Bears. The Bears defense is for real. That defense can handle the points. The Browns have a great defense and a precision passer now at QB. The Raiders don't have a good enough defense to take advantage of a high school QB at this point, so Mayfield lives his fairy tale for another week. The Raiders have... for some reason... NO PASS RUSH. Hrm. Maybe they should trade for one chargers laying 10.5 points to the Niners. Wow. First, Niner QB Jimmy Garoppolo is a dummy. No need for him to have gotten hurt last week and toss away his season. Why did he turn back upfield on three on three defenders? What was he going to get out of that? He might be a little retarded.

He also showed up at a popular restaurant in LA this past offseason with an aging porn star right after signing his contract. Why you need a porn star when you are an NFL QB - I don't get it. That's you bragging about getting something that has been used more than a Walmart bathroom stall.

So when will he be considered injury-prone? He got hurt after playing six quarters in New England. Survived six quarters in New England. Survived 2+ games this year. I wanna start hearing it. The Charger defense hasn't been great this year. I expected them to be just playing with him because of you. Bosa hurt - again. Lost their CB before the season started. That being said the offense is great. And CJ BEAThard is playing his best football at QB for the Chargers and that is appropriate cuz they are going to get BEAT HARD this week.

Hey Niners, you know who's available to play QB right now? Old friend Colin Kaepernick. You have got to love that shit. Will they even answer a me-up as being better than Tiger. Enough. I hope Tiger is doing some hot yoga to keep that back loose and circles the Masters and nears his whole year around winning that. All the golfers that were talking s%&t about him gotta play with him now. McIlroy whines that you lose a couple strokes just playing with him because of you. Can't land on the QB if you tackle him, you have to be like Neo in The Matrix and somehow contort such that you hit him and force him to the ground while levitating away from him so you don't land on him but do it so fast he can't use his free arms (because you can't hold onto him) to throw the ball away and prevent the sack... but as an offensive player you can put your hand through a defender's facemask and grab his nose and eye holes like a bowling ball then draw your hand back and bitch slap him again in front of the officials and the whole free world, and not only not get a penalty but get applauded on every talk show in America.

Golf. A nod to Tiger. I want to hear all the golfers and fans that talked s%&t while he sucked talk it back. They were happy he sucked and talked about all the GREAT young golfers who were the "next Tiger." Without Tiger guys from Home Depot and Kentucky Fried Chicken were winning majors. Theses young NEXT TIGERS would win a major and then not win a tournament for a year or two. No one could match Tiger's dominance but still the announcers would talk them up as being better than Tiger. Enough. I hope Tiger is doing some hot yoga to keep that back loose and circles the Masters and nears his whole year around winning that. All the golfers that were talking s%&t about him gotta play with him now. McIlroy whines that you lose a couple strokes just playing with him because of you. Can't land on the QB if you tackle him, you have to be like Neo in The Matrix and somehow contort such that you hit him and force him to the ground while levitating away from him so you don't land on him but do it so fast he can't use his free arms (because you can't hold onto him) to throw the ball away and prevent the sack... but as an offensive player you can put your hand through a defender's facemask and grab his nose and eye holes like a bowling ball then draw your hand back and bitch slap him again in front of the officials and the whole free world, and not only not get a penalty but get applauded on every talk show in America.

Tiger being good makes the tour and your punk ass more money. Just ride the wave. But I'll leave you with this. Some dumbass named Rawr said a few weeks ago that Tiger "got the least out of his talent than any golfer in history." Let's let that sit for a week. He said that...
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